Department of Environment and Conservation

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 2826/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: City of Albany

1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE (DROME 6330)
Local Government Area: City Of Albany
Colloquial name: Gunn Road, Drome

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.11		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 Unit: 978: Low forest; jarrah, Eucalyptus staeri & Allocasuarina fraseriana 51: Sedgeland; reed swamps, occasionally with heath	The proposal is to clear 0.11 hectares of native vegetation within Gunn Road Reserve for the purpose of realigning a section of Gunn Road which is not currently within the Road Reserve and to widen a section of the road where trees are too close (safety hazard).	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	The condition of the vegetation was determined using orthomosaic photography (Albany Mount Barker 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate 2002)

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The proposal is to clearing 0.11 ha of native vegetation in good (Keighery, 1994) condition for the purpose of road realignment and maintenance within the City of Albany.

The local area (10km radius) has approximately 30% of native vegetation remaining with some areas of vegetation becoming highly fragmented. Given the condition of the vegetation compared to nearby remnants of vegetation the area under application is not likely to have a high level of biodiversity in a local context.

The area under application is within a high risk area for Phytophthora dieback disease and weeds. Dieback and weed conditions will be placed on the permit to mitigate the potential for clearing to exacerbate dieback and weed spread in a highly cleared landscape.

Methodology

References:
DEC (2008)
DoW (2006)
EPA (2000)
Keighery (1994)

GIS Database:
Hydrography linear - DOW 13/7/06
Local Government Authorities - DLI 8/07/04
NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation 20 Jan 2001
Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01
SAC Biodatasets - accessed 24 November 08
Soils, Statewide DA 11/99

South Coast Significant Wetlands - WRC 10/06/2003
Topographic contours statewide - DOLA and ARMY 12/09/02
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 s51O of the Environmental Protection Act 1986, and the proposed clearing may be at variance with principles (e) and (f) and is not likely to be at variance with principles (a), (b), (c), (d), (g), (h), (i) and (j).

5. References

DEC (2008) South Coast Region, Advice to Assessing Officer, Department of Environment and Conservation, unpublished document DOC69099.

Department of Water (2006) Water Quality Protection Note 6: Vegetation Buffers to Sensitive Water

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.

Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, 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)