



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 2732/1
 Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Capel

1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE (CAPEL 6271)
 Local Government Area: Shire Of Capel
 Colloquial name: East Road

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
	4	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
Aerial photography indicates that the vegetation condition is completely degraded (Keighery, 1994). The vegetation structure consists of isolated trees with no apparent understorey.	The proposal is to clear 4 <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> trees for road construction. Aerial photography indicates the vegetation structure to consist of isolated trees and no apparent no understorey.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition was determined from aerial photography.

Beard Vegetation Associations: 1182-Medium woodland; *Eucalyptus rudis* & *Melaleuca raphiophylla*;

Hedde Vegetation Complex: Swan River complex Fringing woodland with localised occurrences of low open forest.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

The proposal to clear 4 *Corymbia calophylla* trees for the purpose of road reconstruction is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. The remaining vegetation in the vicinity of the proposed clearing, along the road reserve and adjoining freehold land, appears to be dominated by *Corymbia calophylla* only. The area appears to be parkland cleared (Donnybrook 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004).

The proposed clearing is within the Swan Coastal Plain IBRA Region, where the area of vegetation remaining is 38.6%. Within the Shire of Capel 30.3% of pre-European vegetation remains (Shepherd 2007). These percentages are at or slightly more than the National Objectives Targets for Biodiversity Conservation, which seeks to restrict clearing within areas with less than 30% pre-1750 vegetation (Department of Natural Resources and Environment, 2002; EPA, 2000).

Beard Unit 1182 and Hedde Complex have a remaining vegetation percentage of 28% and 15.6% respectively - both below the 30% bench-mark. Due to the degraded condition of the area under application, the remaining vegetation is not likely to be a true representation of the Beard/Hedde complexes.

Given the above, and the small area and condition of the vegetation within the proposed clearing area, it is unlikely that the vegetation to be cleared is significant as a remnant of vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.

There are no declared rare flora species or threatened ecological communities in the vicinity of the project.

It is considered that the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

Methodology GIS Layer:

- Donnybrook 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004
- Hydrography, linear - DOE 1/2/04 (Hyd-type)
- Geomorphic wetlands Swan Coastal Plain
- Pre-European Vegetation - DA 10/01
- Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia - EA 18/10/00
- Heddl vegetation complexes - DEP 21/06/95
- Sac Bio datasets: DEFL August 2008

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

Comments

The vesting of the land, public road reserve, is consistent with proposed clearing purpose and the land is vested with the Shire of Capel.

Methodology

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 not likely to be at variance to the clearing Principles.

5. References

- Heddl, E. M., Loneragan, O. W., and Havel, J. J. (1980) Vegetation Complexes of the Darling System, Western Australia. In Department of Conservation and Environment, Atlas of Natural Resources, Darling System, Western Australia.
- 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. (2007). Adapted from: Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R., and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001), Native Vegetation in Western Australia. Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture Western Australia, South Perth. Includes subsequent updates for 2006 from Vegetation Extent dataset ANZWA1050000124.

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)