



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 4664/1

File Number: 2011/009637-1

Duration of Permit: From 26 December 2011 to 26 December 2013

PERMIT HOLDER

Cobar Nominees Pty Ltd

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 1955 on Deposited Plan 125187 (DINGUP, 6258)

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.12 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 4664/1.

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*

1 December 2011

Plan 4664/1



LEGEND

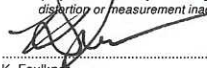
-  Road Centrelines
-  Cadastre
-  Clearing Instruments
-  Areas Approved to Clear
-  Local Government Authorities
- Manjimup 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007**



Scale 1:3000
(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 1/12/07
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.: 4664/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Cobar Nominees Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 1955 ON PLAN 125187 (DINGUP 6258)
Local Government Area: Shire of Manjimup
Colloquial name: Lot 1955 Balbarrup Road

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.12		Mechanical Removal	Dam construction or maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: GRANT
Decision Date: 1 December 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
Beard Vegetation Association: 3 - medium forest of jarrah- marri (Shepherd, 2009)	The application is to clear up to 0.12 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 1955 on Deposited Plan 125187, Dingup, for the purpose of constructing a dam.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994)	Vegetation description and condition was determined by Department of Environment and Conservation regional advice and aerial imagery (Manjimup 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007).
Mattiske Vegetation Complex: Wheatley (WH2) - Woodland of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Eucalyptus wandoo on slopes with woodland of Eucalyptus rudis on valley floors in the humid zone. (Mattiske and Havel, 1998)	Vegetation is described as riparian vegetation, primarily consisting of sedges and Eucalyptus rudis. The application area has been unfenced and grazed for a number of years and is considered to be in degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition. It appears to be connected with roadside vegetation to the north and is surrounded by cleared grazing land on all other sides.	To Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994)	

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The application is to clear up to 0.12 hectares of native vegetation from the northern end of Lot 1955 on Deposited Plan 125187, Dingup, for the purpose of constructing a dam.

The proponent amended the amount of clearing applied for during assessment in order to more accurately reflect the amount of vegetation remaining within the application area.

The application area has been unfenced and grazed for a number of years and is considered to be in degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition. It appears to be connected with roadside vegetation to the north and is surrounded by cleared grazing land on all other sides.

The application area is in an area (10 kilometre radius) that retains approximately 40 per cent native vegetation. The area under application is mapped as Beard vegetation association 3, of which approximately 70 per cent remains in the Jarrah Forest IBRA Bioregion (Shepherd, 2009) and Mattiske vegetation complex Wheatley WH2, of which approximately 68 per cent remains within the State (Shepherd, 2007). Both vegetation types are well represented within the conservation reserve system (Shepherd, 2007; Shepherd, 2009).

The vegetation under application is located on a minor, perennial watercourse that feeds a large dam on the property approximately 150 metres south of the application area. The application area contains riparian vegetation, primarily consisting of sedges and *Eucalyptus rudis*, and therefore the proposed clearing is at variance to Principle (f). The proposed clearing may result in a temporary increase in sedimentation of the watercourse, however it is considered unlikely to cause appreciable deterioration in water quality.

The proposed clearing site is located in Zone B, a high salinity risk part of the Warren River catchment. Considering the small scale, condition and vegetation type of the proposed clearing area, it is considered unlikely to result in increased salinity levels and is unlikely to cause appreciable land degradation.

Considering the vegetation under application is unfenced, grazed and in degraded to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition, it is unlikely to support flora of conservation significance or hold significant habitat values for native fauna. The vegetation is not considered to be representative of conservation significant ecological communities.

Considering the above, the proposed clearing is at variance to Principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

Methodology

References:

DoW, 2011

Keighery, 1994

Shepherd, 2007

Shepherd, 2009

GIS Databases:

- CAWSA Part IIA Clearing Control Catchments (Zones)

- Hydrography, linear

- IBRA Regions

- Manjimup 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007

- NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation

- Pre-European Vegetation

- Sac Bio datasets (November 2011)

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

Comments

The application was for the clearing of up to 0.44 hectares of native vegetation, however the proponent reduced the amount of clearing applied for to 0.12 hectares during assessment, in order to more accurately reflect the amount of vegetation remaining within the application area.

The area under application is within Zone B of the Warren River Water Reserve. The Warren River catchment has been subject to Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947 (CAWS Act) native vegetation clearing controls since December 1978 to prevent salinisation of water resources (DoW, 2011). Department of Water (DoW) records show that there has been no CAWS Act compensation paid to retain native vegetation on the property (DoW, 2011). In the interests of good agricultural and conservation practice, DoW Policy and Guidelines for the 'Granting of Licences to Clear Indigenous Vegetation' provide for the grant of a licence for the construction of a dam in this area subject to the retention of native vegetation on at least 10 per cent of the holding area (DoW, 2011). Aerial imagery suggests that there is approximately 8.1 per cent of vegetation on the property, however the DoW has advised that the proposed clearing would make a negligible difference to the 10 per cent vegetation area determination (DoW, 2011). The DoW (2011) recommends that a local provenance vegetation area twice the size of the clearing area be established around the perimeter of the full storage reservoir level and managed in perpetuity, including fencing to exclude stock, if a permit to clear is granted (DoW, 2011). The proponent has been advised of this recommendation.

The application area is within the Warren River surface water area proclaimed under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914. The applicant has applied for a permit to interfere with beds and banks and for an associated amendment to the existing surface water licence (DoW, 2011). The RIWI Act assessments have been completed and a permit valid for 3 years to build the dam was issued on 3 November 2011 (DoW, 2011). An amended licence to take surface water has been prepared but will remain in draft status pending construction of the dam (DoW, 2011).

The property is zoned rural and the Shire of Manjimup (2011) advised that there are no planning or other matters which would affect the proposal and there is no requirement for a planning application to be submitted for the construction of the dam.

There are no known Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the application area.

Methodology

References:

DoW, 2011

Shire of Manjimup, 2011

GIS databases:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- CAWSA Part IIA Clearing Control Catchments (Zones)
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas
- Town Planning Scheme Zones

4. References

- DoW (2011) CAWS Act Advice and comments on CPS 4664/1- Cobar Nominees- Lot 1955 on Plan 125187, Dingup. Department of Water, Western Australia. DEC Ref 449956
- 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: 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. (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 Manjimup (2011) Advice and comments on CPS 4611/1 - Cobar Nominees- Lot 1955 on Plan 125187, Dingup. DEC Ref A447312; A453393

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)