

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:

CPS 5367/1

Permit Holder:

Wildsight Enterprises Pty Ltd

Duration of Permit:

25 January 2013 to 25 January 2015

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

PART I-CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of constructing a dam.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 2651 on Deposited Plan 203049, KALOORUP (6280).

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.38 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 5367/1.

4. Application

This Permit allows the Permit Holder to authorise persons, including employees, contractors and agents of the Permit Holder, to clear native vegetation for the purposes of this Permit subject to compliance with the conditions of this Permit and approval from the Permit Holder.

5. Type of clearing authorized

This Permit authorises the Permit Holder to clear native vegetation for the activities described in condition 1 of this Permit to the extent that the Permit Holder has the power to carry out works involving clearing for those activities.

M Warnock

A/MANAGER

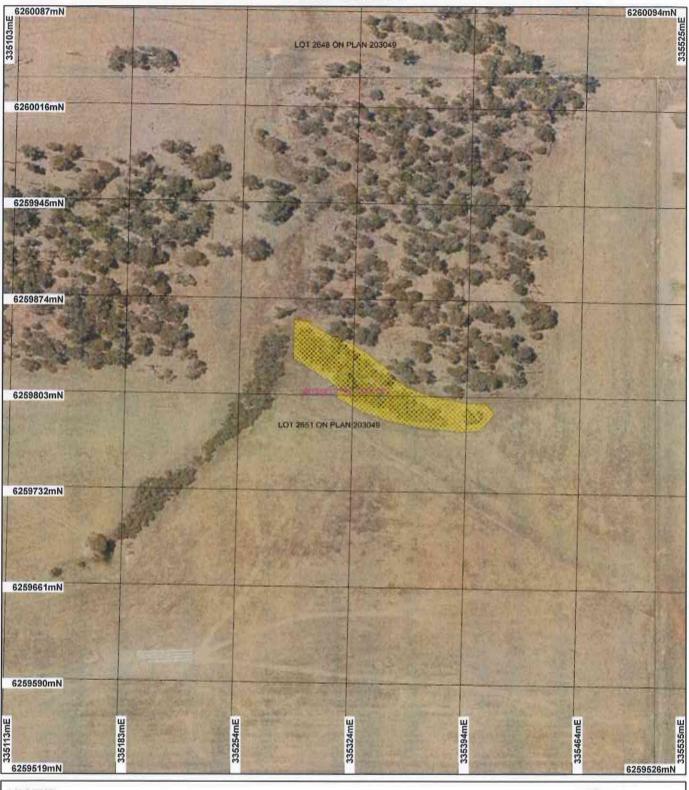
sembul

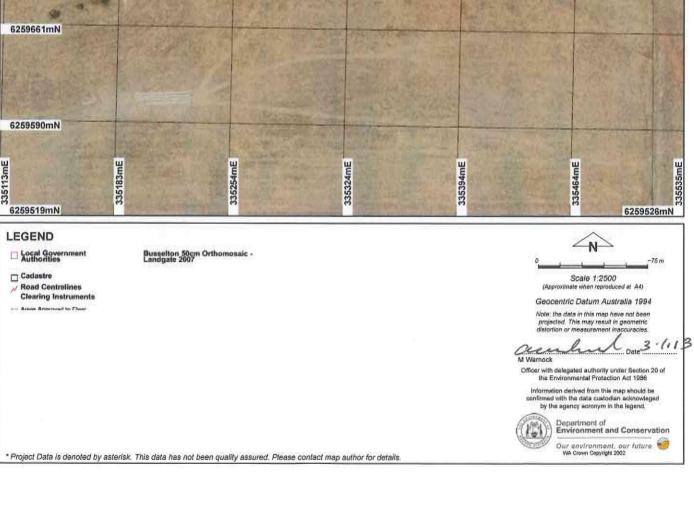
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

3 January 2013

Plan 5367/1









Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:

5367/1

Permit type:

Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Wildsight Enterprises Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property:

0.38

LOT 2651 ON PLAN 203049 (Lot No. 2651 GALE KALOORUP 6280)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

City of Busselton

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

For the purpose of:

Mechanical Removal

Dam construction or maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application:

Decision Date:

3 January 2013

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description

Beard vegetation association:

1181: Medium woodland, jarrah & Eucalyptus haematoxylon (Whicher Ra.) (Shepherd et al., 2001).

Mattiske vegetation complex:

Yw: Woodland of Allocasuarina fraseriana-Nuytsia floribunda-Agonis flexuosa-Banksia attenuata on slopes and open forest of calophylla-Eucalyptus Corymbia patens-Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata on the lower slopes and woodland of Eucalyptus rudis-Melaleuca rhaphiophylla on valley floors in the humid zone. Y: Woodland of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla-Allocasuarina fraseriana-Agonis flexuosas24 and open woodland of Corymbia calophylla on low undulating uplands in the humid zone (Mattiske and Havel 1998).

Clearing Description

The proposed clearing of 0.38 hectares within Lot 2651 on Plan 203049 is for the purpose of constructing a dam.

The vegetation proposed to be cleared is in degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition.

The wetland vegetation under application consists of some Eucalyptus marginata and Corymbia calophylla trees over Taxandria linearifoliea with weedy groundcover and few plants of native sedge species (DEC, 2012).

Vegetation Condition

Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994).

Comment

The vegetation condition and description was determined from a site visit conducted by Department of Environment and Conservation officers in December 2012 (DEC, 2012).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The application to clear up to 0.38 hectares of native vegetation on Lot 2651 on Deposited Plan 203049, Kaloorup is for the purpose of constructing a dam. The area had been predominantly used for cattle grazing, hence it is in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (DEC, 2012). The vegetation consists of some Eucalyptus marginata and Corymbia calophylla trees over Taxandria linearifoliea with weedy groundcover and few plants of native sedge species (DEC, 2012).

There is no rare flora or threatened ecological communities identified in the vicinity of the application and the vegetation to be cleared is well represented in the local area. The application area does not contain suitable habitat for threatened fauna (DEC, 2012). Therefore, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to principles (a), (b), (c), (d) or (e).

The clearing under application crosses one minor perennial watercourse. Vegetation growing in association with this watercourse will be impacted by the proposed clearing. Therefore, the proposed clearing is at variance to principle (f). The proposed clearing may cause some short term water quality issues in terms of localised surface water sedimentation and water logging during clearing, however these issues should be minimal given the small size (and linear nature) of the proposed clearing. Given the small size of the proposed clearing (0.38 hectares) it is not considered likely for it to cause appreciable land degradation. Therefore the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to principles (g) (i), and (j).

A Nature Reserve for the purpose of flora and fauna conservation and Blackwood State forest are located 570m and 1.8km south of the application. Given the distance between the closest conservation reserve and the area proposed to be cleared it is unlikely that it will impact upon the environmental values of these reserves. Therefore, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to Principle (h).

The assessment of the application identified that the clearing is at variance with principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

Methodology

References

- DEC (2012)
- Keighery (1994)

GIS databases:

- Hydrography, linear
- Mattiske Vegetation Complexes
- Pre-European vegetation
- SAC Bio datasets (Accessed 27 November 2012)
- Soils, statewide

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

Comments

The application was for the clearing of up to 0.67 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of constructing a dam. Following discussions with the City of Busselton, the applicant reduced the amount of clearing to 0.38 hectares and hence excluded the clearing of native vegetation on the western creek line (Wildsight Enterprise, 2012).

Department of Water (DoW, 2012) has advised that the applicant has applied for a bed and banks permit and surface water licence however it was determined the proposed works were not within a controlled watercourse and therefore no authorisation is required from DoW. The DoW advised however that modelling of the proposed take of 24, 000 kilolitres per year has identified some risk to the downstream user of the watercourse. If the Department of Water was in a position to licence this take of surface water management options to mitigate the risk to the downstream user such as a flow bypass would have been considered (DoW, 2012).

City of Busselton has granted planning approval to Wildsight Enterprises Pty Ltd for the proposed dam with a environmental management plan condition.

Lot 2651 is zoned under the Bunbury Regional Scheme for agricultural land use.

No submissions from the public have been received.

Methodology

References

- DoW (2012)
- Wildsight Enterprises (2012)

GIS databases:

-Town Planning Scheme Zones

4. References

- DEC (2012) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 5367/1, Lot 2651 on Deposited Plan 203049, Kaloorup. Site inspection undertaken 20 December 2012. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia. DEC Ref. A582833.
- DoW (2012) Advice for CPS 5367/1 Clearing Application 0.38 hectares Lot 2651 on Deposited Plan 203049, Kaloorup. Department of Water, Western Australia. DEC ref A578679.
- 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., Beeston, G.R., and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001), Native Vegetation in Western Australia. Technical Report 249.

 Department of Agriculture Western Australia. South Perth.
- Wildsight Enterprises (2012) Clearing Permit Application and supporting documentation for Lot 2651 Gale Road Kaloorup. DEC Ref. A576497, A576499 and A581189.

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)