



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 6827/1

File Number: DER2015/002575-1

Duration of Permit: 20 February 2016 to 20 February 2018

PERMIT HOLDER

Minister for Transport

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 561 on Deposited Plan 174170, Onslow

Lot 460 on Deposited Plan 210532, Onslow

Lot 3054 on Deposited Plan 52026, Onslow

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 4 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 6827/1.

CONDITIONS

Nil.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'James Widenbar', written over a horizontal line.

James Widenbar
MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

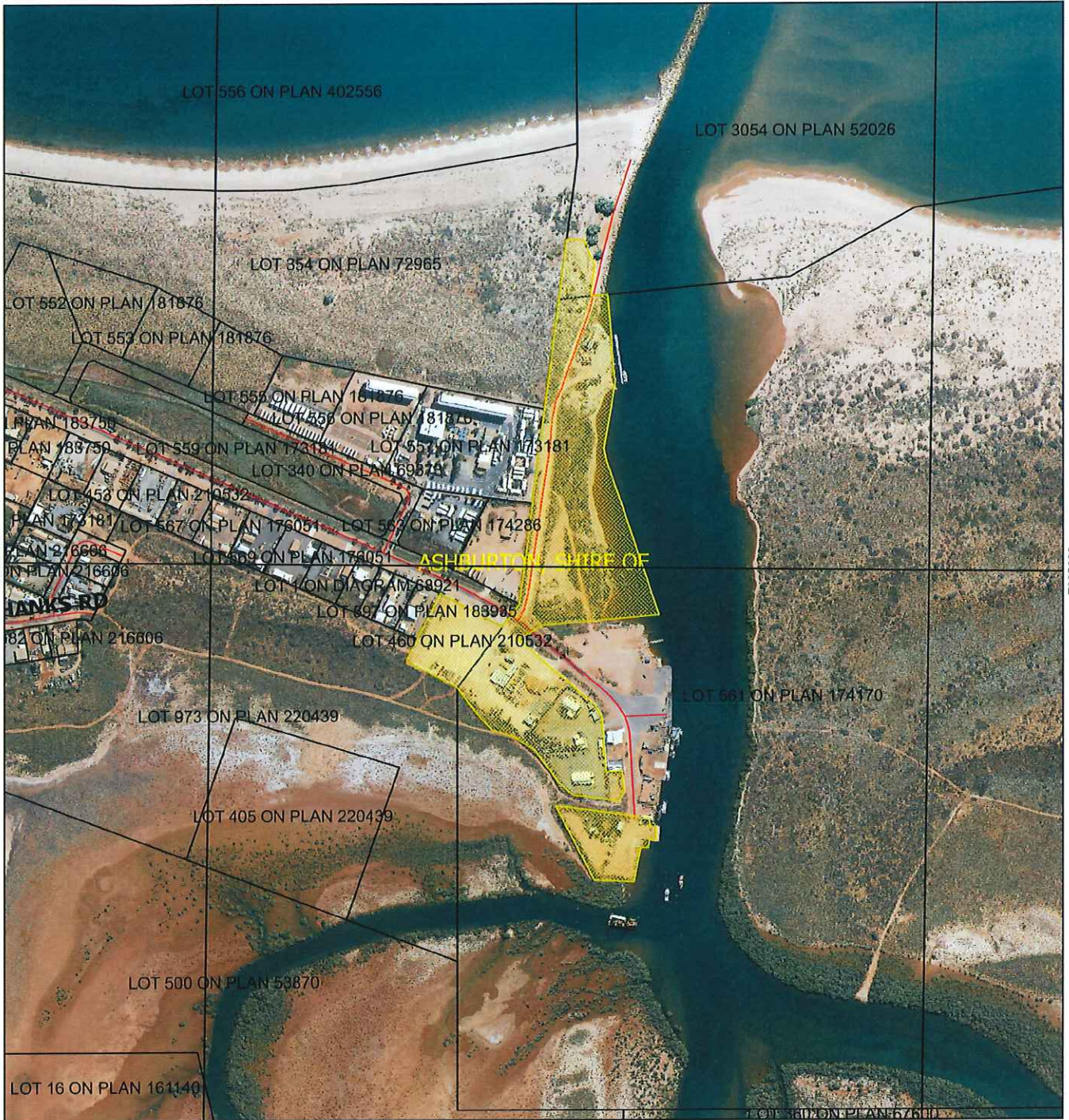
*Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

21 January 2016

Plan 6827/1

306000

307000



7605000

7605000

306000

307000

Legend

-  Areas approved to clear
 -  Roads
 -  Cadastre
- Virtual Mosaic (LGATE-V001)



1:6,500

MGA 94

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

J Widenbar

Date 21/1/2016

J Widenbar

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



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6827/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Minister for Transport

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 561 ON PLAN 174170, ONSLOW
LOT 460 ON PLAN 210532, ONSLOW
LOT 3054 ON PLAN 52026, ASHBURTON, SHIRE OF
ASHBURTON, SHIRE OF

Local Government Authority:
DER Region: North West
DPaW District: no district
LCDC: Ashburton
Localities: ONSLOW

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted

Decision Date: 21 January 2016

Reasons for Decision: The clearing application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with s51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, and has concluded that the proposed clearing is at variance to Principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to any of the remaining clearing principles.

Through assessment it has been determined that the clearing of a relatively small, degraded (Keighery, 1994) area is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. State policies and other relevant policies have been taken into consideration in the decision to grant a clearing permit.

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 vegetation association 676 is described as Succulent steppe; samphire (Shepherd et al, 2001).	The application is to clear four hectares of native vegetation for the purposes of constructing marine and harbour services facilities and access roads.	Degraded; Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994).	The condition and structure of the vegetation under application was determined via aerial imagery.
Beard vegetation association 117 is described as Hummock grasslands, grass steppe; soft spinifex (Shepherd et al, 2001).			

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments The application is for the proposed clearing of up to four hectares of native vegetation within Lot 561 on Deposited Plan 174170, Lot 460 on Deposited Plan 210532 and Lot 3054 on Deposited Plan 52026, Onslow, for the purposes of constructing marine and harbour services facilities and access roads.

The proposed marine and harbour facilities are located on Beadon Creek in Onslow. This area at Beadon Creek has historically been utilised for recreational, fishing and charter operations and has therefore been subject to numerous disturbances and is consequently in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition.

There are no priority or threatened ecological communities, rare or priority flora species recorded within the local area (10 kilometre radius).

The local area (10 kilometre radius) surrounding the application area retains approximately 99 per cent native vegetation. The application area has been mapped within Beard vegetation associations 117 and 676 which retain approximately 88 per cent and 98 per cent native vegetation within the Carnarvon Coastal Plain Bioregion respectively (Government of Western Australia, 2014). Given the well represented vegetation types in a local and regional context, the area under application is not considered to be a significant remnant in an extensively cleared area.

The area under application intersects Beadon Creek, and consequently the proposed clearing will impact upon vegetation growing in association with this watercourse. Short term sedimentation may occur from the disturbance caused by the proposed clearing, however, impacts to this water course are expected to be short-term and it is unlikely to result in the deterioration of surface water quality.

Given the degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation and that the local area is extensively vegetated, clearing the vegetation under application is not likely to provide significant fauna habitat, nor likely to contribute to or cause land degradation, deteriorate the quality of ground water and is not likely to cause or exacerbate flooding.

Given the above, clearing the vegetation under application is at variance to Principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing Principles.

Methodology

References:
Government of Western Australia (2014)
Keighery (1994)

GIS Databases:
Hydrography, linear DOW
NWLRA, Extent of Native Vegetation
Pre-European vegetation
SAC Biodatasets – Accessed (January 2016)

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments The applicant previously held a clearing permit (CPS 4492/2) for the area under application however this permit expired on 3 October 2015. The current application reflects the remaining vegetation proposed to be cleared.

The application area falls within the Pilbara Groundwater and Surface Water Areas. The Department of Water (DoW) has been notified of the application and has not provided any comments to date. The applicant is advised to contact DoW to determine whether permits to take groundwater or surface water or interfere with bed and banks under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* are required.

There are no Aboriginal Sites of Significance recorded in the application area.

The care, control and management of Reserve 30711 is under a Management Order to the Minister for Transport for the designated purpose of 'Harbour Purposes'.

A small portion of the application area occurs within easement 3134B/1788 on Lot 561 on Deposited Plan 174170, which is held with the Shire of Ashburton. The Shire of Ashburton (2015) has advised that they have no objection to the proposed access and clearing within this easement.

Under the Town Planning Scheme Zone, the application area is zoned as 'public purposes'.

The clearing permit application was advertised on 30 November 2015 by the Department of Environment Regulation inviting submissions from the public. No submissions from the public were received.

Methodology

References:
Shire of Ashburton (2015)

4. References

- Government of Western Australia (2014) 2014 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of June 2014. WA Department of Parks and Wildlife, 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, Extent, Type and Status. Resource Management Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.
- Shire of Ashburton (2015) Letter of authority to clear within easement 3134B/1788. Tom Price, Western Australia (DER Ref: A1035419).