



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 3276/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Busselton

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 57 ON PLAN 223220 (Lot No. 57 MARINE WONNERUP 6280)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.079		Mechanical Removal	Road construction or maintenance

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 31 is described as Shrublands; teatree thicket (Shepherd, 2007)	The vegetation under application is in degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition and consists of 0.075 hectares of mainly coastal shrubs.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition derived from orthomosaic map reference Busselton 50 cm 2004.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The proposal to clear 0.079 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of a beach access track is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. The vegetation is considered to be in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition and shows signs of disturbance due to the adjacent track.

There are no records of threatened ecological communities in the vicinity of the project. The vegetation to be cleared is well represented in the local area, and would not have a detrimental impact on fauna. Two species of rare flora are recorded in the same vegetation and soil types within the local area (10km radius). Given the degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation and that the vegetation surrounding the area under application is in a better condition; it is unlikely that the proposed clearing contains either species.

Given the small size and condition of the vegetation under application and that the area has free draining sandy soils it is unlikely that the clearing will cause or exacerbate land degradation, cause a decrease in water quality or increase the incidence of intensity of flooding.

It is considered that it is not likely to be at variance to any of the principles.

Methodology

Keighery 1994
GIS Datasets
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 01/06/05
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed 3 September 2009
- Mattiske Vegetation (01/03/1998)
- Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01
- Hydrography linear - DOW 13/7/06
- Soils, Statewide DA 11/99
- NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation 20 Jan 2001
- Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02
- Cadastre - Landgate Dec 07

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

Comments

Two native title claims cover the property. The claimants representatives have made a submission in regard to the proposed clearing, advising that the area in question is significant and that no further action should be undertaken until advice from the claimants representative is provided. The representatives have invited a DEC or Shire representative to give a presentation at 20 October 2009 meeting regarding the matter (Submission, 2009).

The Shire of Busselton has submitted a proposal to the Environmental Protection Authority to relocate the seagrass wrack discharge points and the proposed clearing covers the clearing of native vegetation to enable access to these new proposed discharge points.

The Environmental Protection Authority sent the Shire of Busselton a letter advising that, as they aren't the proponents of Ministerial Statement 391, the proposal will need to be submitted by the proponents or the Shire will need to get authority to act on behalf of the proponents prior to formal advice being given (DEC, 2009).

Methodology

Submission (2009)
DEC (2009)
GIS Datasets
- Native Title Claims - LA 2/5/07

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 clearing Principles.

5. References

DEC (2009) Environmental Protection Authority Advice. Department of Environment and Conservation Trim Ref: DOC99915.
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.
Submission (2009).TRIM Ref: DOC97846

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)