



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 3195/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Greenside Enterprises Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 297 ON PLAN 214836 (BEELERUP 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:
0.1		Mechanical Removal	Extractive Industry

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 Association 3: Medium forest; Jarrah - Marri	The vegetation under application is in 'degraded' condition (Keighery 1994) and consists of five Marri and Jarrah trees with minimal understorey.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition determined using orthomosaic mapping (Donnybrook 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004) and observations during site visit (DEC Site Visit 2009)
Mattiske Vegetation Complex Kirup (KR): Open forest to woodland of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. Marginata, Corymbia calophylla, Banksia attenuata and Xylomelum occidentale on sandy slopes in the humid 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	<p>Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle</p> <p>The areas immediately east and north of the area under application and the area under application are currently under investigation for clearing of approximately 8 hectares of native vegetation.</p> <p>The proposal is for the clearing of 0.1 hectares for sand extraction. The vegetation under application is in 'degraded' condition (Keighery, 1994) and consists of five remaining Marri and Jarrah trees with minimal understorey (DEC, 2009a). Given this the proposal does not comprise a high level of biological diversity and is not likely to be at variance to this principle.</p>
Methodology	<p>Keighery (1994)</p> <p>DEC (2009a)</p> <p>GIS database:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Donnybrook 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004 - SAC Biodatasets - accessed 10/07/2009

(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	<p>Proposal is at variance to this Principle</p> <p>There are 13 records of three threatened and three priority fauna species recorded within a 10km radius of the area under application. The closest record is a <i>Dasyurus geoffroyi</i> (Chuditch) 1.9km south west of the area under application and a <i>Phascogale tapoatofa</i> (Brush Tailed Phascogale) 1.9km north west of the area under application. There is one record of a <i>Calyptorhynchus banksii naso</i> (Forest Red Tailed Cockatoo) 9.7km north</p>
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east of the area under application.

DEC advises that the vegetation under application represents significant nesting and potential foraging habitat for Carnaby's, Baudin's and Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoos (DEC, 2009b). Of particular importance is one of the trees which displays potential as a primary habitat tree (DEC, 2009a).

Given that the trees represent significant nesting and foraging habitat the proposal is considered to represent significant habitat for indigenous fauna and is at variance to this principle.

Methodology Keighery (1994)
 DEC (2009a)
 DEC (2009b)
 GIS database:
 - Donnybrook 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004
 - SAC Biodatasets - accessed 10/07/2009

(c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.

Comments **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**
 There is one species of Declared Rare Flora (DRF) and eight species of priority flora within the local area (10km radius). Four priority species occur within the same Beard vegetation association (3) and soil type (Tf5) as the area under application. No DRF occur within the same vegetation or soil type as the area under application.

Given the clearing is for a small area and the degraded condition (Keighery, 1994) of the understorey vegetation the area under application is unlikely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology Keighery (1994)
 GIS database:
 - Donnybrook 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004
 - SAC Biodatasets - accessed 10/07/2009
 - Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01
 - 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 at variance to this Principle**
 There are no known records of Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) within a 10km radius of the proposed clearing. It is unlikely that the proposed clearing will impact on any known TEC's.

Methodology GIS Database:
 - SAC Biodatasets - accessed 10/07/2009

(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 at variance to this Principle**

	Pre-European (ha)	Current extent (ha)	Remaining (%)	% In reserves DEC Managed Land
IBRA Bioregions*				
Jarrah Forest^	4,671,007	2,601,026	55.68	71.15
Shire*				
Donnybrook-Balingup	156,029	91,178	58.44	81.44
Mattiske Vegetation Complex**				
Kirup - KR	34,599	23,704	68.5	NA
Beard Vegetation Association*				
3	2,803,140	2,002,263	71.43	81.37
Beard Vegetation Association with Bioregion*				
3	171,222	111,631	70.89	81.12

* (Shepherd et al. 2007)

** (Mattiske 1998)

^ Area within Intensive Land Use Zone

Due to the small area under application, that there is over 50% of vegetation remaining in the local and bioregional areas and the extent of vegetation complexes remaining, the area under application is not considered to be a significant remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.

Methodology Shepherd (2007)
Mattiske (1998)
GIS database:
- Donnybrook 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004
- Heddle Vegetation Complexes - DEP 22/06/95
- 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

(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 not at variance to this Principle**

There are no mapped wetlands within a 10km radius of the proposed clearing. The closest watercourse is 840m south east of the area under application. The vegetation under application is not in association with this watercourse and does not consist of riparian vegetation. Therefore the proposed clearing is not at variance with this principle.

Methodology GIS Databases:
- 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
- Geomorphic Wetlands (Mgt Categories), Swan Coastal Plain - DEC 11/04/07
- Hydrography linear - 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**

There is no mapped acid sulphate soil risk. Groundwater Salinity is 500-1000mg/L and there is no mapped salinity risk. The soil type consists of metamorphic rocks and has a medium relief.

The cleared land adjacent to the area under application shows signs of soil erosion in some areas (DEC, 2009a). However given the small size of the clearing the proposal is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology DEC (2009a)
GIS database:
- Acid Sulfate Soil Risk Map, Swan coastal Plain - DEC 07/08/06
- Hydrogeology, statewide - DOW 13/07/06
- 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 is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

There is a system 6 conservation reserve located 25m to the south of the area under application. This reserve borders the property to the west, south and east. There is also an unnamed conservation reserve 650m south of the area under application.

Given the distance to nearby conservation areas there maybe some edge effects that occur on the system 6 conservation reserve but given the small area to be cleared it is unlikely the proposed clearing will impact on the environmental values of nearby conservation areas.

Methodology GIS Databases:
- Donnybrook 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004

- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 01/06/05
- Register of National Estate - Environment Australia, Australian and world heritage division 12 Mar 02
- 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 proposed area is not within a Public Drinking Water Source Area. The proposed clearing is within the Leschenault Estuary-Preston River Catchment area. Topography shows the area under application has medium relief. The area also has low groundwater salinity (500-1000 mg/L). Given the small area to be cleared the proposal is unlikely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS database:
 - Groundwater Salinity Statewide DoW 13/07/06
 - Hydrographic catchments, catchments - DoW 01/06/07
 - 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**
 The area under application is associated with sandy soils that are likely to be free draining and the area has a medium relief. Given this and the small size of the clearing the proposal is unlikely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS database:
 - Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02
 - Soils, Statewide DA 11/99

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

Comments
 A submission from the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup was received advising that they only support the clearing of the native vegetation if the Extractive Industry Licence application is approved.
 The applicant has received an Extractive Industry Licence approval from the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup.
 The area is zoned for General Farming Pastoral.

An investigation is ongoing into the clearing of approximately 7ha on Lot 297 and the property to the north. In addition the clearing includes several trees and the majority of the understorey within the application area (ICMS 15728).

Methodology Shire of Donnybrook- Balingup Submission trim ref DOC90733
 GIS database:
 - Cadastre - Landgate Dec 07
 - Aboriginal Sites of Significance 26 April 2007
 - 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 is at variance to Principle (b) and not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing Principles.

5. References

DEC (2009a) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 3195/1, Lot 297 Sandhills Road, Beelerup. Site inspection undertaken 17/07/2009. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (TRIM Ref. DOC92166).

DEC (2009b) Principle Zoologist Advice. Department of Environment and Conservation Trim Ref DOC92968

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.

Northcote, K. H. with Beckmann G G, Bettenay E., Churchward H. M., van Dijk D. C., Dimmock G. M., Hubble G. D., Isbell R. F., McArthur W. M., Murtha G. G., Nicolls K. D., Paton T. R., Thompson C. H., Webb A. A. and Wright M. J. (1960-

68): 'Atlas of Australian Soils, Sheets 1 to 10, with explanatory data'. CSIRO and Melbourne University Press: Melbourne.

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)

