



## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 448/1

Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Main Roads Western Australia

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 7 ON DIAGRAM 75022 (House No. 50 HAVELOCK NARROGIN 6312)  
ROAD RESERVE ( NARROGIN 6312)  
ROAD RESERVE ( NARROGIN 6312)  
LOT 5 ON DIAGRAM 69589 (House No. 52 HAVELOCK NARROGIN 6312)  
LOT 673 ON PLAN 222899 (House No. 3 JOHN NARROGIN 6312)  
ROAD RESERVE ( NARROGIN 6312)  
NARROGIN TOWNSITE LOT 1653 (Lot No. 1649 GIBSON NARROGIN 6312)

Local Government Area: Shire Of Narrogin & Town Of Narrogin

Colloquial name: John Street, Pioneer Drive and Great Southern Hwy Road Reserves

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
2.02		Mechanical Removal	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 Unit 946: Medium woodland; wandoo	High invasion of weeds, exotic flora and pasture	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	

## 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 area under application was considered to be in degraded condition and is not representative of vegetation considered to be of a high level of biological diversity.

**Methodology** EPA (2000)

### (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**  
Aerial photography and site photos indicates that the vegetation may provide some habitat for fauna species, however the level of disturbance within the site is likely to limit the habitat value of the vegetation.

**Methodology** GIS databases: Corrigin South 1.4m Orthomosaic - DOLA 00  
GHD Report (2003)

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

**Comments** **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**  
Pultenaea pauciflora (Declared Rare Flora) occurs approximately 2.5km north east from the site. There are 7 other DRF and 1 Priority Two Listed Flora in the local area (10km radius).

The condition of the vegetation and disturbance to the site limits the potential conservation value of the vegetation it is therefore unlikely that the proposed clearing will impact on significant flora.

**Methodology** GIS databases: Declared Rare and Priority Flora List - CALM 13/08/03

**(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**

There are no records of Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) or Threatened Plant Communities (TPC) within the local area (10km radius).

There is a low probability of the proposed clearing being at variance with this principle.

**Methodology** GIS databases:  
 - Threatened Ecological Communities - CALM 15/7/03  
 - Threatened Plant Communities - DEP 06/95.

**(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 application is located in the Avon Wheatbelt Bioregion in the Shire of Narrogin. The extent of native vegetation in these areas is 10.3% and 13.6% respectively (Shepherd et al. 2001).

	Pre-European (ha)*	Current extent (ha)*	Remaining (%)*	Conservation** status
IBRA Bioregion - Avon Wheatbelt***	8 967 527	924 828	10.3	Vulnerable
Shire of Narrogin	164 063	22 369	13.6	Vulnerable
Vegetation type: Beard: Unit 946	97 259	17 377	17.9	Vulnerable

\* (Shepherd et al. 2001)

\*\* (Department of Natural Resources and Environment 2002)

\*\*\* Within the Intensive Landuse Zone

The vegetation under application is Vulnerable as the remaining vegetation is between 10% and 30%. The State Government is committed to the National Objectives Targets for Biodiversity Conservation which includes a target that prevents clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30% of that present pre-1750 (Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002); EPA (2000)).

The area under application is however degraded and does not represent the vegetation complexes or their ecological value. The applicants have also indicated that they will prepare and implement a Landscape and Rehabilitation Plan at end of works as stated in there Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan.

**Methodology** Hopkins et al. (2001)  
 Shepherd et al. (2001)  
 Heddle et al. (1980)  
 EPA (2000)  
 Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002)  
 GIS databases:  
 - Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia - EM 18/10/00  
 - Local Government Authorities - DLI 8/07/04  
 - Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01

**(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 at variance to this Principle**

Areas of the proposed clearing are within the Narrogin Brook.

Site photos indicate that the brook is completely degraded. The applicant also intends to contact the local

Aboriginal community about the timing of the re-alignment of the brook so that Gilgies can be harvested and assistance will be provided to relocate any Long-necked Tortoise present.

**Methodology** GIS databases: Corrigin South 1.4m Orthomosaic - DOLA 00  
GHD Report (2003)

**(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**

There is no information for Acid Sulphate Soils on the property. Groundwater salinity is mapped at 14 000 - 35 000 mg/L. Salinity is mapped at a medium risk area.

It is not likely that the proposed clearing will impact on land degradation.

**Methodology** GIS databases:  
- Acid Sulfate Soil Risk Map, SCP - DoE 01/02/04  
- Salinity Risk LM 25m - DOLA 00.  
- Groundwater Salinity, Statewide - 22/02/00

**(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**

There are no neighbouring areas of conservation from the proposed area to clear.

**Methodology** GIS database:  
- CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 1/06/04  
- Register of National Estate - EA 28/01/03  
- System 6 Conservation Reserves - DEP 06/95  
- System 1-5 and 7-12 Areas - DEP 06/95

**(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 at variance to this Principle**

The proposed clearing is not within a gazetted public drinking water supply area and is not likely to degrade water quality.

**Methodology** GIS databases: Public Drinking Water Source Areas (PDWSAs) - DOE 29/11/04

**(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**

Flooding impacts are unlikely to occur as a result of the proposed clearing due to its size.

**Methodology** GIS databases: Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02

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

**Comments**

No planning issues or other issues have been raised by the Town of Narrogin.

The property is zoned Arterial Rd.

The application was referred to the EPA. Level of Assessment set was : Scheme Not Assessed Advice Given.

An Aboriginal Site of Significance was identified and a consultant was employed to survey the site and consult with local Aboriginal Elders. An Informants Clearance Letter was signed by the Aboriginal Elders indicating that they were aware of the Main Roads proposed works and it's impacts and they would require prior notification of commencement dates so that Gilgies could be harvested from river and assistance from Main Roads was requested to relocate long neck tortoise.

**Methodology** GIS database: Town Planning Scheme Zones - MFP 8/98  
GHD Report (2003)

**4. Assessor's recommendations**

Purpose	Method Applied	Decision	Comment / recommendation
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		area (ha)	trees	Grant	
Road construction or maintenance	Mechanical Removal	2.02			<p>It is recommended that proposed clearing be granted.</p> <p>It is understood that Main Roads along with other stakeholders including the Town of Narrogin will prepare and implement a Landscape and Rehabilitation Plan at end of works as stated in their Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan.</p>

## 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.
- GHD, 2003, Environmental Impact Assessment & Environmental Management Plan - Narrogin Link Road Stage 2, on behalf of Main Roads Western Australia Great Southern Region
- 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, 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.