

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Number:

3194/1

File Number:

DEC11871

Duration of Permit: From 6 September 2009 to 6 September 2011

PERMIT HOLDER

Mark Allan McDonald

Leanne Michelle McDonald

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 50 on Plan 21537 Kangaroo Loop Birchmont

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

Clearing of up to 3 native trees within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 3194/1.

CONDITIONS

Nil

Kelly Faulkner

MANAGER

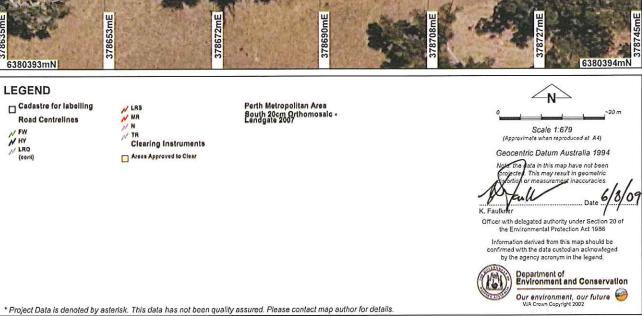
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

6 August 2009

Plan CPS 3194/1







Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:

3194/

Permit type:

Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Mark Allan & Leanne Michelle McDonald

1.3. Property details

Property:

LOT 50 ON PLAN 21537 (KANGAROO LOOP, BIRCHMONT 6214)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

For the purpose of:

3

Mechanical Removal

Building or Structure

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description

Beard Vegetation Type:

998: Medium woodland; tuart

(Shepherd 2007; SAC Bio Datasets

10/07/2009)

Heddle Vegetation Complex:

Cottesloe Complex - Central and South: Mosaic of woodland of E. gomphocephala and open forest of E. gomphocephala - E. marginata - E. calophylla; closed heath on the Limestone outcrops (Heddle et al, 1980).

Clearing Description

The proposal is to clear 3 trees within Lot 50 Kangaroo Loop, Birchmont for the construction of a house.

The native vegetation under application includes 3 trees (Eucalyptus gomphocephala) over pasture weeds in

a degraded condition.

Vegetation Condition

Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)

Comment

The condition of the native vegetation under application was determined site visit by DEC officers on the 23 July 2009 (DEC 2009)

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The area under application includes 3 trees (Eucalyptus gomphocephala) occurring in a degraded condition over pasture weeds (DEC 2009). Given this, the vegetation is considered to comprise limited biodiversity values.

The assessment considered that the proposed clearing is not likely to impact any biodiversity, land degradation, wetland or environmental water values within the local or regional context. In addition, the area under application is not considered significant as a remnant due to its small size (3 trees).

The vegetation under application contain a hollow of small size (DEC 2009) and may provide habitat for conservation significant fauna found in the local area (~5 km radius) including the Forrest Red Tailed Black Cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus Banksii naso). However, given that the proposed clearing is for 3 trees and that the area under application is in close proximately to better condition habitat, it is not considered likely for the vegetation to be significant habitat for this species. In addition, a pair of White Bellied Sea Eagles (Haliaeetus leucogaster) was observed nesting on the property. This species is sensitive to human disturbance however, given that the threes trees did not contain a nest it is not considered likely for the vegetation under application to be significant to this species.

The proposed clearing occurs within the Peel Harvey Estuarine System which is on the Register of National Estate. Therefore, the proposed clearing will have a direct impact on this conservation area by the removal of native vegetation. Given this it is considered that the proposal is at variance to Principle H.

Methodology

References -DEC (2009) GIS databases:

- -Register of National Estate
- Perth Metropolitan Area South 20cm Orthomosaic Landgate 2007
- SAC Bio Datasets 10/07/09

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

Comments

The area under application is located within Lot 50 Kangaroo Loop and is zoned special rural under the Shire of Murray's Town planning Scheme. The area under application occurs within the Peel Harvey EPP area.

The Shire of Murray (2009) state that an application for a building licences for the construction of a house has not been submitted. Also in relation to the planning area within which the subject lot is contained, Schedule 4 of Town Planning Scheme No 4 states that "in order to conserve the rural environment, all trees and vegetation should be retained unless their removal is authorised by Council, except in the case of trees which area proposed to be removed to make way for house construction, fences, firebreaks and constructed access ways". The Shire further states that the trees to be cleared are large and may have habitat value as they are in close proximity to Lake McLarty and the Harvey Estuary. The Shire supports the proposed clearing for the purpose of constructing a house provided that a building licence is issued prior to the trees being cleared and that all trees must be inspected prior to their removal to ensure that they area not being used as habitat by native animals.

Methodology

References

-Shire of Murray (2009)

GIS databases:

- EPP Area
- SAC Bio Datasets 10/07/09
- Metropolitan Regional Scheme

4. Assessor's comments

Comment

The assessable criteria have been addressed and the proposed clearing is at variance to Principle H.

5. References

DEC (2009) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 3194/1, Lot 50 Kangaroo Loop, Birchmont. Site inspection undertaken 23/07/09. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (TRIM Ref. DOC91520).

Heddle, E. M., Loneragan, O. W., and Havel, J. J. (1980) Vegetation Complexes of the Darling System, Western Australia. In Department of Conservation and Environment, Atlas of Natural Resources, Darling System, 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.

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.

Shire of Murray (2009) Direct Interest Submission. Trim Ref DOC90856.

6. Glossary

Term Meaning Biodiversity Coordination Section of DEC BCS Department of Conservation and Land Management (now BCS) CALM Department of Agriculture and Food **DAFWA** Department of Environment and Conservation DEC Department of Environmental Protection (now DEC) DEP Department of Environment DoE DoIR Department of Industry and Resources DRF Declared Rare Flora **Environmental Protection Policy EPP** Geographical Information System GIS

GIS Geographical Information System
ha Hectare (10,000 square metres)
TEC Threatened Ecological Community
WRC Water and Rivers Commission (now DEC)