



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

### PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 8063/1  
File Number: DER2018/000796  
Duration of Permit: From 26 December 2018 to 26 December 2020

### PERMIT HOLDER

Shire of Collie

### LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Patstone Road reserve - 1234815, Allanson  
Patstone Road reserve - 1234816, Allanson  
Patstone Road reserve - 1234817, Allanson  
Patstone Road reserve - 1234819, Allanson  
Patstone Road reserve - 1234820, Allanson  
Patstone Road reserve - 1234821, Allanson  
Patstone Road reserve - 1234826, Collie

### AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 0.65 hectares of native vegetation and 273 native trees within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 8063/1.

### CONDITIONS

#### 1. Avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of 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.

#### 2. Dieback and weed control

When undertaking any clearing or other activity authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) ensure that no *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (c) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

#### 3. Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit, in relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:

- (a) the location where the clearing occurred, 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;
- (b) the date that the area was cleared;

- (c) the size of the area cleared (in hectares);
- (d) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 1 of this Permit; and
- (e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *dieback* and *weeds* in accordance with condition 2 of this Permit.

#### 4. Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* the records required under condition 3 of this Permit, when requested by the *CEO*.

#### DEFINITIONS

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

***CEO***: means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;


***dieback*** means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation;

***fill*** means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

***mulch*** means the use of organic matter, wood chips or rocks to slow the movement of water across the soil surface and to reduce evaporation;

***weed/s*** means any plant -

- (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or
- (b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

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Abbie Crawford  
MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

26 November 2018

# Plan 8063/1

33.329343°S

33.329343°S

116.101999°E

116.122284°E






116.101999°E

116.122284°E

33.337919°S

33.337919°S

## Legend

-  Imagery
-  Clearing Instruments Activities
-  Local Government Authority



0 500m

1:10,003

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

GDA 94 (Lat/Long)

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

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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.: 8063/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Applicant's name: SHIRE OF COLLIE

### 1.3. Property details

Property:  
ROAD RESERVE - 1234815, ALLANSON  
ROAD RESERVE - 1234816, ALLANSON  
ROAD RESERVE - 1234817, ALLANSON  
ROAD RESERVE - 1234818, ALLANSON  
ROAD RESERVE - 1234819, ALLANSON  
ROAD RESERVE - 1234820, ALLANSON  
ROAD RESERVE - 1234821, ALLANSON  
ROAD RESERVE - 1234826, COLLIE  
Local Government Authority: COLLIE, SHIRE OF

Localities: ALLANSON

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.65	273	Mechanical Removal	Road Widening

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 26 November 2018  
Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application was received on 7 May 2018 and has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with section 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). It has been concluded that the proposed clearing is at variance to principle (f), may be at variance to principle (i), and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

It has been determined that the proposed clearing will impact on riparian vegetation growing in association with a watercourse and may result in soil erosion, sedimentation and deterioration in the quality of surface water.

Avoid and minimisation methods will help mitigate soil erosion and impacts to surface water quality.

Given the above, the Delegated Officer decided to grant a clearing permit subject to avoid/minimise and dieback and weed management conditions.

In determining to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions, the Delegated Officer found that the proposed clearing is unlikely to lead to an unacceptable risk to the environment.

## 2. Background

**Clearing Description** The application is to clear 0.65 hectares of native vegetation and 273 native trees within Patstone Road Reserve PIN's 1234815, 1234816, 1234817, 1234819, 1234820, 1234821 and 1234826, Allanson, for the purpose of widening Patstone Road (Figure 1).

**Vegetation Description:** The application area is mapped as the South West Forests Vegetation complex's:

- Collie Plain - Muja Complex (MJ): Open woodland of *Melaleuca preissiana*-*Banksia littoralis*-*Banksia ilicifolia* with some *Eucalyptus patens* on moister sites, *Banksia spp.* on drier sites of valley floors in the subhumid zone; and
- Darling Plateau - Yarragil 1 Complex (YG1): Open forest of *Eucalyptus marginata subsp. marginata*-*Corymbia calophylla* on slopes with mixtures of *Eucalyptus patens* and *Eucalyptus megacarpa* on the valley floors in humid and subhumid zones (Government of Western Australia, 2018).

**Vegetation Condition:** Degraded; Basic vegetation structure severely impacted by disturbance, scope for regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive management (Keighery, 1994).

to  
Very good; Vegetation structure altered, obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994).

The vegetation condition of the application area was determined through a site inspection undertaken by Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) officers (DWER, 2018a) on 9 August 2018.

**Soil and Landform Type:**

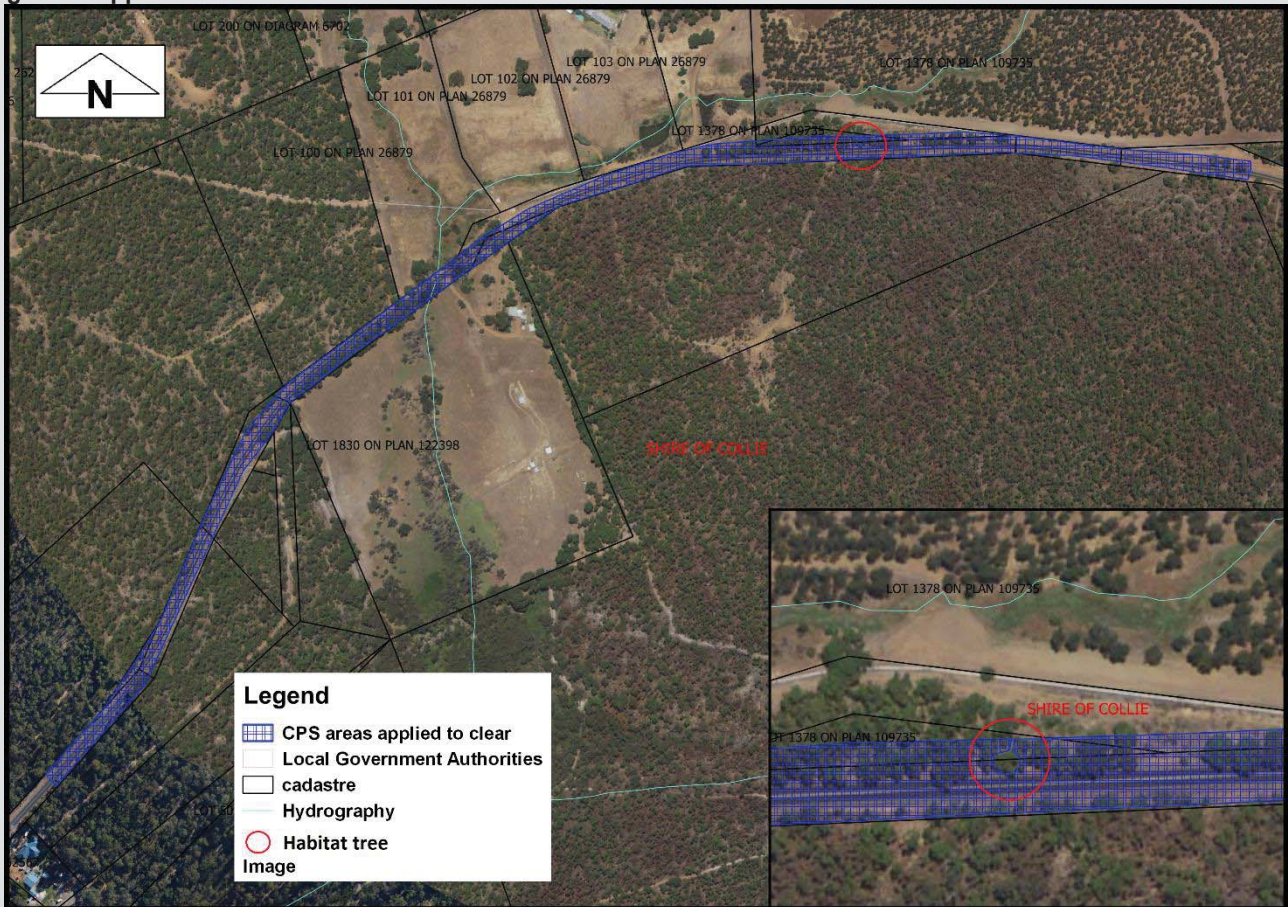
Soils within the application area are mapped as:

- Stockton downstream valleys phase – Wet and semi-wet soils and duplex sandy gravels,
- Collie subsystem – Duplex sandy gravels, pale deep sands, shallow gravels and yellow deep sands,
- Yarragil subsystem – Alluvial, uniform fine and duplex soils that are moderately well drained and often gravelly, with some sands and loams, and
- Dwellingup ironstone gravel divides phase - Duplex sandy gravels, loamy gravels and deep sands and gravels (DPIRD, 2017).

**Comments:**

The local area referred to in the assessment of this application is defined as a 10 kilometre radius measured from the perimeter of the application area. The local area contains approximately 70 per cent native vegetation cover.

**Figure 1: Application area**



**Figure 2: Photographs of vegetation within the application area**



Photo 1: Riparian vegetation (*Eucalyptus rudis*) in the application area



Photos 2: Habitat tree (containing a hollow suitable for black cockatoos; circled red in Figure 1) which has been removed from the application area, also showing the degraded understorey dominated by paddock grasses

### 3. Minimisation and mitigation measures

The application area was amended during the assessment, where on 12 October 2018 the applicant agreed to retain the tree with a hollow suitable for black cockatoo nesting, with evidence of recent use (Harewood, 2018); the tree is seven metres from the road centreline and is just outside the proposed road widening area, and therefore could be avoided (Shire of Collie, 2018a, Shire of Collie, 2018b) and on 30 October 2018 the applicant agreed to include 0.65 hectares of native vegetation as part of the proposed clearing (Shire of Collie, 2018d).

The applicant has advised that they will not be extending or changing the culverts crossing to Patstone Rd and will be installing guardrails that would avoid any major works to the road shoulder and creek system and still allow for the proposed road widening. This will minimise the impact to the up and down stream sides of the culverts aside from the removal of the non-native (Pines) and dead trees from the site (Shire of Collie, 2018c).

### 4. Assessment of application against clearing principles

The amended application is to clear 0.65 hectares of native vegetation and 273 native trees within Patstone Road Reserve for the purpose of widening Patstone Road.

According to available databases, one rare flora species and 12 priority flora species have been recorded within the local area. Based on the mapped soil and vegetation types within application area, one rare flora species, one Priority 1 flora species and one Priority 4 flora species could potentially occur within the application area:

- *Grevillea ripicola* (Priority 4) is known from a total of 22 records between Collie and Bridgetown, at sites generally associated with gravelly loam soils along creek lines, with *Eucalyptus marginata* - *E. rudis* - *Corymbia calophylla* woodland (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). The nearest record of this species is approximately 0.9 kilometres from the application area. Noting the degraded understorey within the application area (Photo 2, Figure 2) and the occurrence of better quality vegetation in the local area, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact the conservation status of this species should any individuals occur within the application area.
- *Caladenia validinervia* (Priority 1) is known from a total of 8 records between Collie and Bridgetown, in sandy gravel soils with *Eucalyptus marginata* - *Corymbia calophylla* woodland (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). The nearest record of this species is approximately 5 kilometres from the application area. Noting the distribution of this species and the condition of the vegetation within the application area, this species is not likely to occur within the application area.
- *Grevillea rara* (Threatened) is known from a total of 11 records in the Collie area, in lateritic loamy soils with *Eucalyptus marginata* woodlands (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-). The nearest record of this species is approximately 7.9 kilometres from the application area. Noting the distance to this record and the presence of better quality vegetation in the local area, this species is not likely to occur within the application area.

Eleven threatened fauna species, seven priority fauna species and one other specially protected fauna species have been recorded within the local area (DBCA, 2007-). Noting the type and condition of the vegetation within the application area, and the habitat requirements and current known range extents of these species, the application area may comprise suitable habitat for threatened fauna species Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*) and forest red-tailed black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii* subsp. *naso*). The black cockatoo habitat tree survey identified 43 trees with diameter at breast height greater than 500 millimetres, of which three trees contained hollows considered unsuitable for black cockatoos either due to being too small or having unfavourable orientation (Harewood, 2018). One tree with diameter at breast height greater than 500 millimetres was found to contain a hollow suitable for black cockatoo nesting, with evidence of recent use by way of chew marks recorded (Harewood, 2018). The application area was amended to exclude this tree (Shire of Collie, 2018b, Figure 1). Noting the above, the application area is unlikely to comprise significant habitat for threatened black cockatoos. On this basis, the application area is not likely to comprise significant habitat for indigenous fauna, including species of conservation significance.

No threatened ecological communities (TEC) or priority ecological community (PEC) have been recorded in the local area.

The national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia has a target to prevent clearance of ecological communities with an extent below 30 per cent of that present pre-1750, below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001). The Jarrah Forest Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia bioregion retains approximately 4,506,660 hectares (53 per cent) of its pre-European extent of native vegetation, and the mapped Mattiske Vegetation Complexes, Muja complex retains approximately 10,200 hectares (60 per cent) and Yarragil 1 complex retains 80,203 hectares (81 per cent) of its pre-European extent respectively, within the Swan Coastal Plain IBRA Bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2018). On this basis, and noting the extent of native vegetation within the local area, and that the application area is not likely to include flora or ecological communities of conservation significance or comprise significant habitat for indigenous fauna, the application area is unlikely to be significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.

A minor, perennial watercourse that is a tributary to Collie river intersects the application area (Figure 1). The proposed clearing is likely to impact on vegetation growing in association with this watercourse. The site inspection noted the presence of riparian vegetation, i.e. *Eucalyptus rudis* trees where the application area intersects the watercourse (Photo 1, Figure 2). The applicant has advised that they will not be extending or changing the culverts crossing to Patstone Rd and will be installing guardrails that would avoid any major works to the road shoulder and creek system and still allow for the proposed road widening (Shire of Collie, 2018d). However, noting the size of the application area, impacts to riparian vegetation as a result of the proposed clearing are expected to be minimal.

The nearest conservation areas include Collie State Forest and Harris River State Forest, mapped along the border of the application area, both north and south along the eastern end of the application area, and on the south along the western end of the application area. The proposed clearing may indirectly impact on the environmental values of the adjoining conservation reserves through the spread or introduction of weed species or dieback by machinery. Given the small, linear nature of the application area, the impacts on the environmental values of these conservation areas are likely to be minimal. However, their close proximity warrants practices to minimise the spread of dieback and weeds.

The application area has an average rainfall of 1000 millimetres per annum, and groundwater salinity mapped between 500 to 1000 total dissolved solids (milligrams per litre). The application area is within 'Zone B and D' of the Wellington Dam Catchment Area originally gazetted in April 1952 under the *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947* (CAWS Act), being a very high salinity risk part of the catchment area (DWER, 2018b). DWER (Regulatory Services – Water) Policy and Guidelines for the “Granting of Licences to Clear Indigenous Vegetation” within Zone B provide for the grant of a licence for government works on the condition that an equivalent area within the same or higher salinity risk zone is revegetated. Clearing for any purpose is normally approved within Zone D subject to 10 per cent native vegetation remaining on the land in question. Consequently, any salinity mitigation offset required for the road maintenance works would only apply to that portion within Zone B (DWER, 2018b). DWER’s advice in respect to CAWS Act matters is discussed under Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Noting the above, the mapped soil subsystems and the condition of the vegetation within the application area, the proposed clearing may result in soil erosion, sedimentation and deterioration in the quality of surface water. The applicant will be installing engineering controls in the design of the widened road which will mitigate these impacts in the long term (Shire of Collie, 2018d). Therefore, the proposed clearing is unlikely to cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding.

Given the above, the proposed clearing is at variance to principle (f), may be at variance to principle (i), and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

### **Planning instruments and other relevant matters.**

The application is within the *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947* (CAWS Act) Wellington Dam Catchment Area originally gazetted in April 1952. The area is located within an unassigned priority Public Drinking Water Source Area. No priority source protection area is currently proposed.

DWER Regulatory Services (Water) advises that the catchment has been subject to CAWS Act native vegetation clearing controls since November 1976 to prevent salinisation of water resources and that DWER records show no licence or compensation history for this section of Patstone Rd (DWER, 2018b). The proposed clearing is located within Wellington Dam Catchment Area Zones B and D under the CAWS Act, which are high and low salinity risk parts of the catchment respectively. DWER Policy and Guidelines for the “Granting of Licences to Clear Indigenous Vegetation” within Zone B provide for the grant of a licence for government works on the condition that an equivalent area within the same or higher salinity risk zone is revegetated. Clearing for any purpose is normally approved within Zone D subject to 10 per cent native vegetation remaining on the land in question. Consequently, any salinity mitigation offset required for the road maintenance works would only apply to that portion within Zone B. Analysis of 2017 imagery indicates that >10 per cent native vegetation will remain within the greater Patstone Road reserve and within adjacent unallocated Crown Land along Patstone Road (DWER, 2018b).

DWER Regulatory Services (Water) advises that since the proposed clearing area is relatively small the amalgamation of similar offset area requirements over time to create sustainable revegetation areas is acceptable. The Collie Shire currently has accumulated 3.39 hectares of salinity mitigation offsets. Once the Shire has accumulated ~5 hectares of clearing that requires salinity mitigation offsets to be established, the Shire may be requested to meet the offset conditions. Consequently there are no objections to the clearing proposal under the CAWS Act subject to the above conditions (DWER, 2018b).

The proposed clearing is located within the Collie River Irrigation District as proclaimed under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*. Therefore any interference of the mapped watercourse within the application area will require a permit to interfere with the bed or banks from DWER (DWER, 2018b). The applicant had applied for a bed and banks permit with DWER, however during the analysis of this application, DWER did not see a need for a bed and banks permit given that the applicant had advised they will not be extending or changing the culverts crossing to Patstone Road. DWER Regulatory Services (Water) advised the applicant to ‘withdraw’ the bed and banks application (Shire of Collie, 2018d).

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

The application area is zoned Road Reserve and Public Uses under the Shire of Collie town planning scheme.

Clearing Permit application CPS 6115/1, which overlaps a majority of the current application area was granted on 26 June 2014 and expired on 26 July 2016 (DWER, 2018c).

The clearing permit application was first advertised on 29 June 2018 with a 14 day submission period and re-advertised to include 0.65 hectares of native vegetation on 1 November 2018 with a 7 day submission period. No public submissions have been received in relation to this application.

## 5. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) (2007- ) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed June 2018.
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) (2017). NRInfo Digital Mapping. Accessed at <https://maps.agric.wa.gov.au/nrm-info/> Accessed June 2018. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. Government of Western Australia.
- Department of Water and Environment Regulation (DWER) (2018a) Site Inspection Report for Clearing Permit Application CPS 8063/1. Site inspection undertaken 9 August 2018. Department of Water and Environment Regulation, Western Australia (DWER Ref. A1725994).
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) (2018b) *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* advice (DWER Ref: A1703896).
- Department of Water and Environment Regulation (DWER) (2018c) Permit, plan and decision report for clearing permit application CPS 6115/1. Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia (DWER Ref: A775970).
- Government of Western Australia (2018). 2017 SouthWest Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of December 2017. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia.
- Harewood, G (2018) Black cockatoo habitat tree survey. CPS 8063/1 – Patstone Road (SLK 3.73 to 5.50), Allanson. June 2018, Version 1. Prepared on behalf of the Shire of Collie by Greg Harewood, Zoologist.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994). Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Shire of Collie (2018a). Email correspondence from applicant indicating the intension to retain hollow bearing habitat tree within the application area if requested by DWER. Received by DWER on 25 June 2018 (DWER Ref: A1696897).
- Shire of Collie (2018b). Email correspondence from applicant indicating they will retain hollow bearing habitat tree and agreeing to amend the application area to exclude the tree. Received by DWER on 12 October 2018 (DWER Ref: A1728362).
- Shire of Collie (2018c) Email correspondence from applicant confirming the inclusion of 0.65 hectares of native vegetation as part of the application (DWER Ref: A1734024).
- Shire of Collie (2018d). Email from DWER south west region (water) forwarded by applicant indicating bed and banks permit not required and asking applicant to withdraw the bed and banks application. Received by DWER on 11 September 2018 (DWER Ref: A1723991).
- Western Australian Herbarium (1998-). FloraBase - the Western Australian Flora. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. <https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/> Accessed September 2018.

## 6. GIS Datasets

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- Clearing Regulations - Environmentally Sensitive Areas
- Carnaby's cockatoo: breeding, roosting, feeding
- Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions, Tenure
- Geomorphic Wetlands, Swan Coastal Plain
- Groundwater salinity, statewide
- Heddle Vegetation
- Hydrology, linear
- IBRA Australia
- Land for Wildlife
- PDWSA, CAWSA, RIWI Act Areas
- Remnant vegetation
- SAC Biodatasets (accessed September 2018)
- Soils, statewide
- Town Planning Scheme Zones