



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4325/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Dr Kevin Bohdan Swincicky

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 124 ON PLAN 230693 (House No. 70 LAKE SAIDE NORTH YOUNGS SIDING 6330)
Local Government Area: City of Albany

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
1		Mechanical Removal	Miscellaneous

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Refuse
Decision Date: 2 September 2013

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 969 Mosaic: Medium forest; jarrah-marri / Low forest; jarrah (Shepherd et al, 2001)	The application is to clear 1 hectare of native vegetation within Lot 124 for the purpose of weed control.	Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation appears to be dense throughout the clearing footprint. There is an unsealed road through the middle of the clearing area. The majority of vegetation is in very good to excellent (Keighery, 1994) condition, with patches of blackberry and arum lily (DEC, 2011). The application area has been cleared on the eastern boundary, possibly to remove patches of blackberries. Larger trees have been left with some annual weed invasion occurring (DEC, 2011).
Mattiske Vegetation Complex HA Mosaic of a low woodland to woodland of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Eucalyptus patens, low forest of Agonis juniperina-Callistachys lanceolata with closed heath of Myrtaceae spp. on sandy plains in the hyperhumid zone (Mattiske and Havel, 1998).		Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	The condition of the vegetation under application was obtained through aerial photography and a Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) site visit (DEC, 2011).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

The area under application is located 4km south east of Young Sidings town site. The vegetation within the local area (5km) has approximately 50 percent of its pre-European extent remaining. There is a property registered under the Land for Wildlife program 900 metres away from the area under application but no other conservation areas exist within a 5km radius.

There are several priority flora species identified that surround the clearing area. There are no known flora species that are considered to be rare, nor are there any threatened ecological communities that are recorded within a 5km radius of the clearing footprint.

There are seven fauna species identified within the local area classified as rare or likely to become extinct (Wildlife Conservation Act 1950), including *Calyptorhynchus baudinii* (Baudin's cockatoo), *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* (Carnaby's cockatoo) (DEC 2007-). No significant fauna or habitat for significant fauna was observed during a site visit.

Mattiske and Havel (1998) define the vegetation under application as Hazelvale complex, of which there is 47.5 percent of pre-European extent remaining. The vegetation under application is also described as Beard vegetation association 969, of which there is 45 percent of pre-European extent remaining (Government of Western Australia, 2011). Both Mattiske and Beard vegetation complexes mapped within the area under application are above the national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia which has a target to prevent clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 per cent of that present pre-1750 (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001).

A site visit of the area under application identified a creek line running east to west within the proposal footprint. The creek contains riparian vegetation (*M. Rhamphophylla*), the removal of such vegetation may impact this watercourse. Given this, it may be at variance to principle (i) and is at variance to principle (f). A 30 metre buffer would protect the creek and its associated vegetation.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is at variance to principle (f), may be at variance to principle (i) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

Methodology References
DEC (2011)
Government of Western Australia (2011)
Keighery (1994)
Mattiske and Havel (1998)
DEC (2007)

GIS database:
- Albany 50cm Orthomosaic - 2007
- DEC Tenure
- Pre European Vegetation
- SAC Bio Datasets - Accessed 2/5/2011

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

Comments

The area under application is within the City of Albany Town Planning Scheme No. 3.2.B, Zone Z Rural

A letter dated 2 June 2011, was sent to the applicant requesting details on the weed management methods proposed to be implemented. Additionally, the applicant was requested to justify the need to parkland clear native vegetation for weed control opposed to using existing tracks to access weed infested areas. A response was received from the applicant in October 2011 providing a list of species to be targeted for the proposed clearing. The applicant did not provide a weed management plan, nor justify the need to parkland clear for weed control. It is noted that a number of taxa that the applicant has expressed interest in clearing are not native species, these include, *Chrysanthemoides monilifera*, *Acacia longifolia*, *Leptospermum laevigatum*, *Psoralea pinnata*, *Zantedeschia aethiopica* and *Rubus* sp. A clearing permit is not required to remove such taxa. All other taxa mentioned within the response are considered to be native.

A letter was sent to the applicant on 13 September 2012 advising that a decision on the application would be made after 11 October 2012 based on the information available at the time. There has been no response from the applicant to date.

Methodology GIS database:
-Town Planning Scheme - 1998

4. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
DEC (2007 -) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Environment and Conservation. URL: <http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed 02/05/2011
DEC (Year) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 4325/1, Lot 124 Lake Saide Road, Albany. Site inspection undertaken 19/05/2011. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (TRIM Ref. DOC A398275).
Government of Western Australia. (2013). 2012 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of October 2012. WA Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth.
Hedde, E. M., Loneragan, O. W., and Havel, J. J. (1980) Vegetation Complexes of the Darling System, Western Australia. In Department of Conservation and Environment, Atlas of Natural Resources, Darling System, 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.
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.

5. 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)