

Jurien Bay Foreshore Redevelopment
Application to Clear Native Vegetation under Section 51E of the
Environmental Protection Act 1986

Summary

August 2015



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Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Project Description	1
2.1	Previous clearing.....	1
2.2	Clearing under the current application	1
3	Assessment against Clearing Principles	5
3.1	Assessment.....	5
3.2	Outcome of assessment	7
4	Stakeholder consultation	7
5	Other approvals.....	7

Tables

Table 1: Clearing permits previously issued under the EP Act.....	1
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Figures

Figure 1: Concept landscape plan – Jurien Bay foreshore redevelopment.	2
Figure 2: Previous clearing permits issued along the Jurien Bay foreshore.	3
Figure 3: Jurien Bay Foreshore Redevelopment – proposed area of native vegetation clearing.	4

Attachments

Maia Environmental Consultancy - Shire of Dandaragan: Jurien Bay Foreshore
Level 1 Flora and Vegetation Survey ,July 2015

1 Introduction

The Shire of Dandaragan has developed and begun implementing plans to redevelop the foreshore at Jurien Bay to provide the community with a recreational facility, the centrepiece of which is the Jurien Bay jetty (). The jetty, opened in 2011, replaced two old fishing jetties that were extensively damaged in a storm in May 2003.

The complete foreshore redevelopment project is shown in Figure 1. When complete, it will comprise:

- A boardwalk connected to the jetty
- Multi-use paths
- Playground
- Beach volleyball court
- Commercial area and car parks
- Landscaping and open grassed areas.

2 Project Description

2.1 Previous clearing

Two previous permits have been issued under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* for native vegetation clearing along the Jurien Bay foreshore, as shown in the following table and in Figure 2:

Table 1: Clearing permits previously issued under the EP Act.

Permit	Date Issued	Area (ha)	Comments
617/1	9 June 2005	0.96	This permit related to a more northerly section of the foreshore development near the corner of Heaton and Doust Streets, Jurien Bay.
650/1	9 June 2005	0.23	This permit relates to the northernmost section of the current application. The permit expired on 9 July 2009 without clearing having taken place.

2.2 Clearing under the current application

The application is seeking a permit to clear 2.06 ha of native vegetation as show in Figure 3. The area is within Lot 237 on Plan 52031 (Crown Reserve 28541), managed by the Shire of Dandaragan. Note that the concept plan shown in Figure 1 extends outside of Reserve 28541 – the implemented project will be restricted to reserve 28541, as shown in Figure 3.

The coordinates of the area to be cleared within Crown Reserve 28541 are as follows (GDA94, MGA50):

311228 mE, 6646039 mN
 311287 mE, 6646016 mN
 310960 mE, 6645690 mN
 310921 mE, 6645712 mN

Figure 1: Concept landscape plan – Jurien Bay foreshore redevelopment.



CONCEPT LANDSCAPE PLAN Open Area Option



landscape architecture
urban design
environmental management

SHIRE OF DANDARAGAN

SCALE
1:750@A1



JURIEN BAY FORESHORE REDEVELOPMENT

DATE
25.02.2015

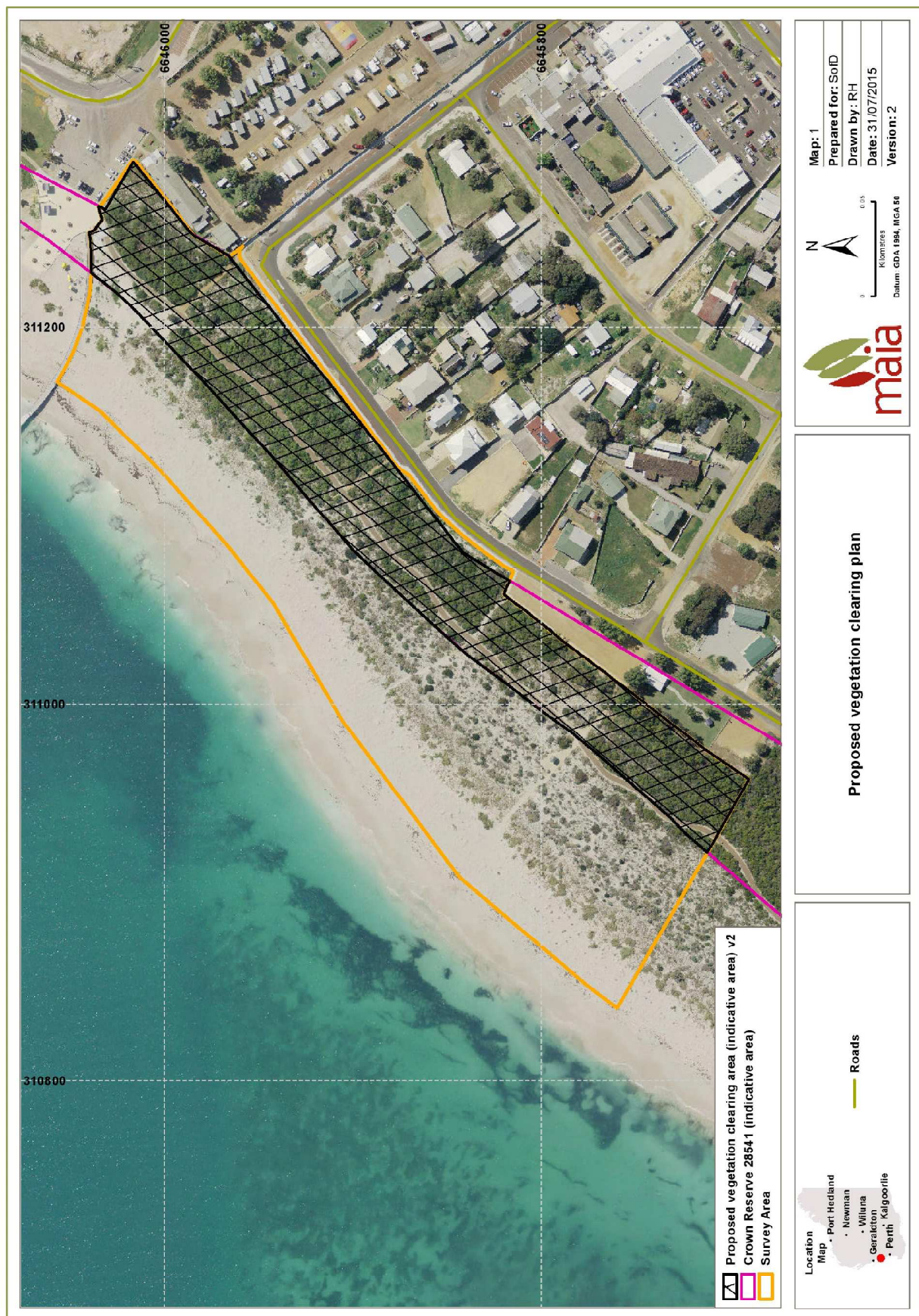
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LW 14004 001

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Figure 2: Previous clearing permits issued along the Jurien Bay foreshore.



Figure 3: Jurien Bay Foreshore Redevelopment – proposed area of native vegetation clearing.



All clearing will be undertaken by earthmoving equipment (mechanical). Clearing will include the removal of two trees. Both are examples of *Eucalyptus platypus*, a species not native to the local area.

The following section considers the impacts of the proposal against the clearing principles.

3 Assessment against Clearing Principles

3.1 Assessment

The following assessment has been compiled with reference to a survey and desktop assessment undertaken by Maia Environmental Consultancy. Their report is included as part of this application.

Maia undertook comprehensive database and literature searches and a Level 1 field survey (on 15 July 2015). Their report includes a full species list and mapping of vegetation types and vegetation condition.

The responses to each of the clearing principles are drawn from the Maia report with additional information added where relevant.

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

Biological diversity in this area is not high, as the Study Area is in the foredunes at Jurien Bay and the harsh conditions in these areas tend to limit the number of species that can grow in the habitat. The vegetation on the foredune further from the ocean is dense and more diverse than that on the incipient dune and berm closest to the ocean.

The survey recorded only 50 taxa, of which 24 were introduced.

The proposal is not at variance to this Principle.

Principle (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.

The vegetation in the area surveyed did not appear to comprise of any significant habitat for fauna indigenous to WA. Apart from two apparently planted *Eucalyptus platypus*, no large seeded shrub or tree species were located in the Survey Area. Survey Area vegetation is not included in mapping of potential feeding areas for Carnaby's Black Cockatoo. While endemic to the south coast between Albany and Esperance, *Eucalyptus platypus* is not listed in a preliminary list of Carnaby's cockatoo food species to be used in revegetation / restoration projects in the vicinity of Stirling Range and Fitzgerald River National Parks.

The vegetation association is widespread and remains largely intact compared with its; pre-European extent (see comments regarding Principle (e)). The proposed clearing will not reduce any fauna values associated with this vegetation association.

The proposal is not at variance to this Principle.

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

No threatened flora listed under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* was recorded in the Survey Area and none has been located in the database search area (extending up to 5 km from the Survey Area).

One Priority 3 species was located in the Survey Area - *Thryptomene* sp. Lancelin (M.T. Trudgen 14000). This species does not occur only in the Survey Area (it has been located to the north and south) and therefore does not rely on the Survey Area for its continued existence.

The area where the plant was located (see Maia report, Map 9.13, Section 9) was one of the areas to be cleared as part of the foreshore development. However, the Shire of Dandaragan has decided to amend the design and not clear the area where the single plant was found.

The proposal is not at variance to this Principle.

Principle (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.

The native vegetation in the Survey Area does not comprise whole or part of a Threatened Ecological Community.

The proposal is not at variance to this Principle.

Principle (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.

One of the vegetation system associations mapped by Beard occurs in the Survey Area – BVSA 1026.1, which is described as: Mosaic: Shrublands; *Acacia rostellifera*, *A. cyclops* (in the south) and *Melaleuca cardiophylla* (in the north) thicket / Shrublands; *Acacia lasiocarpa* and *Melaleuca acerosa* heath. Currently, 93.84% of the pre-European subregional extent remains and 51.82% of its current extent is protected for conservation and 55.71% of its current extent lies in DPaW-managed land.

The proposal is not at variance to this Principle.

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

The vegetation of the Survey Area is not growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland. It is an approximately 80 m wide strip of coastal vegetation adjacent to the beach.

The proposal is not at variance with this principle.

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

The clearing of this vegetation could cause land degradation because of its coastal foredune location. However, the Shire of Dandaragan is going to develop the area for public use. The area will be a mixture of grassed areas for open space, a beach volley ball court, decking to adjoin the existing jetty and commercial hard stand areas. Therefore the land should not become degraded as a result of the works.

Adjacent vegetation on the berm close to the beach is to be rehabilitated by the Shire of Dandaragan in the future and this should further stabilise the dune sand in these areas.

The proposal is not at variance to this Principle.

Principle (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.

There are no adjacent terrestrial conservation areas – the closest is approximately 6.5 km from the Survey Area at its closest point (Drovers Cave National Park). Therefore clearing in the Survey Area will not affect the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby terrestrial conservation area.

The proposal is not at variance to this Principle.

Principle (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.

The proximity to the ocean and the small area of clearing proposed means it is unlikely to cause the quality of surface or underground water to deteriorate.

The proposal is not at variance with this principle.

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

Given the foreshore location of this vegetation and the dune sands, its clearing will not cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding. In fact some of the area to be cleared is to be used for one in a hundred and one in ten year drainage basins and it should therefore reduce the incidence or intensity of flooding.

The proposal is not at variance to this Principle.

3.2 Outcome of assessment

It is the Shire's assessment that the proposed clearing of native vegetation associated with the Jurien Bay Foreshore Redevelopment is not at variance with any of the ten clearing principles.

4 Stakeholder consultation

The proposal for the foreshore redevelopment has been extensively canvassed by the Shire of Dandaragan and has included community workshops.

5 Other approvals

No other environmental approvals are required.