



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 3922/1

File Number: 2010/006498-1

Duration of Permit: From 17 January 2011 to 17 January 2016

PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of Busselton

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Geographe Bay Road Reserve (DUNSBOROUGH 6281)

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 1.3 hectares of native vegetation within the combined areas cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 3922/1a and Plan 3922/b.

CONDITIONS

1. Period in which clearing is authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation after 17 January 2013.

2. Fauna management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the area(s) shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* who shall identify habitat suitable to be utilised by Western Ringtail Possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*).
- (b) Prior to clearing, any habitat identified by condition 2(a) shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* for the presence of fauna listed in condition 2(a).
- (c) Within one week prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna clearing person* to remove and relocate fauna identified under condition 2(b).

3. Retain vegetative material, revegetation and rehabilitation

- (a) Within twelve months of clearing any area authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* an area two times of that cleared within the areas cross-hatched red on attached Plan 3922/1a and Plan 3922/1b by:
 - (i) deliberately *planting* and/or *direct seeding* native vegetation that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area; and
 - (ii) ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used to *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area.
- (b) Within twelve months of undertaking *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* in accordance with condition 3(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder must:
 - (i) determine the species composition, structure and density of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*; and
 - (ii) where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, the composition structure and density determined under condition 3(b)(i) of this Permit will not result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, the

Permit Holder must undertake additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation in accordance with the requirements of condition 3(a)(i) and (ii) of this Permit.

4. Records to 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 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;
 - (ii) the date that the area was cleared; and
 - (iii) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).
- (b) In relation to fauna management pursuant to condition 2 of this Permit:
 - (i) the location of habitat identified recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;
 - (ii) name of fauna reasonably likely to utilise, or that have been observed utilising, the habitat and
 - (iii) the location and date where relocated fauna was released, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings.
- (c) The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done in relation to the revegetation and rehabilitation of areas pursuant to condition 3 of this Permit:
 - (i) the location of any areas revegetated and rehabilitated, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;
 - (ii) a description of the revegetation and rehabilitation activities undertaken;
 - (iii) the size of the area revegetated and rehabilitated (in hectares); and
 - (iv) the species composition, structure and density of revegetation and rehabilitation.

5. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO on or before 30 June of each year, a written report:
 - (i) of records required under condition 4 of this Permit; and
 - (ii) concerning activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.
- (b) Prior to 17 October 2015 the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 4 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 5(a) of this Permit.

Definitions

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

direct seeding means a method of re-establishing vegetation through the establishment of a seed bed and the introduction of seeds of the desired plant species;

environmental specialist means a person who is engaged by the Permit Holder for the purpose of providing environmental advice, who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this Permit;

fauna clearing person means a person who has obtained a licence from the Department, issued pursuant to the *Wildlife Conservation Regulations 1970* authorising them to take fauna;

fauna specialist means a person with training and specific work experience in fauna identification or faunal assemblage surveys of Western Australian fauna;

local provenance means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 10 kilometres of the area cleared.

mulch means the use of organic matter, wood chips or rocks to slow the movement of water across the soil surface and to reduce evaporation;

planting means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating favourable soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species;

regenerate/ed/ion means re-establishment of vegetation from in situ seed banks and propagating material (such as lignotubers, bulbs, rhizomes) contained either within the topsoil or seed-bearing *mulch*;

rehabilitate/ed/ion means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area;



Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

*Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

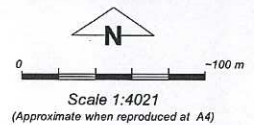
23 December 2010

Plan 3922/1a



LEGEND

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Road Centrelines | Freehold | Lease on State Forest / Timber Reserve |
| Clearing Instruments | Crown Reserve | Public Roads |
| Areas Subject to Conditions | State Forest / Timber Reserve | Unallocated Crown Land |
| Areas Approved to Clear | Marine Park | Water |
| Cadastre for labelling (cont) | Crown Lease | Busseton Townsite 20cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2008 |
| | Lease / Reserve (cont) | |



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

K. Faulkner Date 28/12/10

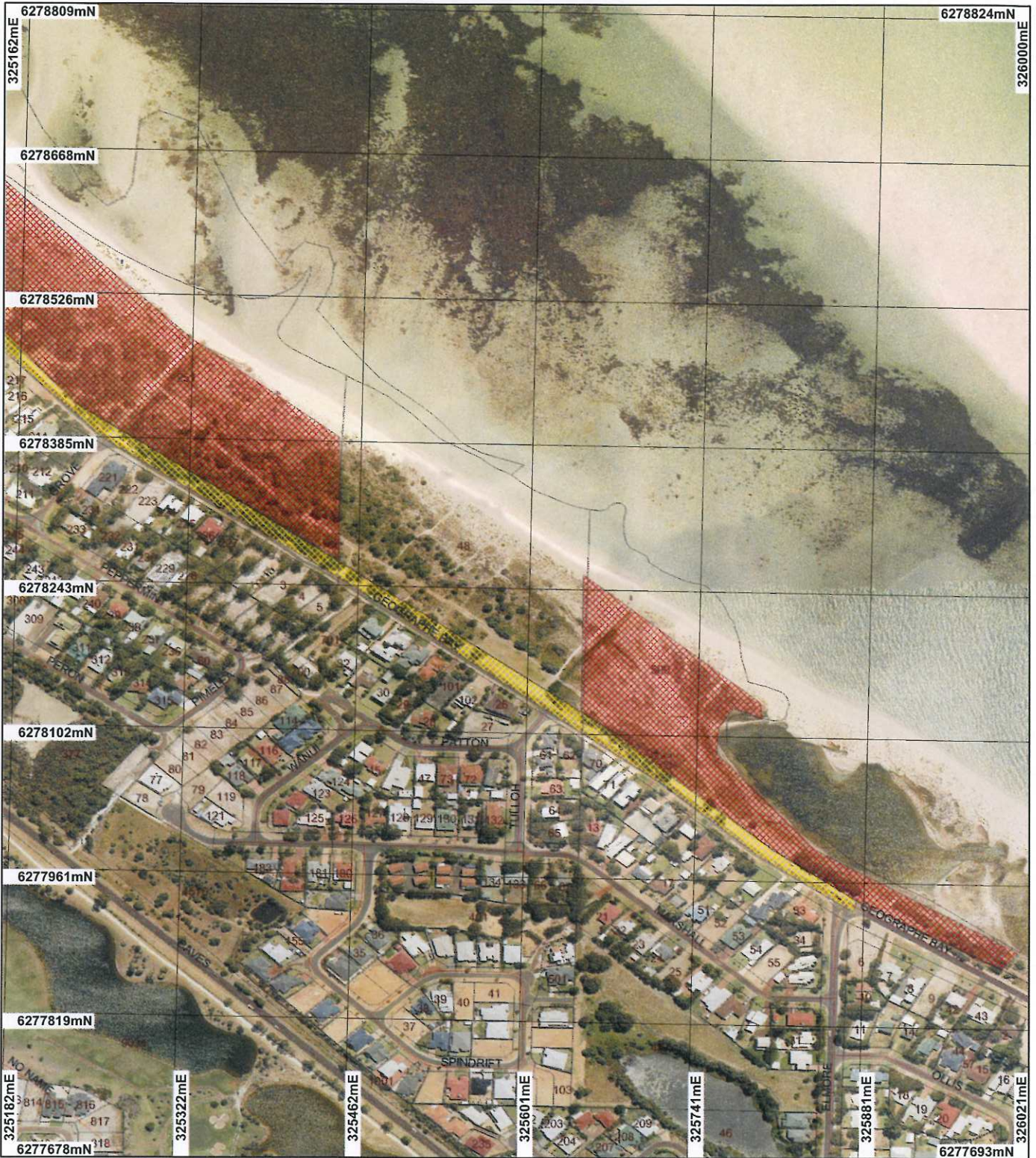
K. Faulkner
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Information derived from this map should be confirmed with the data custodian acknowledged by the agency acronym in the legend.

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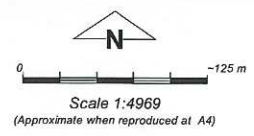
* Project Data is denoted by asterisk. This data has not been quality assured. Please contact map author for details.

Plan 3922/1b



LEGEND

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Road Centrelines | <input type="checkbox"/> Freehold | <input type="checkbox"/> Lease on State Forest / Timber Reserve |
| Clearing Instruments | <input type="checkbox"/> Crown Reserve | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Roads |
| Areas Subject to Conditions | <input type="checkbox"/> State Forest / Timber Reserve | <input type="checkbox"/> Unallocated Crown Land |
| Areas Approved to Clear | <input type="checkbox"/> Marine Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Water |
| Cadastre for labelling | <input type="checkbox"/> Crown Lease | <input type="checkbox"/> Busselton Townsite 20cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2008 |
| (cont) | <input type="checkbox"/> Lease / Reserve | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> (cont) | |



Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

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

Date 23/12/10
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 acknowledged by the agency acronym in the legend.



* Project Data is denoted by asterisk. This data has not been quality assured. Please contact map author for details.



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 3922/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of Busselton

1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE (DUNSBOROUGH 6281)
ROAD RESERVE (DUNSBOROUGH 6281)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
1.3		Mechanical Removal	Road construction or maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 23 December 2010

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 Complex 990: Low forest: peppermint (Agonis flexuosa)	The proposal is to clear 1.3ha of native vegetation for the purpose of road upgrade.	Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation condition was determined from site visit conducted by DEC officer on the 6 October 2010 (DEC 2010).

Shepherd (2009)
The vegetation under application consists of Agonis flexuosa over ?lawn? in a completely degraded condition with a strip of ~ 300 m of Agonis flexuosa woodland in excellent condition along the eastern end of the application.

As above

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

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The vegetation under application consists of Agonis flexuosa over lawn in a completely degraded (Keighery 1994) condition with a strip of ~ 300 m of Agonis flexuosa woodland in excellent (Keighery 1994) condition along the eastern end of the application area (DEC 2010).

There are no declared rare flora species or threatened ecological communities in the vicinity of the project. The proposed clearing is unlikely to impact on conservation areas; or cause or exacerbate land degradation, water quality or flooding given its long linear shape and relatively small area (1.3ha) proposed to be cleared.

The Southern Swan Coastal Plain region is one of the most important areas for the western ringtail possum. According to the EPBC Act Policy statement 3.10 the application area contains supporting habitat for the western ringtail possum which is important for maintaining connectivity to core habitat areas and providing additional areas for foraging, breeding and dispersal (Commonwealth of Australia 2009). In addition, both the completely degraded and excellent (Keighery 1994) condition vegetation areas within the application area

provides significant habitat for the western ringtail possum (listed as endangered under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity and Conservation Act 1999) as high number of scats and dreys were observed (DEC 2010). Given this, it is considered for the proposed clearing to contain significant habitat and is at variance to Principle b. Fauna management and revegetation condition would decrease the impact on fauna habitat.

Methodology **References**
-Keighery (1994)
-Commonwealth of Australia (2009)
-Shepherd (2009)
-DEC (2010)
GIS Databases
-SAC Bio Datasests (01/09/2010)
-Pre European Vegetation
-Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia

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

Comments

The proposal is for clearing of 1.3ha of native vegetation along Geographe Bay Road reserve, Quindalup for upgrading of existing road infrastructure.

The area under application is zoned road reserve and is vested with the Shire of Busselton.

The Shire of Busselton has proposed to do revegetation at a ratio of 2 to 1 of hectares cleared, within Crown Reserve 34111 and 22965.

Methodology GIS Databases
-Town Planning Scheme Zones

4. References

Commonwealth of Australia (2009) Environmental Protection of Biodiversity and Conservation Act Policy Statement 3.10 - Significant Impact Guidelines for the Vulnerable Western Ringtail Possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) in the southern Swan Coastal Plain, Western Australia. Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts.

DEC (2010) Site visit report and Regional advice for CPS 3922/1 - Geographe Bay Road, Busselton - Shire of Busselton. DEC ref A339087

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.

Shire of Busselton (2010) Area Permit Application for CPS 3922/1 - Geographe Bay Road reserve, Dunsborough and supporting information. DEC ref A327732

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)