



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 8261/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: NORTHAMPTON, SHIRE OF
Application received date: 20 November 2018

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 1 ON PLAN 409221, YALLABATHARRA
Local Government Authority: NORTHAMPTON, SHIRE OF
Localities: YALLABATHARRA

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.1	0	Mechanical Removal	Building or structure

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted

Decision Date: 26 March 2019

Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with section 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). It has been concluded that the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

The proposed clearing may increase the risk of weeds and dieback spreading into adjacent vegetated areas. A weed and dieback management condition has been placed on the permit to mitigate the impact of spreading weeds and dieback into adjacent vegetation.

In determining to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions, the Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is unlikely to lead to any unacceptable risk to the environment.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description The applicant proposes to clear 0.1 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 1 on Plan 409221, Yallabatharra, for the purpose of building a carpark.

Vegetation Description Mapped Beard vegetation association 371 is described as Low forest Acacia, Rottnest pine, coastal moort or mixed tropical forest *Acacia rostellifera*, *Callitris preissii*, *Eucalyptus lehmannii*, *E. cornut* (Shepherd et al., 2001)

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

To

Good; Vegetation structure is significantly altered by very obvious signs of multiple disturbance. Retains basic vegetation structure or ability to regenerate to it (Keighery, 1994)

Soil type Grey System - River beds, terraces and alluvial flats, includes dissected margins of relic alluvial plains

Comments The local area considered in the assessment of this application is defined as a 10 kilometre radius measured from the centre of the application area.

The vegetation condition was determined based on available aerial imagery.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

The applicant proposes to clear 0.1 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 1 on Plan 409221, Yallabatharra, for the purpose of building a carpark. The clearing is a part of a larger project that aims to reduce the disturbance caused by uncontrolled access. Note that the project also includes a viewing platform, however the clearing associated with that will be undertaken in accordance with an exemption.

Six threatened and 26 priority flora species have been recorded within the local area. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) (2019) inspected the application area and did not observe any Threatened or Priority flora. In addition, DBCA (2019) advised that the proposed clearing permit application and the vegetation present is not likely to be suitable habitat for Threatened flora. Given this, the application area is not likely to contain any Threatened or priority flora species.

According to available databases, six threatened, three priority, one other specially protected and 26 protected under international agreement fauna species have been recorded within the local area (DBCA, 2007-). Due to the high mobility of the majority of these species, the small size of the application area and the vegetation being partly degraded, it is unlikely that these species are dependent on the application area, and therefore the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact their habitat.

According to available databases, no threatened ecological community (TEC) has been recorded in the local area. Given this, the application area is not likely to comprise or be necessary for the maintenance of a TEC.

The local area retains more than 30 per cent of its pre-European vegetation extent, and noting the relatively small size of the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to be considered a significant remnant within an extensively cleared area.

The closest wetland or watercourse to the application area is the Pink Lake located approximately 200 metres west of the application area.

Noting the extent of the proposed clearing and the condition of the vegetation within the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to exacerbate or contribute to land degradation, deteriorate the quality of surface or ground water, or cause or exacerbate flooding.

The closest conservation reserve to the application area is Utcha Well Nature Reserve which occurs approximately 13 kilometre northwest of the application area. Given the distance to the conservation area, and that there are no ecological linkage between this conservation area and the application area, it is unlikely that the proposed clearing will impact on the environmental values of this conservation area.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing Principles.

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

No Aboriginal sites of significance have been mapped within the application area.

The clearing permit application was advertised on DWER's website on 15 January 2019 with a 14 day submission period. No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

The application area is zone general rural under the town planning scheme.

4. References

- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed 14 February 2019.
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA). (22 March 2019) Regional advice for Clearing Permit Application CPS 8261/1. Received on 22 March 2019 (DWER Ref: A1774576).
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, 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.