



## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 77/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: **MR Scott Hedley**  
Postal address: 8 O'Neile Pde Redcliffe WA 6104  
Contacts: Phone: 92779023  
Fax: 92779023  
E-mail:

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 11090 ON PLAN 203132  
Local Government Area: Shire of Nannup  
Colloquial name:

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### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
32		Cutting	Grazing & Pasture

## 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 999: Medium Woodland; Marri	The area has been logged for Jarrah in the past but is in very good condition with a good mix and density of upper storey and understorey species. There were also a couple of bare areas that had very little understorey that had been excavated for gravel or road base in the past.	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	Site visit undertaken by Davis Rogers of the Department of Agriculture, Waroona and the proponent (12th July 2004). No site visit was undertaken by Department of Environment (DoE) representatives.
Heddle veg types - Balingup & Darling Scarp			
Mattiske veg type - Bevan 1			

## 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**  
No information was provided to enable an in depth assessment against this Principle.

#### Methodology

### (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**  
Species known to occur in the local area (10km radius):  
S1 - Chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroii*).  
S1 - Baudin's Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*) possible habitat.  
P3 - Forest Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*).  
P4 - Western False Pipistrelle (*Falisterellus mackenziei*).  
P4 - Western Brush Wallaby (*Macropus irma*).

There is a low probability of the proposed clearing to be at variance with Principle (b) based on the limited data available.

Methodology CALM Threatened and Priority Fauna database; CALM zoologists/ Region.

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

**Comments Proposal may be at variance to this Principle**

Two specimens of Declared Rare Flora have been identified within the local area (10km radius). They include:  
Caladenia harringtoniae  
Dryandra squarrosa subsp. argillacea  
(specimens appear to be collected from different broad vegetation types to the one proposed to be cleared).

DEFL: Seven known Priority Flora populations were found in the local area (10km radius): four populations of P3 and three populations of P4 flora.

WAHerb: One specimen of P1, fourteen specimens of P3 and three specimens of P4 flora known to occur within the local area.

There is a low to medium probability of the proposed clearing to be at variance with Principle (c).

**Methodology** CALM Declared Rare and Priority databases (DEFL); CALM Herbarium Specimen Collection Database (WAHerb); CALM's Threatened Flora Data Management System (DEFL).

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**(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**

Based on the available data, there is a low probability of the proposed clearing to be at variance with this Principle.

**Methodology** CALM Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) Database.

**(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 at variance to this Principle**

Beard vegetation unit 999 has been extensively cleared, and only 11.8% of the pre-European extent remains.

The property has approximately 36.5 hectares (72.9%) of native vegetation remaining, and if implemented, this clearing proposal will leave 12.3% remaining.

	Pre-European area (ha)	Current extent (ha)	Remaining %*	Conservation status**	Reserves/CALM-managed land, % veg
IBRA Bioregion - Jarrah Forest	4 503 156***	2 624 301	58.3	Least Concern	
Shire- Nannup	293 198	275 524	94	Least Concern	
Beard veg types					
999	275 380	32 451	11.8	Vulnerable	8.1
3	3 046 385	2 197 837	72.1	Least Concern	67.9
Heddle veg types					
Balingup	No information available				
Darling Scarp	49 338	18 227	36.94	Depleted	
Mattiske veg types					
Bevan 1	767 844	657 120	85.6	Least concern	
Grimwade	220 421	152 292	69.1	Least concern	2.4

\* (Shepherd et al. 2001)

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

\*\*\* Area within the Intensive Landuse Zone

**Methodology** Mapping based on GIS; Department of Natural Resources and Environment 2002; EPA 2000; Heddle et al. 1980; Hopkins et al. 2001; Mattiske Consulting 1998; Shepherd et al. 2001.

**(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 may be at variance to this Principle**

There are two minor perennial watercourses (located in the north-east and south-western corners of the property). Any clearing should not be permitted within at 30 m buffer of the two watercourses.

**Methodology** DoE Hydrography Linear databases.

**(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**

The property has some areas that are quite steep (slopes 10-30%) and would be at risk of water erosion. However, Mr Hedley plans on leaving banks of vegetation along the contour in these areas in order to mitigate this problem. These areas should be fenced to maintain ground cover and avoid this potential problem.

Waterlogging will not be an issue on the property. Much of the surrounding area is utilised for forestry. As a result of this and the geology of the area being well incised and drained, waterlogging is unlikely to increase significantly off site as a result of this clearing. The loamy gravels on this property have a high nutrient retention potential, and leaching of nutrients is not expected.

There is a low risk that the proposed clearing will contribute to increased salinity. Because of historically higher rainfall and incised geology this area has a low risk of developing salinity.

Unless the property is poorly managed and overgrazed, there is a low risk of wind erosion.

**Methodology** DAWA advice (2004), DOLA Salinity Risk Database.

**(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 may be at variance to this Principle**

The notified area has four State forest areas within its vicinity: the Ellis Creek (~1km east of the property and is linked to this forest via vegetation on private property), North Donnelly, Milyeannup and Jarrahwood State Forests.

The notified area contributes as a native vegetation corridor to nearby CALM managed State Forest areas within surrounding areas dominated by tree plantations.

**Methodology** CALM Managed Lands and Waters Database; Janis 1997; Shepard 2001.

**(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 within the Hardy Estuary Blackwood River, Hydrographic Catchment.

The loamy gravels on this property have a high nutrient retention potential, and leaching of nutrients is not expected.

Groundwater salinities (Collie Hydromap in WRC Report HM 7) are 1000 to 3000 mg/L and indicate some salt storage in the laterite profile that could be mobilised by clearing but the increase is likely to be mitigated by the high rainfall.

**Methodology** DAWA advice (2004); DoE Hydrographic Catchments Database; Collie 1:250 000 Hydrogeological Series Sheet SI 50-6 is contained in WRC Report HM 7.

**(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**

Due to its scale, flooding impacts are unlikely to occur as a result of the proposed clearing.

**Methodology**

**(k) Planning instrument or other matter.**

**Comments**

No comment made.

**Methodology**

#### 4. Assessor's recommendations

The recommendations of the Department of Environment to the CEO of the Department should be made consistent with the outcomes of the assessment by each of the agencies. Any conditions on the approval should also be outlined. These may be developed in consultation with such other agencies as required.

Purpose	Method	Applied area (ha)/ trees	Decision	Comment / recommendation
Grazing & Pasture	Cutting	32	<b>Grant</b>	Recommend that the permit is granted.  Advice to be given: - implementation of adequate erosion control measures as recommended by the Department of Agriculture.

#### 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.
- 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.
- Heddl, E. M., Loneragan, O. W., and Havel, J. J. (1980) Vegetation Complexes of the Darling System, Western Australia. In Department of Conservation and Environment, Atlas of Natural Resources, Darling System, Western Australia.
- 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.
- JANIS Forests Criteria (1997) Nationally agreed criteria for the establishment of a comprehensive, Adequate and Representative reserve System for Forests in Australia. A report by the Joint ANZECC/MCFFA National Forest Policy Statement Implementation Sub-committee. Regional Forests Agreement process. Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra.
- 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 Consulting (1998) Mapping of vegetation complexes in the South West forest region of Western Australia, CALM.
- 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.