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Emerge Environmental Services Pty Ltd ABN 57144772510 trading as Emerge Associates

Attention: Vanessa Slater Coordinator Natural Reserves Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale 6 Paterson Street Mundijong WA 6123

Delivered by email to: vslater@sjshire.wa.gov.au

Dear Vanessa

### TARGETED FLORA SURVEY – PART KARNUP AND BISHOP ROAD RESERVES

#### 1 BACKGROUND

The Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale (the Shire) are proposing to undertake vegetation clearing within parts of the road reserves of Karnup Road in Serpentine and Bishop Road in Karnup (hereafter referred to as the 'site'). The site extends over 0.08 hectares (ha) along Karnup Road and 0.11 ha along Bishop Road, as shown in **Figure 1** and **Figure 2**.

The Shire have submitted a clearing permit application to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER). DWER have requested a targeted flora survey is undertaken to determine whether threatened or priority flora species occur within the site. In particular, DWER have identified seven species as potentially occurring within the site, as listed in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Threatened and priority flora species identified by DWER as potentially occurring in the site

Species	Status		Flowering period
	EPBC Act	WA	
Drakaea elastica	Endangered	Critically endangered	late Sep-Oct/Nov
Synaphea sp. Serpentine (G.R. Brand 103)	Critically endangered	Critically endangered	Sep-Oct
Synaphea sp. Pinjarra Plain (A.S. George 17182)	Endangered	Endangered	Sep-Oct
Tetraria australiensis (recently changed to Morelotia australiensis)	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Nov-Dec
Acacia lasiocarpa var. bracteolata long peduncle variant (G.J. Keighery 5026)	-	Priority 1	May or Aug
Jacksonia gracillima	-	Priority 3	Sep-Dec
Johnsonia pubescens subsp. cygnorum	-	Priority 2	Sep

#### 2 METHODS

# 2.1 Field survey

A botanist<sup>1</sup> from Emerge visited the site on 17 September 2021 to conduct the flora survey.

During the survey the site was traversed on foot and the vegetation was searched for threatened and priority flora species, with particular focus on searching for the species listed in **Table 1**.

Photographs were taken throughout the field visit to show particular site conditions.

#### 3 RESULTS

No threatened or priority flora species were recorded within the site and none are considered likely to occur.

#### 4 DISCUSSION

Threatened or priority flora species are not considered likely to occur as the site was surveyed comprehensively, no plants that are or could possibly be threatened or priority species were recorded, and being degraded the habitat within the site is generally unsuitable to support such species.

The habitat in the site is considered unsuitable due to historical ground disturbance and weed invasion. Most of the understorey and groundstorey in the site is dominated by non-native shrubs, herbs and grasses. Scattered native shrubs, sedges and herbs occur at low density. All remnant native plants were reviewed during the field survey and determined to not represent threatened or priority taxa. No samples were collected as it was possible to rule out the presence of threatened or priority species in the field.

Specific attention was paid to individuals of:

- Tetraria octandra (recently renamed to Morelotia octandra) which, despite a lack of flowers, could be determined not to be T. australiensis (recently changed to M. australiensis) in the field
- Acacia pulchella, which, while superficially similar could be determined not be A. lasiocarpa var. bracteolata long peduncle variant (G.J. Keighery 5026) in the field.
- Jacksonia furcellata and J. sternbergiana which could be determined in the field to not be J. gracillima.

# **Summary and closing**

No threatened or priority flora species were recorded in the site. The survey was undertaken by a suitably experienced botanist and at an appropriate time of year to detect the species identified by DWER as potentially occurring.

We trust that this letter provides sufficient details on the vegetation within the site. Should you have any questions regarding the content of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

EP21-100(01)--002 RAW Emerge Associates

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The botanist who conducted the survey meets DWER's definition of 'a person who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in identification and surveys of flora native to the bioregion being inspected or surveyed'.

# Yours sincerely Emerge Associates

# **Rachel Weber**

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT, TEAM LEADER – ECOLOGY

cc: nil

Encl: Figure 1: Site Location (Karnup Road)

Figure 2: Site Location (Bishop Road)

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# Figures



Figure 1: Site Location (Karnup Road)

Figure 2: Site Location (Bishop Road)



