



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 6374/1
File Number: 2011/006915-1
Duration of Permit: 7 March 2015 to 7 March 2017

PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of York

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Great Southern Highway road reserve (PIN 11361896), Gwambygine
Berry Brow Road reserve (PIN 11408607), Inkpen

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.07 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 6374/1.

CONDITIONS

1. Dieback and 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* and *dieback*:

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

DEFINITIONS

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

dieback means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation;

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

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;

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.

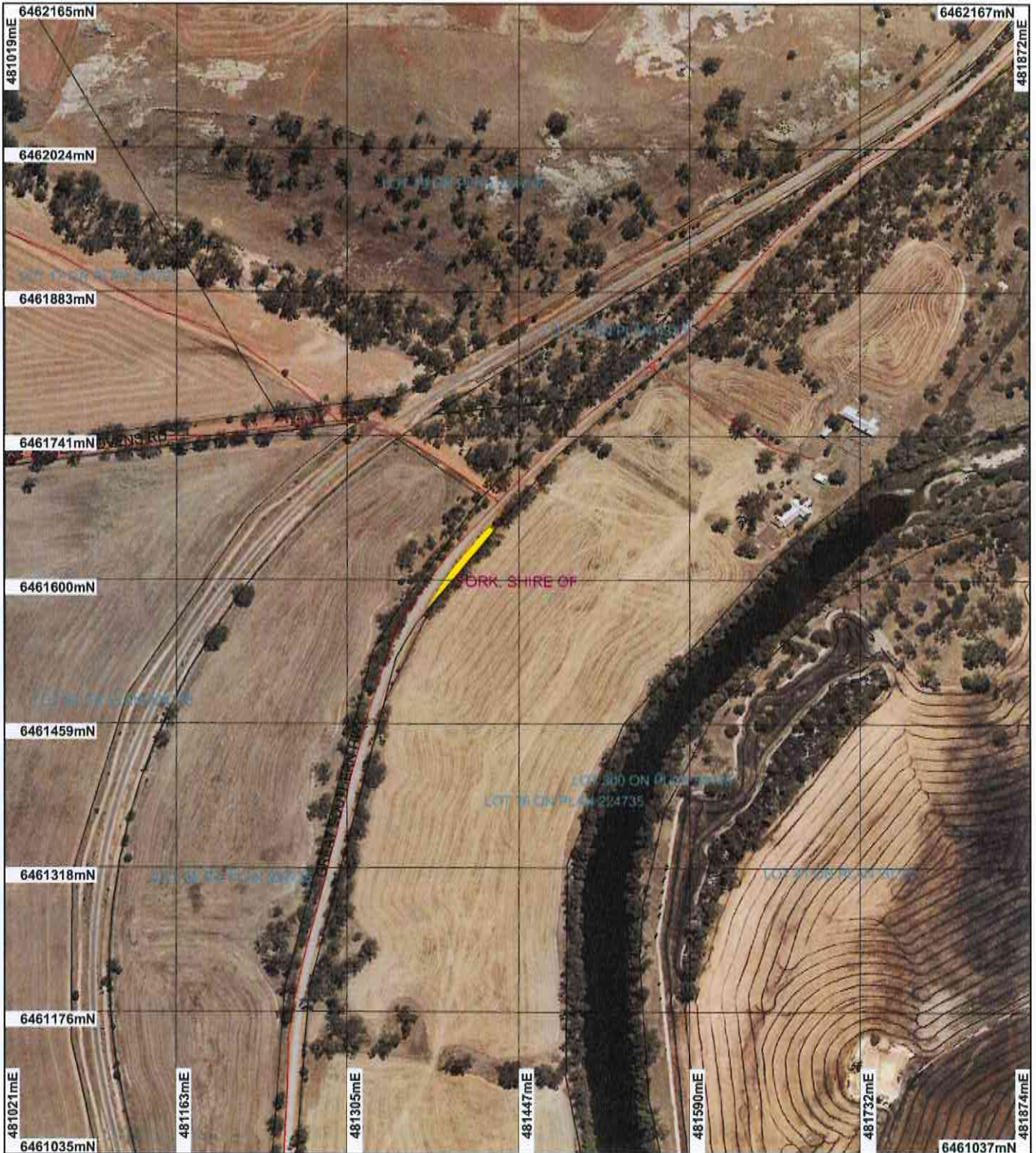
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Warnock".

M Warnock
SENIOR MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

5 February 2015

Plan 6374/1a



LEGEND

- Road Centrelines
- Cadastre for labelling
- Local Government Authorities
- Clearing Instruments_1
- Areas Approved to Clear

Northam 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2006

Scale 1:5000
(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 5/2/15

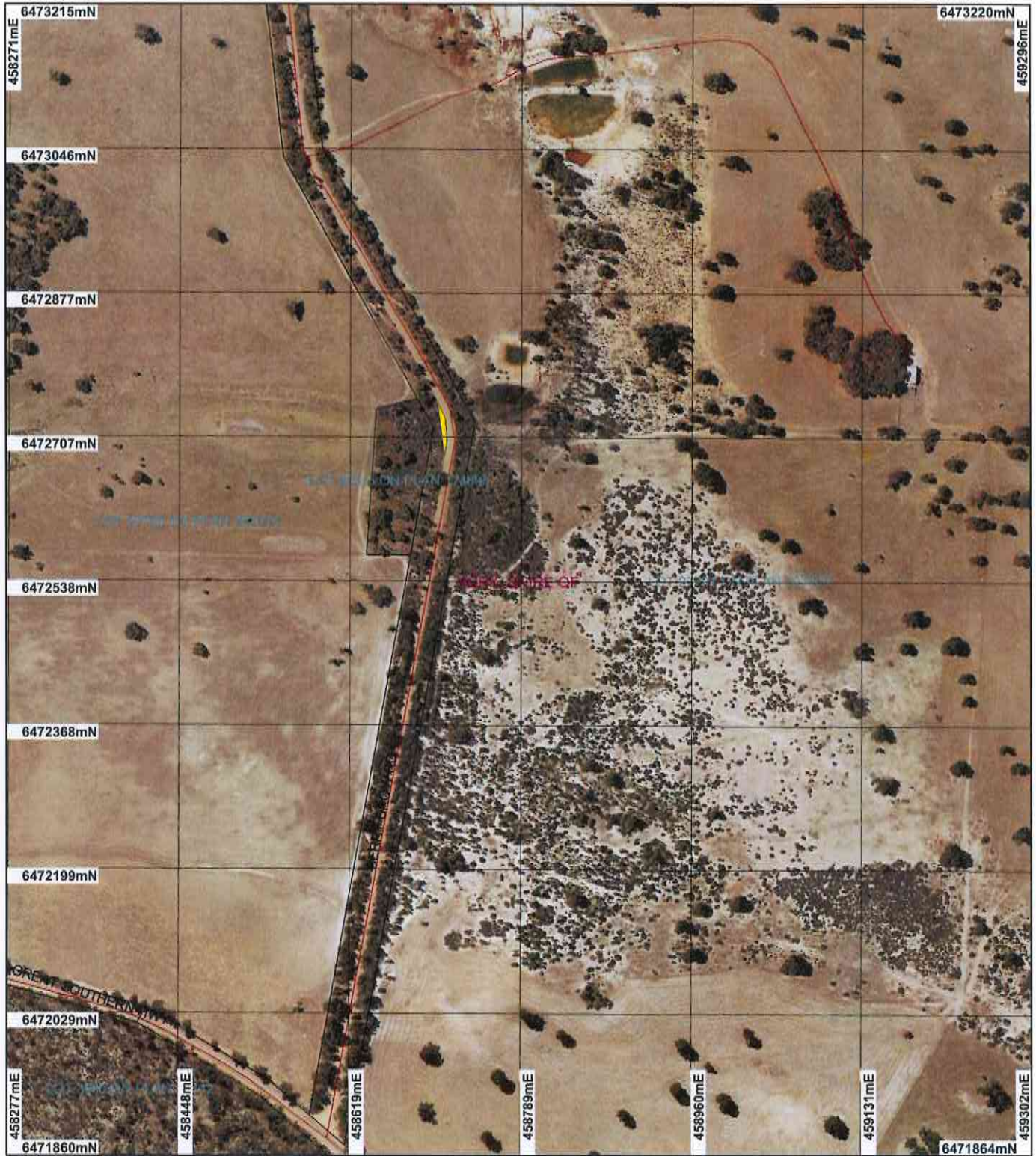
M Warnock
Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

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

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.

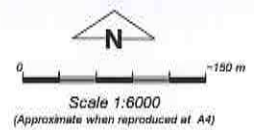
Plan 6374/1b



LEGEND

- Road Centrelines
- Cadastre for labelling
- Local Government Authorities
- Clearing Instruments_1**
- Areas Approved to Clear

Northam 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2006



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

approved Date *5/2/15*

M Warnock
Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

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Clearing Permit Decision Report

Government of Western Australia
Department of Environment Regulation

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6374/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Shire of York

1.3. Property details

Property: ROAD RESERVE (GWAMBYGINE 6302)
ROAD RESERVE (INKPEN 6302)
Local Government Area: Shire of York
Colloquial name: Great Southern Highway and Berry Brow Road

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 5 February 2015

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
Mapped Beard vegetation association 4 is described as medium woodland; marri & wandoo (Shepherd et al, 2001).	The clearing of 0.07 hectares of native vegetation within Great Southern Highway Road reserve, Gwambygine and Berry Brow Road reserve, Inkpen, is for the purpose of improving sightline distances and road safety.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The condition and structure of the vegetation under application was assessed using aerial imagery.
Mapped Beard vegetation association 352 is described as medium woodland; York gum (Shepherd et al, 2001).			
Mapped Matiske Vegetation Association Michibin (Mi) is described as open woodland of Eucalyptus wandoo over Acacia acuminata with some Eucalyptus loxophleba on valley slopes, with low woodland of Allocasuarina huegeliana on or near shallow granite outcrops in arid and perarid zones (Matiske and Havel, 1998).			

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The application is for the proposed clearing of 0.07 hectares of native vegetation within Great Southern Highway road reserve, Gwambygine and Berry Brow Road reserve, Inkpen, for the purpose of improving sightline distances and road safety. The application area located within the Great Southern Highway road reserve is a State funded black spot location.

The vegetation under application ranges from degraded to good (Keighery, 1994) condition, with the vegetation proposed for clearing along Great Southern Highway road reserve considered to be in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition and the vegetation proposed for clearing within Berry Brow Road reserve, in a degraded to good (Keighery, 1994) condition.

There are numerous records of priority flora species mapped within a 10 kilometre radius of the areas under application. The closest being a priority three flora species located approximately 400 metres north east of the application area within Berry Brow Road reserve. The application area may provide suitable habitat for this species. However, given priority three species are generally known from collections from several different localities not under imminent threat, the clearing as proposed is unlikely to have an impact on the conservation status of this species (DEC, 2013).

The vegetation under application may provide foraging habitat two fauna species, namely Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*) and Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*) that are declared as rare or likely to become extinct under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* (DEC, 2007-). However, given the small size of the application area (0.07 hectares), exposure to disturbance from the road reserves and the majority of the application being a degraded (Keighery) condition, the vegetation is not significant foraging habitat for Baudin's or Carnaby's cockatoos.

One rare flora species has been recorded on both the east and west verges within the application area along Berry Brow Road reserve (Parks and Wildlife, 2015). This species is a diffuse, ascending shrub that has a preference for sand and gravelly loam which is consistent with habitat located at the site (Parks and Wildlife, 2015). The species is known from nine populations and approximately 319 plants. It has a restricted distribution of approximately 30 kilometres east-west and 60 kilometres north-south in the Shires of Northam, York, Beverley and Brookton. No plants were recorded at several of the previously known populations during recent surveys, and plant numbers are in decline in the majority of populations. Given this, any impacts to this species, are of conservation significance. The Department of Parks and Wildlife (2015) has advised that this species has recently been observed in close proximity to the application area.

The Department of Parks and Wildlife Perth Hills District has met with the proponent on site to discuss the presence of this species and to ensure rare flora are not impacted during the proposed clearing, the species will be marked by the Department's Perth Hills District for avoidance. Given the application area may contain habitat for rare flora species, a permit to take rare flora under section 23F of the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* may be required.

The closest Priority Ecological Community (PEC) is located approximately 150 metres east of the application area at Great Southern Highway road reserve, and is described as 'Pools of the Avon and Dale Rivers'(Priority 1). This PEC consists of deep pools and natural braided sections of the fresh to brackish Avon and Dale Rivers (DEC, 2013). Given the application area does not contain wetland vegetation, it is not likely to be consistent with this PEC.

There are no threatened ecological communities recorded within the local area (10 kilometre radius).

The closest watercourse to the application areas is the Avon River located approximately 150 metres east of the proposal located at Great Southern Highway Road reserve. A minor non-perennial watercourse runs 140 metres north of the application area and is a tributary of the Avon River. Given the distance to these watercourses, the areas proposed for clearing are not likely to contain riparian vegetation.

The application area is mapped in close proximity to the Cullen Nature Reserve (A class). The disturbance caused by the proposed clearing, will increase the risk of weeds and dieback being spread into this reserve. Weed and dieback management practices will assist in mitigating this risk.

Given the small size of the application area, it is unlikely that the vegetation proposed to be cleared will be significant as a remnant of native vegetation, or that the clearing will cause or exacerbate land degradation or flooding, or impact upon water quality.

The assessment of the proposed clearing identified that the clearing may be at variance to principle (c) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

Methodology

References:

- Keighery (1994)
- DEC (2013)
- DEC (2007-)
- Parks and Wildlife (2015)

GIS Databases

- DPaW tenure
- Hydrography, linear DOW
- NWLRA, Extent of Native Vegetation

- Pre-European vegetation
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed January 2015
- Geomorphic Wetlands, (Mgt Categories), Swan Coastal Plain

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

Comments

The application is to clear 0.07 hectares of native vegetation for the purposes of improving sightline distances and road safety.

The Department of Parks and Wildlife (2015) has advised that a permit to take rare flora will be required if the proposed clearing is going to impact upon rare flora.

No aboriginal sites of significance have been mapped over the application area.

No submissions from the public have been received for the proposed clearing.

Methodology

References:

- Parks and Wildlife (2015)

GIS Databases:

- 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 27/01/2015
- DEC (2013) Priority Ecological Communities for Western Australia Version 18. Species and Communities Branch. Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth, Western Australia.
- Department of Parks and Wildlife (2015) Species and Communities Advice for Clearing Permit CPS 6349/1. Department of Parks and Wildlife. Western Australia. (DER Ref: A852884)
- 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.
- Mattiske, E.M. and Havel, J.J. (1998) Vegetation Complexes of the South-west Forest Region of Western Australia. Maps and report prepared as part of the Regional Forest Agreement, Western Australia for the Department of Conservation and Land Management and Environment 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.