



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 6943/1

File Number: DER2014/002802-1

Duration of Permit: From 2 July 2016 to 2 July 2018

PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of Esperance

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 64 on Deposited Plan 226440, West Beach

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 3.54 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on the attached Plan 6943/1.

CONDITIONS

Nil.

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

James Widenbar
A/SENIOR MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

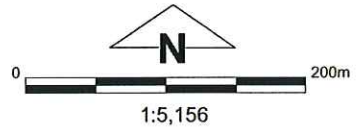
2 June 2016

Plan 6943/1



Legend

-  Cadastre
-  Imagery
-  Clearing Instruments Activities
-  Roads
-  Local Government Authority



(Approximate when reproduced at A4)
GDA 94 (Lat/Long)
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

James Widenbar Date *2/6/2016*
James Widenbar

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



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WESTERN AUSTRALIA
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1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6943/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Shire of Esperance

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 64 ON PLAN 226440, WEST BEACH
Local Government Authority: ESPERANCE, SHIRE OF
DER Region: Goldfields
DPaW District: ESPERANCE
Localities: WEST BEACH

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 2 June 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 not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

Through assessment it has been determined that the area falls within a Priority 2 area of the Esperance Water Reserve, which is a Public Drinking Water Source Area. The Department of Water (DoW) has recommended that a recreation management plan be prepared which identifies measures to address potential risks to water quality from the proposed end land use. The applicant is recommended to liase with DoW to address this risk.

Relevant 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 42 is described as shrublands comprising mallee & acacia scrub on south coastal dunes (Shepherd et al., 2001).	The Shire of Esperance proposes to clear 3.54 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 64 on Deposited Plan 226440, West Beach, for the purpose of establishing a car park, creating a track and pit area, establishing club rooms, grassed areas and camping areas.	Degraded; Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994).	The condition and description of the vegetation under application was determined via additional information and photographs provided by the Shire of Esperance. The vegetation under application largely comprises degraded Acacia scrub with introduced species <i>Leptospermum laevigatum</i> (Victorian tea-tree) dominant throughout the site, preventing understorey biodiversity. Other species within the application area include <i>Acacia cyclops</i> , <i>Acacia saligna</i> , <i>Spyridium globosum</i> , <i>Templetonia retusa</i> , <i>Pimelea brachyphylla</i> , <i>Billardiera coriacea</i> , <i>Kennedia prostrata</i> , <i>Phyllanthus calycinus</i> and <i>Dianella revoluta</i> (Shire of Esperance, 2015).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments The proposed clearing of up to 3.54 hectares of vegetation for the purpose of constructing a remote control car club, including establishing a car park, creating a track and pit area, establishing club rooms, grassed areas and camping areas is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts.

Photographs provided by the applicant and additional information provided by the Department of Parks and Wildlife (Parks and Wildlife, 2016) indicates that the application area is in a degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition as it is dominated by exotic species *Leptospermum laevigatum* (Victorian tea-tree), resulting in a lack of understorey biodiversity (Shire of Esperance, 2015).

Given the dominance of the highly invasive Victorian tea-tree, lack of understorey biodiversity, extent of native vegetation in the local area (approximately 40 per cent of native vegetation remaining within a 10 kilometre radius), and lack of primary habitat trees, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on rare or priority flora, significant fauna habitat or nearby conservation reserves.

The majority of the application area is within a mapped nationally listed threatened ecological community (TEC) known as 'Proteaceae Dominated Kwongkan Shrublands of the Southeast Coastal Floristic Province of Western Australia' (Kwongkan Shrublands). This nationally listed TEC is listed as endangered and protected under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. In Western Australia, the community has been afforded Priority 3 conservation status by the Department of Parks and Wildlife.

The Kwongkan Shrublands are home to an array of unique plant species, dominated by plants from the family Proteaceae, including plants from the genera *Adenanthos*, *Banksia*, *Grevillea*, *Hakea*, *Isopogon* and *Lambertia* (Threatened Species Scientific Committee, 2014). The vegetation under application is not consistent with the abovementioned vegetation type and advice from Parks and Wildlife (2016) indicates that the application area is not likely to meet the criteria necessary to be classed as Kwongkan Shrublands.

There are no wetlands or watercourses mapped within the application area, therefore the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on riparian vegetation or water quality, cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding or result in water erosion. Given the size of proposed clearing, and extent of vegetation immediately surrounding the application area, it is not expected that wind erosion will result in appreciable land degradation post clearing.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing Principles.

Methodology References:
Keighery (1994)
Parks and Wildlife (2016)
Shire of Esperance (2015)
Threatened Species Scientific Committee (2014)

GIS Databases:
Hydrography, linear
Hydrography, hierarchy
NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation
SAC Bio Datasets (accessed April 2016)
South Coast Significant Wetlands

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments No public submissions have been received in response to the proposed clearing.

There are no Aboriginal Sites of Significance mapped within the application area.

The application area is within a Priority 2 area of the Esperance Water Reserve, which is a Public Drinking Water Source Area. Officer level advice from the Department of Water (DoW, 2016) outlines that the application in its current form is not supported, as it contradicts DoW's Operational Policy 13: Recreation within public drinking water source areas on Crown land. DoW request that the Shire of Esperance liaise with DoW to minimise the potential for the proposed works to impact on water quality in this area. Specifically DoW has recommended that the applicant prepares a recreation management plan, which identifies measures to address potential risks to water quality from the proposed end land use. DER recommends that the applicant liaise with DoW to address this risk.

Methodology References:
DoW (2016)

GIS Databases:
Aboriginal Sites of Significance

4. References

- DoW (2016) Direct Interest Response regarding Public Drinking Water Source Areas for Clearing Permit Application CPS 6943/1. Department of Water, Western Australia. DER Ref A1066827.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Parks and Wildlife (2016) Regional advice provided for Clearing Permit Application CPS 6943/1. Department of Parks and Wildlife, Perth, Western Australia. DER Ref A1066821.
- 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 Esperance (2015) Supporting Information for Clearing Permit Application CPS 6943/1. DER Ref A1051497
- Threatened Species Scientific Committee (2014) Approved Conservation Advice for Proteaceae Dominated Kwongkan Shrublands of the southeast coastal floristic province of Western Australia. Department of the Environment, Canberra.