



## CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	CPS 6311/1
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Main Roads Western Australia
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	10 January 2015 – 10 January 2030

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 constructing borrow pits.
- 2. Land on which clearing is to be done**  
Lot 138 on Deposited Plan 217297, Yannarie  
Lot 170 on Deposited Plan 220393, Yannarie  
Lot 293 on Deposited Plan 30483, Yannarie  
North West Coastal Highway road reserve (PIN 11728403, PIN 11728402), Yannarie
- 3. Area of Clearing**  
The Permit Holder must not clear more than 194.64 hectares of native vegetation within the combined areas hatched yellow on attached Plan 6311/1a, Plan 6311/1b and Plan 6311/1c.
- 4. Period in which clearing is authorised**  
The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation after 10 January 2020.
- 5. 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.
- 6. Type of clearing authorised**  
This Permit authorises the Permit Holder to clear native vegetation for the project activities described in condition 1 of this Permit to the extent that the Permit Holder has the power to carry out works involving clearing for those activities under the *Main Roads Act 1930* or any other written law.

### PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

- 7. Weed control**  
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*:
  - (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
  - (b) ensure that no *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
  - (c) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

## 8. 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 in an area that has already been cleared.
- (b) at an *optimal time* 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; and
  - (iii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under condition 8(a) on the cleared area(s).
- (c) within 18 months of laying the vegetative material and topsoil on the cleared area in accordance with condition 8(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 8(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 8(c)(ii) of this permit, the Permit Holder shall repeat condition 8(c)(i) and 8(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 8(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 8(c)(ii), the CEO may require the Permit Holder to undertake additional *planting* and *direct seeding* in accordance with the requirements under condition 8(c)(ii).

## **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 the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* of areas pursuant to condition 8 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.

## 10. 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 9 of this Permit; and
  - (ii) concerning activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding calendar year.
- (b) If no clearing authorised under this Permit was undertaken between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding calendar year, a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been carried out, must be provided to the CEO on or before 30 June of each year.
- (c) Prior to 10 October 2029, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 9 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 10(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 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, or who is approved by the CEO as a suitable environmental specialist;

**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 100 kilometres and the same Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) subregions of the areas 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*;

**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 any plant -

- (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or
- (b) published in a Department of Parks and Wildlife Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

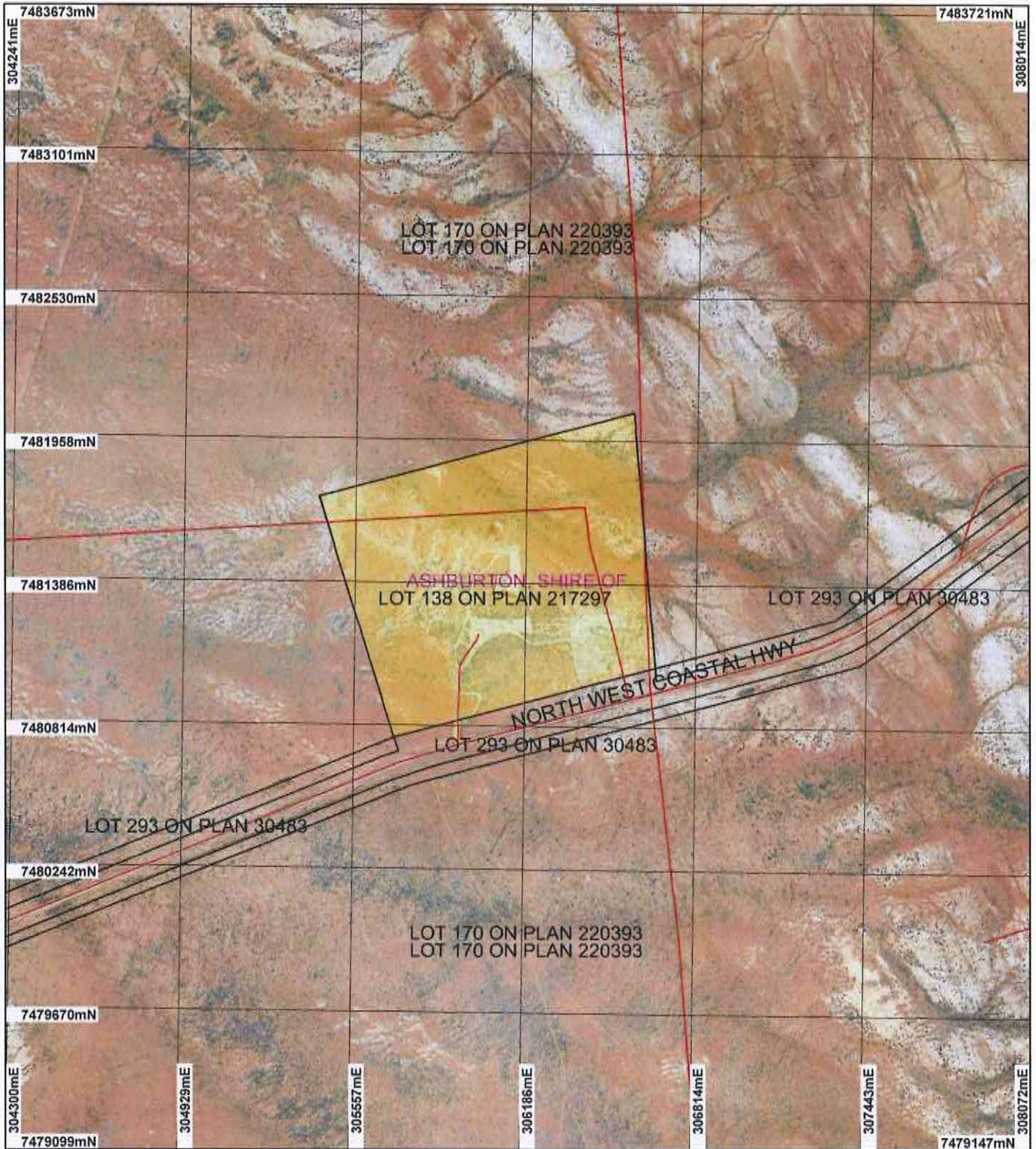


M Warnock  
SENIOR MANAGER  
CLEARING REGULATION

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



# Plan 6311/1a

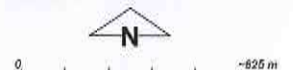


## LEGEND

### Clearing Instruments

- Areas Approved to Clear
- Road Centrelines
- Cadastre
- Local Government Authorities

Uargo 50cm Orthomosaic -  
Landgate 2005



Scale 1:20955  
(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.

*M Warnock* Date 11/12/14  
M Warnock

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1988

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



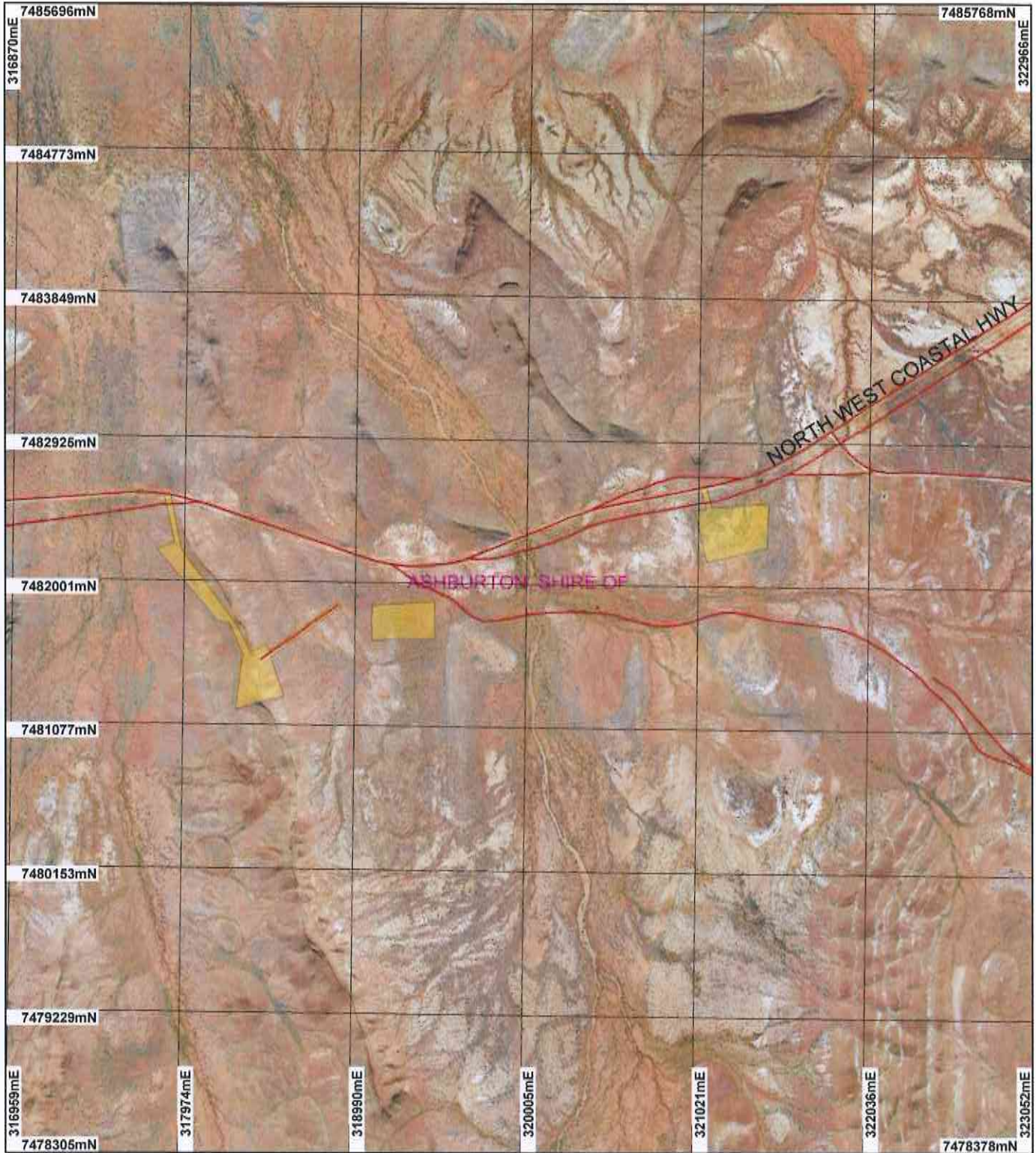
Government of Western Australia  
Department of Environment Regulation

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




# Plan 6311/1b



## LEGEND

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

Uaroo 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2005



0 ~1 km

Scale 1:33859  
(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.

*M Warmock* Date 11/12/14  
M Warmock

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.

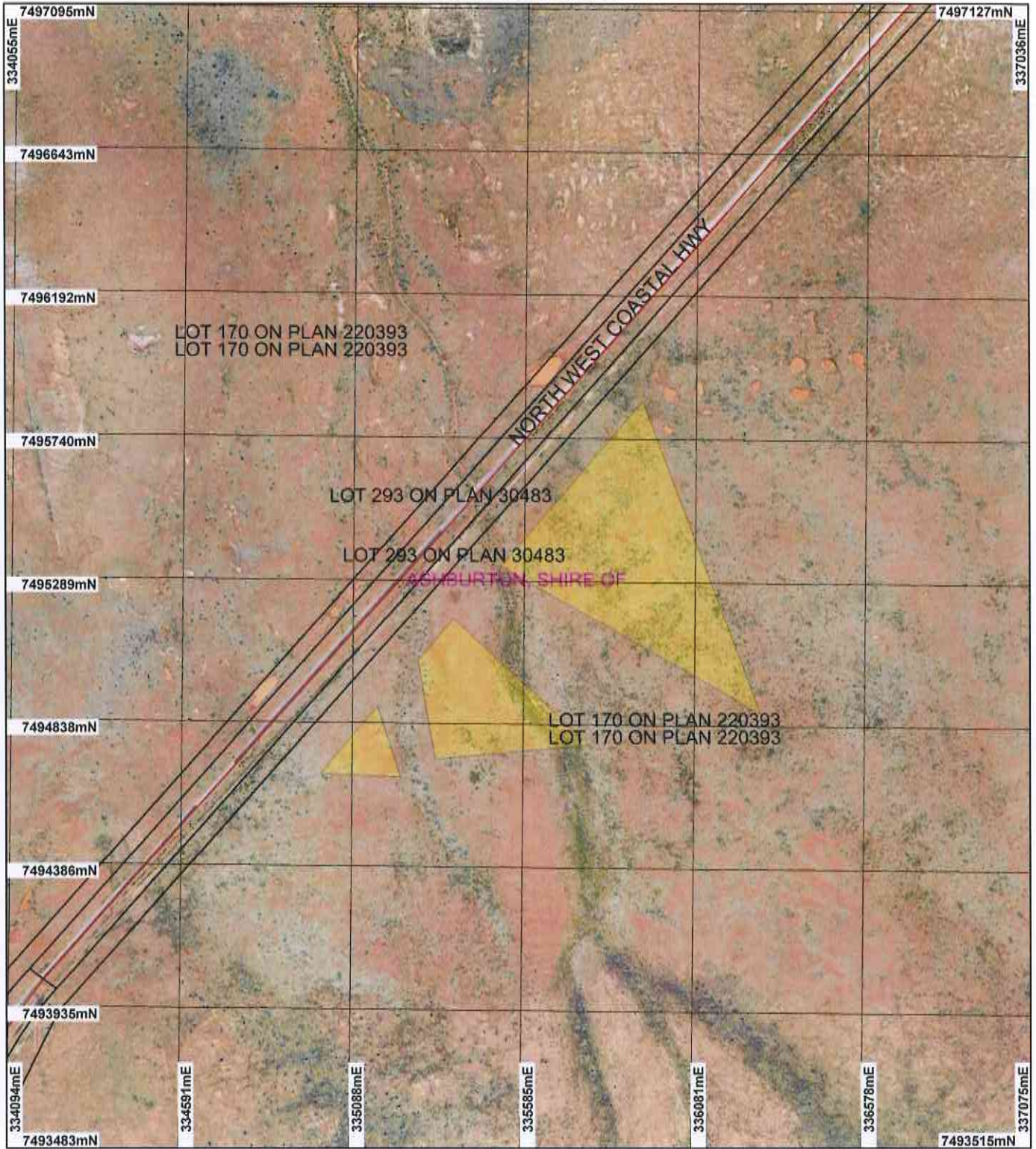


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\* Project Data is denoted by asterisk. This data has not been quality assured. Please contact map author for details.



# Plan 6311/1c



## LEGEND

- Clearing Instruments**
- Areas Approved to Clear
  - Road Centrelines
  - Cadastre
  - Local Government Authorities
- Uaroo 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2005**



Scale 1:16551  
(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.

*M Warnock* Date 11/12/14

M Warnock  
Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1988

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



Government of Western Australia  
Department of Environment Regulation

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## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6311/1  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Main Roads Western Australia

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 170 ON PLAN 220393 (YANNARIE 6710)  
LOT 293 ON PLAN 30483 (YANNARIE 6710)  
LOT 138 ON PLAN 217297 (YANNARIE 6710)  
NORTH WEST COASTAL HIGHWAY (YANNARIE 6710)

Local Government Area: Shire Ashburton  
Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
194.64		Mechanical Removal	Extractive Industry

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 11 December 2014

## 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 vegetation under application is mapped as Beard vegetation associations (Shepherd et al, 2001): - 95. Hummock grasslands, shrub steppe; acacia and grevillea over <i>Triodia basedowii</i> . - 1162. Hummock grasslands, grass steppe; hard spinifex <i>Triodia wiseana</i> and <i>T. basedowii</i>	To clear 194.64 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 170 on Deposited Plan 220393, Lot 138 on Deposited Plan 217297, Lot 293 on Deposited Plan 30483 and North West Coastal Highway road reserve, Yannarie, for the purposes of borrow pits.	Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)  To  Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery 1994)	A level 1 flora and fauna survey identified a total of 75 species with the condition of the vegetation ranging from excellent to completely degraded (AECOM, 2014). The survey (project area) was conducted over three separate areas referred to as Goodeman Creek, Cave Creek and Barradale Quarry.  The condition of the vegetation under application was determined via biological surveys conducted by AECOM in 2014 (AECOM, 2014).

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

### (a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.

#### Comments

#### Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The application is to clear up to 194.64 hectares of native vegetation within various properties for the purpose of constructing borrow pits. The application is located within the Shire of Ashburton.

The vegetation under application is in an excellent to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition (AECOM, 2014).

There have been three priority flora species recorded within 20 kilometres of the areas under application. A level 1 flora and fauna survey of the application area recorded 75 flora species, none of which are rare or



priority flora species (AECOM, 2014).

Several fauna species are known to occur within 20 kilometres of the areas under application (DEC 2007-). A targeted fauna survey did not record any fauna species of conservation significance within the application area (AECOM, 2014).

The landscape surrounding the application areas is highly vegetated retaining approximately 99 per cent native vegetation. Two Beard vegetation associations have been mapped within the application areas. Both of the vegetation associations are well represented within the bioregions of which the application falls.

Given the above, the application is not likely to be at variance to this clearing principle.

**Methodology** References:  
DEC (2007-)  
AECOM (2014)  
Keighery (1994)

GIS Datasets:  
- SacBiodataSets - accessed November 2014

**(b) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.**

**Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

A level 1 flora and fauna survey of the application area undertaken by AECOM in 2014 recorded 39 vertebrate species. No fauna species of conservation significance were recorded within the project area (AECOM, 2014).

The survey determined that potential habitat for the Northern quoll (*Dasyurus hallucatus*) was recorded within the project area (AECOM, 2014). However the local area is highly vegetated and similar habitat exists for the Northern quoll in the vegetation adjacent to the proposed clearing areas.

Given the above, the application is not likely to be at variance to this clearing principle.

**Methodology** References:  
AECOM (2014)

**(c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.**

**Comments Proposal is not at variance to this Principle**

The closest record of rare flora occurs over 200 kilometres from the application area. A level 1 flora and fauna survey of the application area undertaken by AECOM in 2014 did not reveal the presence of rare flora (AECOM, 2014).

Given the above, the application is not at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** Reference:  
AECOM (2014)

GIS Databases:  
- SAC Biodatsets - accessed November 2014

**(d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.**

**Comments Proposal is not at variance to this Principle**

The closest recorded threatened ecological community (TEC) occurs over 100 kilometres from the application area. A level 1 flora and fauna survey of the application area undertaken by AECOM in 2014 did not record vegetation consistent with a TEC (AECOM, 2014).

Given the above, the application is not at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** Reference:  
AECOM (2014)

GIS Databases:  
- SAC Biodatsets - accessed November 2014



**(e) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.**

**Comments Proposal is not at variance to this Principle**

The area under application is located within the Carnarvon, Pilbara and Gascoyne Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregions. These IBRA bioregions retain approximately 99 per cent of their pre-European vegetation extents (Government of Western Australia, 2013).

The vegetation under application is mapped as Beard vegetation associations 98 and 1162. Both vegetation associations retain approximately 99 per cent of their pre-European extent within the Carnarvon, Pilbara and Gascoyne bioregions (Government of Western Australia, 2013).

The area under application is located within the Shire of Ashburton which retains 99 per cent pre-European vegetation (Government of Western Australia, 2013).

The local area (20 kilometre radius) is highly vegetated with approximately 99 per cent vegetation remaining. Given the above, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.

Pre-European (ha)	Current Extent (ha)	Remaining Extent in DPaW Managed Lands (%)	
<b>IBRA Bioregion</b>			
Carnarvon	8,382,890	8,360,803	99 12
Gascoyne	18,075,219	18,067,441	99 10
Pilbara	17,808,657	17,733,583	99 8
<b>Shire</b>			
Shire of Ashburton	10,086,657	10,059,961	99 16
<b>Beard Vegetation Association</b>			
98 309,629	309,605	99	18
1162	71,617	71,598	99 0

**Methodology** References:  
Government of Western Australia (2013)

**(f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.**

**Comments Proposal is at variance to this Principle**

Numerous unnamed minor non-perennial watercourses intersect the areas under application. A level 1 flora and fauna survey of the application area identified a vegetation community associated to Goodmen Creek falls within the proposed clearing area (AECOM, 2014). The creek is seasonally inundated during seasonal rains.

The proposed clearing will impact upon this vegetation community associated to the creek and other non-perennial watercourses therefore the application is at variance to this principle. However, given that the local area is highly vegetated it is unlikely that impacts will be significant.

**Methodology** Reference:  
AECOM (2014)

GIS Datasets:  
- Hydrography linear

**(g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.**

**Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

The landscape surrounding the application area is highly vegetated retaining approximately 99 per cent native vegetation.

Given the local area surrounding the proposed clearing is highly vegetated, with the proposed clearing being spread out over eight separate areas, and these temporarily cleared areas will be revegetated, removing the vegetation under application is not likely to cause appreciable wind or water erosion, salinity or eutrophication.

Given this, the application is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** GIS Datasets:  
- Hydrography linear

**(h) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.**

**Comments Proposal is not at variance to this Principle**

There have been no conservation areas mapped within 20 kilometres of the proposed clearing. The closest conservation area to the proposed clearing areas is the Barlee Range Nature Reserve located approximately 65 kilometres from the application area

Given the distance between the applied areas and the nearest conservation area it is unlikely the proposed clearing will impact on the conservation values of the reserve.

The proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** GIS Datasets:  
- DPaW Tenure

**(i) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.**

**Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

Numerous unnamed minor non-perennial watercourses intersect the areas under application. During the works, the proposed clearing may cause short term water quality issues, such as localised surface water sedimentation. However, these issues are likely to be minimal and only likely to occur during the wet season.

The groundwater salinity within the application area is mapped as 1000 - 14000 mg/L of Total Dissolved Solids. Although some areas of the application are considered to be highly saline, given the highly vegetated local area it is unlikely the proposed clearing will increase groundwater salinity.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this principle.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- Groundwater salinity, statewide  
- Hydrography linear

**(j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.**

**Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

Numerous unnamed minor non-perennial watercourses intersect the areas under application.

Given that the local area is highly vegetated and as temporarily cleared areas will be revegetated; removing the vegetation under application is not likely to cause or exacerbate flooding and is not likely to be at variance to this clearing principle.

**Methodology** GIS Databases:  
- Hydrography linear

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

**Comments**

The areas under application fall within a registered native title claim. Both the claimants and their representing body have been notified of the application. To date no response has been received.

An Aboriginal Site of Significance is mapped within the application area. The applicant is advised to contact the Department of Aboriginal Affairs in relation to their responsibilities under the Native Title Act, 1994.

**Methodology**

**4. References**

- AECOM (2014) Level 1 Flora and Fauna Survey. Information supplied in support of clearing permit application CPS 6311/1, North West Coastal Highway, Prepared for Main Roads WA (DER Ref: A818623).
- Government of Western Australia (2013) 2012 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of October 2012. WA Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth.
- 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.