



Application for new permit or referral to clear native vegetation

Application Details	
Application number	APP-0027368
Application type	New
Application sub-type	Clearing referral (s.51DA)
Project number	PRJ-0016730
Project name	Alexandra Bridge bank stabilisation works
Instrument number (if applicable) CPS number	
Application Status	Submitted
Applicant	SHIRE OF AUGUSTA MARGARET RIVER

Submission Details	
Created By	
Submitted By	
Submitted Date	
Modified on (Date & Time)	

Applicant full name	
Applicant email	
Applicant contact number	
Applicant address	
Multiple applicants	
Third Party full name	
Third Party email	
Third Party contact number	
Third party address	
Organisation name	
Organisation email	
Organisation contact number	
Organisation address	
ABN	
ACN	



Land Details	
Property name	Alexandra Bridge foreshore
Land description	Unallocated Crown Land Landgate PIN 527915
Street address – Line 1	Clarke Drive
Street address – Line 2	
Suburb	Alexandra Bridge
Postcode	6288
Local government area	Shire of Augusta Margaret River
State	
Land Zoning	Parks and Recreation
Relationship to landowner	I will undertake the clearing activities with the landowner's authority and will be the permit holder

Proposed Clearing	
Total area of clearing proposed (hectares)	0
Footprint of clearing (hectares)	
Number of trees to be removed	1
Purpose for clearing	Restoration
Specify other	
Final land use after clearing	River foreshore
Method for proposed clearing	Cutting
Specify other	
Proposed start date	05-05-2025
Proposed end date	01-06-2025
Avoidance details	It is proposed to undertake bank restoration and stabilisation works at a site on the Blackwood River. The site is located at the Shire's campsite at Alexandra Bridge, which is a popular bush campsite with access to the river for swimming and launching water craft including kakaks/canoes, and power boats. Over time, high levels of visitation and recreational activity has resulted in erosion and river bank degradation, with increased loss of sediment and undercutting of the riverbank resulting in tree loss being observed over recent years. The Shire's project is undertake erosion mitigation and bank protection works by installing log armouring with geotextile of the river bank, engineered swimming steps to provide access to the water in key swimming location , a floating finger jetty (to reduce the



	<p>impacts on the river bank from people clambering down the banks to access their boat), and ongoing riparian revegetation. These works will repair damage caused to the river bank, and reduce recreational pressure on this section of the Blackwood River, which in turn will improve the condition of the riparian zone, enhance biodiversity and habitat values, and improve long term water quality.</p> <p>The works are included in the Shire's Alexandra Bridge Foreshore Management Plan, which has been the subject of community consultation and endorsed by Council. The Shire has been granted the following approvals from State Government Departments to undertake the works (copies of relevant documents are attached to the referral):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consent under Section 18 of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act to undertake the works, which are within the Blackwood River Aboriginal Heritage Site. • Authority to act on behalf of the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage for works within the UCL (PIN 527915) and part of the Blackwood River, Alexandra Bridge (PIN 1251235). • Bed and Banks permit (PMB211249) from Department of Water and Environmental Regulation to undertake works on riverbank areas. <p>This project is currently funded under the Federal Governments Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, and contractors have been engaged to undertake the work commencing on the 20th of February 2025. The works will be undertaken in already cleared/degraded areas. One single Melaleuca raphiophylla tree growing on a degraded portion of the river bank adjacent to the existing boat ramp requires removal in order to construct the floating finger jetty at the site. There is no other clearing of native vegetation, or individual plants, required. All options have been considered through the detailed project design to avoid removal of this tree. Given the location of existing infrastructure, there are no alternative sites for installing the floating finger jetty and supporting pile and unfortunately we cannot avoid removal of the tree. This Melaleuca tree has become severely undercut and it is highly likely that this tree will fall on its own within the next few years as a result of the boat wake that is continuously undercutting the base of the tree.</p>
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	<p>The tree is approximately 2-3 metres in height, with multiple small to medium stems. The tree has been inspected by experienced Shire Senior Environmental Officers, and while it is considered that the tree would likely provide some habitat for native fauna, there are no nests or dreys present, and it is unlikely to provide significant habitat for threatened species, such as Western Ringtail Possum. Canopy connectivity is retained through this area by the taller canopy trees <i>Eucalyptus rudis</i>.</p> <p>All other native vegetation will be retained and protected, and it is considered that the long term ecological benefits will outweigh the loss of the tree, with the restoration work providing long term stabilisation and protection of the river bank and its riparian zone. Ongoing revegetation within the foreshore will continue to improve the biodiversity values of the site and the installation of engineered structures will support the recreational demands being placed upon the site.</p>
Mitigation details	<p>All measures will be undertaken to avoid, minimise and mitigate any environmental impacts during the works. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing access tracks, and disturbed/cleared areas will be used to access the site and undertake the works. Other than the single <i>Melaleuca raphiophylla</i> tree, there is no additional clearing of native vegetation or individual plants required. • All of the proposed works aim to mitigate the impacts of erosion and reduce the tree loss that is continuing to occur due to the undercutting of the riverbank. • A licenced fauna specialist will be engaged to be present on site immediately prior to and during removal of the tree to minimise any potential risks to native fauna. • All machinery will be clean of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the site for the duration of the works, and there will be no known dieback or weed-affected soil, mulch or fill brought onto the site. • Following the bank stabilisation works, ongoing revegetation and weed control will be undertaken at the site to further improve biodiversity and habitat values. This will continue the revegetation work that has been undertaken by the Shire along the Alexandra Bridge foreshore over recent years. • Measures will be taken to minimise disturbance to the bed, banks and water quality of the waterway, in



	accordance with the Bed and Banks permit, through the Contractor's Construction EMP.
Offset proposal submitted?	False

Pre-application scoping	
Clearing within the Swan Coastal Plain and Avon Wheatbelt bioregions?	False
Any pre-application scoping meetings with DWER?	
Details of pre-application scoping meetings	

Assessment Bilateral Agreement	
Request the proposed clearing action to be assessed in accordance with, or under, an EPBC Act Accredited Process?	False
Is the proposed clearing a controlled action?	True
EPBC number	
Details of controlled action	

Surveys for assessment (IBSA and IMSA)	
Biodiversity surveys submitted?	Not Applicable
IBSA number(s)	
IBSA submission number(s)	
Marine surveys prepared?	Not Applicable

Other approvals	
Referred to EPA?	False
EPA details	
Intention to refer to EPA?	No - not a significant proposal
Ministerial statement number (if applicable)	



Works approval licence or registration	No - not required
Details of works approval licence or registration	
Water licences and permits?	No - a current valid licence applies
Details of water licences and permits	Permi to obstruct or interfere (s17 of RIWI Act) - Instrument No. PMB211249
Planning and other approvals required?	Not applicable
Details of planning and other approvals	
Details of exemption from planning and approvals	

Attached Documents	
Links to the Portal SharePoint location	
Links to Geospatial information	