



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 5483/1
File Number: DEC2751
Duration of Permit: From 24 May 2013 to 24 May 2015

PERMIT HOLDER

Allan John Deane

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 12 on Deposited Plan 61315, Wandering

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 2.31 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 5483/1.

CONDITIONS

Nil.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M Warnock", written over a horizontal line.

M Warnock
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH





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

2 May 2013

Plan 5483/1



LEGEND

-  Road Centrelines
-  Clearing Instruments
-  Areas Approved to Clear
-  Cadastre

Perth Metropolitan South
East 40cm Orthomosaic -
Landgate 2005



0 ————— 200 m

Scale 1:8554
(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.

M Wamock Date 2/5/13
M Wamock

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.: 5483/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Allan John Deane

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 12 ON PLAN 61315 (WANDERING 6308)
Local Government Area: Shire of Wandering
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
2.31		Mechanical Removal	Hazard reduction or fire control
		Mechanical Removal	Grazing & Pasture
		Mechanical Removal	Horticulture

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 2 May 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
Mapped Beard vegetation association 352: Medium woodland; York gum (Shepherd et al, 2001)	The application is to clear 2.31 hectares for the purpose of orchards, grazing and a fire protection zone.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The condition of the vegetation under application was obtained via aerial imagery and photos submitted with the clearing permit application.
Mattiske vegetation complex Michibin (Mi): Open woodland of Eucalyptus wandoo over Acacia acuminata with some Eucalyptus loxophleba on valley slopes, with low woodland of Allocasuarina huegeliana on or near shallow granite outcrops in arid and perarid zones (Mattiske and Havel, 1998).	The vegetation under application comprises mainly of Wandoo woodland with very little understory and ground cover. The vegetation under application has been impacted upon from grazing and is considered to be in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition.		

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 likely to be at variance to this Principle

The application is to clear 2.31 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of orchards, grazing and a fire protection zone. The application is approximately 8 kilometres northwest of the Wandering town site.

The vegetation under application comprises mainly of Wandoo woodland with very little understory and ground cover with the condition of the vegetation considered to be in a good (Keighery, 1994) condition. The area under application has been impacted upon from historical grazing.

Three priority species have been recorded within 10 kilometres of the area under application. The mapped priority flora has been recorded within different soil and vegetation complexes to the application area. Considering this the area under application is not likely to comprise of suitable habitat for priority flora.

Approximately 79 hectares of vegetation in equal of better condition will remain on the property should a permit be granted. Considering this and that the vegetation under application has been disturbed through grazing it is not likely to contain a high level of biological diversity nor will the proposed clearing significantly impact on biological diversity in the local area.

The application is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology References
- Keighery (1994)
GIS Database:
- Pre- European Vegetation
- SAC Bio datasets (April 2013)

(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**
Several fauna species of conservation significance have been recorded within 10 kilometres of the area under application. This includes the Numbat (*Myrmecobius fasciatus*), Carnaby's Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), Woyli (*Bettongia penicillata* subsp. *Ogilbyi*) and Western Rosella (*Platycercus icterotis* subsp. *Xanthogenys*).

The area under application has very little understory and ground cover and is unlikely to significantly impact of ground dwelling fauna such as the Numbat and Woyli. In addition to this, the trees within the applied area are not considered to mature enough to contain hollows suitable for breeding for Carnaby's cockatoo and the Western Rosella.

Considering the above the application is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology References:
DEC (2007-)
GIS Database:
- Pre- European Vegetation
- SAC Bio datasets (April 2013)

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

Comments **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**
There has been no rare flora species mapped within 10 kilometres of the area under application. The closest known rare flora species to the applied area is approximately 20 kilometres away.

Considering the above the application is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS Database:
- SAC Bio datasets (April 2013)

(d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.

Comments **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**
There has been no Threatened Ecological Communities mapped within 10 kilometres of the area under application.

The application is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS Database:
- SAC Bio datasets (March 2013)

(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 may be at variance to this Principle**
The vegetation under application is represented by Beard Vegetation Association 18 and Mattiske Vegetation Complex Michibin, which have 21 and 26 per cent of their pre-European vegetation remaining.

The national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia has a target to prevent clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 percent of that present pre-1750, below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (Commonwealth of Australia 2001).

The application area is in an extensively cleared landscape with approximately 25 percent of native vegetation remaining within a 10 kilometres radius.

The proposed clearing equates to 1.4 percent of the 166.8 hectare holding. The applicant has placed the clearing site in areas of vegetation that are in a degraded condition, thus the application area does not contain a high level

of biodiversity or significant fauna habitat and is therefore not a significant remnant.

The application may be at variance to this principle.

	Pre-European (ha)	Current Extent (ha)	Remaining (%)	Extent in DEC Managed Lands (%)
IBRA Bioregion*				
Jarrah Forest	4,506,656	2,473,559	54.89	67.94
Shire*				
Shire of Wandering	190,424	117,683	61.80	76.15
Beard Vegetation Association in Bioregion 352	31,606	6,725	21.28	21.74
Mattiske Vegetation Complex Michibin (Mi)	134,546.20	35,477.17	26.37	6.23

Methodology References
Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
GIS Database:
- Pre- European Vegetation

(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**
A non-perennial watercourse has been mapped approximately 500 metres south of the area under application. The clearing, as proposed will not impact on riparian vegetation and is not at variance to this principle.

Methodology - Hydrography, linear
GIS Database:

(g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.

Comments **Proposal is not at variance to this Principle**
The landforms and soils within and around the application area comprises of long and gentle undulating hillslopes and divides with common rock outcrops. Bare rock, stony and yellow, brown and grey sandy duplexes (Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, 2013).

The Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2013) considers that the clearing will not cause land degradation in the form wind erosion, salinity, eutrophication, water erosion or flooding.

The application is not at variance to this principle.

Methodology References
- Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2013)

(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 known conservation areas within 10 kilometres of the area under application.

The application is not at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS Database:
- DEC Tenuer

(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**
A non-perennial watercourse has been mapped approximately 500 metres south of the area under application. The groundwater salinity within the applied area ranges between 3000 - 7000 total dissolved salts mg/L and is considered to be a moderate to high risk.

The Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2013) considers the amount of vegetation to be removed is not expected to have any influence on increasing salinity.

Considering the above the application will not significantly impact or cause deterioration on the quality of surface or groundwater, therefore the application is not at variance to this principle.

- Methodology** **References**
- Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2013)
GIS Database:
- Groundwater Salinity, Statewide
- Hydrography, linear

(j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.

- Comments** **Proposal is not at variance to this Principle**
A non-perennial watercourse has been mapped approximately 500 metres south of the area under application. The clearing as proposed is not likely to significantly increase surface water runoff, which would contribute to stream flows and cause flooding to the local area (Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, 2013).

The application is not at variance to this principle

- Methodology** **References**
- Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2013)
GIS Database:
- Hydrography, linear

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

- Comments**
The application area falls within the Environmental Protection Authority Position Statement No.2 which acknowledges the significant amount of clearing of native vegetation that has already occurred on agricultural land, which has led to the reduction in biodiversity and increased land salinisation. A further reduction in native vegetation through clearing for agriculture cannot be supported and all existing remnant native vegetation should be protected from passive clearing.
- Two previous applications have been granted over the holding. CPS 1807/1, 0.5 hectares granted for the purpose of soil testing on Lot 7114 and CPS 3714/1, 0.6 hectares granted for the purpose to establish a dam on Lot 10039.

Methodology

4. References

Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation (2013). Advice received for Clearing Permit Application CPS 5483/1 (DEC Ref:A Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
EPA (2000) Environmental protection of native vegetation in Western Australia. Clearing of native vegetation, with particular reference to the agricultural area. Position Statement No. 2. December 2000. Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia.
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.
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.

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)