



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: CPS 6839/1

Duration of Permit: From 25 June 2016 to 25 June 2018

PERMIT HOLDER

Kerygma Pty Ltd

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

LOT 2656 ON DEPOSITED PLAN 153480, YALLINGUP

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.325 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 6839/1.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Weighell".

Simon Weighell
A/ MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT REGULATION





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

26 May 2016

Plan 6839/1



Legend

-  Areas approved to clear
 -  Roads
 -  LGA
 -  Cadastre
- Virtual Mosaic (LGATE-V001)



1:3,684

MGA 94

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

S. Weighell
 SIMON WEIGHELL Date 26/5/16

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



GOVERNMENT OF
 WESTERN AUSTRALIA



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6839/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Kerygma Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 2656 ON DEPOSITED PLAN 153480, YALLINGUP
Colloquial name:
Local Government Authority: BUSSELTON, CITY OF
DER Region: Greater Swan
DPaW District: BLACKWOOD
LCDC: YALLINGUP
Localities: YALLINGUP

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit: Granted

Application:

Decision Date: 26 May 2016

Reasons for Decision: The clearing application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with s51O of the Environmental Protection Act 1986, and has concluded that the proposed clearing is at variance to Principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining clearing principles.

Through assessment it has been determined that the proposed clearing is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. State policies and other relevant policies have also been taken into consideration in the decision to grant a clearing permit.

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 3: Medium forest; jarrah-marri (Shepherd et al. 2001). Mattiske vegetation complex Cw2: Woodland of <i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> subsp. <i>marginata</i> - <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> on slopes and low woodland of <i>Melaleuca preissiana</i> -24 <i>Banksia littoralis</i> on depressions in perhumid and humid zones (Mattiske and Havel, 1998).	The application is to clear 0.325 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 2656 on Deposited Plan 153480, Yallingup, for the purpose of expanding an existing dam.	Very Good; Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994).	The vegetation under application is a low closed forest of <i>Melaleuca preissiana</i> over <i>Taxandria linearifolia</i> over dense sedges in a very good (Keighery, 1994) condition (DER, 2016). Eucalyptus patens are present on the very edge of the application area in the south east. The application area is very densely vegetated (DER, 2016). The structure and condition of the vegetation under application was obtained via a site inspection undertaken by the Department of Environment Regulation on 9 February 2016 (DER, 2016).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

(a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.

Comments

Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The application is to clear 0.325 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 2656 on Deposited Plan 153480, Yallingup, for the purpose of expanding an existing dam.

The vegetation under application was identified as a low closed forest of *Melaleuca preissiana* over *Taxandria linearifolia* over dense sedges with *Eucalyptus patens* present on the edge of the application area in the south east (DER, 2016). The vegetation under application is in a very good (Keighery, 1994) condition (DER, 2016).

Twelve priority flora species have been recorded within five kilometres of the application area with the nearest being P4 species *Gahnia sclerioides* mapped approximately 3.3 kilometres from the applied area. Based on the vegetation present the application area is likely to provide habitat for priority flora species *Cyathochaeta teretifolia* (P3), *Acacia inops* (P3) and *Gahnia sclerioides* (P4) (Parks and Wildlife, 2015).

Priority 3 species are species that are known from several locations, and the species do not appear to be under imminent threat (Jones, 2015). Priority 4 species are species that have been adequately surveyed, or for which significant knowledge is available and are considered not currently threatened (Jones, 2015). Considering this and the relatively small area to be cleared, should the application area contain priority 3 or 4 flora species it is unlikely that the proposed clearing will impact on the conservation statuses of these species.

One priority ecological community (PEC) has been identified within five kilometres of the area under application. The PEC is described as West Whicher Scarp *Banksia attenuata* woodland (Swan Coastal Plain centred woodlands of grey/white sands community B2). A site inspection of the application area did not identify this vegetation type (DER, 2016).

Eight fauna species listed as rare or likely to become extinct under the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 have been recorded within the local area (five kilometre radius). However, given the size of the proposed clearing area it is unlikely to contain significant fauna habitat.

Given the above, the application area is unlikely to comprise of a high level of biological diversity.

The proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology

References:

- DER (2016)
- Jones (2015)
- Keighery (1994)
- Parks and Wildlife (2015a)

GIS Database:

- SAC Bio Datasets - accessed May 2016

(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

Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

Eight fauna species listed as rare or likely to become extinct under the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 have been recorded within the local area (five kilometre radius). This includes, forest red-tailed black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii subsp. naso*), Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*), Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), Cape Leeuwin freshwater snail (*Austroassiminea lethra*), southern brush-tailed phascogale (*Phascogale tapoatafa subsp. tapoatafa*), western ringtail possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*), chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroyi*) and Dunsborough burrowing crayfish (*Engaewa reducta*) (Parks and Wildlife, 2007-).

A site inspection of the area under application identified a dead tree that contained a hollow (DER, 2016). However there was no evidence of black cockatoos utilising the hollow and given the size of the hollow it is unlikely to be suitable for black cockatoos to breed in (DER, 2016).

While the vegetation under application may provide suitable habitat for a range of indigenous fauna, it is unlikely the proposed clearing will have any significant impact on fauna habitat given the relatively small size of the clearing area.

Given the above the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology

References:

- DER (2016)
- Parks and Wildlife (2007-)

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

Comments Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

Two rare flora species have been recorded within the local area (five kilometre radius), with the closest being approximately 3.5 kilometres from the application area and the other approximately 4.7 kilometres away.

The recorded rare flora species have been mapped within a different soil and vegetation type to the application area and it is unlikely the proposed clearing will impact on these species.

The proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS Database:
- SAC Bio Datasets - accessed May 2016

(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 Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

There have been no threatened ecological communities recorded within five kilometres of the area under application.

Considering this, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS Database:
- SAC Bio Datasets - accessed May 2016

(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 Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The vegetation under application is mapped as Beard vegetation association 3 which has 38.5 per cent of its pre-European vegetation remaining within the Jarrah Forest Interim Bioregion Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2014). The vegetation under application is also mapped as Mattiske vegetation complex Cw2 of which there is 20 per cent of its pre-European extent remaining (Parks and Wildlife, 2015b).

The national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia has a target to prevent clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 per cent of that present pre-1750, below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001). Vegetation complex Cw2 is below this level (Parks and Wildlife, 2015b), however the proposed clearing of 0.325 hectares will only reduce the amount of vegetation complex Cw2 remaining by 0.005 per cent. The proposed clearing of 0.325 percent will not significantly impact on vegetation complex Cw2.

Aerial imagery indicates the local area (five kilometre radius) is approximately 40 per cent vegetated. Considering this and the relatively small amount of proposed clearing the vegetation under application is not considered to be significant as a remnant in an extensively cleared landscape.

The proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

	Pre-European	Current Extent	Remaining	Extent in Parks and Wildlife Managed Lands
	(ha)	(ha)	(%)	(%)
IBRA Bioregion*				
Jarrah Forest	4,506,660	2,425,551	54	69
Shire*				
City of Busselton	146,478	60,212	41	69
Beard Vegetation Association in Bioregion*				
3	2,390,591	1,613,657	67	81
Mattiske Vegetation Complex **				
Cw2	6,654	1,350	20	4

Methodology References:
- Commonwealth of Australia (2001)
- Government of Western Australia (2014)*
- Parks and Wildlife (2015b)**

GIS Databases:
-NLWRA, Current Extent of Vegetation Remaining

(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 Proposed clearing is at variance to this Principle

There is an existing dam on the property, constructed on a minor perennial watercourse that traverses the application area. A site inspection of the application area identified vegetation associated with the existing dam and minor watercourse that will be impacted upon from the proposed clearing (DER, 2016).

Vegetation growing in association with a watercourse will be impacted upon by the proposed clearing, therefore the application is at variance to this principle. Given the relatively small size of the proposed clearing, it is unlikely that the removal of native vegetation as proposed will significantly impact upon the watercourse.

Methodology References:
- DER (2016)

GIS Databases:
- Hydrography, linear

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

Comments Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The soils within the applied area are described as gently undulating terrain of broad shallow valleys and low ridges with moderate amounts of laterite and lateritic (ironstone) gravel, with chief soils of the broad shallow valleys being acid grey earths sometimes containing ironstone gravels (Northcote et al 1960 - 1968).

Groundwater salinity (total dissolved solids) has been measured between 1000-3000 milligrams per litre which is considered to be low to moderately saline. It is unlikely the removal of 0.325 hectares of native vegetation will result in a significant rise in groundwater levels, therefore land degradation in the form of salinity is not likely to occur.

Given the soils and size of the proposed clearing, the proposed clearing is not likely to cause land degradation in the form of wind or water erosion.

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

Methodology References:
- Northcote et al. (1960-68)

GIS Databases:
- Hydrology, linear

(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 Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle

The closest conservation area to the application area is the Yelverton National Park located approximately 3.1 kilometres to the south.

The area between the National Park and application area is separated by patches of remnant vegetation, numerous roads and cleared land. Considering this, along with the distance to the National Park and the size of the proposed clearing, the conservation values of the National Park will not be impacted upon.

The proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS Databases:
- Parks and Wildlife tenure

(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 Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

There is an existing dam on the property, constructed on a minor perennial watercourse that traverses the application area. A site inspection of the area under application identified vegetation associated with the existing dam and minor watercourse that will be impacted upon from the proposed clearing (DER, 2016). The clearing of riparian and buffering vegetation increases the risk of stream turbidity due to soil erosion. Considering the purpose of clearing is to expand an existing dam located approximately 300 metres from the mapped origin of the watercourse, and upstream areas retain riparian vegetation, turbidity is likely to be short term and confined to the construction period.

Groundwater salinity (total dissolved solids) has been measured between 1000-3000 milligrams per litre. Given the relatively small amount of proposed clearing it is unlikely the proposed clearing will significantly impact on the groundwater quality in the area.

The proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology References:
- DER (2016)

GIS Databases:
- Groundwater salinity
- 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 **Proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

There is an existing dam on the property, constructed on a minor perennial watercourse that traverses the application area. The proposed clearing will likely result in a localised increase in surface water runoff however any subsequent flooding is likely to be minor and not beyond the extent of the enlarged dam.

The proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS Databases:
- Hydrology, linear

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments The area under application is located within the Busselton-Capel Groundwater Area and the Cape to Cape North Surface Water Area which are areas proclaimed under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914.

The applicant has submitted an application to interfere with bed and banks and an application to take surface water with the Department of Water's (DoW), Busselton Office. DER advised the applicant via registered post on the 18 February 2016 that a decision on the application would be deferred until the necessary approvals from DoW had been obtained. In an email dated 16 May 2016 the applicant provided a letter from the DoW outlining that DoW undertakes to grant a licence 'to take' surface water under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914 (RIWI Act), and a permit to 'interfere with bed and banks' under the RIWI Act. The letter of undertaking is valid until 31 July 2016.

No registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance occur within the application area.

No public submissions have been received.

Methodology

4. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- DER (2016) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 6839/1. Site inspection undertaken 9 February 2016. Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia (DER Ref:A1104702).
- Government of Western Australia (2014) 2014 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of June 2014. WA Department of Parks and Wildlife, Perth.
- Jones, A. (2015) Threatened and Priority Flora List, 11 November 2015. Department of Parks and Wildlife: Kensington, WA.
- 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.
- Northcote, K. H. with Beckmann G G, Bettenay E., Churchward H. M., van Dijk D. C., Dimmock G. M., Hubble G. D., Isbell R. F., McArthur W. M., Murtha G. G., Nicolls K. D., Paton T. R., Thompson C. H., Webb A. A. and Wright M. J. (1960-68): 'Atlas of Australian Soils, Sheets 1 to 10, with explanatory data'. CSIRO and Melbourne University Press: Melbourne.
- Parks and Wildlife (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed May 2016
- Parks and Wildlife (2015a) Regional advice received in relation to Clearing Permit Application CPS 6839/1 - Kerygma Pty Ltd (DER Ref: A1050355).
- Parks and Wildlife (2015b) 2015 South West Forest and Swan Coastal Plain Vegetation Complex Statistics: a report prepared for the Department of Environment Regulation. Current as of March 2015. Department of Parks and Wildlife, Perth, 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.