



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 2243/1
 Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Water Corporation

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 13526 ON PLAN 219960 (WALPOLE 6398)
 Local Government Area: Shire Of Manjimup
 Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

| Clearing Area (ha) | No. Trees | Method of Clearing | For the purpose of: |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 0.5 | | Mechanical Removal | Building or Structure |

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

| Vegetation Description | Clearing Description | Vegetation Condition | Comment |
|---|---|--|--|
| Beard vegetation association 23: Low woodland; jarrah-banksia (Hopkins et al 2001). | Consists of 0.05 (ha) considered to be of degraded to good condition. | Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994) | GIS Layer(s) - Orthomosaic Walpole 1.4m DOLA 99 - Mattiske - Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia |

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

(a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.

Comments **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**
 The proposed area to be cleared is within the Warren Bioregion which has a level of endemism at approximately 4%, however concentrations are higher around the Walpole area (CALM 2002). It is not likely that the clearing of the proposed 0.05ha is of outstanding biodiversity given that construction of structures has already taken place on adjacent land.

Methodology GIS Layer(s)
 - Orthomosaic Walpole 1.4m DOLA 99
 - Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia
 Department of Conservation and Land Management (2002)

(b) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

Comments **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**
 5 threatened species are present in the local are; Moggridgea tingle (Tingle Moggridgea), Engaewa walpole (Walpole Burrowing Crayfish), Phascogale tapoatafa (Brush-tailed Phascogale), Cynotelopus notablis and the Setonix brachyurus (Quokka). There are also 4 priority listed species present in the area.

The proposed area of clearing (0.05 ha) is of degraded to good condition (Keighery 1994), this is due to previous related works in the adjacent area (water treatment plant). It is unlikely that the proposed clearing area is a significant habitat for indigenous species; due to the high percentage of remaining native vegetation in local area it is not likely to be necessary for the maintenance of a significant habitat.

Methodology GIS Layer(s)
 - Orthomosaic Walpole 1.4m DOLA 99
 - Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia

(c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.

Comments Proposal may be at variance to this Principle

There are 6 species within the local area (10km radius) with a Declared Rare Flora (DRF) status; *Reedia spathacea*, *Diuris drummondii* (Tall Donkey Orchid), *Banksia verticillata* (Albany Banksia), *Microtis globula* (South-coast Mignonette Orchid), *Drakaea micrantha* and *Meziella trifida*. However given the small area to be cleared it is not likely to impact on significant flora populations, however these species may occur in the area under application.

Methodology GIS Layer(s)
- Orthomosaic Walpole 1.4m DOLA 99
- Declared Rare & Priority Flora Listing
Florabase website

(d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The proposed area to be cleared is located near 10 Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC'S), with the closest being approximately 700m from the proposed cleared area. Due to all the TEC's being buffered and the condition and disturbance to the vegetation, it is unlikely that the proposed clearing will have an impact on these communities.

Methodology GIS Layer(s)
- Orthomosaic Walpole 1.4m DOLA 99
- Threatened Ecological Communities

(e) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.

Comments Proposal is not at variance to this Principle

The vegetation at the site to be cleared comprises Beard vegetation association 23 (Hopkins et al. 2001) of which 100% of the pre-European extent is remaining (Shepard et al. 2001). This vegetation type is therefore well represented in the bioregion and local area.

Methodology GIS Layer(s)
- Orthomosaic Walpole 1.4m DOLA 99
- Pre-european Vegetation
Hopkins et al. 2001
Shepherd et al. 2001

(f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.

Comments Proposal is not at variance to this Principle

Whilst there are 3 conservation wetlands within the local area (Collier creek, Bellanger beach and Bellanger barrier), none exist within the proposed area to be cleared.

Methodology GIS Layer(s)
- Orthomosaic Walpole 1.4m DOLA 99
- South Coast Significant Wetlands

(g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.

Comments Proposal is not at variance to this Principle

It is not likely that the 0.05 ha of proposed cleared land will cause any appreciable land degradation.

Methodology GIS Layer(s)
- Orthomosaic Walpole 1.4m DOLA 99
- Salinity Mapping LM 25m DOLA 00
- Acid sulfate Soils Risk Map Lower South West
- Soils, statewide

(h) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The Walpole-Nornalup National Park is only 100m east of the proposed cleared area. Keystone State Forest lies 300m to the west and the West Franklin State Forest is situated 3.6km to the north east. However, given the size of the area, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on these conservation areas.

Methodology GIS Layer(s)

- Orthomosaic Walpole 1.4m DOLA 99
- Calm Managed Lands & Waters Properties

(i) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.

Comments Proposal is not at variance to this Principle

While the area to be cleared is within the Walpole Weir Catchment Area (P1) and despite the area being of high to moderate risk of acid sulphate soils, it is unlikely that the proposed clearing of 0.05ha will cause deterioration of surface or groundwater quality.

Methodology GIS Layer(s)

- Orthomosaic Walpole 1.4m DOLA 99
- Ground Water Salinity, statewide
- Soils, statewide
- Acid Sulfate Soils Risk Map Lower South West

(j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The clearing of the proposed area of 0.05ha is unlikely to cause any increase in flood incidence or duration.

Methodology GIS Layer(s)

- Orthomosaic Walpole 1.4m DOLA 99
- Soils, statewide
- Rainfall, Mean Annual
- Evapotranspiration, Areal Actual

Planning Instrument, Native Title, Previous EPA decision or other matter.

Comments

The Southern Noongar community have a current claim for native title in the local area, which includes the proposed area to be cleared. However the Water Corporation has a statutory right to access this land for purposes associated with water services infrastructure, therefore the clearing permit is a secondary approval and does not trigger the future act regime under the Native Title Act 1993.

There are also 3 Aboriginal sites of significance, the applicant will be notified of their obligations under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.

Methodology GIS Layer(s)

- Orthomosaic Walpole 1.4m DOLA 99
- Native Title Claims
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance

4. Assessor's comments

| Purpose | Method | Applied area (ha)/ trees | Comment |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Building or Structure | Mechanical Removal | 0.5 | Treatment barriers - microfiltration/ultrafiltration (MF/UF) plant. The proposed clearing has been assessed and found to be not likely to be at variance to all clearing principles |

5. References

- Department of Conservation and Land Management (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographical Subregions.
- Hopkins, A.J.M., Beeston, G.R. and Harvey J.M. (2001) A database on the vegetation of Western Australia. Stage 1. CALMScience after J. S. Beard, late 1960's to early 1980's Vegetation Survey of Western Australia, UWA Press.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of

WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R. and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001) Native Vegetation in Western Australia, Extent, Type and Status. Resource Management Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.

6. Glossary

| Term | Meaning |
|-------|--|
| BCS | Biodiversity Coordination Section of DEC |
| CALM | Department of Conservation and Land Management (now BCS) |
| DAFWA | Department of Agriculture and Food |
| DEC | Department of Environment and Conservation |
| DEP | Department of Environmental Protection (now DEC) |
| DoE | Department of Environment |
| DoIR | Department of Industry and Resources |
| DRF | Declared Rare Flora |
| EPP | Environmental Protection Policy |
| GIS | Geographical Information System |
| ha | Hectare (10,000 square metres) |
| TEC | Threatened Ecological Community |
| WRC | Water and Rivers Commission (now DEC) |