



## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 2904/1  
 Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Stanley & Dianne Margaret Steber

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 7 ON DIAGRAM 87201 ( GLENORAN 6258)  
 Local Government Area: Shire Of Manjimup  
 Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
13.5		Mechanical Removal	Timber Harvesting
		Mechanical Removal	Timber Harvesting

## 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
<p>Beard Vegetation Association: (1144)</p> <p>1144 is described as tall forest; karri &amp; marri (<i>Corymbia calophylla</i>). (Shepherd et al. 2001)</p> <p>Mattiske Vegetation Association: (CRb), (LF) &amp; (WH1)</p> <p>Crowea (CRb) is described as tall open forest of <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> (Marri) - <i>Eucalyptus diversicolor</i> (Karri) on upper slopes with <i>Allocasuarina decussata</i> (Karri Sheoak) - <i>Banksia grandis</i> (Bull Banksia) on upper slopes in hyperhumid and perhumid zones.</p> <p>LEFROY (LF) is described as Tall open forest of <i>Eucalyptus diversicolor</i> (Karri) - <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> (Marri) on slopes and low woodland of <i>Taxandria juniperina</i> (Wattie) - <i>Callistachys lanceolata</i> (Wonnich) on lower slopes in hyperhumid and perhumid zones.</p> <p>WHEATLEY (WH1) is described as Tall open forest of <i>Eucalyptus diversicolor</i> (Karri) - <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> (Marri) on slopes and tall open forest of <i>Eucalyptus patens</i> (Blackbutt) on</p>	<p>The vegetation is Karri regrowth forest with very few mature trees. Dominant species are Karri, Marri and Blackbutt. Middle storey comprises of <i>Agonis flexuosa</i>, <i>Acacia pentadenia</i> and <i>Trymalium floribundum</i>. Under storey consists mainly of <i>Pteridium esculentum</i>.</p>	<p>Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)</p>	<p>A DEC Site visit was conducted on 13/01/2009</p>

valley floor in perhumid and humid zones.  
(Mattiske Consulting 1998)

### 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 not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

The proposal is to clear 13.5ha of native vegetation within the property for the purpose of silviculture and fire protection. The vegetation under application is in very good condition (Keighery, 1994).

The local area (10km radius) retains approximately 80% native vegetation cover with approximately 90% of that vegetation within DEC (Department of Environment and Conservation) managed lands.

Given the level of disturbance within the applied area and taking into account that there are nearby areas of vegetation in a similar or better condition, the vegetation under application is not likely to contain a high level of biodiversity in a local context.

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

**Methodology**      References:  
DEC (2009)  
Keighery (1994)

GIS Database:  
CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 01/06/05  
SAC Biodatasets - accessed 16/1/2009  
Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01  
NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation 20 Jan 2001

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

The local area is approximately 80% vegetated, 90% of which occurs within DEC managed lands.

There are 14 records of Forest Red Tailed Black Cockatoo's in the local area (10km radius). In addition Baudins Black Cockatoo's and Western Ringtail Possums have also been recorded in the local area. The vegetation under application is directly linked with the Donnelly River Nature Reserve and the South East Nannup State forest and may provide significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

Therefore the clearing as proposed maybe at variance to this principle.

A condition to retain 2 habitat trees per hectare has been placed on this permit to mitigate this issue.

**Methodology**      GIS Databases:  
SAC Biodatasets - accessed 16/1/2009  
Hydrography linear - DOW 13/7/06  
Hydrography linear (hierarchy) - DoW 13/7/06  
Topographic contours statewide - DOLA and ARMY 12/09/02

#### (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 is one known record of rare flora, *Caladenia harringtoniae*, within the local area (10km radius).

District populations of this species occur in the same soil type as the area under application.

*Caladenia harringtoniae* is known to occur in winter wet flats, along margins of lakes, creeklines and granite outcrops. (WA Herbarium, 1998-)

Given the presence of watercourses in the area under application and due to the fact that the rare flora occurs within the same soil type, the clearing as proposed maybe at variance to this principle.

A 30m buffer (WRC, 1996; DoW, 2005) from either side of watercourses has been placed on the permit to mitigate this issue.

**Methodology** WA Herbarium (1998-)

GIS Database:  
Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01  
SAC Biodatasets - accessed 16/1/2009  
Soils, Statewide DA 11/99

**(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 (TECs) within the local area (10km radius).

Therefore the clearing as proposed is not likely to be at variance to this principle as the vegetation under application is not likely to comprise or be necessary for the maintenance of a known TEC.

**Methodology** GIS Database:  
SAC Biodatasets - accessed 16/1/2009

**(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 (ha)	Remaining (ha)	% In reserves (%)	DEC Managed Land
IBRA Bioregions***				
Warren^	835,925	675,836	80.85	82.37
Shire*				
Manjimup	697,359	595,561	85.40	92.17
Mattiske Vegetation Complex**				
CRb	527,433	428,454	81.2	N/A
LF	201,286	164,947	81.9	N/A
WH1	183,280	145,945	78	N/A
Beard Vegetation Complex*				
1144	160,314	131,412	81.97	91.08

\* (Shepherd et al. 2007)

\*\* (Mattiske Consulting 1998)

^ Area within Intensive Land Use Zone

The local area (10km radius) retains approximately 80% native vegetation, approximately 90% of which is within DEC managed lands.

The vegetation at the site is a component of Beard Vegetation Association 1144 (Hopkins et al. 2001) of which there is 81.97% (Shepherd et al 2001) of the pre-european extent remaining. The vegetation under application is also within the Shire of Manjimup and the Warren IBRA Bioregion of which there is 85% and 80% remaining.

Therefore the clearing as proposed is not considered to be a significant remnant of vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared and is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** References:  
Hopkins et al. (2001)  
Shepherd et al. (2001)  
Shepherd (2007)  
Mattiske Consulting (1998)

GIS Databases:  
- Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia - EA 18/10/00  
- Local Government Authorities - DLI 8/07/04  
- Mattiske Vegetation (01/03/1998)  
- Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01  
- NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation 20 Jan 2001

**(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 are 2 mapped minor perennial watercourses in the local area. One runs 100m north of the vegetation under application and the second follows the southern boundary. Both are tributaries to the Donnelly River which runs 200m south west of the vegetation under application.

There is one mapped earth dam within the applied area.

The area proposed for clearing borders a minor perennial watercourse. The area under application is therefore growing in association with a watercourse and the proposed clearing may be at variance to this principle. A 30m buffer (WRC, 1996; DoW, 2005) has been placed on the permit to mitigate any impacts on water quality.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- Hydrography linear - DOW 13/7/06  
- 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**

Given the nature of the clearing, 12.2ha for silvicultural thinning with 1.3ha for fire protection (clear felling), the proposal is not likely to result in appreciable land degradation as a high proportion of vegetation cover will persist within the property.

A vegetation management condition has been imposed on this permit to reduce potential impacts.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- Average Annual Rainfall Isohyets - WRC 29/09/98  
- Annual Evaporation Contours (Isopleths) - WRC 29/09/98  
- Soils, Statewide DA 11/99  
- Topographic contours statewide - DOLA and ARMY 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 may be at variance to this Principle**

The area under application is within 100m of Donnelly River Nature reserve in the north and the South East Nannup State Forest can be found within 200m of the southern, eastern and western boundaries of the vegetation to be cleared.

Given the history of disturbance associated with past clearing within the area under application and the potential for the occurrence of Phytophthora and Armillaria infection within the vegetation under application clearing within the applied area may result in the spread of weeds and/or disease into areas of conservation significance. ( Native Forest Management Plan, 2008).

Therefore the clearing as proposed may be at variance to this principle.

Phytophthora, Armillaria and Weed Management conditions will be placed on this permit to mitigate the potential for spread of weeds and disease into areas of conservation significance.

**Methodology** References:  
Native Forest Management Plan (2008)  
  
GIS Databases:  
- 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 may be at variance to this Principle**

There are 2 mapped minor perennial watercourses in the local area. One runs 100m north of the vegetation under application and the second follows the southern boundary. Both are tributaries to the Donnelly River which runs 200m south west of the vegetation under application.

There is one mapped earth dam within the applied area.

Clearing of vegetation in association with these watercourses may result in sedimentation of waterways as a result of increased water flow over steep slopes, therefore causing deterioration in the quality of water within

these channels.

A 30m buffer condition has been imposed on the permit to reduce potential impacts.

- Methodology**    **References:**  
GIS Databases:  
- Evapotranspiration Isopleths - WRC 29/09/98  
- Mean Annual Rainfall Isohytes (1975 - 2003) - DEC 02/08/05  
- Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02  
- Hydrography linear - DOW 13/7/06  
- Hydrography linear (hierarchy) - DoW 13/7/06

**(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 nature of the clearing, 12.2ha for silvicultural thinning with 1.3ha for fire protection (clear felling), the proposal is not likely to cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding as a high proportion of vegetation cover will persist within the property.

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

- Methodology**    GIS Databases:  
- Hydrography linear - DOW 13/7/06  
- Hydrography linear (hierarchy) - DoW 13/7/06

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

- Comments**    The Property is zoned rural under the local town planning scheme.

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

**5. References**

- DEC (2009) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 2904/1, Nelson Location 81 and 5483, Manjimup. Site inspection undertaken 13/1/2009 Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (TRIM Ref. DOC74032).
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R. and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001a) Native Vegetation in Western Australia, Extent, Type and Status. Resource Management Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia (updated 2005).

**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)