GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 2543/2
Permit Holder:	Shire of Plantagenet
Duration of Permit:	11 November 2008 - 11 November 2013

The permit holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of road upgrades.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

- ROAD RESERVE (MILLINUP ROAD, PORONGURUP 6324)
- ROAD RESERVE (KWORNICUP ROAD, FOREST HILL 6324)
- ROAD RESERVE (MARMION STREET, MOUNT BARKER 6324)

3. Area of clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 3.32 hectares of native vegetation within the areas shaded yellow on attached Plans 2543/2a, 2543/2b, and 2543/2c.

4. Clearing not authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation within the Millinup Road reserve north of the existing Millinup Road between MGA coordinates: Zone 50, Easting 576743, Northing 6160523 and Easting 580580, Northing 6159754, unless in accordance with prior written approval of the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment and Conservation.

5. Application

This Permit allows the Permit Holder to authorise persons, including employees, contractors and agents of the Permit Holder, to clear native vegetation for the purposes of this Permit subject to compliance with the conditions of this Permit and approval from the Permit Holder.

6. Type of Clearing Authorised

This Permit authorises the permit holder to clear native vegetation for activities to the extent that the permit holder has the power to clear native vegetation for those activities under the *Local Government Act 1995* or any other written law.

7. Compliance with Assessment Sequence and Management Procedures

Prior to clearing any native vegetation under conditions 1, 2 and 3 of this Permit, the Permit Holder must comply with the Assessment Sequence and the Management Procedures set out in Part II of this Permit.

PART II – ASSESSMENT SEQUENCE AND MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

8. Avoid, minimise etc clearing

In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared for the purpose of this Permit, the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in order of preference:

(a) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
(b) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
(c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

9. Dieback and weed control

(a) When undertaking any clearing the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of introduction and spread of *dieback*:
   (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
   (ii) avoid the movement of soil in wet conditions;
   (iii) ensure that no dieback-affected road building materials, mulches or fill are brought into an area that is not affected by dieback; and
   (iv) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

(b) When undertaking any clearing or other activity pursuant to this Permit the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds*:
   (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
   (ii) ensure that no weed-affected road building materials, mulch, fill or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
   (iii) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

PART III – RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

10. Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit, as relevant:

In relation to the clearing of native vegetation undertaken pursuant to this Permit:

(a) the species composition, structure and density of the cleared area;
(b) the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;
(c) the date that the area was cleared; and
(d) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).

11. Reporting

(a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO, on or before 30 June of each year, a written report of records required under condition 10 and activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.

(b) Prior to 9 August 2013, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 10 where these records have not already been provided under condition 11 (a).

Definitions

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

dieback means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation;

fill means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

mulch means the use of organic matter, wood chips or rocks to slow the movement of water across the soil surface and to reduce evaporation;

term means the duration of this Permit, including as amended or renewed; and

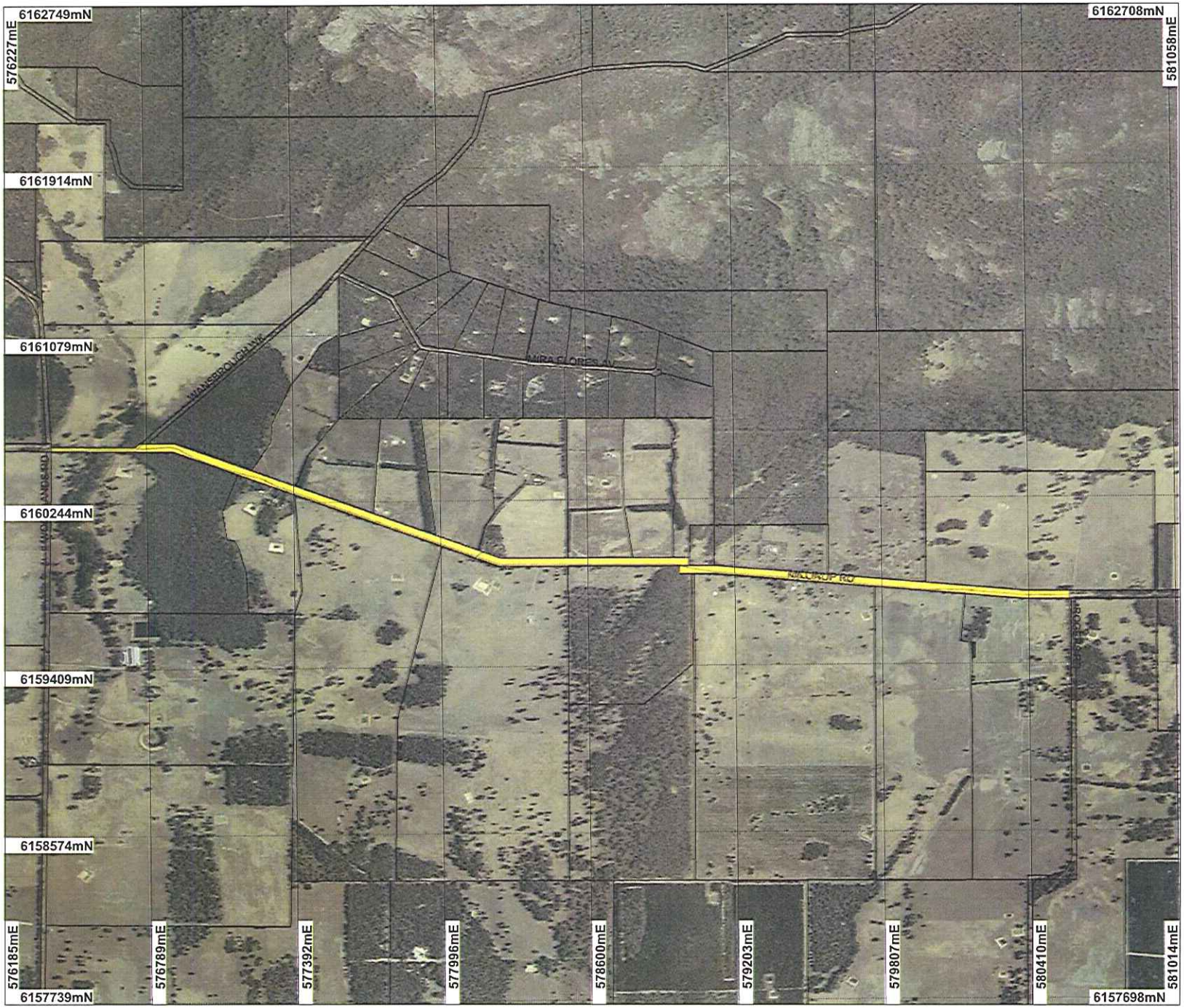
weed/s means a species listed in Appendix 3 of the "Environmental Weed Strategy" published by the Department of Conservation and Land Management (1999), and plants declared under section 37 of the *Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Act 1976*.

Keith Claymore
A/ ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
NATURE CONSERVATION DIVISION

Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

11 June 2009

Plan 2543/2a



LEGEND

Clearing Instrument Road Centrelines

Cadastre
Albany Mount Barker
Landgate 2002

N

0 ~625 m

Scale 1:23711
(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distortion or measurement inaccuracies.

Keith Claymore Date 4/6/09

Keith Claymore
Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Information derived from this map should be confirmed with the data custodian acknowleged by the agency acronym in the legend.

Department of Environment and Conservation

Plan 2543/2b

LEGEND

Clearing Instruments
Road Centrelines

Cadastre
Albany Mount Barker 1.4m

Denmark 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate 2001

N

0 ~200 m

Scale 1:8304
(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distortion of measurement inaccuracies.

Keith Claymore 11/6/09

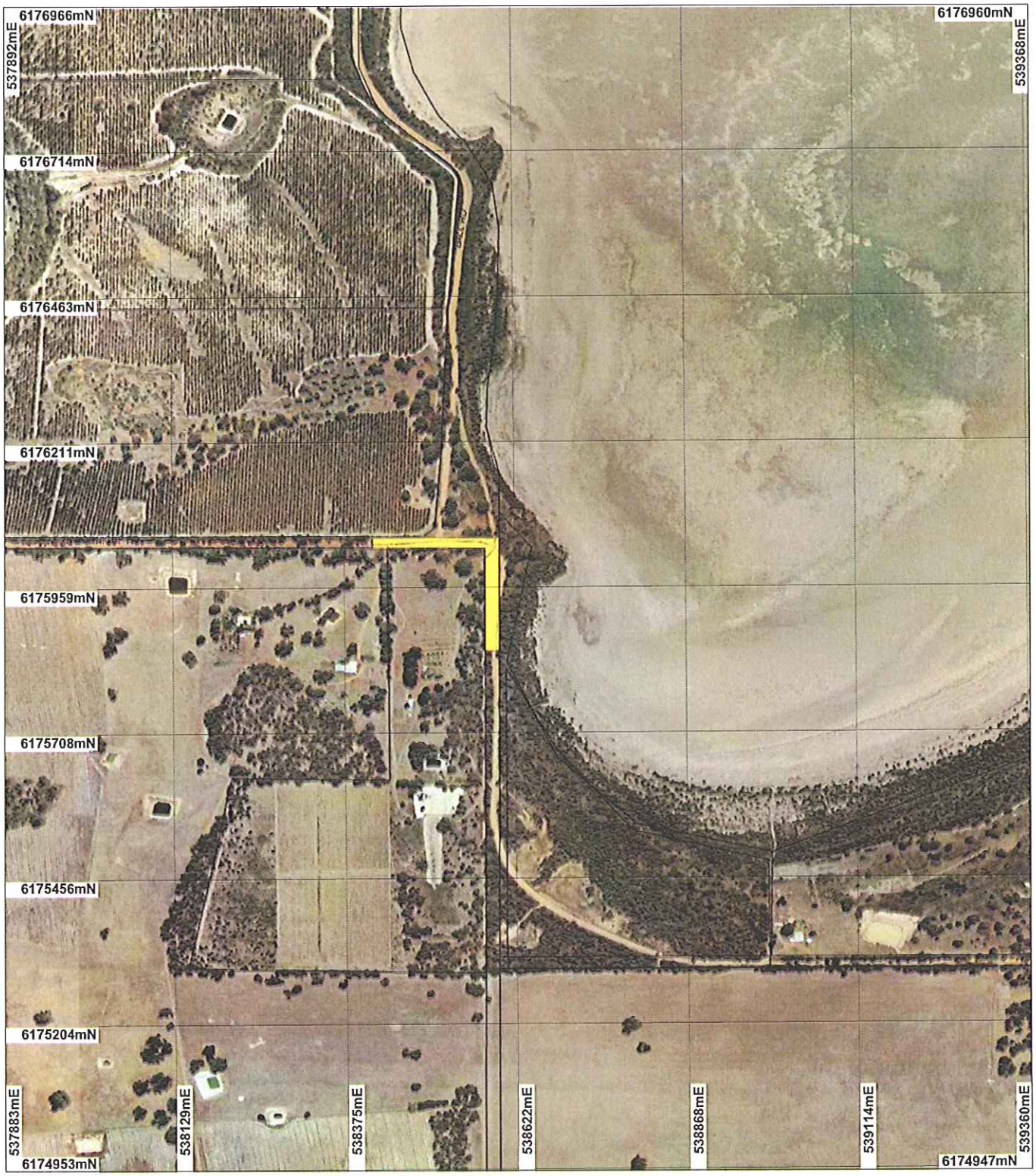
Keith Claymore Date .....

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Information derived from this map should be confirmed with the data custodian acknowleged by the agency acronym in the legend.

Department of Environment and Conservation

Plan 2543/2c



LEGEND

Clearing Instruments
Road Centrelines

Cadastre
Albany Mount Barker 1.4m

Denmark 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate 2001

N

0 ~250 m

Scale 1:8814
(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distortion or measurement inaccuracies.

Date 11/6/09

Keith Claymore
Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Information derived from this map should be confirmed with the data custodian acknowleged by the agency acronym in the legend.

Department of Environment and Conservation

Department of Environment and Conservation

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 2543/2

Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Plantagenet

1.3. Property details

Property:
ROAD RESERVE (FOREST HILL 6324)
ROAD RESERVE (PORONGURUP 6324)
ROAD RESERVE (PORONGURUP 6324)
ROAD RESERVE (MOUNT BARKER 6324)
ROAD RESERVE (MOUNT BARKER 6324)

Local Government Area: Shire Of Plantagenet

Colloquial name: South Marmion Road

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
2.76		Mechanical Removal	Road construction or maintenance
0.2		Mechanical Removal	Road construction or maintenance
0.36		Mechanical Removal	Road construction or maintenance

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
Mattiske Vegetation Complex Bevan: Open forest of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla-Banksia grandis on undulating uplands in humid and subhumid zones. Beard Vegetation Association 972: Medium woodland; jarrah, marri, wandoo & yate.	Kwornicup Road:- The proposal is for the clearing of 0.2ha of native vegetation for the purpose of realignment of the corner.	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition was determined from aerial mapping Denmark 1m Orthomosaic (DOLA 01) and site photographs supplied by the proponent.
Beard Vegetation Association 980: Shrublands; jarrah mallee-heath. Beard Vegetation Association 47: Shrublands; tallerack mallee-heath. Beard Vegetation Association 1: Tall forest; karri (Eucalyptus diverscolor). Beard Vegetation Association 3: Medium forest; jarrah-marri.	Millinup Road:- The proposal is for the clearing of 2.76ha of native vegetation for the purpose of road upgrades. The condition ranges from degraded to excellent. The vegetation between Woodlands Road and Wansbrough Walk is of degraded condition, with weed intrusion and canopy flagging. The vegetation up to 0.5km east of Wansbrough Walk is of excellent condition, and the remaining vegetation varies from degraded to very good.	Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition was determined from aerial mapping Albany Mount Barker 1.4m Orthomosaic (Landgate 2002), site photographs provided by the proponent, and a site visit conducted 4 August 2008.
Mattiske Vegetation Complex Granite Valleys: Tall open forest of Eucalyptus diversicolor-Corymbia calophylla on slopes with some Eucalyptus patens and Eucalyptus megacarpa on valley floors in hyperhumid and perhumid zones. Beard Vegetation Association 3: Medium forest; jarrah-marri.	South Marmion Road:- The proposal is for the clearing of 0.36ha of native vegetation of degraded condition for the upgrade of South Marmion Road. Vegetation is sparse along the road reserve, especially to the east of the road.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition was determined from aerial mapping Albany Mount Barker 1.4m Orthomosaic (Landgate 2002) and site photographs supplied by the proponent.

Mattiske Vegetation Complex Barrow: Open forest of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla with Eucalyptus cornuta on slopes below granite hills in the subhumid zone.

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 may be at variance to this Principle

The amendment to CPS 2543/1 is as a result of the Minister's determination of an appeal against the conditions. The assessment remains the same as that of CPS 2543/1.

The total area proposed for clearing is 3.42 hectares, and occurs within 3 road reserves for the purpose of road upgrades. The clearing of vegetation at the Kwornicup Road (0.2ha) and South Marmion Road (0.36ha) sites is not likely to cause any significant impacts to biodiversity due to their small area, linear nature and the degraded condition of the vegetation.

Millinup Road, however, has been declared by the Shire of Plantagenet, at the suggestion of the Roadside Conservation Committee, a "Flora Road" (RCC 2007). The Roadside Conservation Committee has defined Flora Roads as "those roads which have conservation value owing to the vegetation growing within the reserve" (RCC 2004). Sections of the vegetation within this road reserve are described as being in very good (Keighery 1994) condition. The land either side of Millinup Road is largely cleared for agricultural purposes and therefore the remnant vegetation within the road reserve is considered of great importance for habitat and ecological linkages (RCC Advice 2008, DEC Site Visit 2008). The Millinup Road proposal runs west-east parallel to Porongurup National Park to the North. It provides ecological linkages between remnant vegetation on private land, allowing movement of fauna from these scattered remnants to the national park.

The clearing of native vegetation as proposed along Millinup Road may therefore be at variance to this principle. The Roadside Conservation Committee has suggested that vegetation should only be cleared to the Southern side of Millinup Road in order to maintain ecological linkages and minimise environmental impacts to the remaining vegetation (RCC Advice 2008).

The vegetation surrounding all of the clearing areas is susceptible to dieback and weed invasion.

Methodology

References:
- Keighery, 1994
- RCC, 2007
- RCC Advice, 2008
- RCC, 2004
- Site Inspection Report, 2008

GIS Databases:
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 01/06/05
- Clearing Regulations, Environmentally Sensitive Areas 30 May 2005
- Declared Rare and Priority Flora List - CALM 13/08/03
- Mattiske Vegetation (01/03/1998)
- NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation 20 Jan 2001
- Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed 8 Jul 08

(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 may be at variance to this Principle

Kwornicup Road

No rare and 1 priority fauna species have been recorded within the local area (10km radius) of the Kwornicup Road section of this clearing application. Given the limited nature of the clearing at the Kwornicup Road site (0.2ha), and the presence of more significant areas of similar habitat types within the local area, the proposal is unlikely to impact on significant habitat for this species.

Millinup Road

Two rare, 3 priority and one specially protected fauna species have been recorded within the local (10km radius) area of the Millinup Road site of this application. Of these, Calyptorhynchus baudinii (Endangered), which was recorded 2.12km north, is the only species likely to be utilising the remnant vegetation. C. baudinii usually utilise sites that are heavily forested and dominated by Corymbia calophylla (Marri) and Eucalyptus species, especially E. diversicolor (Karri) and E. marginata (Jarrah).

Millinup Road is likely to be providing some degree of wildlife corridor between remnants and reserves and as such may be considered significant habitat for fauna. The Roadside Conservation Committee has recommended that clearing be restricted to the south side of Millinup Road in order to maintain a wildlife corridor and minimise impacts.

South Marmion Road
The clearing proposed along South Marmion Road consists of a small area of only 0.36 ha and is unlikely to be a significant habitat for fauna in the local area. The vegetation appears to be sparse and better connectivity is provided by neighbouring remnant native vegetation. Clearing of this area is unlikely to impact on significant fauna habitat.

Methodology

References:
- DEC site visit 2008
- Keighery (1994)
- Nature Base (2008)

GIS Databases:
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 01/06/05
- Hydrography linear (hierarchy) - DoW 13/7/06
- Mattiske Vegetation (01/03/1998)
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed 8 Jul 08

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

Comments

Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

Kwornicup Road
Two priority flora species have been recorded within 10km of the Kwornicup Road site. Apodasmia ceramophila and Wurmbea sp. are both priority 2 species and occur 5.5km north east of the proposed clearing. Whilst both species occur within the same soil and vegetation types, the proposed clearing is very limited and larger areas of remnant vegetation remain around the proposal site. It is unlikely that the clearing of this vegetation would have a significant impact on these species.

Milinup Road
Millinup Road has been declared by the Shire of Plantagenet, at the suggestion of the Roadside Conservation Committee, a "Flora Road". The Roadside Conservation Committee has defined Flora Roads as "those roads which have conservation value owing to the vegetation growing within the reserve."

Six rare and 10 priority flora species have been recorded within the local area (10km radius). Of these, 1 rare and 2 priority 2 flora species were located on the same soil and vegetation types. Apium prostratum subsp. philipii (Rare) recorded 1km north, and Juncus meianthus (Priority 2) recorded 100m north, are both associated with creaklines. Given the degraded condition of the Yallingup Brook, which intersects the vegetation to be cleared, the clearing as proposed is unlikely to significantly impact on these species. Rorippa dictyosperma (Priority 2) was sighted 100m north of the proposed clearing, but is associated with granitic slopes, of which there are none within the proposed clearing areas.

South Marmion Road
Two rare and 4 priority flora species have been recorded within the local area of South Marmion Road. Of these, 1 rare and 1 priority species are located within the same soil and vegetation types as the vegetation to be cleared. Additionally, the vegetation proposed for clearing is sparse, especially to the eastern side of South Marmion Road, and is unlikely to be necessary for the continued existence of these species.

Methodology

References:
- DEC Florabase (2008)
- DEC site visit (2008)

GIS Databases:
- Declared Rare and Priority Flora List - CALM 13/08/03
- Mattiske Vegetation (01/03/1998)
- Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed 8 Jul 08
- Soils, Statewide DA 11/99

(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

There are no records of threatened ecological communities (TEC) within a 10 kilometre radius of any of the proposed clearing sites. Therefore, the clearing as proposed is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology

GIS Databases:
- Mattiske Vegetation (01/03/1998)
- Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed 8 Jul 08
- Soils, Statewide DA 11/99

(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 likely to be at variance to this Principle

All of the applied clearing sites fall in the IBRA Southern Jarrah Forest subregion, within which only 49.6% of pre-European extent of vegetation remains. The Shire of Plantagenet is also highly cleared, with 45% of pre-European vegetation remaining.

Kwornicup Road

The vegetation proposed to be cleared at the Kwornicup Road site is a component of Mattiske Vegetation Complex, Bevan (Open forest of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla-Banksia grandis on undulating uplands in humid and subhumid zones), and Beard Vegetation Association 972 (Medium woodland; jarrah, marri, wandoo & yate) of which there is 36.5% remaining (Mattiske 1998, Shepherd et al. 2001).

Millinup Road

The majority of vegetation proposed to be cleared at the Millinup Road site is a component of Beard Vegetation Associations 980 (Shrublands; jarrah mallee-heath) of which there is 40.9% remaining, and 47 (Shrublands; tallerack mallee-heath) of which there is 35.9% remaining. There are also small areas of Beard Vegetation Associations 1 (Tall forest; karri (Eucalyptus diverscolor)) and 3 (Medium forest; jarrah-marri.) which are both of low concern for biodiversity conservation.

Marmion Road

The vegetation proposed to be cleared at the Marmion Road site is of Beard Vegetation Association 3 (Medium forest; jarrah-marri) of which there is 69.4% remaining. The southern half of the proposed clearing site is of Mattiske Vegetation Complex Barrow (Open forest of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla with Eucalyptus cornuta on slopes below granite hills in the subhumid zone) of which 40.1% remains. The remainder is Mattiske Vegetation Complex Granite Valleys (Tall open forest of Eucalyptus diversicolor-Corymbia calophylla on slopes with some Eucalyptus patens and Eucalyptus megacarpa on valley floors in hyperhumid and perhumid zones) which there is 59.9% remaining.

The proposed clearing of a total of 3.42 hectares, and occurs within 4 road reserves will not reduce the representation of any of the above vegetation types to levels below the recommended 30% threshold (Commonwealth 2001).

Methodology

References:
- Commonwealth (2001)
- DEC site visit (2008)
- Hopkins et al. (2001)
- Mattiske (1998)
- Shepherd et al. (2001)

GIS Databases:
- Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia - EA 18/10/00
- Local Government Authorities - DLI 8/07/04
- Mattiske Vegetation - CALM 1/03/1998
- NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation 20 Jan 2001
- Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed 8 Jul 08

(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 likely to be at variance to this Principle

Kwornicup Road

Kwornicup Lake is located 200m east, an unnamed lake is 700m north west and a minor river is located 2.6km south west of the Kwornicup Road section of this proposal. As the proposed clearing size is only 0.2ha it is unlikely to significantly impact on any of these watercourses.

Millinup Road

The Millinup Road proposal intersects Yallingup Brook and several other minor perenial watercourses. The application has indicated that the vegetation associated with these watercourses will be cleared, and as such may be at variance to this principle. The proponent has stated that suitable culverts and headwalls will be installed where necessary to protect these watercourses during and post clearing.

South Marmion Road

The proposed clearing along South Marmion Road is situated 5km north east of Hay River and 5km west of Sleeman Creek. The clearing of vegetation along Marmion Road is not likely to impact vegetation that is growing in or in association with a water course or wetland.
The proposed clearing may be at variance to this principle.

Methodology

References:
- DEC site visit (2008)
- Proponent submission (2008)

GIS Databases:
- ANCA wetlands - Environment Australia 26/3/99
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 01/06/05
- Clearing Regulations, Environmentally Sensitive Areas 30 May 2005
- EPP Lakes Policy Area - DEP 14/05/97
- EPP, Wetlands 2004 (DRAFT) - EPA 21/7/04
- Hydrography linear (hierarchy) - DoW 13/7/06
- Ramsar wetlands - DEC 03
- South Coast Significant Wetlands - WRC 10/06/2003

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

Comments

Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

Given the small and linear areas to be cleared under this proposal, appreciable land degradation is unlikely to occur as a result.

Methodology

GIS databases:
- Annual Evaporation Contours (Isopleths) - WRC 29/09/98
- Average Annual Rainfall Isohyets - WRC 29/09/98
- Hydrogeology, statewide - DOW 13/07/06
- Hydrographic catchments, catchments - DoW 01/06/07
- Hydrography, linear - DOW 13/7/06
- Salinity Risk LM 25m - DOLA 00
- Soils, Statewide DA 11/99
- Topographic contours statewide - DOLA and ARMY 12/09/02

(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 may be at variance to this Principle

Kwornicup Road

The vegetation proposed for clearing at Kwornicup Road is adjacent to an environmentally sensitive area, which is also a conservation area. In order to protect this conservation area and nearby vegetation remnants, weed and dieback conditions will be placed on the permit.

South Marmion Road

The South Marmion Road site is not associated with any reserves and is unlikely to have an impact on the environmental values of any conservation areas.

Millinup Road

The applied area along Millinup Road lies directly south of Porongurup National Park. The vegetation under

application may be providing valuable environmental linkages between remnant native vegetation and this National Park through areas of largely cleared landscape. The Roadside Conservation Committee has identified this vegetation as providing landscape connectivity and therefore as being of high conservation value. Clearing of this vegetation may impact on the environmental values of nearby conservation areas by severing this conectivity and through the potential introduction of weeds and dieback. Additionally, as recommended by the Roadside Conservation Committee, clearing will be restricted to the southern side of Millinup Road in some areas.

Methodology

GIS Databases:
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 01/06/05
- Hydrography, linear - DOW 13/7/06
- Register of National Estate - Environment Australia, Australian and world heritage division 12 Mar 02
- System 1 to 5 and 7 to 12 areas - DEC 11/7/06

(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 likely to be at variance to this Principle

Given the small area and linear nature of the proposed clearings, the clearing as proposed is unlikely to cause deterioration in the quality of underground water or surface runoff.

The proposed clearing along Millinup road intersects the Yallingup Brook. Infrastructure to protect the watercourses intersecting the Millinup Road is currently in place, and the proponent has adviced that suitable infrastructure will be installed where necessary. Additionally, the impacts on surface water are likely to be short term and minor.

The clearing as proposed is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology

References:
DEC site visit (2008)

GIS database:
- Evapotransporation Isopleths - WRC 29/09/98
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide DoW 13/07/06
- Hydrographic catchments, catchments - DoW 01/06/07
- Hydrography, linear - DOW 13/7/06
- Mean Annual Rainfall Isohytes (1975 - 2003) - DEC 02/08/05
- Salinity Risk LM 25m - DOLA 00
- Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02

(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

Given the small, linear areas to be cleared, the clearing as proposed is unlikely to increase the incidence or intensity of flooding.

Methodology

References:
- DEC site visit (2008)

GIS database:
- Environmental Impact Assessments - EPA 22/2/07
- Evaporation Isopleths - WRC 29/09/98
- Hydrographic catchments, catchments - DoW 01/06/07
- Hydrography, linear - DoW 13/7/06
- Mean Annual Rainfall Isohytes (1975 - 2003) - DEC 02/08/05
- Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02

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

Comments

Five appeals were received in relation to the conditions of CPS 2543/1, and the Minister partly upheld the appeal. The resulting amendments relate to the coordinates and wording of Condition 4 "Clearing Not Authorised".

Six public submissions have been received expressing concerns about the proposal, with particular emphasis on the Millinup Road site. The main points raised in these submissions were as follows:
- Maintenance of the tourism and scenic qualities of the roads
- Preservation of Millinup Road as a flora road

- Reduction of the buffer for Porongurup National Park
- Spread of weeds and dieback
- Value of the road verges as wildlife corridors
- Value of road verge vegetation as wildlife habitat following burning of Porongurup National Park
- Sightings of Carnaby's Cockatoo and Baudin's Cockatoo utilising the road verge, and presence of food sources along road verges
- The degree of clearing in the area and road verges provide valuable remnant vegetation
- Widening the road will not necessarily make the road safer but will increase speed at which cars travel
- In areas where widening has already taken place the understorey has disappeared and there is weed invasion

These issues have been taken into consideration during the assessment of this proposal against the 10 clearing principles.

Methodology

GIS Databases:
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance 26 April 2007
- Cadastre - Landgate Dec 07
- Country Area Water Supply Act (Part IIA) Clearing Control Catchments 29/06/2006
- Native Title Claims - LA 2/5/07
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (PDWSAs) - 07/02/06
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas - DoW 13/07/06
- RIWI Act, Irrigation Districts - DoW 13/07/06
- Town Planning Scheme Zones - MFP 31/08/98

4. Assessor's comments

Comment

The application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with s51O of the Environmental Protection Act 1986, and the proposed clearing may be at variance to Principles (a), (b), and (h) and not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing Principles.

5. References

DEC (2008) Hooded Plover (western), Taxon Summary. Department of Environment and Conservation, WA.

DEC (2008) Site visit inspection report (Trim Ref: DOC 59998)

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.

Nature Base (2008), Available from: http://www.naturebase.net/

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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)