TECHNICAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Our Ref:

CD/149630/18

Enquiries:

Megan Stone

26 11 2018

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation Locked Bag 33 Cloisters Square PERTH WA 6850 7 Orchard Avenue Armadale Western Australia 6112 Locked Bag 2 Armadale Western Australia 6992 T: (08) 9394 5000 F: (08) 9394 5184 info@armadale.wa.gov.au

www.armadale.wa.gov.au

ABN: 798 6326 9538

CITY OF Armadale

Dear Sir/Madam

CLEARING PERMIT APPLICATION - CANNING MILLS ROAD UPGRADE

The City of Armadale (the City) is proposing to undertake road upgrade works on Canning Mills Road, Kelmscott, to facilitate the construction of a Blister Island Median. The need for a Blister Island Median has been primarily driven by local residents who have made complaints about vehicles travelling at excessive speeds down Canning Mills Road. The City has investigated these complaints. Data collected from traffic count meters at the site confirmed resident concerns, identifying vehicles frequently travelling at speeds greater than the sign posted speed limit of 50 kilometres hour.

A total of 0.01 ha of clearing is proposed to be undertaken to facilitate the road upgrade works (Attachment 1). Potential environmental impacts as a result of the proposed clearing have been considered and summarised below.

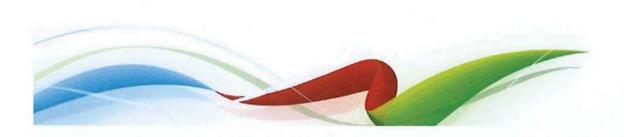
The proposed clearing is not considered likely to have a significant impact on environmental values.

Environmental Values

Flora and Vegetation

The proposed clearing area has been previously cleared, with limited native tree/shrub species remaining (Plates 1 & 2). The remaining vegetation comprises Marri, over *Acacia* species, over grassy weeds, considered to be in Good to Completely Degraded condition, based on the Keighery (1994) Vegetation Condition Scale.

There are no Commonwealth or State Listed Threatened or Priority flora, or Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities known to occur within the proposed clearing area.



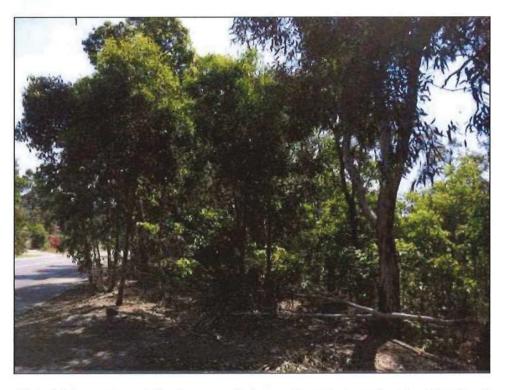


Plate 1: The proposed clearing area, facing north east along Canning Mills Road



Plate 2: The proposed clearing area facing south west along Canning Mills Road

Fauna

Potential Black Cockatoo breeding trees are those that have a suitable nest hollow, or are of a suitable diameter at breast height (DBH) to develop a nest hollow. Suitable DBH is >500 mm for most Eucalypts, >300 mm for salmon gum and wandoo. None of the trees within the proposed clearing area meet the criteria for potential breeding trees. Furthermore, the trees are not considered mature enough or tall enough to be considered suitable for roosting.

The proposed clearing area contains Marri trees, and therefore Black Cockatoo foraging habitat. The proposed clearing of 0.01 ha of Black Cockatoo foraging habitat is highly unlikely to have a significant impact on any Black Cockatoo populations.

The site may provide habitat to local fauna such as Quenda and reptiles, however the proposed clearing area is adjacent to Lloyd Hughes Park, which contains better quality fauna habitat. Therefore it is highly unlikely the minimal clearing proposed to be undertaken at the site will significantly impact local fauna populations. Furthermore, the construction of a blister island will reduce the speed of vehicles travelling along Canning Mills Road and therefore give fauna crossing the road a greater chance of survival.

Wetlands and Watercourses

There are no Commonwealth or State listed wetlands of conservation value within the proposed clearing area, and no watercourses traverse the proposed clearing area.

A tributary of the Canning River is located 80 m from the proposed clearing area, and the Canning River itself is located 560 m downhill from the site. The proposed clearing is minimal, and neither of these watercourses will be directly impacted by the proposed clearing. Furthermore, detailed design will consider management of water run-off.

Conservation Reserves

Lloyd Hughes Park, is adjacent to the proposed clearing area, however all clearing will be contained within the road reserve, ensuring that the conservation area is not negatively impacted by the clearing.

Environmentally Sensitive Areas

There are no environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs) within or adjacent to the proposed clearing area. The nearest ESA is located approximately 3 km north west of the proposed clearing area and will not be impacted by clearing.

Conclusion

Given the above, the City is of the view that the proposed clearing will not be at variance to any of the ten clearing principles, as summarised in Attachment 2.

Please find the Clearing Permit Application Form enclosed (Attachment 3). If you have any further queries in regard to the above, please contact the City's Environment Officer on 9394 5862.

Yours faithfully,

MATERIO

Megan Stone

Environment Officer

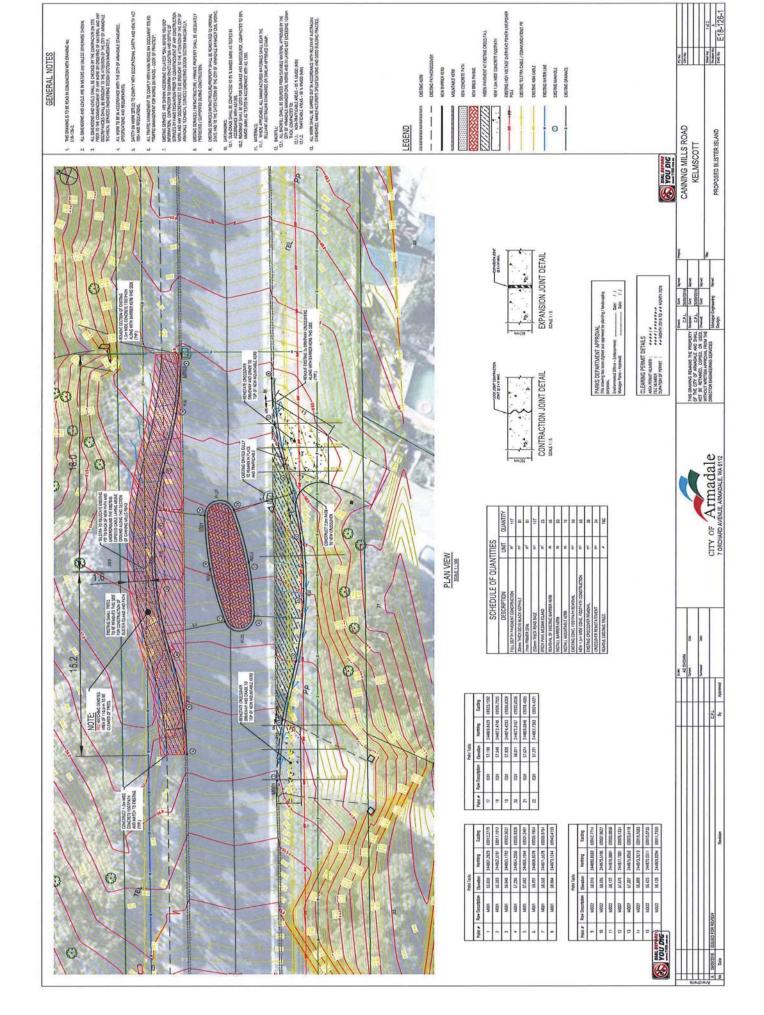
Enclosures:

Attachment 1: Proposed design

Attachment 2: Assessment against the ten clearing principles

Attachment 2: Clearing Permit Application Form

Attachment 1: Proposed design



Attachment 2: Assessment against the Ten Clearing Principles

Principle Number	Principle Description	Assessment	Outcome
(a)	Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.	The proposed clearing area has been historically cleared for the construction and maintenance of Canning Mills Road. As a result there is limited biodiversity within the proposed clearing area.	The proposal is not at variance with Principle A.
(b)	Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.	There is no Black Cockatoo potential breeding or roosting habitat within the proposed clearing area. The proposed clearing area contains 0.01 ha of potential Black Cockatoo foraging habitat. The proposed clearing at the site is minimal, and the site is adjacent to Lloyd Hughes, which provides better quality habitat, and refuge to local fauna, therefore the proposed clearing is unlikely to have a significant impact on fauna.	The proposal is unlikely to be at variance with Principle B.
(c)	Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of rare flora.	There are no known Threatened or Priority flora within or adjacent to the proposed clearing area.	The proposal is not at variance with Principle C.
(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.	There are no known Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities within or adjacent to the proposed clearing area.	The proposal is not at variance with Principle D.
(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.	The vegetation within the proposed clearing area has been historically cleared, and comprises low diversity. The historical native vegetation complex mapped within the proposed clearing area is the Darling Scarp Complex, of which 40.72% of the Pre-european extent remains (source Government of Western Australia. [2018]. 2017 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of October 2017).	The proposal is not at variance with Principle E.
(f)	Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.	There are no wetlands or watercourses within or adjacent to the proposed clearing area.	The proposal is unlikely to be variance with Principle F.
(g)	Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.	A total of 0.01 ha of historically cleared vegetation is proposed to be cleared. Therefore, the land proposed to be cleared is minimal, and already considered to be degraded. The cleared area will be replaced with	The proposal is not at variance with Principle G.

Principle Number	Principle Description	Assessment	Outcome
		hard road surface; and battering, therefore the proposed clearing will not result in land degradation beyond the proposed clearing area.	
(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.	The proposed clearing area is adjacent to Lloyd Hughes Park. Clearing will consider the adjacent conservation reserve to ensure that impacts are contained within the proposed clearing area.	The proposal is not at variance with Principle H.
(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.	There are no wetlands or natural watercourses within the proposed clearing area; however there is an ephemeral stream 80 m north of the proposed clearing area and the Canning River approximately 500 m downhill from the proposed clearing area. Detailed design will consider water runoff management.	The proposal is not at variance with Principle I.
		The groundwater salinity is low. Given the small scale of the proposed clearing, and the fact that the majority of the proposed clearing area has been historically cleared, the proposed clearing is unlikely to result in deterioration of underground water quality.	
(j)	Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.	The proposed clearing area has been historically cleared. Given the minimal proposed clearing area, clearing is not considered likely to cause, or exacerbate the intensity of flooding.	The proposal is not at variance with Principle J.
		The cleared area will be replaced with hard road base.	
		Any potential for localised flooding will be managed through design.	