



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 4345/1

File Number: 2011/004189

Duration of Permit: From 18 July 2011 to 18 July 2013

PERMIT HOLDER

Margaret Ellen Benn

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 4861 on Deposited Plan 227783 (Boscabel 6394)

Lot 4862 on Deposited Plan 227783 (Boscabel 6394)

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 1.2 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 4345/1.

CONDITIONS

Nil.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'K. Faulkner', written over a horizontal line.

Kelly Faulkner

MANAGER

NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

*Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

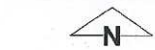
23 June 2011

Plan 4345/1



LEGEND

- Road Centrelines
- Local Government Authorities
- Clearing Instruments
- Areas Approved to Clear
- Cadastre for labelling
- Kojonup 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2006



0 ————— 200 m

Scale 1:8000

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distortion or measurement inaccuracies.

Date 23/6/11
K Faulkner

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Information derived from this map should be confirmed with the data custodian acknowledged by the agency acronym in the legend.



Department of Environment and Conservation

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1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4345/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Margaret Ellen Benn

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 4861 ON PLAN 227783 (BOSCABEL 6394)
LOT 4862 ON PLAN 227783 (BOSCABEL 6394)

Local Government Area: Shire of Kojonup

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
1.2		Mechanical Removal	Fence Line Maintenance
		Mechanical Removal	Fence Line Maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 23 June 2011

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
Shepherd (2009) describes Beard vegetation 4 as Medium woodland; marri & wandoo and 987 as Medium woodland; jarrah & wandoo	The proposed clearing of 1.2 ha of regrowth vegetation along the property boundary, to facilitate fence construction..	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	Condition of vegetation assessed using aerial imagery and advice from DAFWA site visit (DAFWA 2011)

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The proposal is to clear 1.2 hectares of regrowth native vegetation along a pre existing fence line for the purpose of erecting a rabbit proof fence as part of the Caring for our Country project "Reducing the impacts of rabbits to encourage the regeneration of threatened flora, communities and critical habitat - Western Australia Wheatbelt". The clearing is to occur on Lot 4861 and Lot 4862 on Plan 227783, Boscabel.

There is an area of native vegetation on Lot 4861 and 4862 which is protected by a conservation covenant under the Soil and Land Conservation Act. As a requirement of the conservation covenant "The area of land described above is to be adequately fenced to exclude all classes of livestock by 30 November 1989 and managed in such a way as to retain and promote the growth of vegetation". The proposed clearing does not include the areas of native vegetation subject to the conservation covenant and the Commissioner of Soil and Conservation does not object to the clearing (DAFWA 2011).

There are three occurrences of two Declared Rare flora species recorded on Lots 4861 and Lot 4862, these species being *Conostylis drummondii* and *Conostylis setigra* subsp. *dasy*. This area of vegetation on Lot 4861 and Lot 4862 which contains the rare flora has been assessed for inclusion into the Caring for our Country project. This project is aimed at regenerating rare flora in the district, primarily through rabbit control. These properties have been identified as a site for which rabbit proof fencing is likely to be beneficial in the long term. It is proposed to construct a rabbit proof fence, and eradicate rabbits from the block through a variety of methods including baiting, warren destruction and/or fumigation. Due to the dilapidated and overgrown nature of the existing fence, a new fence is required. A permit to take declared rare flora has been granted to the applicant in the event that the fence construction inadvertently "takes" declared rare plants. Therefore the vegetation under application may be at variance to principle (c).

Within the local area (10km radius) there were 8 fauna species of conservation significance. The closest records are the *Platycercus icterotis* subsp. *xanthogenys*, and the Tammar (*Macropus eugenii* subsp. *Derbianus*), which are recorded within 1km of the application area and the Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) was located 3km from the application area (DEC 2007 -). However the proposed clearing is not likely to contain

significant habitat values for fauna native to Western Australia.

Beard vegetation types 4 and 987 have 30.37% and 22.68% of their pre-European extent remaining within the bioregion respectively (Shepherd 2009). The local area has been highly cleared however the application area contains regrowth and is it not a significant remnant. Therefore the clearing is not likely to be at variance to principle (e).

The Commissioner of Soil and Conservation advised that both lots contain native vegetation and tree plantation. The property is not used for cropping or livestock grazing. Given the amount of vegetation, there is reduced runoff from the property. There is also reduced potential for water and wind erosion within the property. There are no stream flows, areas susceptible to water erosion or wind erosion within the proposed regrowth clearing; therefore, there is little likelihood of onsite or offsite degradation from clearing regrowth for the proposed fencing. Therefore the proposed clearing is unlikely to cause land degradation (DAFWA 2011).

Given the above, the proposed clearing may be at variance to principles (c) and considered not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining clearing principles.

Methodology

References:

- DAFWA (2011)
- DEC (2007 -)
- Shepherd (2009)

GIS databases:

- Kojonup 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2006
- SAC Bio Datasets - accessed May 2011

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

Comments

The proposal is for the purpose of erecting a rabbit proof fence as part of the Caring for our Country project "Reducing the impacts of rabbits to encourage the regeneration of threatened flora, communities and critical habitat - Western Australia Wheatbelt".

The Commissioner of Soil and Conservation advised that the area to be re-fenced consists of regrowth and that the proposed clearing is clear of the areas of native vegetation subject to the conservation covenant (DAFWA 2011).

The applicant has obtained a permit to take declared rare flora, Permit No. 215-1011 in the event *Conostylis drummondii* and *Conostylis setigra subsp dasys* occur within the area to be cleared.

The Shire of Kojonup (2011) advised that they had no objection to the application and that a boundary fence does not require any approvals.

Lot 4861 and Lot 4862 on Deposited Plan 227783 is freehold land zoned Rural under the local Town Planning Scheme.

Methodology

References:

- Shire of Kojonup (2011)

GIS Databases:

- Cadastre
- Town Planning Scheme Zones

4. References

DAFWA (2011) Application for Clearing Permit CPS 4345/1 - Lot 4861 and 4862 on Deposited Plan 227783. DEC ref: A403735

DEC (2007 -) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Environment and Conservation. URL: <http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed 25/05/2011

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. (2009) 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.

Shire of Kojonup (2011) CPS 4345/1 - Response to Direct Interest letter. DEC ref: A400738

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)

