

File Ref:

17/352489 (4128)

Your Ref:

CPS 7632/1

**Enquiries:** 

Belinda McCawley (08) 9405 5511

24 October 2017

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation Clearing Regulation Locked Bag 33 Cloisters Square PERTH WA 6850

Dear Mr Widenbar,

APPLICATION FOR CLEARING PERMIT CPS 7632/1 AMENDMENT- PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF QUINNS BEACH GROYNE 4, QUINNS ROCKS.

The City received clearing approval from the Department to clear 0.917 hectares of native vegetation to facilitate the proposed extension of Quinns Beach Groynes 2 and 3 and construction of new Quinns Beach Groyne 4, Quinns Rocks on 28 August 2017. The locations of the approved clearing and the proposed amendment are shown in the table below.

Location	Approved CPS 7632/1 (hectares)	Proposed Amendment (hectares)	Total Clearing (hectares)
Groyne 2	0.23	0	0.23
Groyne 3	0.055	0	0.055
Groyne 4	0.632	0.201	0.833
Total	0.917	0.201	1.118

The reason for the proposed amendment is to increase the area of proposed clearing by 0.201 hectares to facilitate the construction of Quinns Beach Groyne 4. Refer to attached clearing plan 0004-0-1. The City is therefore requesting an amendment of the size of the area permitted to be cleared for Groyne Construction at Quinns Rocks from 0.917 hectares to 1.118 hectares.

Please find attached the following documentation as part of a Native Vegetation Clearing Permit Amendment (Purpose Permit) application:

- Form C4 Application for a Clearing Permit Amendment (Purpose Permit);
- Form C3 Credit Card Payment for clearing permit applications;
- A Brief encompassing project details and environmental assessment;
- Location Map; and
- Clearing Plan overlaid on Aerial Photo 0004-0-1.

This application is submitted for your consideration. Please contact the City's Environmental Asset Officer, Mrs Belinda McCawley on telephone 9405 5511, should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Harminder Singh
DIRECTOR ASSETS

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR NATIVE VEGETATION CLEARING - PURPOSE PERMIT FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF CONSTRUCTION OF QUINNS BEACH **GROYNE 4, QUINNS ROCKS.** 

#### ISSUE

To consider granting an amendment to the City's previously approved Clearing Permit (CPS 7632/1) to facilitate the construction of Quinns Beach Groyne 4, Quinns Rocks.

## BACKGROUND AND DETAIL OF PROJECT

The proposed amendment to the area required for clearing to facilitate the construction of Quinns Beach groyne 4, Quinns Rocks will result in an increase of 0.201 hectares of the total area approved for Quinns Beach Coastal Management which includes the following;

- Extension of Groyne 2 by 45m and beach re-nourishment works;
- Extension of Groyne 3 by 15m and beach re-nourishment works; and
- · Construction of new Groyne 4 at Queenscliff Park, 60m in length, beach renourishment and construction of a beach access ramp.

The Quinns Beach Groyne 4, Quinns Rocks is scheduled for construction in November 2017. A review of the construction plan identified the requirement to access the construction site from the southern end, opposite the drainage sump. An additional 0.201 hectares is proposed to be cleared immediately south of the area approved for clearing (0.632 hectares). The proposed work has taken into account the requirements for native coastal vegetation removal and where possible has sought to minimise the impact to remnant coastal vegetation. Stabilisation works are planned during construction; including matting and planting of native vegetation in all disturbed dune areas.

The following environmental assessment considers the total area proposed for clearing to facilitate the construction of Quinns Beach Groyne 4, Quinns Rocks.

### FLORA AND VEGETATION ASSESSMENT

# Vegetation Community, Condition Rating and Complex

The remnant native vegetation proposed for clearing to facilitate the proposed construction of Quinns Beach Groyne 4, Quinns Rocks contains remnant coastal native vegetation belonging to the Quindalup Complex. The proposed clearing works occur within Bush Forever Site 397 -Coastal strip from Wilbinga to Mindarie.

The condition of vegetation proposed for clearing within Lots 15450 and 504, to facilitate the construction of Groyne 4 at Queenscliff Park has previously been assessed as Good to Very Good Condition with some areas having weedy patches (ATA Environmental, 2005). A site assessment was conducted on the 17 October 2017 to assess the vegetation condition of the area proposed for clearing. There are obvious signs of disturbance throughout the vegetation including weeds and erosion. The vegetation is considered to be in Good to Degraded condition. The City has undertaken dune restoration to aid in dune stabilisation.

## Environmental Protection Act 1986 - Ten Clearing Principles

In relation to clearing principle 'a) it comprises a high level of biological diversity'; the clearing of 0.833 hectares of remnant coastal vegetation to facilitate the construction of Quinns Beach Groyne 4, Quinns Rocks may be at variance with this principle as the areas proposed for clearing include vegetation in Good condition. A search of the DPaW databases confirms that no Threatened Ecological Community occurs within the boundaries of Lots 504 and 15450 Ocean Drive, Quinns Rocks.

In relation to the clearing principle 'b) it comprises the whole or part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia'; the clearing is not likely to be at variance with this principle as the clearing is not considered to be significant. The vegetation proposed for clearing to facilitate the proposed extension of Quinns Beach Groyne 4, Quinns Rocks is 0.833 hectares. Due to the type of species affected and the small volume of clearing, these works are unlikely to significantly impact habitat for fauna species. A search of the DPaW databases confirms that no threatened or rare fauna occur within the boundaries of Lots 504 and 15450 Ocean Drive, Quinns Rocks

In relation to clearing principle 'c) it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, flora declared to be rare under the Wildlife Protection Act 1950'; A search of the DPaW databases confirms no Declared Rare or Priority Flora species were found within the proposed clearing area, therefore the clearing is not at variance with this principle.

In relation to clearing principle 'd) it comprises the whole or part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community'; A search of the DPaW databases confirms no Threatened Ecological Community occurs within the proposed clearing location, therefore the clearing is not at variance with this principle.

In relation to clearing principle 'e) it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared"; the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance with this principle due to the current extent of the complex and the small clearing requirement. The 0.833 hectares of remnant vegetation requiring clearing is within the Quindalup Complex. The current extent of the vegetation complex within the Perth Metropolitan Region is as follows;

Quindalup Complex = 55.38%\*\*\*.

\*\*\*These values are in accordance with the Perth Biodiversity Project's 'Native Vegetation extent by Vegetation complexes on the Swan Coastal Plain south of Moore River' (2013).

In relation to clearing principle 'f) if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland'; the proposed clearing is not at variance with this principle. Neerabup Lake is the closest wetland to the proposed works, located more than 5 kilometres to the east of the area proposed for clearing.

In relation to clearing principle 'g) if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation'; the clearing of 0.833 hectares is not likely to cause land degradation due to the small area proposed for clearing. Stabilisation works are planned during construction; including matting and planting of native vegetation in all disturbed dune areas.

In relation to clearing principle 'h) the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area'; the proposed clearing is at variance with this principle as the clearing occurs within an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) in accordance with the DER ESA mapping tool and is within Bush Forever Site 397 – Coastal strip from Wilbinga to Mindarie.

In relation to clearing principle 'i) the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water'; the proposed clearing does not occur within the Perth Coastal Underground Water Pollution Control Area and therefore is not at variance with this clearing principle.

In relation to clearing principle 'j) if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding'; the clearing of 0.833 hectares is not likely to be at variance with this principle due to the small nature of the proposed development.

### RECOMMENDATION

The City seeks the Department of Environment Regulation's approval to increase the area of vegetation clearing from 0.917 hectares to 1.118 hectares of remnant coastal vegetation for the extension of Groynes and construction of the Quinns Beach Groyne 4, Quinns Rocks.

PHOTOS - PURPOSE PERMIT FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF CONSTRUCTION OF QUINNS BEACH GROYNE 4, QUINNS ROCKS.



Photo 1: Looking south, adjacent to drainage sump.

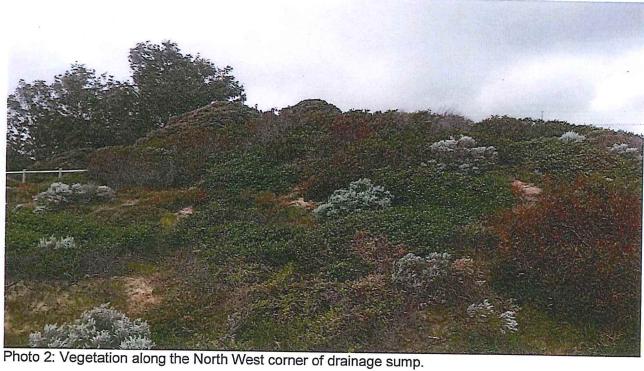
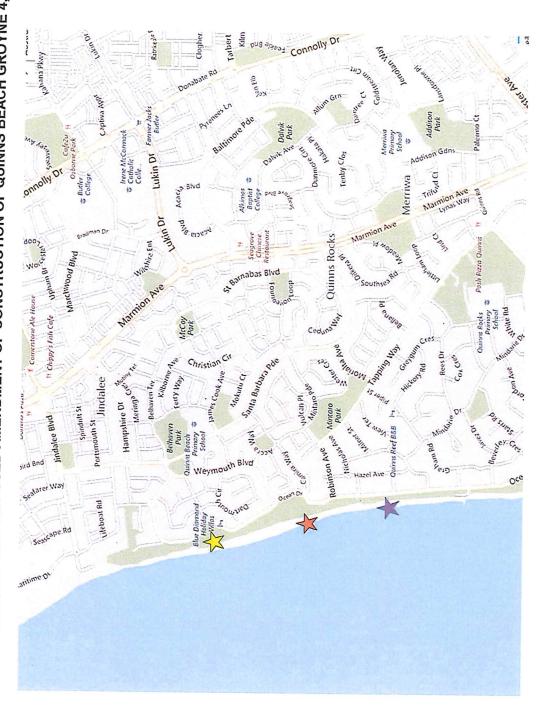




Photo 3: Restoration on the fore dunes.



Photo 4: Vegetation along the drainage sump boundary, looking east from the fore dune.



K Location of Groyne 4 and area proposed to be amended from 0.623 to 0.833 hectares

Location of extension Groyne 3.

Other Attachments: Clearing Plan – 0004-0-1.

