



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 843/1

Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Kojonup

1.3. Property details

Property:

ROAD RESERVE (CHERRY TREE POOL 6395)
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ROAD RESERVE (CHERRY TREE POOL 6395)
KOJONUP LOCATION 6406 (CHERRY TREE POOL 6395)
LOT 6404 ON PLAN 224037 (CHERRY TREE POOL 6395)
LOT 6405 ON PLAN 224037 (CHERRY TREE POOL 6395)
ROAD RESERVE (CHERRY TREE POOL 6395)
LOT 6407 ON PLAN 224037 (CHERRY TREE POOL 6395)
ROAD RESERVE (KOJONUP 6395)
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ROAD RESERVE (KOJONUP 6395)
ROAD RESERVE (KOJONUP 6395)
ROAD RESERVE (BROOMEHILL WEST 6318)
ROAD RESERVE (LUMEAH 6395)
ROAD RESERVE (LUMEAH 6395)
ROAD RESERVE (BROOMEHILL WEST 6318)
ROAD RESERVE (BROOMEHILL WEST 6318)
ROAD RESERVE (LUMEAH 6395)
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ROAD RESERVE (LUMEAH 6395)
ROAD RESERVE (LUMEAH 6395)
ROAD RESERVE (LUMEAH 6395)
LOT 9391 ON PLAN 30236 (Lot No. 9391 TAMBELLUP WEST LUMEAH 6395)
LOT 9392 ON PLAN 30236 (Lot No. 9392 TAMBELLUP WEST LUMEAH 6395)
Shire Of Kojonup

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

Mechanical Removal

Mechanical Removal

Mechanical Removal

For the purpose of:

Road construction or maintenance

Road construction or maintenance

Road construction or maintenance

2.1. Existing environment and information

Vegetation Description	Clearing Description	Vegetation Condition	Comment
Beard Vegetation Association 4 - Medium woodland; marri & wandoo	The areas under application consist of small patches of vegetation for intersection upgrades and one area of road widening, vegetation associated with the road works range from Completely Degraded to Very Good condition.	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	Good condition was selected to represent the middle range between the conditions associated with road side vegetation within the Shire. The vegetation was sited during a site visit undertaken by DEC Staff in 2005.
Beard Vegetation Association 968 - Medium woodland; jarrah, marri & wandoo	The areas under application consist of small patches of vegetation for gravel extraction, vegetation associated with the extraction sites is in excellent condition	Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation was sited during a site visit undertaken by DEC Staff in 2005

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

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

Comments	Response
<p>Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle</p> <p>The proposed clearing is located directly next to existing roads and pasture paddocks, and in some cases gravel pits (Site Visit, 2005). The vegetation ranges from completely degraded to very good within road reserves and is considered excellent within proposed gravel extraction sites (Keighery, 1994).</p> <p>It is unlikely the vegetation associated with proposed road widening and intersection upgrades will comprise a high level of biological diversity due to increased disturbance and weed invasion from neighbouring roads and pasture paddocks.</p> <p>Gravel extraction sites may contain high biological diversity and therefore conditions have been placed on the permit to ensure revegetation of gravel extraction sites is undertaken and fauna surveys and translocation of fauna is undertaken where required.</p>	

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(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

The proposed clearing is located directly next to existing roads and pasture paddocks, and in some cases gravel pits (Site Visit, 2005). The vegetation ranges from completely degraded to very good within road reserves and is considered excellent within proposed gravel extraction sites (Keighery, 1994). Therefore the areas proposed to be are not likely to be necessary for the maintenance of significant habitat for fauna.

Fauna management conditions will be placed on the permit resulting in a requirement to undertake a fauna survey and translocation where required

Methodology Keighery, 1994
Site Visit, 2005

(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 are no mapped declared rare flora (DRF) within 1km of all proposed areas to be cleared and the closest DRF and priority flora do not have a vegetated link to the area under application. Additionally the areas are located directly next to existing roads and pasture paddocks, and in some cases gravel pits (Site Visit, 2005). Therefore the areas under application are not likely to include or be necessary for the continued existence of rare flora.

Methodology Site Visit, 2005
GIS Database: Kojonup 1.4m Orthomosaic - DLI01

(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

Mapping indicates there are no existing ecological communities within the Shire of Kojonup, therefore the proposed clearing is unlikely to be at variance to this principle.

Methodology GIS Database:
- Threatened Ecological Communities - CALM 15/7/03
- Threatened Plant Communities - DEP 06/95

(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 not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The proposed clearing is located across the shire of Kojonup and within the Jarrah Forrest Bioregion. The extend of native vegetation within these areas is 15.2% and 58.7% respectively.

The vegetation proposed to be cleared is a component of Beard Vegetation Associations 4 and 968 which there is 23.5% and 38.9% of pre-European extent remaining.

The Shire of Kojonup also lies within the agricultural zone of EPA position statement No. 2. The EPA do not support the further reduction in native vegetation through clearing for agriculture and support active management by landholders to maintain environmental values of remaining vegetation.

Revegetation conditions of Gravel Extraction sites and weed management conditions for all cleared and revegetated areas will be placed on the permit to ensure a reduction in long term net loss of vegetation within the Shire and management of areas from weed invasion. Additionally widening of roads within the shire is limited to Collie - Changerup Rd.

Methodology EPA (2000)
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 is not at variance to this Principle

The areas proposed to be cleared are not associated with bridge or culvert infrastructure, clearing in or near watercourses was undertaken in previous years and as such the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.

(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 proposed clearing on roadsides, intersections and for gravel extraction may cause some short term land degradation issues in terms of localised flooding and soil erosion during works.

However these issues should be minimised as works on the existing roads and intersections have in place roadside infrastructure to prevent land degradation associated with roads ie. table drains and culverts. Additionally conditions placed on the permit to undertake revegetation on completion of gravel extraction will minimise long term land degradation associated with gravel extraction.

Methodology Site Visit, 2005

(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 likely to be at variance to this Principle

The areas proposed to be cleared are not within conservation areas, some of the areas are adjacent to these areas however. It is not likely that the proposed road widening, realignment and gravel extraction works will impact on the environmental value of nearby or adjacent conservation areas within the Shire.

Methodology GIS Database: CALM Managed Lands and Waters - CALM 1/06/04

(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 likely to be at variance to this Principle

The areas under application lie within three catchment areas being the Hardy Estuary - Blackwood River, Nomalup Inlet - Frankland River and Warren River.

Static groundwater level within the shire range from less than 1m upto 25m below ground level, with a mapped groundwater salinity of 7000 to greater than 35 000 mg/L.

The proposed clearing on roadsides, intersections and for gravel extraction may cause some short term water quality issues in terms of localised surface water sedimentation during works. However these issues should be minimised as works on the existing roads and intersections have in place roadside infrastructure to prevent water quality issues associated with roads ie. table drains and culverts. Additionally conditions placed on the permit to undertake revegetation on completion of gravel extraction will minimise long term water quality issues associated with gravel extraction.

Due to the small and isolated areas proposed to be cleared, associated with roads works and gravel extraction it is unlikely the areas under application will exacerbate existing salinity issues or increase water levels within the shire boundary. Conditions to revegetate used gravel extraction sites will also mitigate issues associated with groundwater salinity.

Methodology GIS Database:
- Groundwater salinity, Statewide - 22/02/00
- Hydrographic Catchments - Catchments - DOE 23/3/05
- WIN Groundwater Sites, Other - non DEWCP (current)

(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 likely to be at variance to this Principle

Due to the scale and the nature of the proposed clearing it is unlikely to exacerbate flooding in the local area.

Methodology GIS database: Topographic Contours, Statewide - DOLA 12/09/02

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

Comments

The proposed clearing and end use do not require further regulation.

The applicant is acting under the Local Government Act 1995.

There are three Native Title Claims over the area under application. The Department of Environment and Conservation's advertising of the application in the West Australian newspaper constitutes legal notification of

the native title representative body for the purpose of the future act procedures under the Native Title Act 1993.
No response was received from the representative body.

Methodology

4. Assessor's recommendations

Purpose	Method	Applied area (ha)/ trees	Decision	Comment / recommendation
Extractive Industry	Mechanical Removal	40		Collie-Changerup Rd Gravel Pit The proposed clearing is not likely to be or not at variance to the clearing principles. It is recommended to grant a clearing permit for road widening, intersection upgrades and gravel extraction sites with conditions relating to Fauna Management and Revegetation.
Extractive Industry	Mechanical Removal			Tenner Rd
Road construction oRemoval maintenance	Mechanical Removal			Samson/Albany Hwy
Road construction oRemoval maintenance	Mechanical Removal			Birdwood/Cabrolup Rd
Road construction oRemoval maintenance	Mechanical Removal			Albany Hwy/Tambellup West Rd
Road construction oRemoval maintenance	Mechanical Removal			Bell Rd Albany Hwy
Road construction oRemoval maintenance	Mechanical Removal			Gravel Pit off Albany Highway
Road construction oRemoval maintenance	Mechanical Removal			Parker / Koj - Frankland
Road construction oRemoval maintenance	Mechanical Removal			Hiller / Koj / Frankland
Road construction oRemoval maintenance	Mechanical Removal			Mobrup Nth / Settlers
Road construction oRemoval maintenance	Mechanical Removal			Harpper Rd and Gravel Pit
Road construction oRemoval maintenance	Mechanical Removal			Shamrock
Road construction oRemoval maintenance	Mechanical Removal			Potts Yarranup Tambellup Wst
Road construction oRemoval maintenance	Mechanical Removal			Potts / Broomehill - Kojonup
Road construction oRemoval maintenance	Mechanical Removal			Carlecatup Nth / Koj - Kat Rd
Road construction oRemoval maintenance	Mechanical Removal			Hillier/Tone Rd
Road construction oRemoval maintenance	Mechanical Removal			Tone/Parker Rd
Road construction oRemoval maintenance	Mechanical Removal			Carlecatup Nth Rd
Road construction oRemoval maintenance	Mechanical Removal			Collie - Changerup Rd / Ballock Rd

Road construction or maintenance	Mechanical Removal	Tone/Boyup-Brook Rd
Road construction or maintenance	Mechanical Removal	Collie-Changerup Rd
Road construction or maintenance	Mechanical Removal	Fisher/Dalton Rd
Road construction or maintenance	Mechanical Removal	Qualeup Sth/Boyup Brook Rd
Road construction or maintenance	Mechanical Removal	Broomehill-Kojonup Rd

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.
- 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.
- Site Visit, 2005, Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC), Western Australia. TRIM ref SWO29750.

6. Glossary

Term	Meaning
CALM	Department of Conservation and Land Management
DAWA	Department of Agriculture
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection (now DoE)
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 DoE)