



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 8973/1
Permit Holder:	Shire of Irwin
Duration of Permit:	11 September 2020 – 11 September 2025

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 dune management.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 11702 on Deposited Plan 91641 (Common Reserve 137), Port Denison.

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.26 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "MG" followed by a flourish.

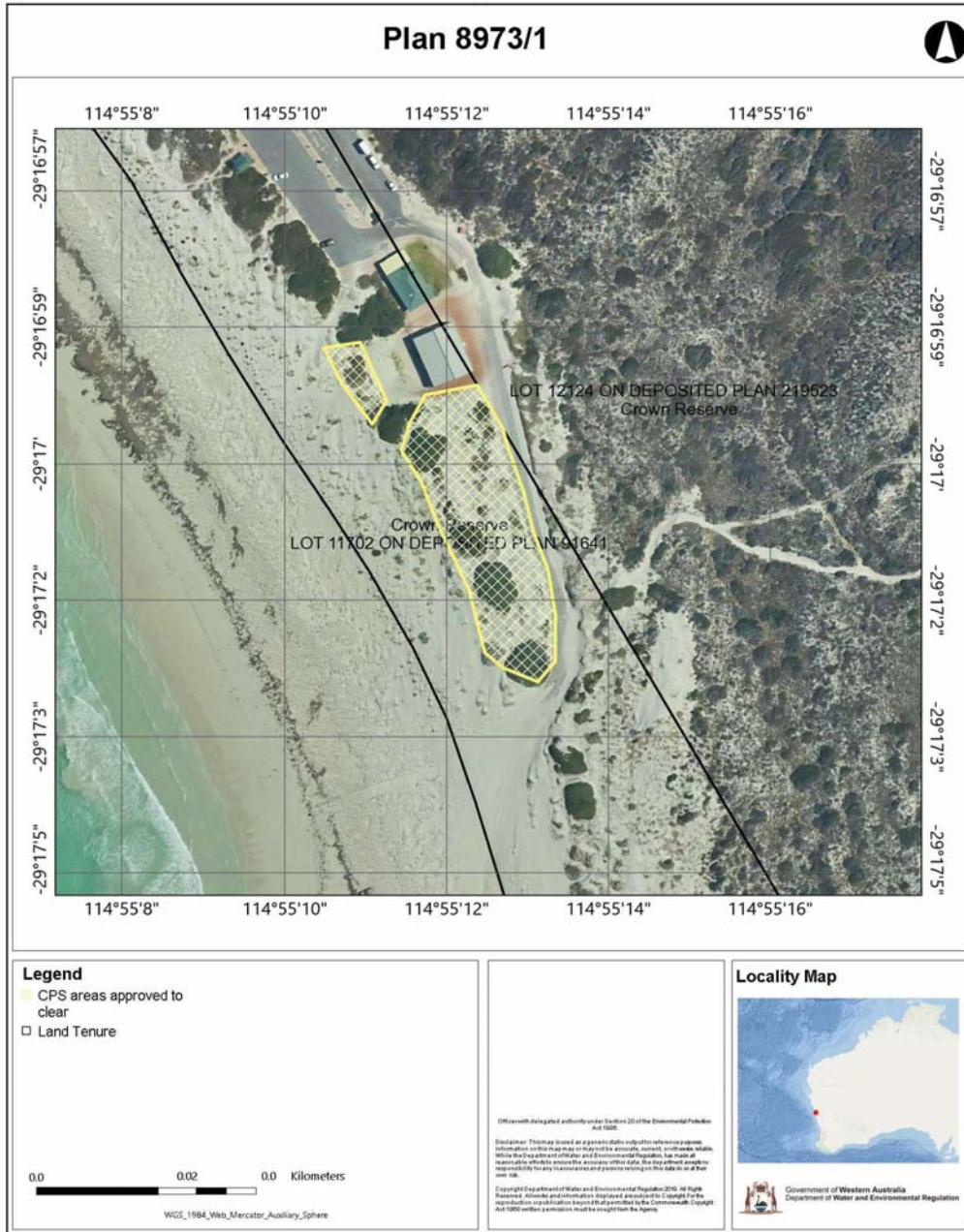
Mathew Gannaway
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

19 August 2020

SCHEDULE 1

Figure 1.





Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details and outcome

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	CPS 8973/1
Permit type:	Purpose Permit
Applicant name:	Shire of Irwin
Purpose of clearing:	Dune management
Property:	Lot 11702 on Deposited Plan 91641 (Common Reserve 137)
Location (LGA area):	Port Denison (Shire of Irwin)

1.2. Description of clearing activities

The application is for the proposed clearing of 0.26 hectares of native vegetation within a permit boundary of approximately 0.302 hectares, at Lot 11702 on Deposited Plan 91641 (Common Reserve 137), Port Denison. The purpose of the proposed clearing is to manage unstable dunes and sand drift on the road verge and side access of existing facilities of the surf club.

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Granted
Decision date:	19 August 2020
Decision area:	0.26 hectares of native vegetation

1.4. Reasons for decision

This clearing permit application was made in accordance with section 51E of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) and was received by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) on 5 August 2020 for a period of 7 days. DWER advertised the application for public comment and no submissions were received.

In undertaking the assessment, the Delegated Officer had regard for the site characteristics, relevant datasets, photographs of the vegetation, the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act, and any other matters considered relevant to the assessment. The assessment identified that the proposed clearing will have negligible impact on habitat for flora, fauna and ecological communities, conservation areas and/or wetlands.

After consideration of the available information, as well as the applicant's minimisation and mitigation measures, the Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is not likely to lead to an unacceptable risk to the environment. The Delegated Officer decided to grant a clearing permit with nil management conditions.

2. Assessment of application

2.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

The applicant has advised that the proposed clearing will be limited to *"new growth vegetation that is encroaching into the road or surf club premises and aiding to dune shifting. Much of this is new vegetation growth in sand drift sections of the dune and not part of the original dune formation. Vegetation, that once removed, can allow for lowering of the newly formed dune caused by sand drift for rehabilitation"* (Shire of Irwin, 2020).

Existing larger patches of established native vegetation within the application area will be retained, to effectively reduce sand drift, dune movement and blowouts (Shire of Irwin, 2020).

The applicant adequately demonstrated that all reasonable efforts had been taken to avoid and minimise potential impacts of the clearing on environmental values.

2.2. Assessment of environmental impacts

The assessment against the ten clearing principles identified that the native vegetation proposed to be cleared is not likely to provide habitat for conservation significant flora and fauna; does not contain, or form part of a priority or threatened ecological community; or impact on any riparian vegetation. At the bioregion (Geraldton Sandplains) and local (10 kilometre radius from the perimeter of the application area) scale, over 40 percent of the pre-European vegetation extent remains. The nearest conservation area is located over 3.5 kilometres south of the application area and the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on the environmental values of this area. The proposed clearing is not likely to lead to appreciable land degradation or impact surface water quality, groundwater quality or lead to increase in flooding.

The proposed clearing for the purpose of dune management may cause short term and localised erosion, as it will involve the removal of new growth vegetation. However, the proposed clearing will facilitate activities to manage dune erosion in the long term, by (Shire of Irwin, 2020):

- Applying jute mesh and brushing on high risk sections of sand drift and dune slide, to reduce sand drift and blow outs; and
- Planting of indigenous vegetation species (native to the reserve site) in select stabilised areas to help stabilise moving dunes and reduce sand drift.

Based on the above, the proposed clearing may be at variance with clearing principle (g) and is not likely to be at variance with the remaining clearing principles.

It is the Permit Holder's responsibility to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* (WA) and ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

Appendix A – References and databases

1. GIS datasets

Publicly available GIS Databases used (sourced from www.data.wa.gov.au):

- Aboriginal Heritage Places (DPLH-001)
- Cadastre Address (LGATE-002)
- DBCA – Lands of Interest (DBCA-012)
- DBCA Legislated Lands and Waters (DBCA-011)
- Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia – Western Australia (DBCA-045)
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- Regional Parks (DBCA-026)

Restricted GIS Databases used:

- ICMS (Incident Complaints Management System) – Points and Polygons
- Threatened Flora (TPFL)
- Threatened Flora (WAHerb)
- Threatened Fauna
- Threatened Ecological Communities and Priority Ecological Communities
- Threatened Ecological Communities and Priority Ecological Communities (Buffers)

2. References

Shire of Irwin (2020). Purpose permit application form and supporting information for Clearing Permit Application CPS 8973/1 (DWER Ref: A1915823).