



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Purpose Permit number: | CPS 3130/1 |
| Permit Holder: | Steven Lindberg |
| Duration of Permit: | 25 July 2009 – 25 July 2014 |

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of selective thinning.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

LOT 25 ON PLAN 29239

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 1.26 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 3130/1.

4. Application

This Permit allows the Permit Holder to authorise persons, including employees, contractors and agents of the Permit Holder, to clear native vegetation for the purposes of this Permit subject to compliance with the conditions of this Permit and approval from the Permit Holder.

5. Type of clearing authorised

Subject to the limitations imposed by condition 3, the Permit Holder may undertake the following activities:

- clearing of *understorey* within the areas cross-hatched yellow on Plan 3130/1;
- clearing for the establishment of a *log landing* no larger than 0.1 hectares in size;
- thinning* of Jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*), Marri (*Corymbia calophylla*), Karri (*Eucalyptus diversicolor*) trees and Sheoak (*Allocasuarina fraseriana*);
- culling* of unsaleable trees; and
- burning of cleared *understorey* and *culled* trees.

6. Compliance with Assessment Sequence and Management Procedures

Prior to clearing any native vegetation under conditions 1, 2 and 3 of this Permit, the Permit Holder must comply with the Assessment Sequence and the Management Procedures set out in Part II of this Permit.

PART II – ASSESSMENT SEQUENCE AND MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

7. Avoid, minimise etc clearing

In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in order of preference:

- avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

8. Vegetation management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, an *environmental specialist* must determine the species composition, structure and density of the *understorey* of areas proposed to be *thinned*.
- (b) The Permit Holder must retain a minimum of 5 *habitat trees* within the area of clearing authorised under this Permit in each hectare authorised under this Permit.
- (c) A minimum retention rate of 15m²/ha *basal area* is required within the area of clearing authorised under this Permit.
- (d) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must exclude all *stock* from the areas subject to *thinning* activities.
- (e) Within one month of completing clearing, the Permit Holder must *rehabilitate* any *log landings* established within native vegetation by scarifying the soil surface to reduce compaction and facilitate natural regeneration.

9. Vegetation management

- (a) The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation within 200 metres of the *riparian vegetation* of the Blackwood River within and/or adjacent to the area cross-hatched yellow on Plan 3130/1.
- (b) The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation within 30 metres of the *riparian vegetation* of any other *watercourse* or *wetland* within and/or adjacent to the area cross-hatched yellow on Plan 3130/1.

10. 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.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

11. Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit:

- (a) In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:
 - (i) the species composition, structure and density of the cleared area;
 - (ii) the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;
 - (iii) the date that the area was cleared; and
 - (iv) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).
- (b) In relation to vegetation management pursuant to condition 8 of this Permit:
 - (i) prior to clearing native vegetation authorised under this Permit, the species composition, structure and density of *understorey*;
 - (ii) the species and number per hectare of *habitat trees* retained;
 - (iii) the location of *habitat trees* retained, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;

- (iv) monitoring undertaken to ensure that the specified minimum *basal area* is retained;
 - (v) number of *log landings* established;
 - (vi) the location of *log landings*, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;
- (c) In relation to the retention of a buffer of areas pursuant to condition 9 of this Permit:
- (i) the commencement date of buffer retention;
 - (ii) the location of any area buffered recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;
 - (iii) a description of the buffering activities undertaken;
 - (iv) the size of the area buffered (in hectares);and
 - (v) the species, structure and composition of buffered vegetation measured.

12. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO, on or before 30 June of each year, a written report of records required under condition 11 of this Permit and activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.
- (b) Prior to 25 April 2014, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 11 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 12(a) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

basal area is the method of expression of tree cover density in an area where the total area of tree trunk, measured at average adult human breast height, is expressed as square metres per hectares of land area;

culled/ing means the selective removal and/or killing of unsaleable trees for *thinning*, using methods including notching, felling or machine pushing;

dieback means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation;

environmental specialist means a person who is engaged by the Permit Holder for the purpose of providing environmental advice, who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this Permit;

fill means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

habitat tree(s) means trees that have a diameter, at average adult human chest height, of greater than 70cm, healthy but with dead limbs and broken crowns that are likely to contain hollows and roosts suitable for native fauna, or where these are not present then healthy but with the potential to contain hollows and roosts;

log landing/s means an area established for the purpose of stockpiling commercially harvested trees, to enable loading for collection;

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;

optimal time means the period from April to June for undertaking *direct seeding*, and the period from May to June for undertaking *planting*;

rehabilitate/ed/ion means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area;

remedial action/s means for the purpose of this Permit, any activity that is required to ensure successful re-establishment of *understorey* to its pre-clearing composition, structure and density, and may include a combination of soil treatments and *revegetation*;

riparian vegetation has the meaning given to it in Regulation 3 of the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004;

stock means the horses, cattle, sheep, pigs and other non-indigenous grazing animals kept or bred on a property;

thinned/ing describes a silvicultural activity to promote the growth of selected trees by removing competing trees;

understorey means, for the purpose of this Permit, all native vegetation that does not include trees to be *culled* or subject to harvest;

watercourse has the meaning given to it in section 3 of the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*;

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 *Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Act 1976*; and

wetland/s means an area of seasonally, intermittently or permanently waterlogged or inundated land, whether natural or otherwise, and includes a lake, swamp, marsh, spring, dampland, tidal flat or estuary.

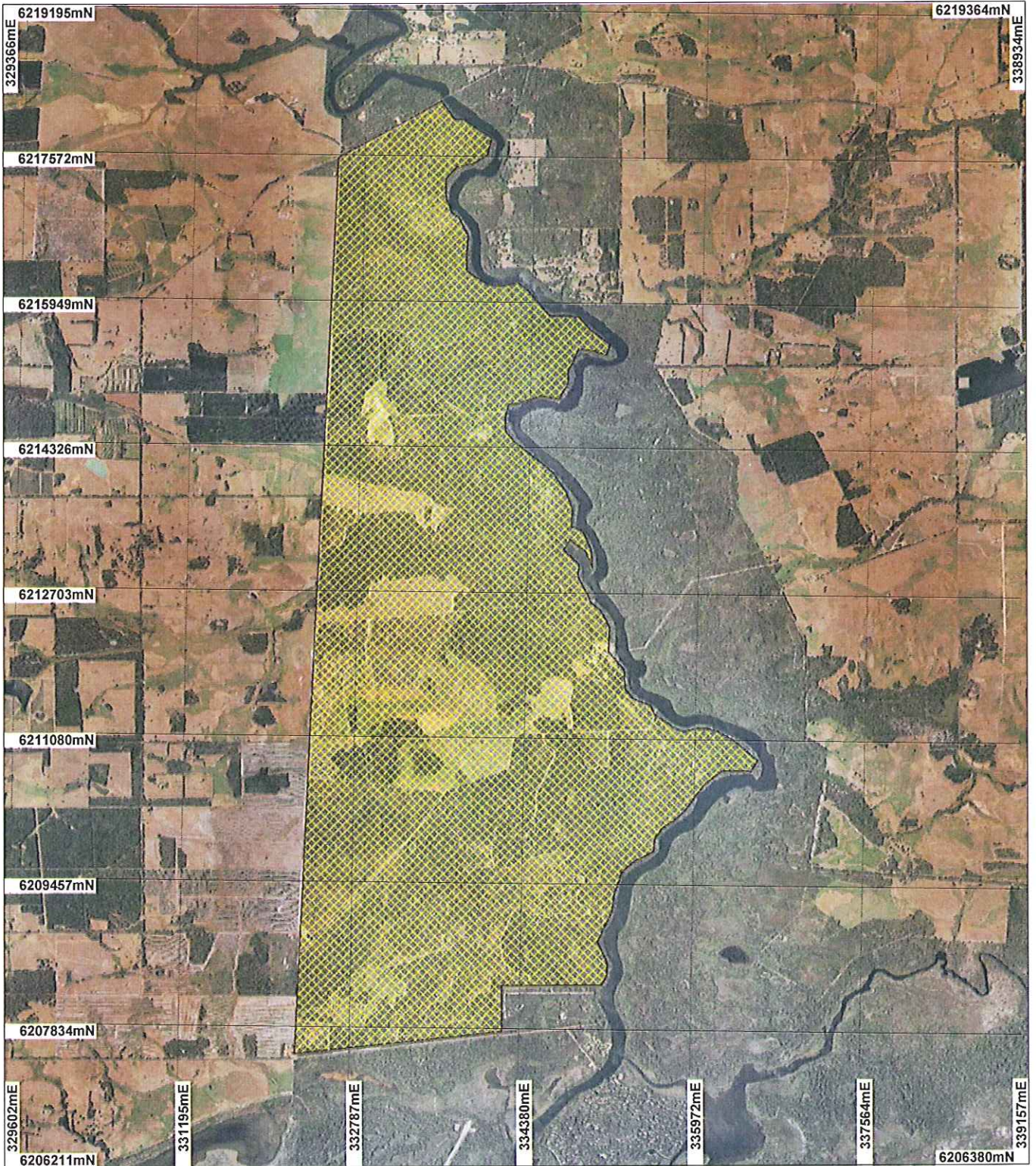


Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

*Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

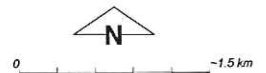
25 June 2009

Plan 3130/1



LEGEND

Clearing Instruments
Cadastral
Leeuwin 50cm Orthomosaic -



Scale 1:56913
(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

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

K Faulkner Date 25/6/09

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 acknowledged by the agency acronym in the legend.



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 3130/1
 Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Steven Dennis Lindberg

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 25 ON PLAN 29239 (House No. 909 WILSON KARRIDALE 6288)
 LOT 25 ON PLAN 29239 (House No. 909 WILSON KARRIDALE 6288)
 Local Government Area: Shire Of Augusta-Margaret River
 Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

| Clearing Area (ha) | No. Trees | Method of Clearing | For the purpose of: |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1.26 | | 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 |
|---|---|--|--|
| Beard vegetation associations: (Shepherd, 2007) | The proposal is to clear 1.26ha of native vegetation within the 2500ha property for the purpose of selective thinning of Jarrah and Sheoak (some Marri and Karri where suitable). | Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery 1994) | The condition of the vegetation was determined through a site inspection on 5 June 2009 (DEC, 2009). |
| 3: medium forest; Eucalyptus marginata (Jarrah) Corymbia calophylla (Marri) | The vegetation under application is in excellent (Keighery, 1994) condition with no obvious signs of weed and/or dieback occurrence within the property (DEC, 2009). | | |
| 23: Low woodland; jarrah-banksia | | | |
| 27: Low woodland; paperbark (Melaleuca sp.) | | | |
| 51: Sedgeland; reed swamps, occasionally with heath | | | |
| 975: Low woodland; jarrah | The application area has been historically logged with some Jarrah regrowth areas becoming locked up due to excessive competition (DEC, 2009). | | |
| 1034: Medium woodland; marri, wandoo & powderbark | | | |
| Mattike vegetation complexes: (Mattiske and Havel, 1998) | | | |
| B: Blackwood - Woodland to open forest of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla-Xylomelum occidentale-Agonis flexuosa on raised river terrace in the perhumid zone. | | | |
| Bd: Blackwood - Low open woodland of Banksia attenuata-Nuytsia floribunda-Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata on low dunes in the perhumid zone. | | | |

Bf: Blackwood - Tall open forest of Eucalyptus diversicolor-Corymbia calophylla with some Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata on undulating uplands in the perhumid zone.

Bw: Blackwood - Woodland to low forest of Melaleuca raphiophylla, tall shrubland of Melaleuca incana and closed heath of Agonis spp. on depressions in the perhumid zone.

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 1.26 hectares of native vegetation within a large area (2500ha) for the purpose of selective timber harvesting.

A site inspection identified that the vegetation under application was in excellent (Keighery, 1994) condition, with no evidence of dieback or weed occurrence (DEC, 2009).

The site inspection also identified priority 3 flora species *Astroloma* sp Nannup occurring within the application area and potential habitat for *Synaphea macrophylla* (P1) and *Hypocalymma cordifolium* ssp. minus (P4) however the proposal is not likely to adversely impact on these species due to the purpose of the application (selective thinning) and the small size of the application (1.26ha) (DEC, 2009).

During the site visit the applicant advised that several fauna of conservation significance occur within the application area including Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoos, Brush-tailed Phascogales and Brush-tailed Possums (DEC, 2009). Given the small scale (1.26ha within 2500ha) of the proposal the clearing is not likely to adversely impact on populations of native fauna.

The local area (10km radius) retains approximately 50% native vegetation much of which is within DEC managed lands.

The vegetation under application is not likely to contain significant biodiversity in the context of the property or on a regional scale.

Methodology References:
DEC (2009)
Keighery (1994)

GIS Database:
CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 01/06/05
SAC Biodatasets - accessed 21 May 2009
Mattiske Vegetation (01/03/1998)
Hedde Vegetation Complexes - DEP 22/06/95
Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01
Clearing Regulations, Environmentally Sensitive Areas 30 May 2005
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 applicant has estimated that approximately 40 trees per year will be selectively thinned as part of this proposal (Lindberg, 2009).

There are 10 records of threatened or priority fauna species occurring within the local area, namely:

- * Baudins Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*)
- * Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*)
- * Quenda (*Isodon obesulus fusciventer*)
- * Brush-tailed Phascogale (*Phascogale tapoatafa*)
- * Western Mud Minnow (*Galaxiella munda*)

- * White-bellied Frog (*Geocrina alba*)
- * Peregrine Falcon (*Falco Peregrinus*)
- * Western Ringtail Possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*)
- * Black Stripe Minnow (*Galaxiella nigrostriata*)
- * Western Brush Wallaby (*Macropus irma*)

During a site inspection of the application area the applicant advised that he knew of Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoos, Brush-tailed Phascogales, Brush-tailed Possums, Western Grey Kangaroos, Pygmy Possums and Honey Possums occurring within the application area (DEC, 2009).

The excellent (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation contributes to the significance of the property under application as habitat for common, priority and threatened native fauna.

Given the nature of the proposal, selectively thin 1.26ha of native vegetation within the 2500ha property, the proposal may be at variance to this principle as the removal of habitat trees will degrade the habitat values of the application area.

Vegetation management conditions will be placed on the permit to mitigate the potential for clearing to adversely impact the habitat values of the area through the removal of habitat trees.

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

GIS Database:
SAC Biodatasets accessed 21 May 2009

(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 are 5 known records of rare flora within close proximity (five kilometres) of the area under application, namely:

- * *Grevillea brachystylis* subsp. *Australis*
- * *Reedia spathacea*
- * *Boronia exilis*
- * *Banksia nivea* subsp. *uliginosa*
- * *Darwinia ferricola*

A site inspection of the applied area did not identify any suitable habitat for these rare flora species however it was noted that areas further south (within the application area) which were not inspected may contain suitable wetland areas for *Grevillea brachystylis* subsp. *Australis*, *Banksia nivea* subsp. *uliginosa* and *Darwinia ferricola* (DEC, 2009).

Also noted within the application area were *Astroloma* sp. *Nannup* (priority 4) and an erect form of *Hemiandra pungens* (typically a prostrate) which were identified in close proximity to wetlands and watercourses (DEC, 2009).

Given the above and taking into account the excellent (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation, the clearing as proposed may be at variance to this principle.

Wetland and watercourse buffer conditions will be placed on the permit to mitigate the potential for the proposal to impact on communities or rare or priority flora.

Methodology References:
DEC (2009)
Keighery (1994)

GIS Database:
SAC Biodatasets accessed 21 May 2009

(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 many known occurrences of threatened ecological communities within the local area (10km radius), the closest record being the Scott Ironstone community (approximately 3.2km east).

The area under application has been historically thinned (approximately 1950's) and as a result much of the vegetation (in particular Jarrah stands) are locked at an immature composition. A site inspection of the applied area did not identify any TECs within the application area (DEC,2009). Therefore it is not likely that the vegetation under application constitutes a TEC.

Given that the application area does not impede on the buffers of any threatened ecological community and that no TEC was identified within the application area during the site inspection, it is not likely that the proposal is at variance with this principle.

Methodology References:
DEC (2009)

GIS Database:
SAC Biodatasets accessed 21 May 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 | | | | % In reserves DEC Managed |
|-------------------------------|--|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | Pre-European (ha) | Current extent (ha) | Remaining (%) Land | |
| IBRA Bioregions* | | | | | |
| Jarrah Forest^ | 4, 671, 007 | 2, 601, 026 | 55.68 | | 71.15 |
| Warren^ | 835, 925 | 675, 836 | 80.85 | | 82.37 |
| Shire* | | | | | |
| Augusta Margaret River | | 223, 634 | 150, 657 | 67.37 | 73.91 |
| Mattiske Vegetation Complex** | | | | | |
| B | | 44, 791 | | 33, 951 | 75.8 |
| | N/A | | | | |
| Bd | | 3, 561 | | 3, 169 | 89.0 |
| | N/A | | | | |
| Bf | | 6, 319 | | 3, 556 | 56.3 |
| | N/A | | | | |
| Bw | | 32, 703 | | 21, 398 | 65.4 |
| | N/A | | | | |
| Beard Vegetation Association* | | | | | |
| 3: | | | | | |
| Statewide | 2,803,140 | 2,002,263 | 71.43 | | 81.37 |
| In JF | | 2,530,711 | 1,793,910 | 70.89 | 81.12 |
| In WAR | | 252,196 | 204,295 | 81.01 | 84.97 |
| 23: | | | | | |
| Statewide | 40,827 | | 30,782 | | 75.40 |
| | 74.09 | | | | |
| In JF | | 3,091 | | 2,859 | 92.49 |
| | 92.11 | | | | |
| In WAR | | 37,735 | | 27,923 | 74.00 |
| | 72.24 | | | | |
| 27: | | | | | |
| Statewide | 130,365 | 95,260 | | 73.07 | 81.24 |
| In JF | | 49,878 | | 38,298 | 76.78 |
| | 77.27 | | | | |
| In WAR | | 70,203 | | 53,458 | 76.15 |
| | 87.83 | | | | |
| 51: | | | | | |
| Statewide | 59,067 | | 34,391 | | 58.22 |
| | 67.30 | | | | |
| In JF | | 19,962 | | 8,063 | 40.40 |
| | 29.64 | | | | |
| In WAR | | 35,867 | | 24,713 | 68.90 |
| | 83.28 | | | | |

| | | | | |
|-----------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| 975: | | | | |
| Statewide | 17,275 | | 15,674 | 90.73 |
| | 92.61 | | | |
| In JF | 84.33 | 2,050 | 1,842 | 89.82 |
| In WAR | 73.68 | 2,840 | 2,262 | 79.65 |
| 1034: | | | | |
| Statewide | 1,822 | | 1,166 | 63.99 |
| | 54.36 | | | |
| In JF | 0.00 | 5,972 | 3,795 | 63.54 |
| In WAR | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

* (Shepherd et al. 2007)

** (Mattiske Consulting 1998)

^ Area within Intensive Land Use Zone

The local area (10 km radius) retains approximately 50% native vegetation much of which is within DEC managed lands.

The vegetation under application is in excellent (Keighery, 1994) condition (DEC, 2009) however the applicant has estimated that 40 trees per year will be selectively thinned under this proposal. Given the above the proposal is not likely to have a detrimental impact on the values of this remnant of vegetation in an area that has not been extensively cleared.

Given the scale (1.26ha within 2500ha area) of the proposal and the retention of vegetation in nearby conservation areas, the clearing as proposed is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology

References:

DEC (2009)
Keighery (1994)
Mattiske Consulting (1998)
Shepherd (2007)

GIS Database:

Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia - EA 18/10/00
Local Government Authorities - DLI 8/07/04
Mattiske Vegetation - CALM 1/03/1998
Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01
SAC Biodatasets - accessed 21 May 2009
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

The area under application includes 12 minor perennial watercourses, 3 major drains, 3 distinct areas subject to inundation, 8 swamps, 23 earth dams and the Blackwood River runs adjacent to the eastern border of the property.

Given the above much of the vegetation under application is growing in association with wetlands and watercourses and therefore the clearing as proposed is at variance to this principle.

Vegetation management and buffers to wetlands and watercourse conditions will be placed on the permit to mitigate the potential for clearing to impact on wetland and watercourse areas including their buffers.

Methodology

GIS Database:

ANCA wetlands - Environment Australia 26/3/99
CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 01/06/05
EPP Lakes Policy Area - DEP 14/05/97
EPP, Wetlands 2004 (DRAFT) - EPA 21/7/04
Clearing Regulations, Environmentally Sensitive Areas 30 May 2005
Geomorphic Wetlands (Mgt Categories), Swan Coastal Plain DEC 11/04/07

Hydrography linear - DOW 13/7/06
Hydrography linear (hierarchy) - DoW 13/7/06
Ramsar wetlands - DEC 03
South Coast Significant Wetlands - WRC 10/06/2003

(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 proposal is to clear 1.26 ha of native vegetation within a 2500ha property. The purpose of the clearing is to remove individual trees (and associated snig tracks) and it is likely that disturbance to undertorey vegetation will be temporary and adverse impacts will not persist.

Given that the proposal will result in 95% of the current vegetation retained on the property persisting, it is not likely that the clearing as proposed will result in appreciable land degradation.

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

Methodology

GIS Database:
Average Annual Rainfall Isohyets - WRC 29/09/98
Annual Evaporation Contours (Isopleths) - WRC 29/09/98
Hydrogeology, statewide DOW 13/07/06
Hydrographic catchments, catchments - DoW 01/06/07
Hydrographic catchments, subcatchments - DoW 01/06/07
Hydrography, linear - DOW 13/7/06
Salinity Risk LM 25m - DOLA 00
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 property under application includes vegetation supporting and buffering adjacent areas of conservation significance (14km of Blackwood River bank; ANCA wetland) and it includes extensive excellent (Keighery, 1994) condition vegetation as well as a number of regionally significant wetlands and watercourses.

The area under application is also adjacent to the Scott National Park is located on the opposite bank of the Blackwood river.

In addition the Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park is located approximately 550m south of the applied area.

Given the environmental values of the vegetation under application and the role of this vegetation in maintaining and protecting the Blackwood River and Scott National Park the clearing as proposed may be at variance to this principle.

Weed and dieback management and watercourse buffer conditions will be placed on the permit to mitigate the potential for clearing to introduce weeds and dieback disease into the application area.

Methodology

References:
Keighery (1994)

GIS Database:
CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 01/06/05
Hydrography, linear - DOW 13/7/06
Register of National Estate - Environment Australia, Australian and world heritage division 12 Mar 02
SAC Biodatasets accessed 21 May 2009
System 1 to 5 and 7 to 12 areas DEC 11/7/06

(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

The proposal is to selectively thin 1.26ha of native vegetation within the 2500ha property.

The property under application currently has 95% native vegetation retention (much of which is native plantation) and the proposed clearing is not likely to significantly alter the current vegetation retention.

Given the above the clearing as proposed is not likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or

groundwater.

Methodology GIS Database:
Evapotranspiration Isopleths - WRC 29/09/98
Groundwater Salinity Statewide DoW 13/07/06
Hydrography, linear - DOW 13/7/06
Mean Annual Rainfall Isohytes (1975 - 2003) - DEC 02/08/05
Salinity Risk LM 25m - DOLA 00
Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02

(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

As the proposal is to selectively thin 1.26ha of native vegetation within a 2500ha property and taking into account that the property has approximately 95% native vegetation retention, the clearing as proposed is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS Database:
Evaporation Isopleths - WRC 29/09/98
Hydrographic catchments, catchments - DoW 01/06/07
Hydrography, linear - DoW 13/7/06
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 proposal is to selectively thin 1.26ha (amended from 1000ha) of native vegetation within the 2500ha property. Vegetation management conditions have been added to the permit to restore the understorey disturbed by the silviculture operations, retain mature trees and a set basal area for habitat and exclude stock to ensure the remaining vegetation can continue to function due to the disturbance and will recover in the future. These conditions are consistent with DEC Sustainable Forest Management Guidelines (DEC, 2004)

A submission has been received from the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River. The issues raised in this submission are based on the proposal area being 100 ha however where the comments are applicable to the clearing of 1.26ha the comments have been addressed under the relevant clearing principles (DOC87119).

The applicant has held PN licences over this property since 1997 (excepting 2008) and wishes to obtain a new licence for 2009 (DOC86335).

Methodology

References:
DEC (2004)

GIS Database:
Cadastre - Landgate Dec 07
Native Title Claims - LA 2/5/07
RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas - DoW 13/07/06
RIWI Act, Irrigation Districts - DoW 13/07/06
Town Planning Scheme Zones - MFP 31/08/98
Country Area Water Supply Act (Part IIA) Clearing Control Catchments 29/06/2006
Aboriginal Sites of Significance 26 April 2007
Public Drinking Water Source Areas (PDWSAs) 07/02/06

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) and (h) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing Principles.

5. References

DEC (2009) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 3130/1 Lot 25 Wilson Road, Karridale. Site inspection undertaken 05/06/2009. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (TRIM Ref. DOC87815).
Department of Environment and Conservation (2004) Silvicultural Practice in the Jarrah Forest, Department of Conservation and Land Management. SFM Guideline No.1
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 |
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| 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) |