



## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 2715/1

Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Sidney James Livesey

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 2 ON DIAGRAM 48545 ( NAPIER 6330)  
LOT 1999 ON PLAN 128621 (House No. 335 TAKENUP NAPIER 6330)

Local Government Area: City Of Albany

Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

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

## 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 areas under application are mapped as Beard (1980) vegetation association 3, which is described as medium forest; Eucalyptus marginata (Jarrah) - Corymbia calophylla (Marri).	A site inspection undertaken by DEC staff (2008) identified that the vegetation within the areas under application is consistent with mapped Beard (1980) vegetation association 3.	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	A total area of approximately 95.4 hectares is under application, within four sites.  Two of the sites and part of another (totalling approximately 56 hectares) were cleared in about 2000 and re-cleared in about 2004.  The remaining site and the balance of another (totalling approximately 39.4 hectares) were cleared in about 2004.  All of the sites comprise native vegetation that is regenerating, and is considered to be in 'good' or better condition (Keighery scale 1994).
The Albany Hinterland Vegetation Survey (2001) describes the vegetation under application as:  - Eucalyptus marginata (Jarrah) / Corymbia calophylla (Marri) medium forest M; medium Eucalyptus marginata (Jarrah) / Corymbia calophylla (Marri) on tertiary plains (<15m elevation); and  - Eucalyptus marginata (Jarrah) / Corymbia calophylla (Marri) medium forest F; medium Eucalyptus marginata (Jarrah) / Corymbia calophylla (Marri) on low plains (<15m elevation.  A flora and vegetation survey undertaken by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd (May 2009) identified 11 vegetation communities delineated on the basis of floristic composition and structure, and landform position and soil type:  - Open Forests (2 types);			

- Woodlands (7 types); and
- Thickets (2 types).

### 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 at variance to this Principle

This application is for the proposed clearing of approximately 95.4 hectares of native vegetation on a property (being Lot 2 on Diagram 48545 and Lot 1999 on Diagram 128621) for the purpose of establishing pasture and a bluegum plantation.

The area under application comprises four sites, referred to for the purpose of this assessment as Site 1 (33.6 hectares in the north-western area of the property), Site 2 (21.0 hectares in the south-western area of the property), Site 3 (7.3 hectares in the south-eastern area of the property), and Site 4 (33.5 hectares in the north-eastern area of the property). Sites 1, 3 and part of 4 (totalling approximately 56 hectares) were cleared in about 2000 and re-cleared in about 2004. Site 2 and the balance of Site 4 (totalling approximately 39.4 hectares) were cleared in about 2004. All of the sites comprise native vegetation that is regenerating, and is considered to be in 'good' or better condition (Keighery scale 1994).

Aerial photography indicates that approximately 70% of the property is under native vegetation. The native vegetation under application comprises approximately 60% of this (intact and regrowth) and approximately 45% of the property's total area. In a local context (1:20,000 scale), aerial photography indicates that about 25% of the landscape is under native vegetation. The whole of the local area is mapped as Beard (1980) vegetation association 3, although the condition of native vegetation (Keighery scale 1994) outside of the areas under application is not known.

The native vegetation under application is part of macro corridor Zone A (a strategic linkage in remnant vegetation in the south coast region, Wilkins et al 2006). This linkage is likely to contain a diversity of wildlife as these move through the landscape. A site inspection undertaken by DEC staff (2008) identified a diversity of avian fauna and terrestrial fauna within the areas under application.

Within a ten kilometre radius of the area under application, there are more than 40 recorded occurrences of priority flora. A record of *Caladenia plicata* (Priority 4) occurs approximately 740 metres to the north-east of Site 4 of the areas under application, and a record of *Andersonia setifolia* (Priority 3) occurs approximately 1.4 kilometres to the south of Sites 2 and 3 of the areas under application. Similar habitat for both species is present within the areas under application.

A site inspection was undertaken within the native vegetation under application by DEC staff on 1 December 2008. DEC observed a species of Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus* sp., Threatened) within Site 3. During the site inspection DEC staff identified a diversity of habitats within the areas under application, as well as a diversity of avian and terrestrial fauna. DEC identified *Hakea lasiocarpa* (Priority 3) within Site 4. A *Melaleuca* spp. acid hillside seep occurs within Site 2.

A flora and vegetation survey was undertaken by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd on 14 and 23 May 2009 at nine survey sites on the property (including within the native vegetation under application). Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd identified 11 vegetation communities (2 open forests, 7 woodlands and 2 thickets) delineated on the basis of floristic composition and structure, and landform position and soil type, and containing some 98 taxa (considered to represent about 50% of the total floristic diversity on the property). Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd determined the condition of the native vegetation under application as ranging from 'completely degraded' to 'excellent' (Keighery scale 1994), with the large majority considered as being in 'good' condition, and identified that the regrowth vegetation comprises a different understorey composition to adjacent intact native vegetation attributed to natural successional process following a disturbance event (in this case clearing), and identified a reasonable likelihood that rare or priority flora may occur on the property.

The native vegetation under application in 'good' or better condition (Keighery scale 1994) is likely to comprise a high level of biodiversity. The native vegetation under application provides a mosaic of different-aged habitats including several colonising species regenerating after clearing. The native vegetation under application provides an extension of available habitat for wildlife and an ecological linkage with areas of remnant vegetation in the local area. The native vegetation under application is regenerating and in time is likely to achieve a condition similar to its pre-clearing density, diversity and structure.

The proposed clearing is considered to be at variance with this principle.

##### Methodology

Mattiske 2009  
 DEC 2008a  
 Wilkins et al 2006  
 Keighery 1994  
 GIS datasets:  
 - Manypeaks 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate, 2004

- Spatial Cadastral Database - Landgate, June 2008
- Pre-European Vegetation - Beard, 1980
- SAC biodatasets:
  - DEFL - DEC, August 2008
  - WAHERB - DEC, December 2008
  - Fauna - DEC, October 2007

**(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 at variance to this Principle**

Aerial photography indicates that the native vegetation under application is part of a corridor linking larger remnants to the northwest and southeast. The native vegetation under application is part of macro corridor Zone A, which has been identified as the most strategic linkage in remnant vegetation in the south coast region (Wilkins et al 2006), and is significant in the context of maintaining regional scale connectivity between major protected areas.

A site inspection was undertaken by DEC staff on 1 December 2008. DEC observed a species of Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus* sp., Threatened) within Site 3 and a diversity of fauna. Mature trees remaining within the native vegetation under application (predominantly Jarrah) may contain hollows suitable for avian and arboreal fauna.

A flora and vegetation survey was undertaken by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd on 14 and 23 May 2009 at nine survey sites on the property (including within the native vegetation under application). Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd determined the condition of the native vegetation under application as ranging from 'completely degraded' to 'excellent' (Keighery scale 1994), with the large majority considered as being in 'good' condition.

Within a ten kilometre radius of the areas under application, there are recorded occurrences of threatened and priority fauna. Recent records (from 2005) of Forest Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*, Threatened) and Quenda (*Isodon obesulus fusciventer*, Priority 5) occur approximately 830 metres south of Sites 2 and 3 of the areas under application.

DEC advised (DEC 2009b) that the areas under application provide foraging habitat for *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* (Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo, Threatened) and Forest Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*, Threatened). DEC also advised that the areas under application are significant as connecting vegetation and likely to provide habitat if allowed to regenerate.

The native vegetation under application in 'good' or better condition (Keighery scale 1994) is likely to comprise significant habitat for fauna. The native vegetation under application provides a mosaic of different-aged habitats, and provides, or has the potential to recover to provide, foraging habitat for *Calyptorhynchus* spp. (Black-Cockatoo, Threatened). The native vegetation under application provides an extension of available habitat for wildlife and an ecological linkage with areas of remnant vegetation in the local area. The native vegetation under application is regenerating and in time is likely to achieve a condition similar to its pre-clearing density, diversity and structure.

The proposed clearing is considered to be at variance with this principle.

**Methodology**

Mattiske 2009  
 DEC 2009b  
 DEC 2008a  
 Wilkins et al 2006  
 GIS datasets:  
 - Manypeaks 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate, 2004  
 SAC biodatasets:  
 - Fauna - DEC, October 2007

**(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 five records of rare flora occurring within 10 kilometres of the areas under application, the nearest being *Drakaea micrantha* located approximately 2.8 kilometres to the north-east of Site 4 of the areas under application. Some of these species occur within similar soils, landscape positions and habitats as those found within the areas under application.

A flora and vegetation survey was undertaken by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd on 14 and 23 May 2009 at nine survey sites on the property (including within the native vegetation under application). Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd did not identify rare or priority flora within the native vegetation under application, but identified a reasonable likelihood that one or more of eight species of rare flora recorded within 10 kilometres of the property may occur within intact areas of native vegetation on the property, and advised that the absence of rare flora is not an

indication that rare flora is not present on the property. A disclaimer in the report for this survey acknowledges that the survey's timing in May would not record species which grow during winter and spring (e.g. orchids).

DEC advised (DEC 2009a) that the flora and vegetation survey undertaken by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd on 14 and 23 May 2009 was not satisfactory to be conclusive, but is suitable as a preliminary survey and site descriptor. DEC advised that rare or priority species of orchids, *Stylidium*, *Thysanotus* and *Drosera* would have been difficult to identify at the times that the Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd flora and vegetation survey was undertaken. DEC advised that the areas under application provide significant nodes of habitat, buffer the Napier Creek, and two sites are central to maintaining the ecological linkage.

The native vegetation under application in 'good' or better condition (Keighery scale 1994) may include rare flora. Given the diversity of habitats present within the areas under application, it is possible that rare flora (particularly those that may be disturbance opportunists) occur within the areas under application.

The proposed clearing may be at variance with this principle.

**Methodology** Mattiske 2009  
DEC 2009a  
DEC 2008a  
Keighery 1994  
EPA Guidance Statement No.51  
GIS datasets:  
- Manypeaks 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate, 2004  
SAC biodatasets:  
- DEFL - DEC, August 2008  
- WAHERB - DEC, December 2008

**(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 four records of threatened and/or priority ecological communities within 10 kilometres of the areas under application.

DEC advised (DEC 2008b) that all four occurrences are mapped as 'open low *Allocasuarina fraseriana* - *Eucalyptus staeri* woodland in association with *Banksia coccinea* thicket'. This vegetation community does not appear to occur within the areas under application.

A site inspection was undertaken within the native vegetation under application by DEC staff on 1 December 2008. DEC did not identify any threatened or priority ecological communities present within the areas under application. It should be noted that the site inspection considered overall environmental values and was not intended to be a comprehensive survey in accordance with DEC's Species and Communities Branch methodology.

A flora and vegetation survey was undertaken by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd on 14 and 23 May 2009 at nine survey sites on the property (including within the native vegetation under application). Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd did not identify threatened floristic communities within the areas under application.

This proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance with this principle.

**Methodology** Mattiske 2009  
DEC 2008a  
DEC 2008b  
SAC biodatasets:  
- TEC PEC sites - DEC, July 2007  
- TEC PEC boundaries - DEC, July 2007

**(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 at variance to this Principle**

The National Objective and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005 (AGPS 2001) recognises a target retention of 30% or more of the pre-clearing extent of each ecological community. The EPA's Position Statement No.2 recognises a 30% threshold for vegetation types, beyond which species extinction is believed to occur at an exponential rate.

The areas under application are mapped as J.S. Beard (1980) vegetation association 3, which had approximately 69.32% (being 1 657 274 hectares) of its pre-clearing extent remaining within the Jarrah Forest bioregion in 2007, with approximately 15.81% of its pre-clearing extent occurring within conservation estate.

A site inspection was undertaken within the native vegetation under application by DEC staff on 1 December 2008. DEC identified that the vegetation within the areas under application is consistent with mapped Beard (1980) vegetation association 3, and is considered to be in 'good' condition (Keighery scale 1994).

Aerial photography indicates that the vegetation under application is part of a corridor linking larger remnants to the northwest and southeast. The vegetation under application is within the macro corridor Zone A, which has been identified as the most strategic linkage in remnant vegetation in the south coast region (Wilkins et al 2006), and is significant in the context of maintaining regional scale connectivity between major protected areas.

The native vegetation under application in 'good' or better condition (Keighery scale 1994) is likely to be significant as a remnant. The native vegetation under application provides an ecological linkage with areas of remnant vegetation in the local area. The native vegetation under application is regenerating and in time is likely to achieve a condition similar to its pre-clearing density, diversity and structure.

The proposed clearing is considered to be at variance with this principle.

**Methodology** Wilkins et al 2006  
AGPS 2001  
Keighery 1994  
EPA Position Statement No.2  
EPA Position Statement No.9  
Site Inspection report - DEC, December 2008  
GIS datasets:  
- Manypeaks 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate, 2004

**(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 at variance to this Principle**

The topography of the property is approximately 90 metres above sea level at the northwest and 45 metres above sea level at the south. The Kalgan River is located approximately 1.2 kilometres southeast of the areas under application.

A site inspection was undertaken within the native vegetation under application by DEC staff on 1 December 2008. A non-perennial creek flows through the northern part of Site 1 and a tributary to the Kalgan River (being Napier Creek) flows through Site 2 of the areas under application. A *Melaleuca* spp. acid hillside seep occurs within Site 2.

A flora and vegetation survey was undertaken by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd on 14 and 23 May 2009 at nine survey sites on the property (including within the native vegetation under application). Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd identified the presence of *Melaleuca preissiana* (Moonah) on the south-eastern side of Site 2 and the eastern side of Site 4, *Melaleuca raphiophylla* along Napier Creek at the northern and eastern sides of Site 2, and *Melaleuca cuticularis* (Saltwater Paperbark) at the northern end of Site 2.

The Western Australian Herbarium's FloraBase website identifies that *Melaleuca preissiana* (Moonah) grows in sandy soils associated with swamps, *Melaleuca raphiophylla* (Swamp Paperbark) grows in sand or clay soils associated with saltmarshes, swamps and watercourses, and *Melaleuca cuticularis* (Saltwater Paperbark) grows in alluvium, sand and clay soils associated with winter-wet depressions, salt lakes, coastal areas and watercourses.

The native vegetation under application in 'good' or better condition (Keighery scale 1994) includes native vegetation growing in association with a watercourse or wetland.

The proposed clearing is considered to be at variance with this principle.

**Methodology** Mattiske 2009  
DEC 2008a  
Western Australian Herbarium 1998+  
GIS datasets:  
- Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 2002  
- Hydrography, Linear - DOW, 2006  
- Hydrography, linear (medium scale, 250k GA) Austlig Rivers - WRC, 1999

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

**Comments Proposal is seriously at variance to this Principle**

The areas under application are mapped as soil type Ca23, which is described as undulating plain or plateau at low elevation, having a pronounced ridge and depression sequence, some flats, swamps, and lakes: chief soils seem to be leached sands, which occur (i) on upland areas where they have developed in the A horizons or on sand deposits overlying boulder laterite, and (ii) on slopes and in depressions (some of which have peaty surfaces); with associated ironstone gravelly ridges containing a variety of soils including ironstone gravel or laterite layers; areas of boulder laterite on ridges; soils on dunes adjacent to lakes and swamps; and flats and swamps of soils which, however, are not extensive. This soil type is described as having a risk of salinity and erosion.

A site inspection was undertaken within the native vegetation under application by DEC staff on 1 December 2008. DEC identified that the soils within the areas under application range from red lateritic gravels to sandy soils, consistent with mapped soil type Ca23. An acid hillside seep occurs within Site 2 of the areas under application, indicating the presence of sulphides within the soil and a potential for land degradation should these soils be disturbed.

A flora and vegetation survey was undertaken by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd on 14 and 23 May 2009 at nine survey sites on the property (including within the native vegetation under application). Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd identified the presence of *Melaleuca cuticularis* (Saltwater Paperbark) on the property, including at the northern end of Site 2 of the areas under application. The presence of this species may indicate the presence of localised saline seeps on the property.

Salinity mapping indicates that there is a risk of salinity increasing within lower parts of the property. Supporting information provided with the application indicates that an area of salinity in the centre of the property (but not within the areas under application) appears to be reducing in size as determined by pasture coverage, however this does not appear to be attributed to any specific factors (e.g. regrowth of deep-rooted perennial vegetation within the areas under application, dry season, etc).

Clearing of the regrowth vegetation under application on this property will lead to increased recharge, rising ground water levels and subsequent salinity in discharge areas on the property and further downstream. Secondary salinity is already an issue on this property, and further clearing would exacerbate this.

The applicant's proposal to replace deep-rooted perennial native vegetation through the planting of Bluegums will assist in management of rising water tables. The lag-time (up to two and a half years) for replacement of deep-rooted perennial vegetation may result in rising water tables which in turn are likely to exacerbate salinity lower in the landscape, thereby the proposed clearing may impact on downstream water quality. Climatic conditions and the length of time between the clearing proposed and the establishment of deep-rooted perennial vegetation will affect the level of land degradation.

There is no binding assurance that the establishment of deep-rooted perennial vegetation will occur or be maintained in perpetuity to prevent land degradation in the form of salinity, or will be re-established within an appropriate timeframe following harvesting operations.

The proposed clearing is considered to be seriously at variance with this principle.

**Methodology** Supporting information (2006) provided with the application  
Mattiske 2009  
DAFWA 2008  
DAFWA 2009  
DEC 2008a  
GIS datasets:  
- Soils, Statewide, Atlas of Australian Soils Western Australia - AGWA 1999  
- Salinity Risk LM 25m - DOLA, 2000  
- Salinity Mapping LM 25m - DOLA, 2000

**(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**

No conservation areas (reserves, covenants, etc) occur within the immediate proximity of the areas under application.

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

**Methodology** GIS datasets:  
- System 1 to 5 and 7 to 12 Areas - DEC 2006  
- Clearing Regulations - Environmentally Sensitive Areas - DOE 2005

- Register of the National Estate - EA 2003
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 2005
- Agreement to Reserve - DAWA 2005

**(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 may be at variance to this Principle**

The area under application occurs within the Oyster Harbour / Kalgan / King hydrographic catchment area, and within the Albany Waterway Management Area. The Kalgan River is located approximately 1.2 kilometres southeast of area under application.

A site inspection was undertaken within the native vegetation under application by DEC staff on 1 December 2008. A non-perennial creek flows through the northern part of Site 1 and a tributary to the Kalgan River (being Napier Creek) flows through Site 2 of the areas under application. A *Melaleuca* spp. acid hillside seep occurs within Site 2.

During a site inspection on 1 December 2008 DEC identified that the soils within the areas under application are red lateritic gravels on high points and sandy soils in lower landscape, consistent with mapped soil type Ca23. This soil type is described as having a risk of salinity and erosion. The areas under application are located on undulating land. There may be an impact to water quality as a result of altered hydrology and increased infiltration and/or surface runoff carrying sediments and nutrients.

The proposed clearing will lead to increased recharge, rising ground water levels and subsequent salinity in discharge areas on the property and further downstream.

The applicant's proposal to replace deep-rooted perennial native vegetation through the planting of bluegums will assist in management of rising water tables. The applicant's representative present during the site inspection undertaken by DEC on 1 December 2008 advised that pastures would be established for up to two and a half years following clearing in order to improve soil fertility prior to planting bluegums. The delayed replacement of deep-rooted perennial vegetation may result in rising water tables which in turn are likely to exacerbate salinity lower in the landscape, thereby affecting downstream water quality.

There is no binding assurance that the establishment of deep-rooted perennial vegetation will occur or be maintained in perpetuity to avoid deterioration of water quality, or will be re-established within an appropriate timeframe following harvesting operations.

The proposed clearing may be at variance with this principle.

**Methodology DAFWA 2008**

DEC 2008a

GIS datasets:

- Soils, Statewide, Atlas of Australian Soils Western Australia - AGWA, 1999
- Hydrographic Catchments - DOW, 1997
- Waterway Conservation Act, Waterway Management Areas - DOW, 2002

**(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**

A site inspection was undertaken within the native vegetation under application by DEC staff on 1 December 2008. DEC identified that the soils within the areas under application are red lateritic gravels on high points and sandy soils in lower landscape, consistent with mapped soil type Ca23. While the proposed clearing is likely to result in increased recharge and may result in increased runoff, it is not considered likely to exacerbate local flooding events.

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

**Methodology DAFWA 2008**

DEC 2008a

GIS datasets:

- Soils, Statewide, Atlas of Australian Soils Western Australia - AGWA, 1999

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

**Comments**

Of the areas under application, Sites 1, 3 and part of 4 (totalling approximately 56 hectares) were cleared in about 2000 and re-cleared in about 2004. Site 2 and the balance of Site 4 (totalling approximately 39.4 hectares) were cleared in about 2004.

The areas under application are subject to a Soil Conservation Notice (SCN, dated 14 November 2003) under the Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945. The SCN prevents further clearing because of a risk of salinity due to rising water tables as a result of the clearing. A State Administrative Tribunal hearing determined that the SCN would be lifted and replaced by a modified SCN specifying that if clearing is approved then pasture or bluegums must be planted on the cleared areas within six months of the clearing, and bluegums must be planted on pasture within the cleared areas within two and a half years of the clearing.

A modified SCN requiring the establishment of pasture and bluegums within a specified timeframe has not yet been registered on the certificates of title for the property. The SCN is therefore not binding on future owners of the property, and as such there is no binding assurance that the establishment of deep-rooted perennial vegetation will occur or be maintained in perpetuity to prevent land and water degradation, or will be re-established within an appropriate timeframe following harvesting operations.

The impacts that the future harvesting bluegums will have on local water tables is not indicated.

The property occurs within the agricultural area defined in the EPA's Position Statement No.2. The EPA's position on "clearing in the agricultural area for agricultural purposes" is that any further reduction in native vegetation through clearing for agriculture cannot be supported. This proposed clearing is for the purpose of establishing pasture and bluegums.

The proposed clearing will impact more than 1 hectare of available (or potential) foraging habitat for *Calyptrorhynchus latirostris* (Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo, Threatened). This species and its habitats are protected under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, and referral of the proposal to the Commonwealth Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts is likely to be required.

Methodology EPA Position Statement No.2

#### 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 is considered to be seriously at variance with principle (g), at variance with principles (a), (b), (e) and (f), may be at variance with principle (c) and (i), and is not likely to be at variance with principles (d), (h) and (j).

#### 5. References

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- Department of Environment and Conservation (2008a) Native Vegetation Conservation Branch Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 2715/1. Site inspection undertaken 1 December 2008. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia. TRIM ref. DOC75568.
- Department of Environment and Conservation (2008b) Species and Communities Branch advice on threatened ecological communities, 10 December 2008. TRIM ref. DOC71562.
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Watson, J.W. and Wilkins, P.J. (1999) The Western Australian South Coast Macro Corridor Project - A BioRegional Strategy for Nature Conservation. Parks Volume 9 No 3.

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Wilkins, P., Gilfillan, S., Watson, J. and Sanders, A. (ed) (2006) The Western Australian South Coast Macro Corridor Network - a bioregional strategy for nature conservation. Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) and South Coast Regional Initiative Planning Team (SCRIPT), 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)

