

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 3479 / 1

File Number:

DEC13886

Duration of Permit: From 21 February 2010 to 21 February 2012

PERMIT HOLDER

Michael Joseph McHenry Pauline Jane McHenry

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

LOT 2011 ON PLAN 202979 (House No. 101 WILLIAMS ROAD, SCOTSDALE 6333)

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 3 hectares of native vegetation, within the areas shaded yellow on attached Plan 3479/1.

CONDITIONS

Nil

Kelly Faulkner

MANAGER

NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

21 January 2010

LEGEND

Scale 1:7000 (Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:

3479/1

Permit type:

Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Michael Joseph and Pauline Jane McHenry

1.3. Property details

Property:

LOT 2011 ON PLAN 202979 (House No. 101 WILLIAMS SCOTSDALE 6333) LOT 2011 ON PLAN 202979 (House No. 101 WILLIAMS SCOTSDALE 6333)

Local Government Area: Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

For the purpose of:

2 (0.105)

Mechanical Removal Mechanical Removal Grazing & Pasture

Mechanical Removal Mechanical Removal Grazing & Pasture Grazing & Pasture

Mechanical Removal

Grazing & Pasture

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description

Mattiske Vegetation
Complex Granite Valleys:
Tall open forest of
Eucalyptus diversicolorEucalyptus patens on
slopes with Agonis
flexuosa-Allocasuarina
decussata -Callistachys
lanceolata on valley floors
in hyperhumid and
perhumid zones.

Mattiske Vegetation
Complex Lindesay: Open
forest of Eucalyptus
marginata subsp.
marginata-Corymbia
calophylla-Banksia grandis
on milder slopes of major
granite hills in perhumid
and humid zones.

Beard vegetation association 3: Jarrah/Marri

Clearing Description

The clearing of 3 hectares of native vegetation including regenerated vegetation up to approximately 20 years old . A site visit has shown the vegetation is predominantly mature paddock trees of marri with some jarrah over non-native paddock grasses and some regenerated native vegetation consisting of Podocarpus drouynianus, Hibbertia sp., Boronia gracilipes, Acacia alata. Pteridium esculentum and Hovea elliptica with Acacia pentadenia and Agonis parviceps on the proposed firebreak areas.

Vegetation Condition

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

Comment

Condition of the vegetation under application is considered to range from 'Completely Degraded' to 'Degraded' (Keighery 1994) condition with an average condition of 'Degraded'. (DEC 2010).

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 applied area is 3 ha of native vegetation in a 'degraded' (Keighery 1994) condition, consisting of mature paddock trees of non-native grasses and some areas of regrowth vegetation. The local area (10 km radius) includes the Mt Lindesay National Park, which is known for its high levels of floristic biodiversity and suite of priority and endemic flora. The applied area does not contain the granitic habitats found in the Mt Lindesay National Park and a site inspection has shown that the vegetation with the applied areas is unlikely to be

suitable habitat for any of the priority species known from the local area (DEC 2010).

The condition of the vegetation under application is considered 'degraded' (Keighery 1994) due to long term stock grazing and as such the biodiversity values have been significantly reduced (DEC 2010). Additionally, the small size of the proposed clearing reduces the impact the clearing would have on surrounding vegetation. The clearing as proposed is therefore not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology

References:

- DEC (2010)
- Keighery (1994)
- GIS Databases:
- SAC Biodatasets Accessed Dec 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

Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

There are three threatened fauna species recorded within the local area (~10km Radius), including the Chuditch (Dasyurus geoffroii), the Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus banksii naso) and the Western Ringtail Possum (Pseudocheirus occidentalis).

While the vegetation under application may provide some foraging habitat for native fauna species including species of conservation significance, given the quality and extent of native vegetation within the adjacent National Park the proposed clearing is unlikely to be considered significant and therefore unlikely to be at variance with this principle.

Methodology

GIS Databases:

- Denmark 1.4m Ortho (Landgate 2001)
- SAC Biodatasets Accessed 22 Dec 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 are 3 declared rare flora species recorded within the local area, including Grevillea fasciculata, Cryptandra congesta and Drakaea micrantha. These species are found within the adjacent Mt Lindesday National Park in habitats which are distinct from the vegetation and condition of the applied areas.

A site visit (DEC 2010) noted the degraded condition of the vegetation applied for clearing including old regrowth areas and paddock trees over non-native pasture. The applied area presents little potential to be habitat for rare flora and therefore the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology

Reference:

- DEC (2010)
- GIS Databases:
- Denmark 1.4m Ortho (Landgate 2001)
- SAC Biodatasets Accessed 22 Dec 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

The area under application is adjacent to the national park which contains a threatened ecological community. The Mt Lindesay/Little Lindesay Vegetation Complex (TEC) is known to lie 2.6 km north of the proposed clearing, and is therefore within the 5500m buffer. The vegetation type, however, is mapped as being Lindesay while the vegetation under application is Granite Valleys (Mattiske & Havel 1998). The region has advised that the clearing as proposed is not likely to impact on this threatened ecological community (DEC 2008 & 2010) owing to the degraded nature of the vegetation to be cleared. The proposal is therefore not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology

References:

- DEC (2008)
- DEC (2010)
- Mattiske & Havel (1998)
- (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

The application area lies within the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia bioregion Jarrah Forest, in

which 53.2% native vegetation remains (Shepherd 2007). The vegetation is consistent with Beard Vegetation Association 3 which is well represented with 69.32% remaining. Additionally, the Shire of Denmark is well vegetated with 78.02% of pre-European vegetation remaining.

Therefore, the 3 ha of degraded condition vegetation under application is not considered significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared, and the clearing as proposed is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology

Reference:

- Shepherd (2007)
- (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 likely to be at variance to this Principle

The applied area is approximately 50 - 100 m from the Denmark River. The site visit information does not record the presence of significant areas of wetland or riparian vegetation and given the limited clearing of vegetation in a degraded condition it is considered unlikely to provide any significant buffer. Therefore the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology

References:

- DEC (2008)
- DEC (2010)

GIS Database:

- Hydrography linear DOW 06
- (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 area proposed to be cleared is located in a moderate salinity risk part of the Denmark River Catchment Area (DoW, 2010) and has a groundwater salinity of 500-1000mg/L. Given the scale (3ha) of the proposed clearing the likelihood of appreciable land degradation occurring as a result of wind erosion or salinity is considered to be low. The clearing as proposed is therefore not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology

Reference:

- DoW (2010)
- (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

The area under application is adjacent to the Mt Lindesay National Park. The proposed clearing immediately adjacent to the National Park is limited to the maintenance of regrowth on the existing firebreaks. The remainder of the clearing is limited to 'degraded' to 'completely degraded' (Keighery 1994) vegetation that is unlikely to effect the environmental values of the nearby conservation area.

The clearing as proposed is therefore not likely to be at variance with this principle.

Methodology

Reference:

- DEC (2010)
- Keighery (1994)

GIS Databases:

- CALM Managed Lands and Water
- CALM 01/06/05
- (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 area proposed to be cleared is located in a moderate salinity risk part of the Denmark River Catchment Area. DoW (2010) advise they have no objections to the proposed clearing and it has previously been approved in 1985 and it is considered unlikely to result in an increase in salinity or deterioration of the water quality. The clearing as proposed is therefore not likely to be at variance with this principle.

Methodology

Reference:

- DoW (2010)

(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

Clearing of 3 ha for pasture and firebreaks is unlikely to cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding, and is therefore not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology

GIS Databases:

- Hydrography linear (hierarchy) - DoW 13/7/06

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

Comments

The application lies within CAWS Zone C. DoW (2010) advise no compensation has been paid and the area under application has previously been approved in 1985 under CAWS Act licence LAD072.

Methodology

Reference:

- DoW (2010)

4. Assessor's comments

Comment

The application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with S510 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986, and the proposed clearing is not considered likely to be at variance with any of the principles.

5. References

- DEC (2008) Regional advice for Clearing Permit Application CPS3479/1, Lot 2011 on Plan 202979 Williams Road, Scotsdale.

 Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (TRIM Ref. DOC65781).
- DEC (2010) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 3479/1, Lot 2011 on Plan 202979 Williams Road, Scotsdale. Site inspection undertaken 5/1/2010. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (TRIM Ref. DOC114188).
- DoW (2010) CAWSA advice for LOT 2011 ON PLAN 202979 (House No. 101 WILLIAMS ROAD, SCOTSDALE). Department of Water, Western Australia (TRIM Ref. DOC111289).
- Hopkins, A.J.M., Beeston, G.R. and Harvey J.M. (2001) A database on the vegetation of Western Australia. Stage 1. CALMScience after J. S. Beard, late 1960's to early 1980's Vegetation Survey of Western Australia, UWA Press.
- 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
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 (now DEC)
DMP	Department of Mines and Petroleum (ex DoIR)
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)

