Department of Environment and Conservation

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 2693/1

Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Manjimup

1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE (CHANNYBEARUP 6260)
ROAD RESERVE (CHANNYBEARUP 6260)
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Local Government Area: Shire Of Manjimup

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
1		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
Beard Vegetation Association 1144: Tall forest; karri & marri (Corymbia calophylla). Beard Vegetation Association 3: Medium forest; jarrah-marri. Mattiske Vegetation Complex Crowea: Tall open forest of Corymbia calophylla with mixture of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata and Eucalyptus diversicolor on uplands in hyperhumid and perhumid zones. Mattiske Vegetation Complex Pemberton: Tall open forest of Eucalyptus diversicolor with mixtures of Corymbia calophylla on valley slopes and low forest of Agonis juniperina-Banksia seminuda-Callistachys lanceolata on valley floors in the perhumid zone.	The proposal is for the clearing of 1 hectare of native vegetation of degraded condition for the upgrade of Channybearup Road. Clearing will generally be to the eastern side of the current running surface where vegetation is sparse, with a weedy under storey and scattered mature trees. The clearing will mainly involve the removal of 3 Marri and 3 Karri trees.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation condition was determined from aerial mapping Donnelly 50cm Orthomosaic (Landgate 2004) and site photographs supplied by the proponent (TRIM Doc 61138).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

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

Comments

To be assessed.

Methodology

(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

To be assessed.

Methodology

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

Comments

To be assessed.

Methodology

(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

To be assessed.

Methodology

(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

To be assessed.

Methodology

(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

To be assessed.

Methodology

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

Comments

To be assessed.

Methodology

(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

To be assessed.

Methodology

(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

To be assessed.

Methodology

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

Comments

The application is for the clearing of 1ha of native vegetation, in degraded (Keighery 1994) condition, for the purpose of road upgrades. The vegetation consists of scattered mature Corymibia calophylla and Eucalyptus diversicolor trees with an understorey of mainly bracken fern, grassy weeds and some immature tree species. The application area runs along road reserve parallel to Greater Beedelup National Park, and although 5 other DEC managed lands including state forest and national parks lie within the local area (10km radius), the linear strip of vegetation under application is not likely to be providing ecological linkages.

Although there have been many recordings of rare and priority fauna and flora within the local area (10km radius), the degraded and small area of the proposal means it is unlikely to provide significant habitat for fauna, or be necessary for the continued existence of rare flora or a threatened ecological community, especially given the large areas of good condition vegetation both neighbouring the proposal and occurring close by.

The proposal neighbours the Greater Beedelup National Park, and as such may contribute to weed and dieback impacts on this class A reserve. Therefore, in order to protect the environmental values of the adjacent conservation area, weed and dieback conditions will be placed on the permit.

The vegetation to be cleared is 100m north west of a dam, and intersects the minor perennial stream contributing to it. Infrastructure currently exists to minimise impacts on this watercourse.

Methodology

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

Comments

The land on which the proposed clearing is to take place is vested with the Shire of Manjimup for road reserves.

No submissions from the public have been received.

Methodology

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

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 principle (h) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing Principles.

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.

Mattiske, E.M. and Havel, J.J. (1998) Vegetation Complexes of the South-west Forest Region of Western Australia. Maps and report prepared as part of the Regional Forest Agreement, Western Australia for the Department of Conservation and Land Management and Environment 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)