



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Environment Regulation**

Your ref:
Our ref: CPS 5888/1
Enquiries: Belinda Walker
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Dr Paul Vogel
Chairman
Environmental Protection Authority
Locked Bag 33
CLOISTERS SQUARE PERTH WA 6850

Dear Dr Vogel

REFERRAL OF A PROPOSAL TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY UNDER SECTION 38(5) OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1986

The Department of Environment Regulation (DER) has recently received an application from the City of Busselton to clear 0.77 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 94 on Plan 91775, Wonnerup, for the purpose of repositioning the Wonnerup Estuary ocean inlet.

This proposed clearing is within an area subject to the Environmental Protection Swan Coastal Plain Lakes Policy 1992 which places restrictions on the construction or alteration of any system for the drainage of water into or out of a lake.

The underlying purpose of the attached application to clear is associated with the alteration of a drainage system. Accordingly, I have formally referred this application to the Environmental Protection Authority for consideration and determination.

A preliminary assessment of the principles outlined in Schedule 5 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* has been undertaken and is attached for your information.

Should further information be required, please contact Principal Environmental Officer Ms Belinda Walker from DER's Native Vegetation Conservation Branch on 6467 5030.

Yours sincerely

M Warnock
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

6 December 2013



Attachments: Map and Context Map of Proposal, Supporting Information and Preliminary Assessment Report

Office of the Environmental Protection Authority		For Information		For Discussion		For Action		For Approval			
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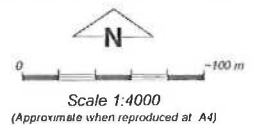
CPS 5888/1 - Map



LEGEND

-  Local Government Authorities
-  Road Centrelines

Busseton Townsite 20cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2008



Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distortion or measurement inaccuracies.

Date

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Information derived from this map should be confirmed with the data custodian acknowledged by the agency acronym in the legend.



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CPS 5888/1 - Context Map



LEGEND

- Local Government Authorities
- Road Centerline

Busselton 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007



Scale 1:32000

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distortion or measurement inaccuracies.

..... Date

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* Project Data. This data has not been quality assured. Please contact map author for details.



Preliminary Assessment Report

Government of Western Australia
Department of Environment Regulation

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 5888/1
Permit type: Area Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: City of Busselton

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 94 ON PLAN 91775 (Lot No. 94 LAYMAN ROAD WONNERUP 6280)
Local Government Area: City of Busselton
Colloquial name: Reserve 385

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.77		Mechanical Removal	Repositioning the Vasse Estuary ocean inlet

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description	Clearing Description	Vegetation Condition	Comment
The area under application has been mapped as Beard Vegetation Association 990 which is described as low forest: peppermint (<i>Agonis flexuosa</i>) (Shepherd et al 2001)	The clearing consists of 0.77 hectares of native veg within Lot 94 on Plan 91775, Wonnerup in the City of Busselton, for the purpose of repositioning the Vasse Estuary ocean inlet.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The area under application consists of sparse low heath, non-native species combined with the following: <i>Spinifex hirsutus</i> , <i>Spinifex longifolius</i> , <i>Scaevola crassifolia</i> , <i>Ficinia nodosa</i> , <i>Carpobrotus virescens</i> , <i>Lepidosperma gladiatum</i> , <i>Acacia cyclops</i> . Small patches of saltmarsh that should not be disturbed by the clearing: <i>Tecticornia sp.</i> , <i>Juncus kraussii</i> , <i>Sporobolus virginicus</i> .

3. Assessment of application against Clearing Principles

Comments

Consideration has been given to impacts to biodiversity, significant fauna habitat, rare flora, threatened ecological communities, remnant vegetation values, wetlands, watercourses, land degradation, surface water quality, groundwater quality, and flooding. The assessment has found that the clearing under application is not likely to be at variance to all clearing principles.

The clearing is for the purpose of repositioning the Vasse Estuary ocean inlet. No submissions have been received.

Methodology

- GIS Datasets:
- Hydrology, linear
 - IBRA Australia
 - Aboriginal Sites of Significance
 - DEC Tenure
 - Town Planning Scheme Zones
 - Geomorphic Wetlands (Mgt Categories), Swan Coastal Plain
 - ANCA, Wetlands
 - RAMSAR, Wetlands
 - Groundwater salinity, statewide
 - Topographic Contours, statewide
 - Soils, statewide
 - Environmental Protection Swan Coastal Lakes Policy 1992
 - RIWI Act, Areas
 - Pre-European Vegetation
 - SAC Biodatasets Accessed 4 December 2013
 - Busselton 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2007
 - Busselton Townsite 20cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2008

References:

- Shepherd et al (2001)
- Keighery (1994)

4. References

- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R., and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001), Native Vegetation in Western Australia. Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture Western Australia, South Perth.