

## **CLEARING PERMIT**

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number:

2769 / 1

File Number:

DEC9377

Duration of Permit:

From 19 April 2009 to 19 April 2011

PERMIT HOLDER

Raymond Lyle McNaught

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

LOT 34 ON PLAN 55575 (NORTHCLIFFE 6262)

## AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

Clearing of up to 0.3 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 2769/1.

## CONDITIONS

## Dieback and weed control

When undertaking any clearing or other activity authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds and dieback:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) shall not move soils in wet conditions;
- (c) ensure that no dieback or weed-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (d) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

## **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;

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 Agricultural and Related Resources Protection Act 1976.

Kelly Faulkner MANAGER

NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

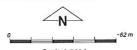
19 March 2009

# Plan 2769/1



## LEGEND

Clearing Instruments Road Centrelines Cadastre Cadastre Northcliffe 1.4m Orthomosald - Landgate 2000



Scale 1:2104 (Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

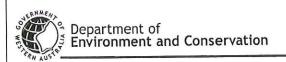
Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric staffion or measurement in accuracies.

K Faulkner

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.





# **Clearing Permit Decision Report**

## 1. Application details

Permit application details

Permit application No.:

2769/1

Permit type:

Area Permit

Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Raymond Lyle McNaught

1.3. Property details

Property:

LOT 34 ON PLAN 55575 ( NORTHCLIFFE 6262)

LOT 34 ON PLAN 55575 ( NORTHCLIFFE 6262)

Local Government Area:

Shire Of Manjimup

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

For the purpose of:

0.3

Mechanical Removal

Miscellaneous

## 2. Site Information

# Existing environment and information

## 2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

## **Vegetation Description**

Beard Vegetation Association: (1144)

1144 is described as Tall forest; karri & marri (Corymbia calophylla).

(Shepherd et al. 2001)

Clearing Description

The area under application consist of Karri trees over thick understorey.

Vegetation Condition

**Excellent: Vegetation** structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery 1994)

#### Comment

The area under application has been described from aerial imagery and a site inspection (DEC, 2008).

Mattiske Vegetation Association: Angove (A)

ANGOVE (A): Open forest of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata (Jarrah) -Banksia ilicifolia (Hollyleaved Banksia) - Nuytsia floribunda (WA Christmas Tree) with some Eucalyptus diversicolor (Karri) on gently sloping sandy terrain in hyperhumid and perhumid

(Mattiske Consulting, 1998)

## 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 not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The proposed clearing of 0.3 hectares of native vegetation is for the purpose of establishing a garden and vehicle access. The area under application is described as being in an excellent (Keighery 1994) condition, consisting of riparian vegetation (DEC, 2008).

There are numerous records of priority flora species recorded within the local area (10km radius), however these species are primarily associated with different soil and vegetation types.

The proposed clearing is unlikely to be at variance to this Principle as the vegetation is well represented in the local area (70% remnant vegetation) and the size of the area is small (0.3ha).

To ensure the proposed activity does not impact on the biodiversity of surrounding vegetation weed and dieback conditions will be placed on the permit.

#### Methodology

References:

Keighery (1994) DEC (2008)

#### GIS Database:

- CALM Managed Lands and Waters CALM 01/06/05
- DEFL, SAC Biodataset (24/11/08)
- Northcliffe 1.4m ORTHOMOSAIC Landgate 2000
- (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 not likely to be at variance to this Principle

Within the local area (10km radius from the proposed clearing) there are 2 records of threatened fauna and 5 records of priority species.

The area under application is proposed to clear 0.3ha of native vegetation of which the area is in an excellent (Keighery, 1994) condition. Within the local area (10km radius) there is 70% remaining native vegetation of which is well represented fauna habitat. Given these factors proposed clearing is not considered to be significant habitat for the fauna, therefore not likely to be at variance to this principle.

#### Methodology

GIS Database:

- Northcliffe 1.4m ORTHOMOSIAC Landgate 2000
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters CALM 01/06/05
- Threatened Fauna, SAC Bio Dataset (24/11/08)
- (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

There is one records of rare flora (Meziella trifida) within the local area (10km radius).

The rare flora was found in different soil and vegetation type as the proposed clearing area.

Given the above the clearing as proposed is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

#### Methodology

GIS Database:

- Northcliffe 1.4m ORTHOMOSIAC Landgate 2000
- DEFL, SAC Biodataset (24/11/08)
- (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 known Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) within a 10km radius of the proposed clearing site.

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

## Methodology

GIS Database:

- Northcliffe 1.4m ORTHOMOSIAC Landgate 2000
- DEFL, SAC Biodataset (24/11/08)
- TEC Database, SAC Biodatasets accessed 24/11/08
- (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

	Pre-European	Current Extent	Remaining
IBRA Bioregion Warren	835,925.47	675,836.26	80.85
Shire Manjimup Beard Vegetation	697,359.72	595,561.57	85.4
1144	160,314.85	131,412.09	81.97

Mattiske Vegetation

Angove

397,028

355,374

89.5

The area under application is located in the Warren Bioregion and is in the Shire of Manjimup. The extent of Warren is 80.85%. The extent of the pre-European vegetation (1144) is 81.97% (Shepherd, 2007) within the Shire of Manjimup is 85.40% (Shepherd, 2007). The extent of the Mattiske vegetation (Angove) is 89.50% (Mattiske and Havel, 1998). Beard and Mattiske vegetation has not been extensively cleared within this region, and is higher than the desirable 30% threshold level target identified by the EPA (2000).

The local area (10km radius) is approximately 70% vegetated. Due to the amount of surrounding vegetation present and the size (0.3ha) of the area under application, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

#### Methodology

References:

EPA (2000)

Mattiske Consulting (1998)

Shepherd (2007)

Shepherd et al. (2001)

## GIS Database:

- Northcliffe 1.4m ORTHOMOSIAC Landgate 2000
- Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia EA 18/10/00
- Pre European Vegetation, SAC Bio Dataset (24/11/08)

# (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 at variance to this Principle

There is one mapped minor perennial watercourse 250m east of the proposed clearing site and a mapped earth dam 480m north of the area under application. A paluslope (seasonally inundated slope) is 525m west of the proposed clearing.

A site inspection of the applied area identified a small stream and riparian vegetation within the area under application (DEC, 2008).

Given the above the clearing as proposed is at variance to this principle.

## Methodology

References:

DEC (2008)

GIS Database:

- Hydrography linear (hierarchy) - DoW 13/7/06

# (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

The proposed clearings topography is 95 to 100 AHD (Australian Height Datum). The mean annual rainfall is 1300mm per annum and the evapotranspiration rate is 900mm.

The soil type is described as chief soils are hard, and also sandy, neutral, and also acidic, yellow and yellow mottled soils, with conspicuous but relatively smaller areas of red earths. Associated are areas of block laterite, gravelly and bouldery soils on tops of rises and their colluvial slopes; some areas of leached sands, some soils on slopes and some soils on terraces of major streams (Northcote et al, 1968).

The groundwater salinity is 500 to 1000mg/L (low salinity risk). As the catchment area has not been highly cleared and the area under application is small (0.3ha) and spread across a long area therefore salinity is not considered a risk.

Given the soil type (Sandy soil), low relief in topography and size of the area (0.3ha), erosion, water logging and salinity is unlikely to occur on the siteas a result of the proposal.

The area under application therefore is unlikely to be at variance to this principle.

#### Methodology

References:

Keighery (1994)

Northcote et al. (1968)

#### GIS Database:

- Evapotransporation Isopleths WRC 29/09/98
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide DoW 13/07/06
- Hydrographic catchments, catchments DoW 01/06/07
- Hydrogeology, statewide DOW 13/07/06
- Mean Annual Rainfall Isohytes (1975 2003) DEC 02/08/05
- Topographic Contours, Statewide DOLA 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 is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The proposed clearing is 1.1km west of Gardener State Forest and is 4km south of Greater Hawke National Park.

As the area proposed to clear is small (0.3ha) and there is well represented remnant (70%) vegetation within the local area (10km radius). The area in question is unlikely to have any impact on the State Forest, National Park or any other nearby DEC managed lands.

#### Methodology

GIS Databases:

- Northcliffe 1.4m ORTHOMOSIAC Landgate 2000
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters CALM 01/06/05
- (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

A site inspection of the applied area identified a stream and ripariance vegetation within the applied area (DEC, 2008).

Given that the small scale of the area under application (0.3ha) the proposed clearing is not likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water and therefore is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

## Methodology

References:

DEC (2008)

#### GIS Database:

- Evapotransporation Isopleths WRC 29/09/98
- Hydrographic catchments, catchments DoW 01/06/07
- Hydrogeology, statewide DOW 13/07/06
- Mean Annual Rainfall Isohytes (1975 2003) DEC 02/08/05
- (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 soil type (Sandy soil; Northcote et al., 1968), low relief in topography and size of the area (0.3ha), it is unlikely to cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding.

#### Methodology

References:

Northcote et al. (1968)

#### GIS Database:

- Evapotransporation Isopleths
- WRC 29/09/98 Groundwater Salinity Statewide DoW 13/07/06
- Hydrographic catchments, catchments DoW 01/06/07
- Hydrogeology, statewide DOW 13/07/06
- 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

The Town Planning Scheme for the area under application is zoned as Special Rural. The Shire of Manjimup planning approval received DOC78720.

## Methodology

GIS Database:

- 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 s510 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986, and the proposed clearing is at variance to Principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing Principles.

## 5. References

- DEC (2008) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 2769/1, Lot 34 on Plan 55575, Manjimup. Site inspection undertaken 1/12/2008. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (TRIM Ref. DOC69867).
- EPA (2000) Environmental protection of native vegetation in Western Australia. Clearing of native vegetation, with particular reference to the agricultural area. Position Statement No. 2. December 2000. Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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., 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)