



## **CLEARING PERMIT**

*Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

### **PERMIT DETAILS**

Area Permit Number: 4971/1  
File Number: 2012/001396-1  
Duration of Permit: From 15 June 2012 to 15 June 2014

### **PERMIT HOLDER**

Geraldton Port Authority

### **LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE**

Lot 602 on Deposited Plan 26964, WEST END

### **AUTHORISED ACTIVITY**

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 1.3 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 4971/1.

### **CONDITIONS**

#### **1. Period in which clearing is authorised**

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless actively using the Permit Area as a lay down area within 1 month of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "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*

24 May 2012

# Plan 4971/1



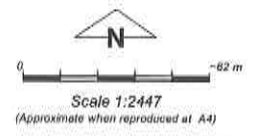
## LEGEND

- Road Centrelines
- Cadastre for labelling
- Freehold
- Crown Reserve
- State Forest / Timber Reserve
- Marine Park (cont)
- Crown Lease
- Lease / Reserve
- Lease on State Forest / Timber Reserve
- Public Roads
- Unallocated Crown Land
- Water

### Clearing Instruments

- Areas Applied to Clear
- Areas Subject to Conditions
- Areas Approved to Clear

Geraldton Townsite 10cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007



Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

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

Date 24/5/12  
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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## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4971/1

Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Geraldton Port Authority

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 602 ON PLAN 26964 (Lot No. 602 HAIGH WEST END 6530)

Local Government Area: City of Greater Geraldton

Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

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

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant

Decision Date: 24 May 2012

## 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 Association 440: Shrublands; Acacia ligulata open scrub (Shepherd et al 2001)	The proposed clearing of 1.3ha is for the purpose of a lay down area.  The vegetation under application is consisted to consist of open scrub of Acacia rostellifera in good (Keighery 1994) condition.	Good; Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	Condition of vegetation established through aerial photography (Geraldton Townsite 10cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007).

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

### Comments

The proposed clearing of 1.3ha is for the purpose of a lay down area. The vegetation under application is consists of open scrub of Acacia rostellifera in good (Keighery 1994) condition.

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 on vegetation that is considered a significant habitat for fauna due to its small size and location within the Geraldton townsite.

There are no wetlands or watercourses within or near the vicinity of the proposed clearing and it is not considered for it to causing or exacerbating flooding or impact on water quality.

The proposed clearing for a lay down area will cause appreciable land degradation in the form of wind erosion, given the sandy soils present and close proximity (150m) to the coast. Therefore, the proposed clearing may be at variance to Principle (g).

The area under application has been mapped as Plant community 10: near costal; Acacia rostellifera shrubland under the Geraldton Regional Flora and Vegetation Survey (GRFVS). This community is usually dominated by Acacia rostellifera. Acacia xanthina, Alyxia buxifolia or Chamelaucium uncinatum may be dominant or co-dominant species in this plant community (Department of Planning 2010). Plant community 10 occurs on taller secondary dunes and on exposed limestone and sandplain soils to the east as a result of disturbance to other plant communities. This community occupies 36.63% of the native vegetation of the GRVS area however none of the plant community occurs within protected conservation areas (Department of Planning 2010). The GRFVS recommends that while this plant community is relatively widespread in the GRFVS area, better condition representatives of this community have local conservation significance (Department of Planning 2010). The

vegetation under application is considered to be in good (Keighery 1994) condition. In addition, there is approximately 20% of vegetation remaining in the local area (10 km radius).

Given this and that the vegetation under application is considered to be in good (Keighery 1994) condition, the proposed clearing may be considered a significant remnant of vegetation within a highly cleared area. Therefore, the proposed clearing may be at variance to Principle (e). It is not considered for the proposed clearing to significantly impact on biodiversity values within the local area due to the small size (1.3ha) of the proposed clearing and therefore is not likely to be at variance to Principle (a).

The assessment of the application identified that the clearing may be at variance to Principle (e) and (g). It is not likely for the proposed clearing to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

<b>Methodology</b>	<b>References</b>
	-Department of Planning (2010)
	-Keighery (1994)
	GIS Databases
	-SAC Bio datasets (12 April 2012)
	-PreEuropean vegetation
	-DEC Managed Lands
	-Soils, statewide
	-Hydrography, linear

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

#### Comments

The proposed clearing of 1.3ha is for the purpose of a lay down area to be used by the Geraldton Port Authority and their customers.

The City of Greater Geraldton (2012) advised that a lay down area requires development approval and an application has not been received. However, if the works are considered public works they may be exempt under the Planning and Development Act 2005. The City of Greater Geraldton (2012) advised that it is up to the Geraldton Port Authority to establish if the lay down area constitutes public works or not.

Geraldton Port Authority has provided advice stating that a lay down area is classed as 'port works' and therefore the proposal for a lay down area would fall under the definition of 'public works' under the Planning and Development Act 2005.

Lot 602 is zoned Industrial - General under the City of Geraldton's Local Town Planning Scheme.

No submissions from the public have been received.

<b>Methodology</b>	<b>References</b>
	-City of Greater Geraldton (2012)
	GIS Databases
	-Town Planning Scheme Zones
	-EPA Position Statement No.2 Area

## 4. References

City of Greater Geraldton (2012) Direct Interest Submission for CPS 4971/1 - Geraldton Port Authority Lot 602 on Plan 26964 Geraldton. DEC ref A505843

Department of Planning (2010) Geraldton Regional Flora and Vegetation Survey. Prepared by Department of Planning and supported by Ecoscape (Australia) Pty Ltd. Western Australian Planning Commission, Perth Western Australia.

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., 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)

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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)