



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 4057/1

File Number: 2010/009263-1

Duration of Permit: From 1 August 2011 to 1 August 2016

PERMIT HOLDER

Minister for Transport

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 852 on Deposited Plan 64848 (Reserve 50466, Augusta Margaret River)

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.9 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 4057/1.

CONDITIONS

Nil.

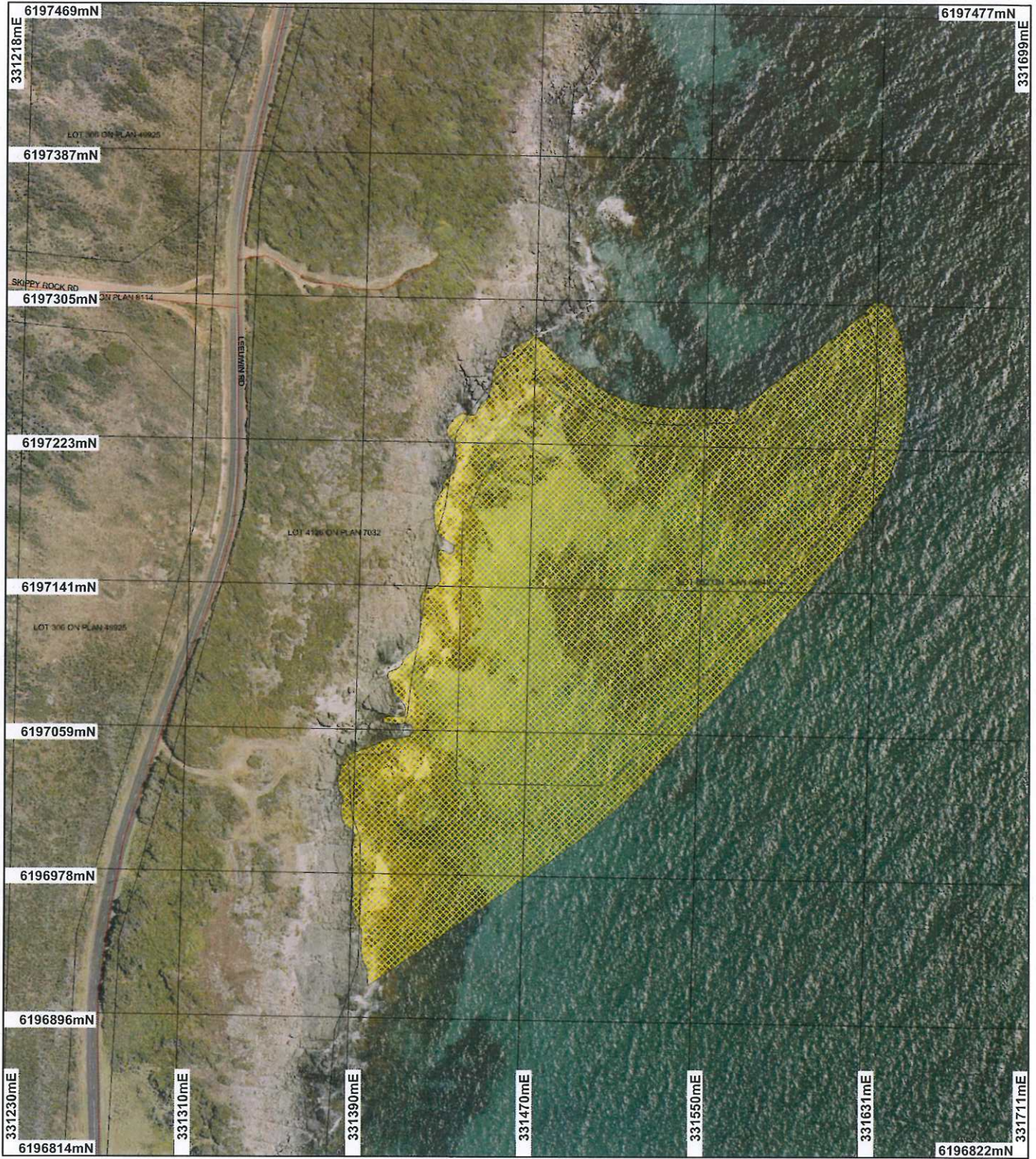
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelly Faulkner", written over a horizontal line.

Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

7 July 2011

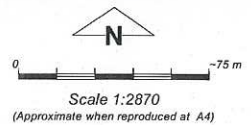
Plan 4057/1



LEGEND

- Clearing Instruments**
- Areas Approved to Clear
- Road Centrelines
- Cadastre for labelling
- Local Government Authorities

Augusta Townsite 20cm
Orthomosaic - Landgate
2004



Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

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

[Signature] Date *7/7/14*
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.



Department of
Environment and Conservation

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* 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.: 4057/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Minister for Transport

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 852 ON PLAN 64848 (AUGUSTA-MARGARET RIVER, SHIRE OF)
LOT 4126 ON PLAN 7032 (Lot No. 4126 LEEUWIN LEEUWIN 6290)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.9		Mechanical Removal	Building or Structure

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 7 July 2011

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
The majority of the application area is within the Indian Ocean. The shore line vegetation consists of bare rock and granite coastal hill slopes (Oceanica, 2010) and the marine section (95% of the applied areas) consists of seagrass species. No vegetation types are mapped for the application area.	The application area has seagrass beds composed of <i>Poisdonia</i> sp., <i>Halophila</i> sp., <i>Heterozostera</i> sp. and <i>Amphibolis</i> spp were identified. A variety of reef structures were also recorded, ranging from low relief pavement reef, often covered by a thin veneer of sand, to high relief reef. Soft substrate, consisting of fine/medium sand, was found between the inshore reef units and over larger areas further offshore (Supporting information, 2010; Oceanica, 2010b).	Pristine: No obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	The description of the vegetation under application was determined via the use of aerial imagery and supporting information provided by the applicant and an Environmental referral document (Oceanica, 2010b).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The proposed clearing of 0.9 hectares of seagrass habitat is required for the purpose of constructing a boat harbour. The total permanent loss of seagrass habitat will be less than 0.9 hectares (DEC, 2010) once the boat harbour is established. The flat rock boating facility has been designed to minimise impacts on the marine and terrestrial environment. A direct loss of benthic primary producer habitat (including seagrass) will result from the construction of breakwaters and indirect loss will result from boat movement and halo effects in seagrass meadows (Oceanica, 2010b), however halo effects are difficult to quantify (DEC, 2010). The halo effect results from a combination of factors such as longshore sediment movement and wave energy (Oceanica, 2010b). The estimated loss of seagrass through direct and indirect loss is 0.24 hectares and 0.66 is estimated to be lost through the halo effect (Oceanica, 2010b).

The majority of the application area is within the Indian Ocean. The shore line vegetation consists of bare rock and granite coastal hill slopes (Oceanica, 2010a) and the marine section (95% of the applied area), consist of seagrass habitat or bare sand. No vegetation types are mapped for the application area.

The application area has seagrass beds composed of *Poisdonia* sp., *Halophila* sp., *Heterozostera* sp. and *Amphibolis* spp was also identified. A variety of reef structures were also recorded, ranging from low relief pavement reef, often covered by a thin veneer of sand, to high relief reef. Soft substrate, consisting of fine/medium sand, was found between the inshore reef units and over larger areas further offshore (Supporting information, 2010; Oceanica, 2010b).

The only fauna species of conservation significance that may be impacted by the proposed clearing are marine species such as the Humpback Whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), Southern Right Whale (*Eubalaena australis*),

Bottlenose (*Tursiops truncatus*) and common dolphin (*Delphinus delphis*) and New Zealand fur seals (*Arctocephalus forsteri*) which were recorded, or are known to occur in the near vicinity (Oceanica, 2010b). The proposed clearing of 0.9 hectares of seagrass habitat is not considered to represent significant habitat for these species.

The application area is adjacent to the Leeuwin Naturaliste National Park (102 metres west) and the Leeuwin Naturaliste Ridge Area, which is a part of the Register of National Estate.

Given that 95% of the proposed clearing is to occur within the Indian Ocean, terrestrial impacts are likely to be minimal.

Considering the above, the proposed clearing is unlikely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

Methodology

References:

Oceanica (2010a)

Oceanica (2010b)

DEC (2010)

Supporting information (2010)

GIS Databases:

- SAC Biodatasets (accessed DEC 2010)

- DEC Tenure (DEC 2010)

- Pre European Vegetation (DA 2001)

- Hydrography linear - DOW 13/7/06

- Clearing Regulations, Environmentally Sensitive Areas (2009)

- Mattiske Vegetation - CALM 1/03/1998

- Register of National Estate - Environment Australia

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

Comments

The area proposed to be cleared for the Flat Rock boating facility is situated adjacent to the proposed Ngari Capes Marine Park and lies within the existing gazetted Augusta Port (DEC, 2010).

The proposed clearing for the purpose of boat harbour construction, which is defined as 'Public Work' under the Public Works Act 1902. Part 1, Section 6 of the Planning and Development Act 2005, allows for public works, therefore no planning approval is required.

Best practise environmental standards, management and conditions should be applied when constructing the boating facility to minimise any potential environmental impacts (DEC, 2010).

Methodology

References:

DEC (2010)

4. References

DEC (2010) Department of Environment and Conservation, Marine Policy and Planning Branch, Advice, DEC Ref: A354099.
Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

Oceanica (2010a) Flat Rock Boating Facility (REF CRN 221254) Change in Footprint, DEC Ref: A344453

Oceanica (2010b) Flat Rock Boating Facility, Environmental Referral Document, DEC Ref: A354099

Supporting Information (2010) Application for a clearing permit (area permit) - Part of Lot 852, Reserve No. 50466 - Leeuwin Road opposite Skippy Rock Road, Leeuwin, DEC Ref: A344453.

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)