

CLEARING PERMIT Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose permit number: CPS 2773/5

Permit holder: Electricity Generation Corporation T/A Verve Energy

Duration of permit: 1 July 2009 to 1 July 2014

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the above stated purposes, subject to the conditions of this Permit.

PART I - CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of access, cable connection and firebreaks for a wind farm, re-alignment of the Bibbulmun track and construction of Bibbulmun track campsites.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

LOT 500 on PLAN 60582 (SANDPATCH, 6330)

LOT 501 on PLAN 60582 (CROWN RESERVE 13773, SANDPATCH, 6330)

LOT 503 on PLAN 60582 (CROWN RESERVE 2903, SANDPATCH, 6330)

LOT 11 on PLAN 3568 (House No. 413 Robinson Road, ROBINSON, 6330)

LOT 20 on PLAN 3568 (House No. 46 Sand Pit Road, ROBINSON, 6330)

LOT 1 on DIAGRAM 23900 (47796 South Coast Hwy, MCKAIL, 6330)

LOT 2 on DIAGRAM 23900 (47790 South Coast Hwy, MCKAIL, 6330)

LOT 507 on PLAN 256573 (204 Lancaster Rd, MCKAIL, 6330)

LOT 123 on DIAGRAM 11949 (36088 Albany Hwy, MCKAIL, 6330)

LOT 7793 on PLAN 240420 (CROWN RESERVE 4732, ELLEKER, 6330)

IMPERIAL STREET (ROAD RESERVE, MCKAIL, 6330)

GLADVILLE ROAD (ROAD RESERVE, MCKAIL, 6330)

LANCASTER ROAD (ROAD RESERVE, MAKAIL, 6330)

TIMEWELL ROAD (ROAD RESERVE, MCKAIL, 6330)

BEAUDON ROAD (ROAD RESERVE, MCKAIL, 6330)

SOUTH COAST HWY (ROAD RESERVE, MCKAIL, 6330)

CHARLES STREET (ROAD RESERVE, GLEDHOW, 6330)

LOWANNA DRIVE (ROAD RESERVE, GLEDHOW, 6330)

GEORGE STREET (ROAD RESERVE, GLEDHOW, 6330)

OLD ELLEKER ROAD (ROAD RESERVE, ROBINSON, 6330) GLEDHOW WEST ROAD (ROAD RESERVE, ROBINSON, 6330)

ROBINSON ROAD RESERVE (ROAD RESERVE, ROBINSON, 6330)

TWEEDLE ROAD RESERVE (ROAD RESERVE, ROBINSON, 6330)

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 11.44 hectares of native vegetation within the combined areas shaded yellow on attached Plan 2773/5a, Plan 2773/5b, Plan 2773/5c, Plan 2773/5d, Plan 2773/5e, Plan 2773/5f, Plan 2773/5g and Plan 2773/5h.

4. Application

This Permit allows the Permit Holder to authorise persons, including employees, contractors and agents of the Permit Holder, to clear native vegetation for the purposes of this Permit subject to compliance with the conditions of this Permit and approval from the Permit Holder.

5. Type of clearing authorised

This Permit authorises the Permit Holder to clear native vegetation for project activities to the extent that the Permit Holder has the power to clear native vegetation for those project activities under the Energy Operators (Powers) Act 1979 or any other written law.

6. Compliance with Assessment Sequence and Management Procedures

Prior to clearing any native vegetation under conditions 1, 2 and 3 of this Permit, the Permit Holder must comply with the Assessment Sequence and the Management Procedures set out in Part II of this Permit.

PART II - ASSESSMENT SEQUENCE AND MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

7. Avoid, minimise etc clearing

In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in order of preference:

- (a) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- (b) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- (c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

8. Flora Management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the site shall be inspected by a *flora specialist* for the presence of the following *priority flora taxa*:
 - (i) Thomasia quercifolia (priority 2),
 - (ii) Spyridium spadiceum (priority 2), and
 - (iii) Melaleuca ringens (priority 3)
- (b) Where priority flora taxa are identified in relation to condition 8(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) all records of priority flora taxa are submitted to the CEO; and
 - (ii) no clearing occurs with 10 metres of identified *priority flora taxa*, unless approved by the CEO.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

9. Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit:

- (a) In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:
 - (i) the species composition, structure and density of the cleared area;
 - (ii) the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;
 - (iii) the date that the area was cleared; and
 - (iv) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).
- (b) In relation to flora management pursuant to condition 8 of this Permit:
 - (i) the species of each *priority flora taxa* identified.
 - (ii) the location of each *priority flora taxa* recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings; and

10. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO, on or before 30 June of each year, a written report of records required under condition 9 and activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.
- (b) Prior to 1 April 2014, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 9 where these records have not already been provided under condition 10(a).

Definitions

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

Department means the Department of Environment and Conservation (Western Australia);

flora specialist means a person with specific training and/or experience in the ecology and taxonomy of Western Australian flora;

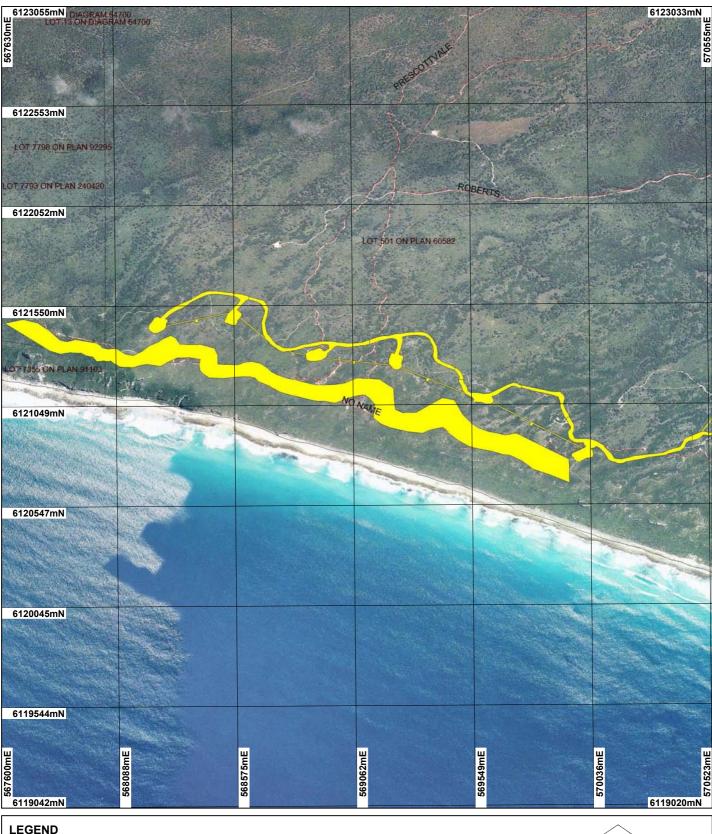
priority flora taxa means those plant taxa that described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the Department's *Declared Rare and Priority Flora List for Western Australia* (as amended);

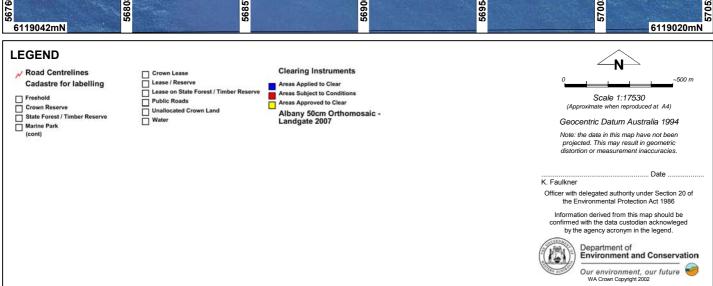
Kelly Faulkner MANAGER NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

1 December 2011

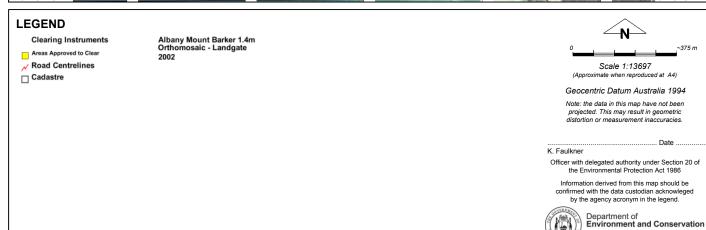
Plan 2773/5a





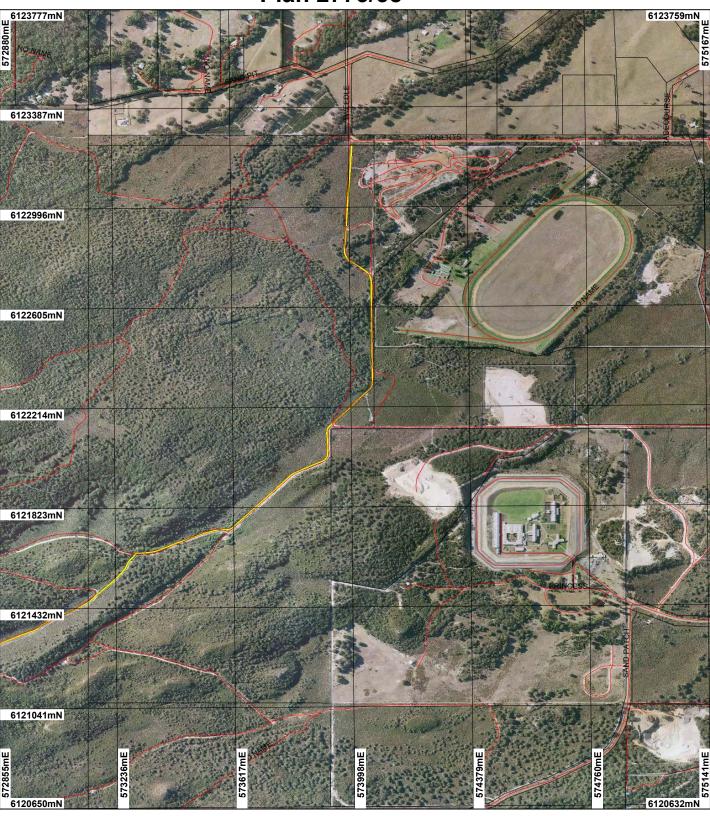
Plan 2773/5b





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Plan 2773/5c



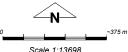


Clearing Instruments



☐ Cadastre

Albany Townsite 20cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007



Scale 1:13698 (Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distortion or measurement inaccuracies.

K. Faulkner

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Information derived from this map should be confirmed with the data custodian acknowleged by the agency acronym in the legend.

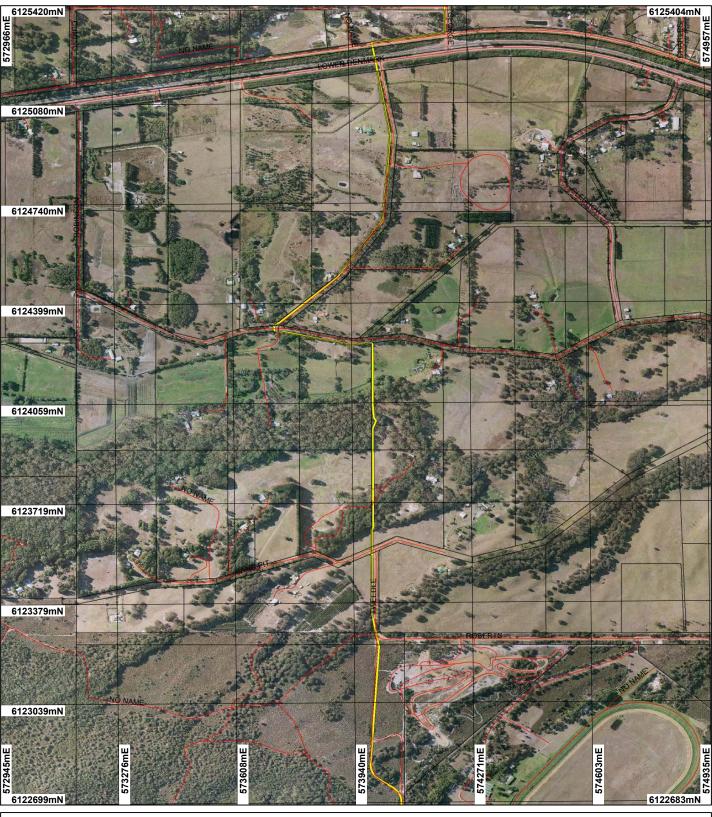


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Plan 2773/5d



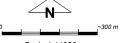


Clearing Instruments



☐ Cadastre

Albany Townsite 20cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007



Scale 1:11920 (Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

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K. Faulkner

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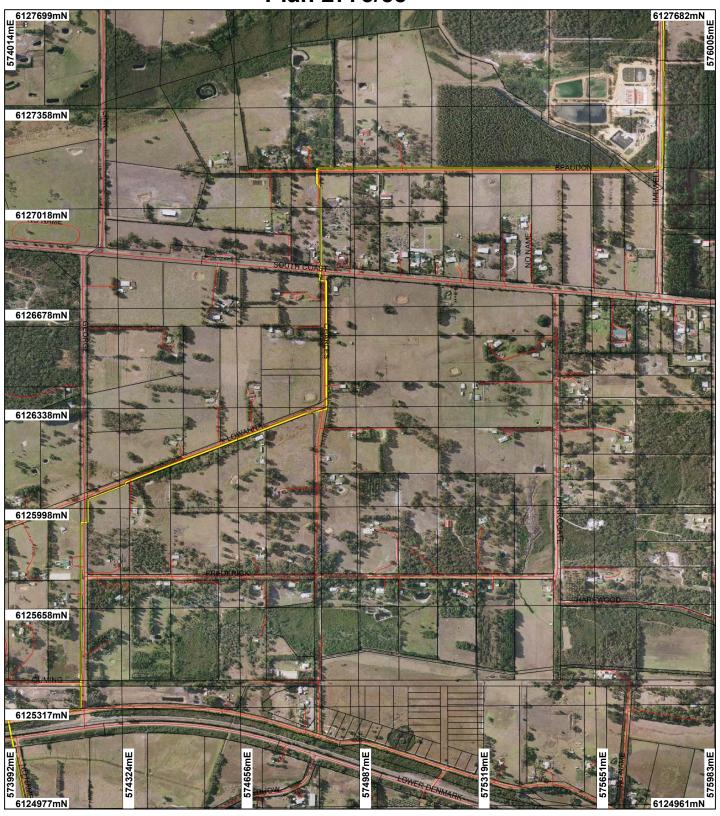


Department of Environment and Conservation





Plan 2773/5e



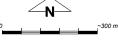


Clearing Instruments



☐ Cadastre

Albany Townsite 20cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007



Scale 1:11922 (Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

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K. Faulkner

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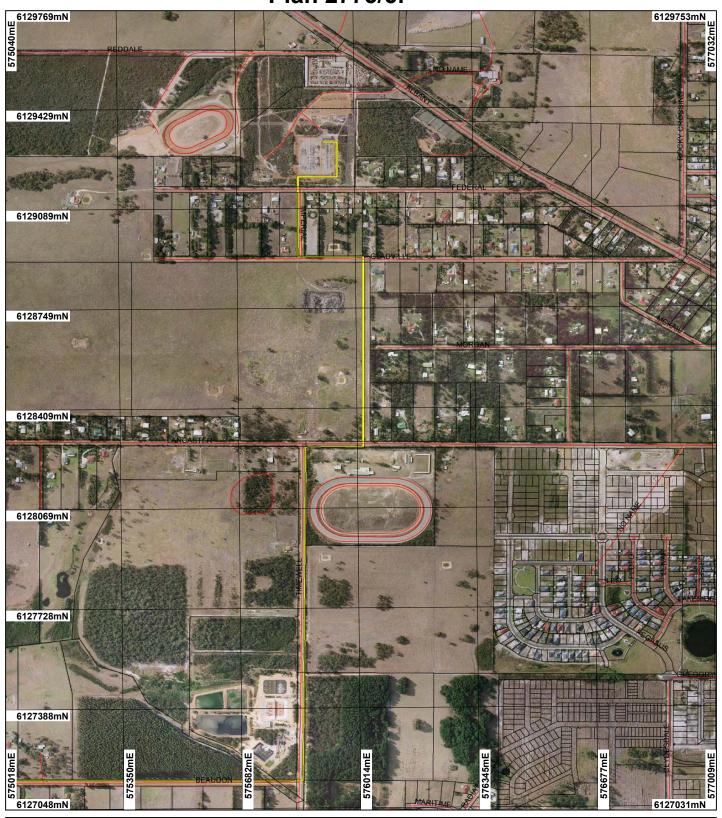


Department of Environment and Conservation





Plan 2773/5f



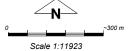


Clearing Instruments



☐ Cadastre

Albany Townsite 20cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007



(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distortion or measurement inaccuracies.

K. Faulkner

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

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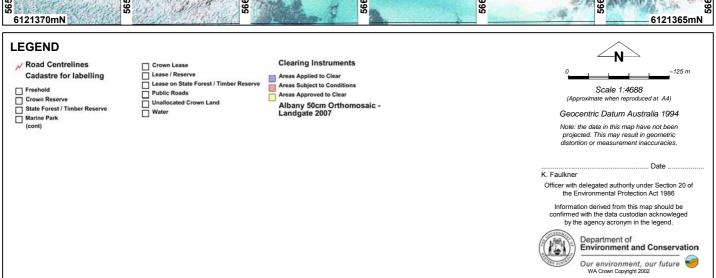
Plan 2773/5g





Plan 2773/5h









Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 2773/5
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Electricity Generation Corp TA Verve Energy

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 501 ON PLAN 60582 (SANDPATCH 6330)

LOT 500 ON PLAN 60582 (SANDPATCH 6330)

LOT 11 ON PLAN 3568 (House No. 413 ROBINSON ROBINSON 6330) LOT 20 ON PLAN 3568 (House No. 46 SAND PIT ROBINSON 6330)

ROAD RESERVE (ROBINSON 6330) ROAD RESERVE (GLEDHOW 6330)

LOT 2 ON DIAGRAM 23900 (House No. 47790 SOUTH COAST MCKAIL 6330)

ROAD RESERVE (MCKAIL 6330)

LOT 507 ON PLAN 256573 (House No. 204 LANCASTER MCKAIL 6330)

ROAD RESERVE (MCKAIL 6330) ROAD RESERVE (MCKAIL 6330)

LOT 123 ON DIAGRAM 11949 (House No. 36088 ALBANY MCKAIL 6330)

ROAD RESERVE (MCKAIL 6330)

LOT 1 ON DIAGRAM 23900 (House No. 47796 SOUTH COAST MCKAIL 6330)

LOT 7793 ON PLAN 240420 (ELLEKER 6330) LOT 503 ON PLAN 60582 (SANDPATCH 6330)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

Shire of Albany

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha) No. Trees Method of Clearing For the purpose of:

11.44 Mechanical Removal Building or Structure

1.5. Decision on application Decision on Permit Application: Grant

Decision Date: 1 December 2011

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description

Four Beard vegetation associations have been identified within the clearing footprint (3, 49, 423 and 978). These vegetation associations have been described by Shepherd (2009) as:

Association 3: Medium forest; Eucalyptus marginata (Jarrah) -Corymbia calophylla (Marri).

Association 49 - Shrublands; mixed heath

Association 423 - Shrublands; Acacia scrub-heath (unknown spp.)

Association 978 - Low forest; jarrah, Eucalyptus staeri & Allocasuarina fraseriana

Clearing Description

The proposal is to clear 11.44 hectares of native vegetation, for the purpose of developing the Grasmere Wind Farm, realining the Bibbulumun Track and for the construction of two Bibbulumun track campsites

The vegetation occurring within the campsite areas occur in an Excellent (Keighery 1994) condition and consist of Peppermint Low Forest, Coastal Health and Costal Limestone Heath (Sandiford 2011).

Vegetation Condition

Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)

Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery 1994)

Comment

The vegetation condition was determined through aerial mapping and has been supported by a site visit (DEC, 2008), and a Flora and Vegetation Survey conducted by Ecologia in June 2008 and November 2008 (Ecologia, 2008).

A flora survey of the campsite areas were conducted by Sandiford (2011) within September and October 2011. The condition of these two campsite areas were established through this survey.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The administration amendment was to increase the size of the clearing footprint for the realignment of the Bibblumun Track.

The assessment against the clearing principles has not changed and can be found in the Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 2773/2.

Methodology

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

Comments

The applicant applied to amended the proposed clearing of 2773/3 to clear 11.44 hectares of native vegetation, for the purpose of developing the Grasmere Wind Farm and for the construction of two Bibbulumun track campsites on Sandpacth and Muttonbird Reserves. This permit was granted on 16 November 2011.

An administrative amendment is required to this permit as an increase in the clearing footprint for the realignment of the Bibbulumun track was not included. The applicant waived the 28 day notification period on the 28 November 2011.

Methodology

4. References

Sandiford E.M, (2011) Flora and Vegetation Survey of Proposed Clearing for the Bibbulmun Track and Hut Realignment, Grasmere Wind Farm and Addendum. Prepared for Verve Energy, Perth and Department of Environment and Conservation, Albany. DEC ref A446099

DEC (2008) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 2773/1, Road Reserves within City of Albany, and Crown Reserve 13773. Site inspection undertaken 01/12/2008.

Ecologica (2008) Verve Energy, Grasmere Wind Farm Extension Area and Cable Route: Vegetation and Flora Survey, Version 2, June 2008, Trim Ref DOC57652

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. (2009) Adapted from: Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R., and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001), Native Vegetation in Western Australia. Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture Western Australia, South Perth.

5. Glossary

Term Meaning

BCS Biodiversity Coordination Section of DEC

CALM Department of Conservation and Land Management (now BCS)

DAFWA Department of Agriculture and Food

DEC Department of Environment and Conservation
DEP Department of Environmental Protection (now DEC)

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 DEC)