



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	CPS 7614/1
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	City of Busselton
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	From to 5 August 2017 to 5 August 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 installation of a pathway.
- 2. Land on which clearing is to be done**  
Jetty Way road reserve (PIN 12209757), Busselton  
Lot 503 Foreshore Parade (PIN 12208764), Busselton
- 3. Area of Clearing**  
The Permit Holder must not clear more than two native trees within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 7614/1.
- 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

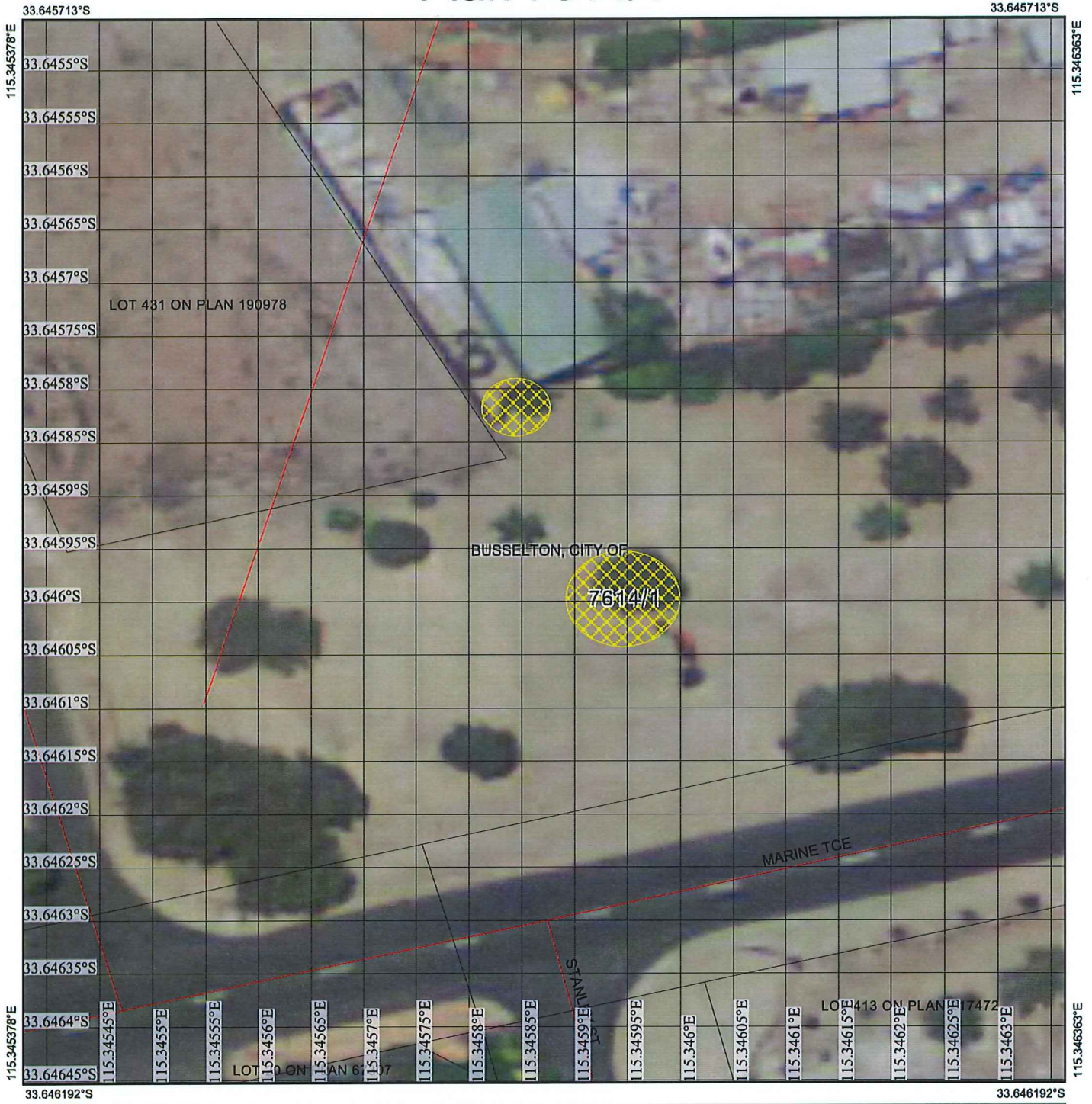
- 6. Avoid, minimise etc clearing**  
In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in order of preference:
  - (a) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
  - (b) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
  - (c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

Mathew Gannaway  
MANAGER  
CLEARING REGULATION  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION






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

11 July 2017

# Plan 7614/1



## Legend

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



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

*Matthew Gannaway* Date 11/7/2017

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





## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7614/1  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Applicant's name: City of Busselton

### 1.3. Property details

Property: Jetty Way Road Reserve (PIN 12209757), Busselton  
Lot 503 Foreshore Parade (PIN 12208764), Busselton  
Local Government Authority: City of Busselton  
DER Region: Greater Swan  
DPaW District: South West  
Localities: Busselton

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0	2	Mechanical clearing	Installation of a pathway

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 11 July 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 not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing Principles. This application was received on 25 May 2017.

The Delegated Officer decided to grant this permit on the basis that the proposal is not likely to have a significant environmental risk. The Delegated Officer noted in their decision that the clearing is of two Peppermint trees within the City of Busselton but gave consideration to the fact that;

- one of the trees proposed to be cleared is immature and is unlikely to support the local western ringtail possum population;
- the second tree is mature but isolated and does not have canopy connectivity with surrounding vegetation, does not contain dreys at present and is unlikely to be significant to the local western ringtail possum population; and
- that the cumulative impacts of the loss of these two trees is unlikely to have a significant residual impact requiring offsetting, given neither tree is currently providing a habitat service to the local population of western ringtail possums.

## 2. Background

### 2.1. Existing environment and information

Vegetation Description	Clearing Description	Vegetation Condition	Comment
The vegetation within the application area is mapped Mattiske vegetation Quindalup Complex and is described as Coastal dune complex – low closed forest and closed scrub (Mattiske and Havel, 1998).	The clearing of two native trees within Jetty Way road reserve (PIN 12209757) and Lot 503 Foreshore Parade (PIN 12208764), Busselton for the purpose of installing a pathway.	Completely Degraded; The vegetation is no longer intact and is completely or almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).	The condition and description of the vegetation was determined by photographs taken of the two Peppermint trees proposed to be cleared (City of Busselton, 2017).

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

**Comments** The application is to clear up to two native trees within Jetty Way road reserve (PIN 12209757) and Lot 503 Foreshore Parade (PIN 12208764), Busselton for the purpose of installing a pathway.

The application area is within the Swan Coastal Plain Interim Biographic Regionalisation of Australia region and is mapped as Coastal dune complex (Mattiske and Havel, 1998). The application area is considered to be in completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition with two *Agonis flexuosa* (Peppermint) trees being the only native vegetation within the application area.

Given the completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation, lack of understorey species, small size of the proposed clearing and that clearing is for two specific trees, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on rare or priority flora, include a priority or threatened ecological community, is not part of a conservation reserve and is not likely to be significant remnant within a highly cleared landscape.

The application area consists of two Peppermint trees, which are favourable as habitat for the western ringtail possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) (WRP). The WRP is an arboreal marsupial endemic to south-western Australia (Shedley and Williams, 2014). Its conservation status is currently listed as rare or likely to become extinct under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* and vulnerable under the *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Populations of WRP have significantly declined or become locally extinct over much of its former inland range due a number of threats due to habitat loss through land clearing and logging. This species was once found throughout forests and woodlands in the south-west of Western Australia. Today, populations are now concentrated in coastal habitats and in close proximity to creeks, swamps and rivers (Shedley and Williams, 2014). The greatest population density of WRP is now found within the Bunbury (Binningup to Dunsborough) coastal strip where there is significant pressure on the habitat for WRP due to rapid urban development (Shedley and Williams, 2014). Given this, it is important to protect remaining habitat for the recovery and conservation of this species (Shedley and Williams, 2014).

One of the trees within the application area is immature and unlikely to support WRP dreys, the second tree is mature but isolated and does not have canopy connectivity with other native vegetation. Photographs of the trees within the application area show no signs of use by WRP's (City of Busselton, 2017). Given the above it is unlikely that the two trees within the application area are significant as habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

No wetlands or watercourses are mapped within the application area and given the completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition of the vegetation, lack of understorey species and small size of the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to contribute to or cause land degradation, deteriorate the quality of ground water, cause or exacerbate flooding.

Given the above, clearing of the vegetation within the application area is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing Principles

#### Methodology

References:

City of Busselton (2017)  
Keighery (1994)  
Mattiske and Havel (1998)  
Shedley and Williams (2014)

GIS Databases:

- Hydrography, linear
- Hydrography, hierarchy
- Parks and Wildlife tenure
- SAC bio datasets accessed June 2017
- Virtual mosaic

#### Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

**Comments** The applicant proposes to clear two native trees within Jetty Way road reserve (PIN 12209757) and Lot 503 Foreshore Parade (PIN 12208764), Busselton for the purpose of installing a pathway.

No Aboriginal sites of significance have been mapped within the application area.

The application area is zoned recreation under the town planning scheme.

The clearing permit application was advertised on 16 June 2017 with a 14 day submission period. No public submissions were received in relation to this application.

#### Methodology

GIS Databases:

- Aboriginal sites register system
- Town Planning Scheme Zones

#### 4. References

- City of Busselton (2017) Photographs of trees under application CPS 7614/1, DER Ref A1450779.
- 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.
- Shedley, E and Williams, K. (2014) An assessment of habitat for Western Ringtail Possum (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) on the southern Swan Coastal Plain (Binningup to Dunsborough). Unpublished report for the Department of Parks and Wildlife, Bunbury, Western Australia.