



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 429/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Commissioner of Main Roads, Main Roads Western Australia

1.3. Property details

Property: ESPERANCE LOCATION 2121 (DALYUP 6450)
ROAD RESERVE (DALYUP 6450)
ESPERANCE LOCATION 2120 (DALYUP 6450)
LOT 2 ON PLAN 13913 (DALYUP 6450)
LOT 3 ON PLAN 13913 (DALYUP 6450)

Local Government Area: Shire Of Esperance

Colloquial name: Bridge No. 0564

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.5		Cutting	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 6048: Shrublands, bankia scrub-heath on sandplain in the Esperance Plains Region.	Vegetation to be cleared has a history of weed invasion and disturbance. Rehabilitation will focus on species found along the Dalyup West River.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation along the Dalyup West River is considered to have a high conservation value. However, this site is degraded and would benefit from the rehabilitation regime which is proposed. MRWA propose that other impacts can be managed through standard construction techniques and environmental management practice which are used for bridge construction projects (SMEC 2004a).

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 at variance to this Principle**
The proposal is not at variance with this Principle as the area proposed to be cleared does not have outstanding biodiversity. The site has been relatively degraded by weed invasion and the proposed rehabilitation is likely to ultimately improve biodiversity values (SMEC, 2004a).

Methodology SMEC (2004a)

(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 at variance to this Principle**
The proposal is not at variance with this Clearing Principle as the area to be cleared is small and in the medium to long term will be rehabilitated to provide equal to better habitat. Threatened fauna reported in the CALM database for this area includes mobile fauna which are not likely to be affected by this proposal.

Methodology SMEC (2004b)

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

Comments **Proposal is not at variance to this Principle**
The proposal is not at variance to this Principle as no significant flora has been identified at the site (SMEC

2004b).

Methodology SMEC (2004b)

(d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a significant ecological community.

Comments **Proposal is not at variance to this Principle**

The proposal is not at variance to this Clearing Principle as this site has not been identified in CALMs Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) database and the nearest recorded TEC is 20km to the east (Helms1).

Methodology GIS database: Threatened Ecological Communities CALM 15/7/2003

(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**

The proposal is not considered to be at variance to this Clearing Principle as it involves the rehabilitation and revegetation of an area equal to the area cleared. This is particularly important as this the Dalyup area has been highly cleared and has less than 16% of this vegetation association remaining.

reserves/CALM-	Pre-European area (ha)	Current extent (ha)	Remaining %*	Conservation status**	% in managed land
IBRA Bioregion- Esperance	2,520,106***	1,144,872#	45.4	Depleted	
Shire of Esperance	4,256,774	1,609,610	27.4	Vulnerable	
Beard veg type-6048	135,614	20,728	15.3	Vulnerable	5.8

* (Shepherd et al. 2001)

** (Department of Natural Resources and Environment 2002) *** Area in Intensive Land Use Zone # Area of vegetation remaining in Intensive Land Use Zone

Methodology Shepherd et al. (2001), Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002)

(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**

As the proposal involves the construction of a bridge and associated batters, there will be disturbance of the Dalyup West River. However, MRD has committed to reduce impacts through good practice and subsequent rehabilitation of the site (SMEC 2004c).

The riparian vegetation within the proposed clearing area is very degraded. MRD is committed to revegetating the site including the riparian vegetation. This will produce a vegetation complex as good as or better than what is currently found at the site. Therefore this proposal is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology SMEC (2004c)

(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 proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Clearing Principle due to the small area involved, commitments in place to minimise impacts and rehabilitation planned (SMEC 2004c).

Methodology SMEC (2004c)

(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 at variance to this Principle**

The proposed clearing is 1.5km north west of the Dalyup Nature Reserve. It is considered that the clearing will not impact on the conservation area and is not at variance to this Clearing Principle.

Methodology GIS database: CALM managed land and waters (1/6/04)

(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**

Any impacts on surface or groundwater are likely to be minimal and short term. It is considered that the clearing is not at variance to this Principle due to the management of impacts proposed by MRD (SMEC

2004c).

Methodology SMEC (2004c)

(j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence of flooding.

Comments **Proposal is not at variance to this Principle**

The proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle due to its small area and the works to the bridge and batters are designed to mitigate flood impacts (SMEC 2004c).

Methodology SMEC (2004c)

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

Comments

The proposed clearing is not at variance to any known planning instrument.

Methodology

4. Assessor's recommendations

Purpose	Method	Applied area (ha)/ trees	Decision	Comment / recommendation
Road construction o maintenance	Cutting	0.5	Grant	It is recommended that the permit be granted as the proposal is not at variance with the Clearing Principles. The Main Roads Department has set in place management strategies to mitigate impacts. In addition, the proposed rehabilitation should improve the condition of the vegetation on the site in the medium to long term.

5. References

- Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002) Biodiversity Action Planning. Action planning for native biodiversity at multiple scales ; catchment bioregional, landscape, local. Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Victoria.
- Keighery, BJ (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R. and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001) Native Vegetation in Western Australia, Extent, Type and Status. Resource Management Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.
- SMEC (2004a) Bridge 564 replacement- Rehabilitation Plan. Unpublished report produced for Main Roads Western Australia. DoE TRIM ref: IN19932
- SMEC (2004b) - Environmental Impact Assessment Replacement of Bridge 564. Unpublished report produced by SMEC Australia Pty Ltd for Main Roads Western Australia. Hardcopy kept on file SC1447.
- SMEC (2004c) Bridge 564 Replacement- Environmental Management Plan. Unpublished report produced by SMEC Australia Pty Ltd for Main Roads Western Australia. Hardcopy kept on file SC1447.

6. Glossary

Term	Meaning
CALM	Department of Conservation and Land Management
DAWA	Department of Agriculture
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection (now DoE)
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 DoE)

