



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 2743/1
 Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: City of Rockingham

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 1524 ON PLAN 27777 (BALDIVIS 6171)
 Local Government Area: City Of Rockingham
 Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
	2	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: 999: Medium Woodland: Marri (SAC Bio Dataset 16/10/2008, Shepherd 2007).	The proposal is to clear 2 trees within a road reserve for the purpose of road widening. The area under application contains Allocasuarina sp., Banksia Sp. and Eucalyptus sp.	Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation clearing description is based on information obtained from a site visit undertaken on 17 October 2008.
Hedde Vegetation Complex: Karrakatta Complex Central and South. Predominantly open forest of Eucalyptus gomphocephala, Eucalyptus marginata, Eucalyptus calophylla and woodlands of E. marginata, Banksia species (Hedde et al. 1980).			

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments The vegetation within the area under application comprises of two trees over sparse groundcover of pasture weeds and is in a completely degraded condition. Given this, it is not considered likely for the area under application to comprise of a high level of biological diversity.

There are two recordings of conservation significant fauna within the local area (~5km radius). Given the small number of trees being cleared, the lack of native understorey and the lack of preferred habitat for both fauna species listed above, it is not considered likely for the area under application to provide significant habitat for local fauna.

There is one record of the rare flora *Drakaea elastica* within the local area (~5km radius) and is known to occur ~3.7 km east of the area under application. This species is a tuberous, perennial herb growing between 0.12 m and 0.3 m high, with red, green and yellow flowers during Oct to Nov. It occurs on white or grey sand that occurs in low-lying situations adjoining winter-wet swamps (Western Australian Herbarium 1998-). The area under application does not contain the preferred habitat (winter wet swamps) that this species favours.

There are no known occurrences of Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) in the local area (~5 km radius). The closest known TEC is floristic community type 19a: sedgelands in holocene dune swales located 5.2 km west of the area under application. Given that the vegetation under application comprises two trees it is not considered likely that the area would contain or be necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.

As the area under application is limited to two trees it is not considered likely to be significant as a remnant of native vegetation.

The closest conservation reserve to the area under application is Bush Forever site 376 (Baldivis Road Bushland), which is ~700 m south. The application area is not linked or adjacent to this reserve and therefore, it is considered unlikely for the proposed clearing to impact on the reserves environmental values.

There are numerous wetlands within the local area (5 km radius) with the closest being a Multiple Use Wetland occurring ~120 m east of the area under application. The nearest watercourse is the Serpentine River which occurs ~2 km east of the area under application. Given the distance to the nearest wetland and watercourse from the area under application it is not considered likely to be growing in association with a wetland or watercourse.

The chief soils within the area under application are brown sands, siliceous sands; and leached sands (Northcote et al. 1960-68). The main land degradation risk with the identified soil type is wind erosion and phosphorous export (Department of Agriculture 2005).

Given that the area under application is limited to two trees in total it is not considered likely that the area under application would cause appreciable land degradation through wind erosion or cause deterioration in surface or underground water quality. The limited clearing is not considered likely to have an impact on peak flood height or duration.

Methodology References
- Department of Agriculture (2005)
- Northcote et al. (1960-68)
- Western Australian Herbarium (1998-).
GIS Databases
-Geomorphic Wetlands (Classification), Swan Coastal Plain
-Hydrography, linear (hierarchy)
- SAC Bio Dataset 16/10/2008

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

Comments The proposal is to clear two native trees for widening of Baldivis Road Reserve

The area under application is zoned Local Road reserve under the City of Rockingham Town Planning Scheme.

Methodology GIS Databases
-Town Planning Scheme Zones

4. Assessor's comments

Comment
The assessable criteria have been addressed and the clearing as proposed is unlikely to be at variance to the Principles.

5. References

- Department of Agriculture (2005) AgMaps Land Manager CD-rom for the Shires of Serpentine-Jarrahdale, Kwinana, Rockingham, Mandurah, Murray, Boddington, Waroona and Harvey. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia. ISSN: 1448-235X.
- Hedde, 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.
- Northcote, K. H. with Beckmann G G, Bettenay E., Churchward H. M., van Dijk D. C., Dimmock G. M., Hubble G. D., Isbell R. F., McArthur W. M., Murtha G. G., Nicolls K. D., Paton T. R., Thompson C. H., Webb A. A. and Wright M. J. (1960-68): 'Atlas of Australian Soils, Sheets 1 to 10, with explanatory data'. CSIRO and Melbourne University Press: Melbourne.
- 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.
- Western Australian Herbarium (1998-). FloraBase, The Western Australian Flora. Department of Environment and Conservation. <http://florabase.dec.wa.gov.au/> (Accessed 16/10/2008).

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)

