



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 2369/1
 Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: MR & MRS Rodney Arthur & Peta Kay Hulse M Hulse & CO

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 1840 ON PLAN 119239 (DARKAN 6392)
 LOT 1840 ON PLAN 119239 (DARKAN 6392)
 LOT 1732 ON PLAN 117162 (DARKAN 6392)
 LOT 1732 ON PLAN 117162 (DARKAN 6392)
 LOT 1729 ON PLAN 117161 (DARKAN 6392)
 LOT 1729 ON PLAN 117161 (DARKAN 6392)

Local Government Area: Shire Of West Arthur

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
	75	Mechanical Removal	Cropping

2. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The proposal to clear up to 75 trees in a completely degraded condition (Keighery, 1994) for the purpose of cropping. There are no threatened ecological communities and declared rare flora in the vicinity. *Platycercus icterotis xanthogenys* (Western Rosella) are vulnerable fauna and have been recorded in the nearby Hillman Nature Reserve. Given the size of the nature reserve (approx. 250ha) and the thick vegetation in contrast to the sparseness of trees proposed to be cleared, it is unlikely that the Western Rosella would be dependant on vegetation within the application.

The vegetation representation within the proposed clearing area has below 30% (Shepherd, 2001) remaining and is classified as degraded (Keighery, 1994). Given the sparse nature of the trees under application, the vegetation is better represented within the local area.

Surface water passes near the application area, but given the small size of clearing it is unlikely to affect surface water functioning.

Groundwater salinity is extremely high over the area (14000-35000 and >35000) and has low topographical relief. Given the size of the application area (75 trees), exacerbation of land degradation and flooding are not likely to be an issue through clearing.

The application falls within the agricultural area governed by the EPA Position Statement No.2. The EPA does not support continued clearing of native vegetation in these areas. Though as it is a relatively small area clearing may be allowed.

Methodology

- GIS Layers:
- CALM Managed Lands & Waters
 - Clearing Regulations - Environmentally Sensitive Areas
 - Evapotranspiration, Areal Actual
 - Groundwater Salinity, statewide
 - Hydrogeographic Catchments, Catchments
 - Hydrogeology, statewide
 - Hydrology, linear
 - Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia
 - Matisse Vegetation Complexes
 - Pre-European vegetation
 - Rainfall, Mean Annual
 - SAC Biodatasets 250208

- Topographic contours, statewide
- Town Planning Scheme Zone

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

Comments

The area under application is zoned rural under the Town Planning Scheme zones. There is one native title claim (Gnaala Karla Booja) over the area under application. As the property is privately owned, the granting of the clearing permit is a secondary approval and does not constitute a future act under the Native Title Act 1993.

Methodology GIS Layer:
 - Native Title

3. Assessor's comments

Purpose	Method	Applied area (ha)/ trees	Comment
Cropping	Mechanical Removal	75	The application had been assessed and found to be not at variance to any principles.

4. References

EPA (2000) Environmental protection of native vegetation in Western Australia. Clearing of native vegetation, with particular reference to the agricultural area. Position Statement No. 2. December 2000. Environmental Protection Authority.
 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.

5. 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)

