

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 3407/1

File Number:

DEC13473

Duration of Permit: From 7 February 2010 to 7 February 2012

PERMIT HOLDER

Wouter Bettink Juliet Bettink

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

LOT 1 ON DIAGRAM 61130 (BOORARA BROOK 6262)

LOT 3 ON DIAGRAM 78511 (Lot No. 3 RIVERWAY BOORARA BROOK 6262)

LOT 2 ON DIAGRAM 78511 (Lot No. 2 RIVERWAY BOORARA BROOK 6262)

LOT 12294 ON PLAN 203117 (Lot No. 12294 BEEBE BOORARA BROOK 6262)

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

Clearing of up to 1 hectare of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 3407/1.

CONDITIONS

1. Vegetation management

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation within 30 metres of the riparian vegetation of any watercourse or wetland within and/or adjacent to the area cross-hatched yellow on Plan 3407/1.

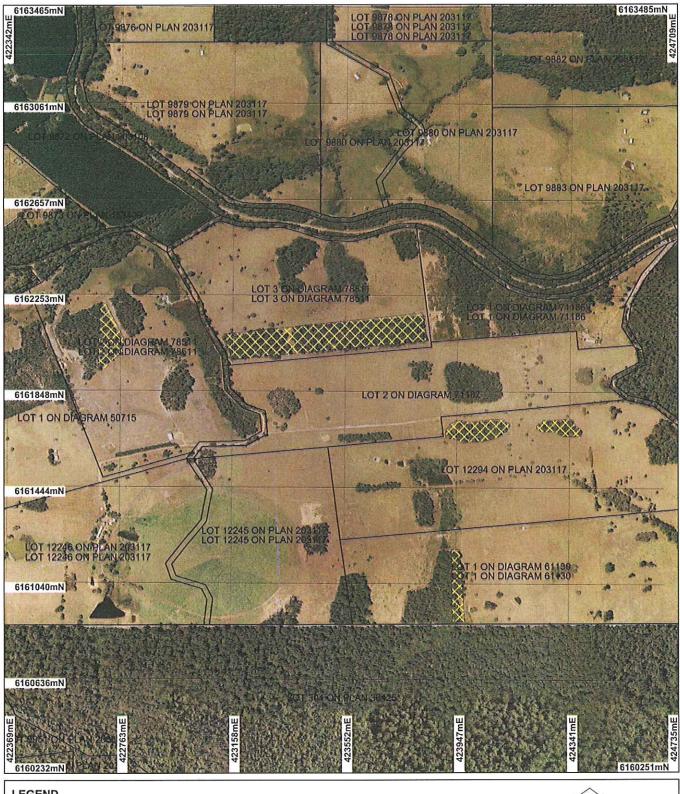
Kelly Faulkner **MANAGER**

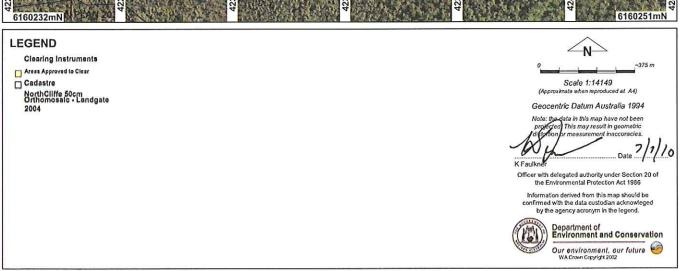
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

7 January 2010

Plan 3407/1







Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

Permit application details

Permit application No.:

3407/1

Area Permit

Permit type:

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Wouter and Juliet Bettink

1.3. Property details

Property:

LOT 12294 ON PLAN 203117 (Lot No. 12294 BEEBE BOORARA BROOK 6262)

LOT 1 ON DIAGRAM 61130 (BOORARA BROOK 6262)

LOT 3 ON DIAGRAM 78511 (Lot No. 3 RIVERWAY BOORARA BROOK 6262) LOT 2 ON DIAGRAM 78511 (Lot No. 2 RIVERWAY BOORARA BROOK 6262)

Local Government Area: Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

For the purpose of: Miscellaneous

Mechanical Removal

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description

The areas under application are mapped as consisting of two Beard vegetation associations and one Mattiske complex:

- The northern sections of vegetation area are mapped as consisting of Beard Vegetation association 1144: Tall forest; karri & marri (Corymbia calophylla) (Shepherd, 2007).
- The remaining areas under application are mapped as consisting of **Beard Vegetation** association 3: Medium forest; jarrah-marri and Mattiske complex CRy: Tall open forest of Corymbia calophylla with mixture of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata and Eucalyptus diversicolor on uplands in hyperhumid and perhumid zones (Shepherd, 2007; Mattiske 1998).

Clearing Description

The vegetation is considered to be in good to very good (Keighery, 1994) condition (DEC, 2009). The vegetation within the applied areas is described as being a closed regrowth forest dominated by Karri. Marri and Jarrah. The ground cover is comprised of Leucopogon capitellatus, Leucopogon verticillatus, Podocarpus drouynianus, Hovea elliptica, Patersonia umbrosa, Mesomelaena graciliceps, Chorizema diversifolium and Clematis pubescens. The middle storey is comprised of Allocasuarina decussate, Trymalium floribundum, Acacia pentadenia and Agonis flexuosa (DEC, 2009).

The applied areas are within an area already used for intensive agriculture and stock have gazed the property (DEC, 2009).

Vegetation Condition Comment

Very Good: Vegetation

disturbance (Keighery

structure altered;

obvious signs of

1994)

The description and condition of the vegetation under application was determined via the use of aerial mapping systems and a DEC conducted site inspection undertaken in December 2009.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The proposed clearing comprises five small areas under application; the total size is 1 ha within a 11.9 ha area. The applicant has advised that the two areas located within Lot 12294 and the area under application within Lot 3 will only require approximately 20 individual Karri trees to be removed, which occur on the edge of vegetation

stands (DEC, 2009). Some of these Karri trees are dead or showing signs of stress (DEC, 2009). The applicant has advised that removing the large Karri trees will make spraying crops from the air easier and safer and decrease shaded areas on the property.

The removal of trees within Lot 2 is required to square up the paddock; the amount of vegetation actually cleared within this area will be a 10 metre strip around the area to reduce shade and prevent branches from falling into the hay paddock and will only impact on selected trees. The clearing that is to occur within Lot 1 is required in order to construct a fence. The fence will be erected 30 metres from the creekline and serve to protect the riparian vegetation from feral pigs and stock (DEC, 2009). A condition ensuring that no clearing occurs within 30 metres of riparian vegetation will be placed on the permit. The applicant has advised that the removal of vegetation adjacent to the creekline will be approximately 400 metres in length and will also involve the removal of a 10 metre strip of vegetation around the edge of the area. The area is already fenced to the south and the applicant has advised that the western edge of the area will also be fenced and protected.

The local area is well vegetated with approximately 70% vegetation remaining in the local area (10km radius), with the majority of this vegetation being managed by DEC. The Beard vegetation types mapped as occurring within the applied areas (Beard 3 & 1144) are well represented, with the remaining amount of pre-European levels of vegetation well above the Environmental Protection Authority's (EPA) 30% threshold level as recommended in the National Objectives Targets for Biodiversity Conservation; below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (EPA, 2000).

The applied areas are within an area already used for intensive agriculture and stock have grazed the property (DEC, 2009). No rare or priority flora have been recorded within the applied areas and none were observed during a DEC site inspection conducted in December, however no flora survey was undertaken. Regional advice has stated that as the areas to be cleared are isolated patches of bush surrounded by paddocks, the vegetation is unlikely to be suitable for rare or priority listed flora (DEC, 2009).

While the southern area under application is adjacent to a conservation area, given the small size of the proposed clearing, impacts on this conservation area are not likely to be significant.

No significant environmental impacts are likely as a result of the proposed clearing.

Methodology

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

Comments

The land is zoned rural

Methodology

4. Assessor's comments

Comment

The clearing application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with s51O of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 and has found:

- All Principles to be not likely or not at variance

5. References

DEC (2009) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 3407/1, Lot 1 on Diagram 78511, Lot 3 on Plan 78511, Lot 12294 on Plan 203117 & Lot 1 on Diagram 61130, Manjimup. Site inspection undertaken 04/12/2009. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (TRIM Ref. DOC110583).

EPA (2000) Environmental protection of native vegetation in Western Australia. Clearing of native vegetation, with particular reference to the agricultural area. Position Statement No. 2. December 2000. Environmental Protection Authority, 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.

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

Department of Conservation and Land Management (now BCS)
Department of Agriculture and Food CALM

DAFWA

Department of Environment and Conservation DEC Department of Environmental Protection (now DEC)
Department of Environment (now DEC) DEP

DoE

Department of Mines and Petroleum (ex DoIR) DMP

DRF

Declared Rare Flora
Environmental Protection Policy
Geographical Information System **EPP** GIS Hectare (10,000 square metres) ha Threatened Ecological Community **TEC**

Water and Rivers Commission (now DEC) **WRC**