



## CLEARING PERMIT

*Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

### PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 7006/1

File Number: DER2013/001352-2

Duration of Permit: From 2 July 2016 to 2 July 2021

### PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of Augusta - Margaret River

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 858 on Deposited Plan 188703, Augusta

### AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 15 native trees within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 7006/1.

### CONDITIONS

#### 1. Western Ringtail Possum Management

- (a) In relation to the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 7006/1, the Permit Holder must engage a *fauna specialist* to inspect that area immediately prior to, and for the duration of, clearing, for the presence of western ringtail possum(s) (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*).
- (b) Clearing must cease in any area where a western ringtail possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) is identified until either:
  - (i) the individual has been removed by a *fauna specialist*; or
  - (ii) the individual has moved on from that area to adjoining *suitable habitat*.
- (c) Any western ringtail possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) individuals removed in accordance with condition 1(b)(i) of this Permit must be relocated by a *fauna specialist* to *suitable habitat*.
- (d) Where a western ringtail possum(s) (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) is identified under condition 1(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder must provide the following records to the *CEO* as soon as practicable:
  - (i) the number of individuals identified;
  - (ii) the date each individual was identified;
  - (iii) the location where each individual was identified 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;
  - (iv) the number of individuals removed and relocated;
  - (v) the date each individual was removed;
  - (vi) the date each individual was relocated;
  - (vii) the location where each individual was relocated to, recorded using a GPS unit set to GDA94, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; and
  - (viii) details pertaining to the circumstances of any death of, or injury sustained by, an individual.

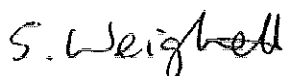
## DEFINITIONS

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

**CEO:** means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment Regulation (Western Australia).

**fauna specialist:** means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specializing in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in fauna identification and surveys of fauna native to the region being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the CEO as a suitable fauna specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*.

**suitable habitat:** means habitat known to support western ringtail possums (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) within the known current distribution of the species. This often includes stands of myrtaceous trees (usually Peppermint Tree (*Agonis flexuosa*)) growing near swamps, watercourses or floodplains, and at topographic low points which provide cooler, often more fertile, conditions.



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Simon Weighell  
A/MANAGER  
CLEARING REGULATION





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

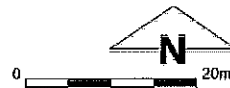
2 June 2016

# Plan 7006/1



## Legend

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



1:847

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)  
GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

*S. Weighell* Date *2/6/16*

S Weighell

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



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## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7006/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Shire of Augusta Margaret River

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 858 ON DEPOSITED PLAN 188703, AUGUSTA  
Local Government Authority: Shire of Augusta-Margaret River  
DER Region: Greater Swan  
Localities: AUGUSTA

### 1.4. Application

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

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted

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 may be at variance to Principle (b) 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 area in completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition that is surrounded by a highly modified landscape 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
Mapped as Beard vegetation association 1109 which is described as shrublands; peppermint scrub, <i>Agonis flexuosa</i> (Shepherd et al, 2001).	The application is for the clearing of 15 native trees within Lot 858 on Deposited Plan 188703, Augusta, for the purpose of constructing chalets.	Completely Degraded; No longer intact, completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).	The vegetation condition was determined via photographs provided by the applicant.

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

**Comments** The application is for the clearing of 15 native trees within Lot 858 on Deposited Plan 188703, Augusta, for the purpose of constructing chalets.

The application area is in a completely degraded (Keighery 1994) condition and consists of 15 *Agonis flexuosa* trees.

Eight rare flora and 21 priority flora species have been recorded within the local area (10 kilometre radius). Twenty two fauna species listed as rare or likely to become extinct under the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 have been recorded within the local area (10 kilometre radius) (Parks and Wildlife 2007-). Given the application area is in a completely degraded (Keighery 1994) condition, that has been impacted by the surrounding caravan park development and lacks understorey, it is considered unlikely to contain significant remnant vegetation, support significant populations of rare or priority flora, or contain a high level of biological diversity. The *Agonis flexuosa* trees may provide habitat for the western ringtail possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) (Parks and Wildlife 2016) and therefore the application area may contain significant fauna habitat.

No threatened ecological communities, priority ecological communities or conservation areas are mapped within the vicinity of the application area.

A major watercourse, Hardy Inlet, is located approximately 30 metres east of the area under application. Given the completely degraded (Keighery 1994) condition of the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to result in significant impacts to the watercourse.

Given the relatively small area under application (15 native trees) in a completely degraded (Keighery 1994) condition and the highly disturbed surroundings, the proposed clearing is not likely to contribute to or cause land degradation, deteriorate the quality of surface or ground water, or cause or exacerbate flooding.

Given the above, clearing the vegetation under application may be at variance to principle (b) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles. Inspecting the vegetation prior to clearing and ensuring a fauna spotter is present on site at the time of clearing to capture and relocate any western ringtail possum individuals is likely to limit any potential impacts to the species.

**Methodology**

References:

Keighery (1994)  
Parks and Wildlife (2007-)  
Parks and Wildlife (2016)

GIS datasets:

SAC Bio datasets accessed March 2016  
Hydrography linear  
NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation  
Parks and Wildlife tenure  
Soils, statewide

**Planning instruments and other relevant matters.**

**Comments** The application was advertised in the West Australian newspaper on 18 April 2016 for a 21 day public submission period. No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

**4. References**

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 (2007- ) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed May 2016

Parks and Wildlife (2016) Regional advice for Clearing Permit Application CPS 7006/1. Department of Parks and Wildlife. South West Region. Western Australia. DER Ref: A1106961

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.