



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 87711

Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: B and J Catalano PTY LTD

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 5135 ON PLAN 213112 (PAYNEDALE 6239)

LOT 2413 ON PLAN 131325 (House No. 3115 GOODWOOD PAYNEDALE 6239)

Local Government Area: Shire Of Donnybrook-Balingup

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

10

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

Mechanical Removal

For the purpose of:

Extractive Industry

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 Vegetation Association 1185: Medium woodland; jarrah, marri & blackbutt (Hopkins et al. 2001, Shepherd et al. 2001).	The proposal includes clearing of 10ha of regrowth that was cleared approximately 15 years ago (DEC Site Visit 2006).	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	Observed during site visit: The majority of the area was cleared approximately 15 years ago - evidenced by the tall, slender tree structure. Stock have had access to the area under application for many years, evidenced by the limited amount of ground cover and under storey growth (DEC Site Visit 2006).
Mattiske Vegetation Complex: Bidella (BD) - Low woodland of Melaleuca preissiana-Banksia littoralis-Hakea lasianthoides on valley floors and open forest to woodland of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla-Eucalyptus patens on slopes in perhumid and humid zones; Kingia (KI) - Open forest of Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata-Corymbia calophylla-Allocasuarina fraseriana-Banksia grandis-Xylomelum occidentale on lateritic uplands in perhumid and humid zones (Mattiske Consulting 1998).	The vegetation under application is a medium native forest of Corymbia calophylla, with interspersed Macrozamia riedlei, Xylomelum occidentale and Acacia pulchella.		
Heddlie Vegetation Complexes: Jarrahwood Complex - open forest of jarrah-marri on the slopes; Kingia Complex - Open forest of jarrah-marri (Heddlie et al. 1980).			

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**

The proposed clearing of 10ha is of good condition, native woodland consisting of limited species in the mid storey and under storey with the over storey, consisting of predominantly *Corymbia calophylla* (marri), sparsely vegetated, *Macrozamia riedlei* (Zamia palms), and *Xylomelum occidentale* (Woody Pear). The vegetation structure of the area proposed to be cleared is severely disrupted due to stock grazing for over 35 years and previous clearing 15 years ago (DEC 2006).

The vegetation under application is located in an area cleared for agriculture and is comprised of Beard vegetation association 1185 (Hopkins et al. 2001) of which there is over 90% (Shepherd et al. 2001) of the pre-European extent remaining.

Biodiversity Coordination Section, DEC (2006) advise that "it is unlikely that the area comprises a higher level of biological diversity than surrounding State Forest", however unless measures are taken, the introduction of *Phytophthora* will impact on local biological diversity. Therefore conditions will be imposed on this permit to manage the spread of dieback and weeds.

The high level of disturbance at this site and lack of native species density suggests the original biodiversity has been significantly compromised, and does not contain a high level of biological diversity. Therefore, it is unlikely this proposal is at variance with this Principle.

Methodology DEC Site Visit Report (2006);
Biodiversity Coordination Section, DEC (2006);
Hopkins et al. (2001);
Shepherd et al. (2001);
GIS Databases:
- Busselton 50cm ORTHOMOSAIC - DLI03

(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**

Biodiversity Coordination Section, DEC (2006) advise that 'the area under application is unlikely to provide habitat for any threatened fauna species known to be found within the local area (10km radius) due to its degraded condition, species composition, age of the vegetation and the lack of nearby fresh water streams'. Further more 'the proposed clearing is likely to reduce the value of the vegetation as a corridor for mobile fauna', and 'given its current degraded condition the notified area is unlikely to constitute 'significant' habitat for indigenous fauna'.

Given the above factors, the area proposed to be cleared is unlikely to comprise significant fauna habitat or significantly impact on local habitat values. Conditions to revegetated the area cleared on completion of extraction will be imposed.

Methodology DEC Site Visit (2006);
Biodiversity Coordination Section, DEC (2006);

(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**

One population of Declared Rare Flora (DRF) *Daviesia elongata* subsp. *elongata* has been recorded within 9.2km of the proposed clearing. There is a distinct vegetation link between this DRF and the area proposed to be cleared, however both are not with the same vegetation complex

Three populations of Priority 1 species have been recorded within the local area (10km radius) of the proposed clearing. The closest, *Boronia humifusa*, is located 5.3km north west of the area proposed to be cleared and occurs within the same vegetation type as the proposed clearing (*Mattiske Kingia* (KI)).

Five populations of Priority 3 species have been recorded within the local area of the proposed clearing. The closest, *Acacia semitrullata*, is located 160m east of the area proposed to be cleared and occurs in the same vegetation type as the proposed clearing (*Mattiske Bidella* (BD)). There is a direct vegetation link between two (500m east and 1.1km south east) of the Priority 3 populations and the area under application.

Biodiversity Coordination Section, DEC (2006) advise that "it is possible that the Priority 3 species may occur within the area proposed to be cleared, however the probability is lessened given the sparse nature of the under storey and ground cover vegetation due to stock grazing and previous clearing".