



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 2406/1
 Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Ashburton

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 248 ON PLAN 29833 (Lot No. 82 ONSLOW ONSLOW 6710)
 Local Government Area: Shire Of Ashburton
 Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.9		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
The vegetation present on the area under application is comprised of a combination of Beard vegetation association 676: succulent steppe; samphire and Beard vegetation association 127: bare areas and mud flats.	The area under application has approximately 30% of its total area vegetated, this vegetation appears to be in a degraded condition (Keighery 1994). The majority of this vegetation is on the western side of the application area, while the eastern side has little to no vegetation present.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994).	The description and condition of the area under application was obtained via the use of aerial mapping systems.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The vegetation present on the area under application is a combination of Beard vegetation association 676, which is described as succulent steppe; samphire and Beard vegetation association 127, which is described as bare areas and mud flats. Both these vegetation associations are well represented as associations themselves, within the Bioregion and local Shire. The current extent of pre-European vegetation remaining of both associations within the previously mentioned categories is above 96%(Shepherd et al 2006), which is well above the recommend threshold of 30% as outlined in the National Targets and Objectives for Biodiversity Conservation 2001 - 2005 (Canberra 2001).

The area under application has approximately 30% of its total area vegetated, this vegetation appears to be in a degraded condition (Keighery 1994). The majority of this vegetation is on the western side of the application area, while the eastern side has little to no vegetation present.

The soil is SV8: Salt flats, tidal swamps, and coastal dune sands: Chief soils are saline loams with shelly sands. Small areas of calcareous earths and shallow loams are associated with marls. The average annual rainfall is 400mm. There were no recorded occurrences of Declared Rare Flora (DRF), Priority Flora or Fauna species within the local area (10km radius).

Due to the size of the proposed clearing, the vegetation associations present on the application area being well represented and the amount of disturbed land in the local area, it is considered that the clearing is not likely to be at variance with any of the clearing principles.

Methodology Keighery (1994)
 Canberra (2001)
 GIS Datasets:
 - Western Australia ETM 25m 543 AGO 2004
 - Groundwater Salinity, Statewide
 - Hydrogeology, Statewide
 - Soils, Statewide
 - Clearing Regulations (Environmentally Sensitive Areas)
 - Clearing Regulations (Schedule One Areas)
 - Topographic Contours, Statewide
 - Rainfall, Mean Annual
 - Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia
 - Calm Managed Lands and Waters
 - Hydrographic Catchments (Catchments)
 - Hydrography, Linear
 SacBioDataSets (accessed 240408)

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

Comments No submissions have been received in relation to this principle
Methodology GIS Datasets:
 - Native Title
 - Aboriginal Sites of Significance

4. Assessor's comments

Purpose	Method	Applied area (ha)/ trees	Comment
Building or Structure	Mechanical Removal	0.9	The assessment against clearing has found: - All Principles are not likely to be at variance.

5. References

Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
 National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, (2001), Canberra.
 Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R. and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001a) Native Vegetation in Western Australia, Extent, Type and Status. Resource Management Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia (updated 2006).

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)