



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

|                               |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Purpose Permit number:</b> | CPS 7531/1                      |
| <b>Permit Holder:</b>         | Shire of Augusta-Margaret River |
| <b>Duration of Permit:</b>    | 27 July 2017 – 27 July 2022     |

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

### PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED

#### 1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of car parking and boat trailer facilities and the renewal of a drainage basin.

#### 2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 849 on Deposited Plan 187373, Augusta  
Lot 469 on Deposited Plan 170458, Augusta  
Lot 408 on Diagram 23075, Augusta  
Lot 873 on Diagram 75017, Augusta  
Unnamed road reserve, Augusta (PIN 1349009)

#### 3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.15 hectares of native vegetation and 14 native trees within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 7531/1.

#### 4. Application

This Permit allows the Permit Holder to authorise persons, including employees, contractors and agents of the Permit Holder, to clear native vegetation for the purposes of this Permit subject to compliance with the conditions of this Permit and approval from the Permit Holder.

#### 5. Type of clearing authorised

This Permit authorises the Permit Holder to clear native vegetation for the activities described in condition 1 of this Permit to the extent that the Permit Holder has the power to carry out works involving clearing for those activities under the *Local Government Act 1995* or any other written law.

### PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

#### 6. Western Ringtail Possum Management

- In relation to the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 7531/1, 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*).
- Clearing must cease in any area where a western ringtail possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) is identified until either:
  - the individual has been removed by a *fauna specialist*; or
  - 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.

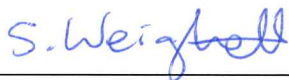
## DEFINITIONS

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*

27 June 2017

# Plan 7531/1

34.315617°S

34.315617°S

115.161495°E

115.163537°E



115.161495°E

115.163537°E

34.316744°S

34.316744°S

## Legend

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



1:996

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

*S. Weighell* Date *21/6/17*  
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.: 7531/1  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Shire of Augusta-Margaret River

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 873 ON DIAGRAM 75017, AUGUSTA  
LOT 849 ON DEPOSITED PLAN 187373, AUGUSTA  
LOT 469 ON DEPOSITED PLAN 170458, AUGUSTA  
LOT 408 ON DIAGRAM 23075, AUGUSTA  
ROAD RESERVE - 1349009, AUGUSTA  
Local Government Authority: AUGUSTA-MARGARET RIVER, SHIRE OF  
DER Region: Greater Swan  
DPaW District: BLACKWOOD  
Localities: AUGUSTA

### 1.4. Application

| Clearing Area (ha) | No. Trees | Method of Clearing | For the purpose of: |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 0.15               | 14        | Mechanical Removal | Recreation          |

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 27 June 2017  
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 it has been concluded that the proposed clearing is at variance to principle (f), 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. A condition requiring a fauna specialist to be on site during clearing will assist in mitigating the risk of injury to/death of western ringtail possum individuals.

## 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  |
|---|--|--|--|
| The application area is mapped as the following Matisse vegetation complexes:<br><br>D'Entrecasteaux (D) - Tall shrubland and woodland of <i>Agonis flexuosa</i> - <i>Acacia saligna</i> on flats between dunes in the perhumid zone (Matisse and Havel, 1998).<br><br>Wilyabrup (Wr) - Woodland of <i>Corymbia calophylla</i> - <i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> subsp. <i>marginata</i> with closed heath of Myrtaceae-Proteaceae-Papilionaceae spp. on steep rocky slopes in the hyperhumid zone (Matisse and Havel, 1998). | The application is to clear up to 0.15 hectares of native vegetation and 14 native trees within Lot 849 on Deposited Plan 187373, Lot 469 on Deposited Plan 170458, Lot 408 on Diagram 23075, Lot 873 on Diagram 75017 and unnamed road reserve (PIN 1349009) Augusta, for the purpose of car parking and boat trailer facilities and the renewal of a drainage basin. | 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 to clear up to 0.15 hectares of native vegetation and 14 native trees for the purpose of car parking and boat trailer facilities and the renewal of a drainage basin.
- The local area considered in the assessment of this application is defined as a five kilometre radius.
- The application area is in a completely degraded (Keighery 1994) condition and consists predominately of *Agonis flexuosa* trees.
- According to available databases, four priority flora species and one rare flora species have been recorded within the local area. Given the completely degraded (Keighery 1994) condition of the application area it is unlikely the application area contains or provides habitat for rare and priority flora.
- According to available databases, 14 threatened fauna, 12 fauna protected under international agreement, two other specially protected fauna and six priority fauna have been recorded within the local area (Department of Parks and Wildlife, 2007-). The *Agonis flexuosa* trees may provide habitat for the western ringtail possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) (Department of Parks and Wildlife, 2017) and therefore the application area may contain significant fauna habitat.
- The National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation include a target to prevent the clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 per cent of that present pre-European settlement (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001). The application area is located within the Warren Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion and is mapped as Mattiske vegetation complex D'Entrecasteaux (D) and Wilyabrup (Wr) which retain approximately 37 and 70 per cent of their pre-European vegetation extents, respectively (Government of Western Australia, 2017). Given the extents remaining, the application area is not considered a significant remnant in an area that has been extensively cleared.
- There are no wetlands or watercourses mapped within the application area, however, portions of the application area are located within 50 metres of the Hardy Inlet. It is considered that the application area contains vegetation growing in association with a wetland but given the small size and highly modified nature of the area, no significant impacts are expected. For the same reasons the proposed clearing is unlikely to deteriorate the quality of groundwater or surface water, cause or exacerbate flooding or contribute to or cause appreciable land degradation.
- The application area does not occur within or nearby any conservation areas.
- Given the above, clearing the vegetation under application is at variance to principle (f), 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 if necessary is likely to limit any potential impacts to the species.

- Methodology** References:  
Commonwealth of Australia (2001)  
Department of Parks and Wildlife (2007- )  
Department of Parks and Wildlife (2017)  
Government of Western Australia (2017)  
Keighery (1994)
- GIS datasets:  
SAC Bio datasets accessed June 2017  
Hydrography linear  
NLWRA, Current Extent of Native Vegetation  
Parks and Wildlife tenure

#### Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

- Comments** The application was advertised on the Department of Environment Regulation website on 18 April 2017 for a 21 day public submission period. No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

### 4. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- Department of Parks and Wildlife (2007- ) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed June 2017
- Department of Parks and Wildlife (2017). Regional Advice received in relation to Clearing Permit Application CPS 7531/1 - Shire of Augusta-Margaret River (DER Ref:A1456458).
- Government of Western Australia (2017). 2016 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of December 2016. 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.
- 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.