



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose permit number:	CPS 4351/1
Permit holder:	Regional Power Corporation TA Horizon Power
Duration of permit:	25 July 2011 – 25 July 2016

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of power line undergrounding and associated infrastructure upgrades inclusive of the following activities:

- decommissioning of existing infrastructure
- upgrading of existing infrastructure.
- new infrastructure installation

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Roebourne

3. Area of Clearing

- Clearing of up to 10 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on Plan 4351/1 between 25 July 2011 and 24 July 2012
- Clearing of up to 2 hectares of native vegetation per year within the area cross hatched yellow on Plan 4351/1 between 25 July 2012 and 25 July 2016.

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 activities to the extent that the Permit Holder has the power to clear native vegetation for those 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. Weed control

- (a) When undertaking any clearing or other activity authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds*:
 - (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
 - (ii) ensure that no *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
 - (iii) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.
- (b) At least once in each 12 month period for the term of this Permit, the Permit Holder must remove or kill any *weeds* growing within areas cleared under this Permit.

9. Retain vegetative material and topsoil, revegetation and rehabilitation

The Permit Holder shall:

- (a) retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing authorised under this Permit and stockpile the vegetative material and topsoil.
- (b) within 12 months following clearing authorised under this permit, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area(s) that are no longer required for the purpose for which they were cleared under this Permit by:
 - (i) re-shaping the surface of the land so that it is consistent with the surrounding 5 metres of uncleared land; and
 - (ii) ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction, were required; and
 - (iii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under condition 9(a).
- (c) within 24 months of laying the vegetative material and topsoil on the cleared area in accordance with condition 9(b) of this Permit:
 - (i) engage an *environmental specialist* to 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 9(c)(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, *revegetate* the area by 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 ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used.
- (d) Where additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation is undertaken in accordance with condition 9(c)(ii) of this permit, the Permit Holder shall repeat condition 9(c)(i) and 9(c)(ii) within 24 months of undertaking the additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation.
- (e) Where a determination by an *environmental specialist* that the composition, structure and density within areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* will result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, as determined in condition 9(c)(i) and (ii) of this permit, that determination shall be submitted for the CEO's consideration. If the CEO does not agree with the determination made under condition 9(c)(ii), the CEO may require the Permit Holder to undertake additional *planting* and *direct seeding* in accordance with the requirements under condition 9(c)(ii).

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

10. 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 or decimal degrees;
 - (iii) the date that the area was cleared; and
 - (iv) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).
- (b) In relation to the *revegetation and rehabilitation* of areas pursuant to condition 9 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 or decimal degrees;
 - (ii) a description of the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* activities undertaken;
 - (iii) the size of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* (in hectares);
 - (iv) the species composition, structure and density of *revegetation* and *rehabilitation*, and
 - (v) a copy of the environmental specialist's report.

11. 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 10 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 25 April 2016, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 10 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 11(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;

fill means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

local provenance means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 50 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;

optimal time means the period from November to December; for undertaking direct seeding, and no planting without irrigation.

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;

revegetate/ed/ion means the re-establishment of a cover of *local provenance* native vegetation in an area using methods such as natural *regeneration*, *direct seeding* and/or *planting*, so that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area.

weed/s means a species listed in Appendix 3 of the "Environmental Weed Strategy" published by the Department of Conservation and Land Management (1999), and plants declared under section 37 of the *Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Act 1976*.

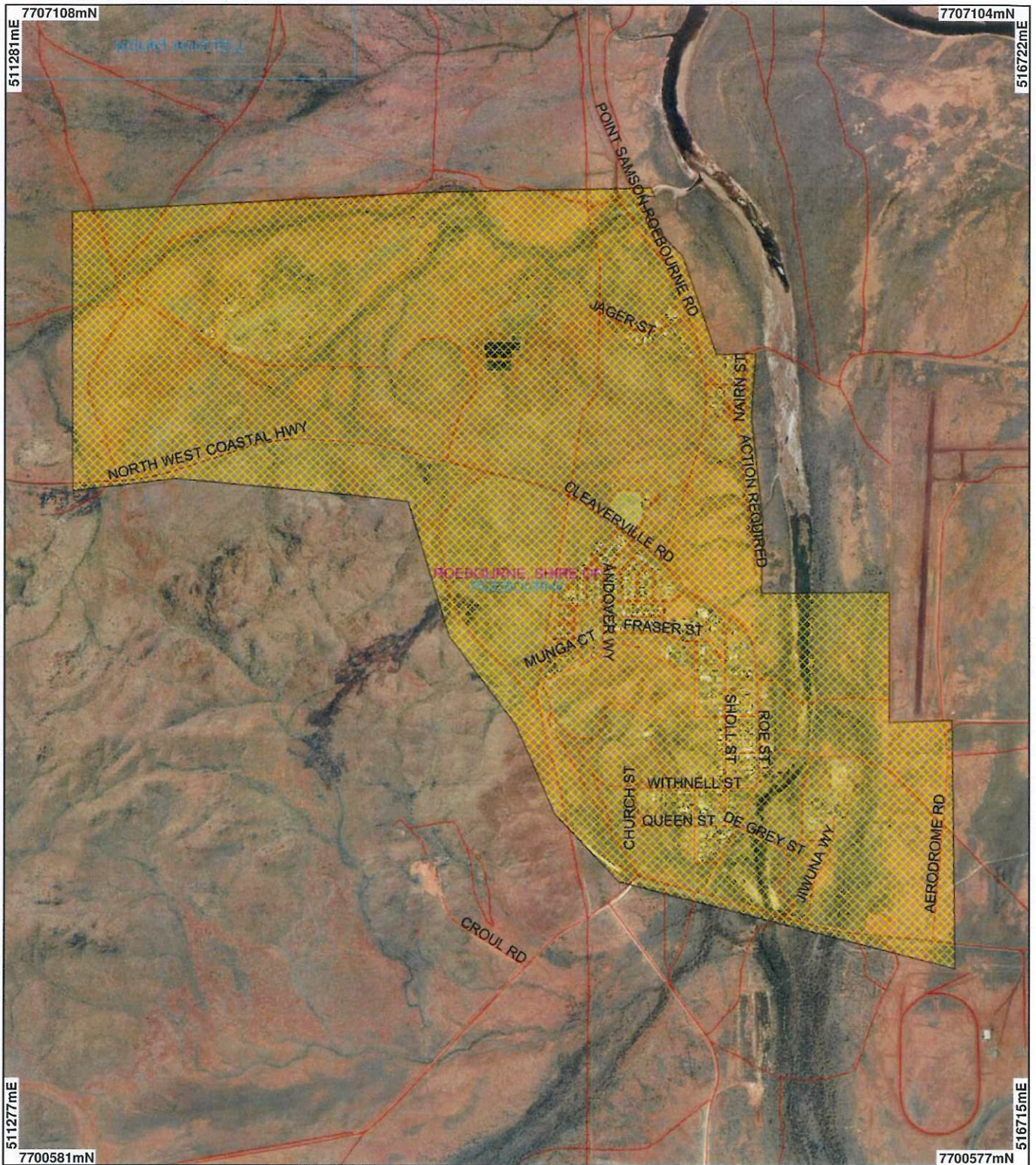


Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

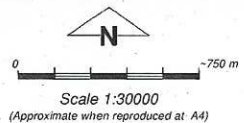
29 June 2011

Plan 4351/1



LEGEND

- Road Centrelines
- Local Government Authorities
- Clearing Instruments**
- Areas Applied to Clear (cont)
- Areas Subject to Conditions
- Areas Approved to Clear
- Localities
- Roebourne 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007**



Geocentric Datum Australia 1994
 Note: the data in this map have not been perfected. This may result in geometric distortion or measurement inaccuracies.

K Faulkner Date 29/6/11

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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1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4351/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Regional Power Corporation TA Horizon Power

1.3. Property details

Property:

- ROAD RESERVE (ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 302 ON PLAN 47401 (ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 301 ON PLAN 47401 (ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 3023 ON PLAN 44804 (ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 3024 ON PLAN 44805 (ROEBOURNE 6718)
- CLOSED ROAD (ROEBOURNE 6718)
- PART LOT 265 ON PLAN 220920 (ROEBOURNE 6718)
- UNALLOCATED CROWN LAND (ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 400 ON PLAN 207525 (House No. 3 FRASER ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 399 ON PLAN 207525 (House No. 1 FRASER ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 500 ON PLAN 64464 (ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 501 ON PLAN 64464 (ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 502 ON PLAN 64464 (ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 681 ON PLAN 181261 (House No. 1 SHOLL ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 151 ON PLAN 181582 (House No. 2 ROE ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 700 ON PLAN 213946 (Lot No. 700 CARNARVON ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 384 ON PLAN 68985 (ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 122 ON PLAN 223088 (House No. 32 SHOLL ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 121 ON PLAN 223088 (House No. 34 SHOLL ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 25 ON PLAN 223088 (House No. 2 WELLARD ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 23 ON PLAN 223088 (House No. 28 ROE ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 259 ON PLAN 223086 (House No. 25 ROE ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 175 ON PLAN 223090 (House No. 27 ROE ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 55 ON PLAN 223088 (House No. 11 STEPHEN ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 61 ON PLAN 223088 (Lot No. 61 WITHNELL ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 469 ON PLAN 175555 (House No. 2 MUNDUMIA ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 699 ON PLAN 213946 (Lot No. 699 MUNDUMIA ROEBOURNE 6718)
- CLOSED ROAD (ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 808 ON PLAN 35243 (Lot No. 808 FISHER ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 474 ON PLAN 211587 (House No. 36 CRAWFORD ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 702 ON PLAN 182530 (House No. 33 CRAWFORD ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 692 ON PLAN 181593 (House No. 30 ANDOVER ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 502 ON PLAN 211587 (House No. 28 ANDOVER ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 425 ON PLAN 208647 (House No. 27 ANDOVER ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 405 ON PLAN 208647 (House No. 27 HARDING ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 523 ON PLAN 211587 (House No. 9 LOCKYER ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 633 ON PLAN 213516 (House No. 12 LOCKYER ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 277 ON PLAN 223086 (Lot No. 277 HAMPTON NORTH ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 295 ON PLAN 223086 (Lot No. 295 HAMPTON NORTH ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 458 ON PLAN 173996 (Lot No. 458 ROE ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 434 ON PLAN 208647 (House No. 3 SHERLOCK ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 416 ON PLAN 208647 (House No. 2 SHERLOCK ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 435 ON PLAN 208647 (House No. 1 SHERLOCK ROEBOURNE 6718)
- LOT 435 ON PLAN 208647 (House No. 1 SHERLOCK ROEBOURNE 6718)

Local Government Area: Shire of Roebourne
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
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1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant

Decision Date: 29 June 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
Shepherd (2009) describes Beard vegetation 157 as Hummock grasslands, grass steppe; hard spinifex, <i>Triodia wiseana</i>	The proposal is to clear 10 ha of native vegetation within the first year and then 2 hectares of native vegetation per subsequent year (a total of 18 ha). The clearing is to occur mostly within road reserves for the purpose of installing underground power.	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	Condition of Vegetation assessed using aerial imagery (Roebourne 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007).
Shepherd (2009) describes Beard vegetation 619 as Medium woodland; river gum (<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>)			
Shepherd (2009) describes Beard vegetation 589 as Mosaic: Short bunch grassland - savanna / grass plain (Pilbara) / Hummock grasslands, grass steppe; soft spinifex			

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

The proposal is to clear 10 ha of native vegetation within the first year and then 2 hectares of native vegetation per subsequent year (a total of 18 ha) for the purpose of installing underground power lines. The clearing is to occur on various properties within the township of Roebourne. The proposed method of clearing is to dig trenches 1m (w) by 0.5m (d) under existing aerial power lines to provide a more efficient and reliable supply of electricity.

The Horseflat Land System of the Roebourne Plains is a Priority Ecological Community and it is recorded within the application area. It is considered that although the vegetation under application has been subject to disturbances it remains in a good (Keighery 1994) condition; however the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact this Priority Ecological Community.

Within the local area (10km radius) there were 3 fauna species of conservation significance. The closest records are the Northern Quoll (*Dasyercus hallucatus*), which was recorded 1km south east of application area and the Australian Bustard (*Ardeotis australis*), which is recorded 5km north west of the application area. Given long and linear extent of the proposal the clearing is not likely contain significant habitat for fauna native to Western Australia.

The assessment determined that the proposed clearing is not likely to significantly impact any biodiversity, habitat or environmental values or cause any appreciable land degradation within the local or regional context. Therefore, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

Methodology	References:
	- DEC (2007 -)
	GIS databases:
	- Roebourne 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007
	- SAC Biodatasets - accessed 27 May 11

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

Comments

The proposal is for the purpose of installing underground power lines to provide a more efficient and reliable supply to the Township of Roebourne.

The application area is zoned communications - C.A Highway under the Town Planning Scheme.

Application area falls within the PDWSA "Roebourne Water Reserve", it is a Not Assigned area.

There are four aboriginal sites of significance within the application area.

Application area falls within the groundwater "Pilbara" area covered by the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914.

Application area falls within the Surface Water "Pilbara" area covered by the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914.

Methodology GIS Databases:

- Cadastre
- Town Planning Scheme Zones
- RIWI Act, Groundwater areas
- RIWI Act, Surface water areas, Irrigation districts
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas, PDWSA
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance

4. References

- DEC (2007 -) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Environment and Conservation. URL: <http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed 27/05/2011
- 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)

