



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 3079/1

Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Jehovah's Witnesses Congregations

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 3 ON DIAGRAM 67296 (Lot No. 3 BENTLEY DONNYBROOK 6239)

ROAD RESERVE (DONNYBROOK 6239)

Local Government Area: Shire Of Donnybrook-Balingup

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.268	1	Mechanical Removal	Miscellaneous
		Mechanical Removal	Miscellaneous

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
Mattiske: BENTLEY (BN) : Open forest of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata (Jarrah) - Corymbia calophylla (Marri) - Allocasuarina fraseriana (Sheoak) on broad terraces in perhumid and humid zones.	The vegetation within the application area is in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition. It is predominately fringing vegetation which appears to have minimal understorey.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition assessed through aerial photography.
Beard: 1017 - Medium open woodland; jarrah & marri, with low woodland; banksia	The application is to clear 0.268 hectares of native vegetation and 1 tree for the purpose of future subdivision.		

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The proposal is to clear up to 0.268 hectares and 1 tree for the purpose of establishing a future subdivision.

There are no threatened ecological communities and declared rare flora in the vicinity. The applied area has vegetation representations above 65% of the pre-European extent remaining (Mattiske and Havel, 1998; Shepherd, 2007). The vegetation within the proposed clearing area is classified as degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, and there is other similar vegetation in the local area in similar or better condition.

There are no watercourses or wetland in close proximity to the application area. The applied area is mapped as having low topographical relief, low groundwater salinity level (500-1000mg/L TDS) and highly porous sands.

Given the information above the proposal is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

Methodology

References:
Keighery (1994)
Mattiske and Havel (1998)
Shepherd (2007)

GIS Database:
Evapotranspiration, Areal Actual

Groundwater Salinity, statewide
Hydrogeographic Catchments, Catchments
Hydrogeology, statewide
Hydrology, linear
Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia
Mattiske Vegetation Complexes
Pre-European vegetation
Rainfall, Mean Annual
SAC Biodatasets 250208
Topographic contours, statewide
Town Planning Scheme Zone

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

Comments

The area under application is zoned civil and cultural area under the Town Planning Scheme zones. The applicant has applied to the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup for rezoning approval however no progress on this application has occurred since 10 September 2008 (DOC91125).

The Shire of Donnybrook - Balingup has no objections to the clearing application (DEC TRIM Ref: DOC83290).

Subdivision approval is required from the Western Australian Planning Commission. The applicant has previously advised that an application to WAPC for subdivision approval has been submitted however WAPC have no record of an application for subdivision over Lot 3 (DOC91778).

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 any of the clearing Principles.

5. References

- 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)