



MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE;
WATER RESOURCES

Statement No.

000566

STATEMENT THAT A PROPOSAL MAY BE IMPLEMENTED
(PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1986)

UPGRADING OF USELESS LOOP ROAD, SHARK BAY

Proposal: The upgrading of eight sections (each up to 1200 metres long) of the existing Useless Loop Road in the Shire of Shark Bay. The road works, which extend over approximately 67 kilometres of road, include curve improvement, realignment and reconstruction.

The proposal also includes the development and use of six borrow pits for extraction of suitable road construction materials. The proposal details are documented in schedule 1 of this statement.

Proponent: Main Roads Western Australia

Proponent Address: PO Box 6202, East Perth WA 6892

Assessment Number: 1364

Report of the Environmental Protection Authority: Bulletin 1003

The proposal to which the above report of the Environmental Protection Authority relates may be implemented subject to the following environmental conditions and procedures:

Procedures

1 Implementation

- 1-1 Subject to these conditions and procedures, the proponent shall implement the proposal as documented in schedule 1 of this statement.
- 1-2 Where the proponent seeks to change any aspect of the proposal as documented in schedule 1 of this statement in any way that the Minister for the Environment and Heritage determines, on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority, is substantial, the proponent shall refer the matter to the Environmental Protection Authority.

Published on

23 MAY 2001

- 1-3 Where the proponent seeks to change any aspect of the proposal as documented in schedule 1 of this statement in any way that the Minister for the Environment and Heritage determines, on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority, is not substantial, those changes may be effected.

2 Proponent Commitments

- 2-1 The proponent shall implement the consolidated environmental management commitments documented in schedule 2 of this statement.
- 2-2 The proponent shall implement subsequent environmental management commitments which the proponent makes as part of the fulfilment of conditions and procedures in this statement.

3 Proponent

- 3-1 The proponent for the time being nominated by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage under section 38(6) or (7) of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 is responsible for the implementation of the proposal until such time as the Minister for the Environment and Heritage has exercised the Minister's power under section 38(7) of the Act to revoke the nomination of that proponent and nominate another person in respect of the proposal.
- 3-2 Any request for the exercise of that power of the Minister referred to in condition 3-1 shall be accompanied by a copy of this statement endorsed with an undertaking by the proposed replacement proponent to carry out the proposal in accordance with the conditions and procedures set out in the statement.
- 3-3 The proponent shall notify the Department of Environmental Protection of any change of proponent contact name and address within 30 days of such change.

4 Commencement

- 4-1 The proponent shall provide evidence to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage within five years of the date of this statement that the proposal has been substantially commenced.
- 4-2 Where the proposal has not been substantially commenced within five years of the date of this statement, the approval to implement the proposal as granted in this statement shall lapse and be void. The Minister for the Environment and Heritage will determine any question as to whether the proposal has been substantially commenced.
- 4-3 The proponent shall make application to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage for any extension of approval for the substantial commencement of the proposal beyond five years from the date of this statement at least six months prior to the expiration of the five year period referred to in conditions 4-1 and 4-2.

- 4-4 Where the proponent demonstrates to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment and Heritage on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority that the environmental parameters of the proposal have not changed significantly, then the Minister may grant an extension not exceeding five years for the substantial commencement of the proposal.

5 Compliance Auditing

- 5-1 The proponent shall submit periodic Compliance Reports, in accordance with an audit program prepared in consultation between the proponent and the Department of Environmental Protection.
- 5-2 Unless otherwise specified, the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environmental Protection is responsible for assessing compliance with the conditions, procedures and commitments contained in this statement and for issuing formal, written advice that the requirements have been met.
- 5-3 Where compliance with any condition, procedure or commitment is in dispute, the matter will be determined by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

Environmental Conditions

6 Environmental Management System

- 6-1 In order to manage the environmental impacts of the project, and to fulfil the requirements of the conditions and procedures in this statement, prior to ground-disturbing activity, the proponent shall demonstrate to the requirements of the Environmental Protection Authority on advice of the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Conservation and Land Management that there is in place an environmental management system which includes the following elements:
- 1 An environmental policy and corporate commitment to it;
 - 2 Mechanisms and processes to ensure:
 - (1) planning to meet environmental requirements;
 - (2) implementation and operation of actions to meet environmental requirements;
 - (3) measurement and evaluation of environmental performance; and
 - 3 Review and improvement of environmental outcomes.
- 6-2 The proponent shall implement the environmental management system referred to in condition 6-1.

DR JUDY EDWARDS (MLA)
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

23 MAY 2001

Schedule 1

The Proposal (1364)

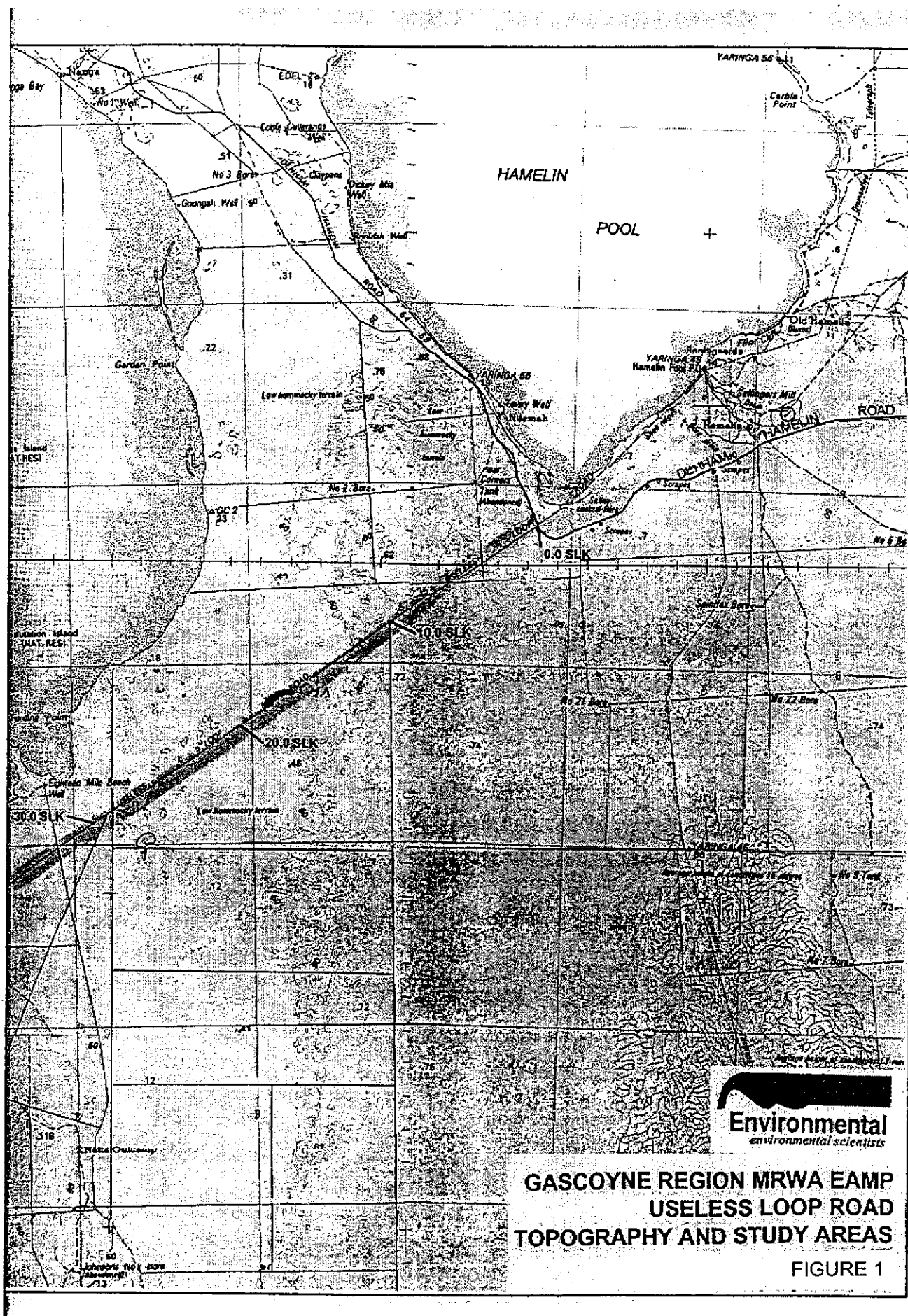
This proposal involves the upgrading of eight sections (each up to 1200 metres long) of the existing Useless Loop Road in the Shire of Shark Bay. The road works, which extend over a distance of approximately 67 kilometres of road, include curve improvement, realignment and reconstruction of the sections. The proposal also includes the development and use of six borrow pits for extraction of suitable road construction materials. Of these six borrow pits, five are already existing and have been used for road construction material in the past.

Key Characteristics Table

Element	Quantities/Description	
Period of construction	Approximately 8 months	
Project purpose	To improve traffic safety and serviceability	
Locality	Project area is within the Shire of Shark Bay. The first section of proposed works on Useless Loop Road starts at 16.7 straight line kilometres (SLK) and the last section starts at 82.7 SLK.	
Major Components Road Improvements	16.7 to 17.9 SLK	Improve right hand curve, 500 metre realignment, improve left hand curve, 400 metre realignment
	37.2 to 37.6 SLK	Minor curve realignment
	54.2 to 54.8 SLK	Improve left hand curve, 600 metre realignment
	56.73 to 57.52 SLK	800 metre construction (raising of tidal section)
	58.60 to 60.40 SLK	1800 metre realignment
	62.4 to 63.1 SLK	Improve right hand curve, 700 metre realignment
	77.6 to 78.5 SLK	Improve right hand curve, 600 metre realignment
	82.7 to 83.6 SLK	Improve reverse curve, 700 metre realignment
	See Figure 1 (attached) for works areas	
Major Components Borrow Pits	Area 1A (existing pit)	Accessed from 16.25 SLK
	Area 1 (existing pit)	Accessed from 28.90 SLK
	Area 2 (existing pit)	Accessed from 37.30 SLK
	Area 3 (existing pit)	Accessed from 54.94 SLK
	Area 6 (new pit)	Accessed from 60.60 SLK
	Area 9A (existing pit)	Accessed from 74.91 SLK
	See Figure 1 (attached) for borrow pit locations	
Area of disturbance	Approximately 12 hectares of disturbance for road realignments. Approximately 4 hectares of disturbance for borrow pits.	
Area of vegetation clearing	Approximately 12 hectares of vegetation clearing for road realignments. Approximately 4 hectares of vegetation clearing for borrow pits.	

Rehabilitation and revegetation	All areas of disturbance within the work areas will be rehabilitated at the completion of construction works, including recontouring of disturbed areas and re-spreading of topsoil. All cleared land within the work areas will be revegetated utilising local native species.
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Figure 1 – Gascoyne Region, Useless Loop Road, Regional Location (attached).



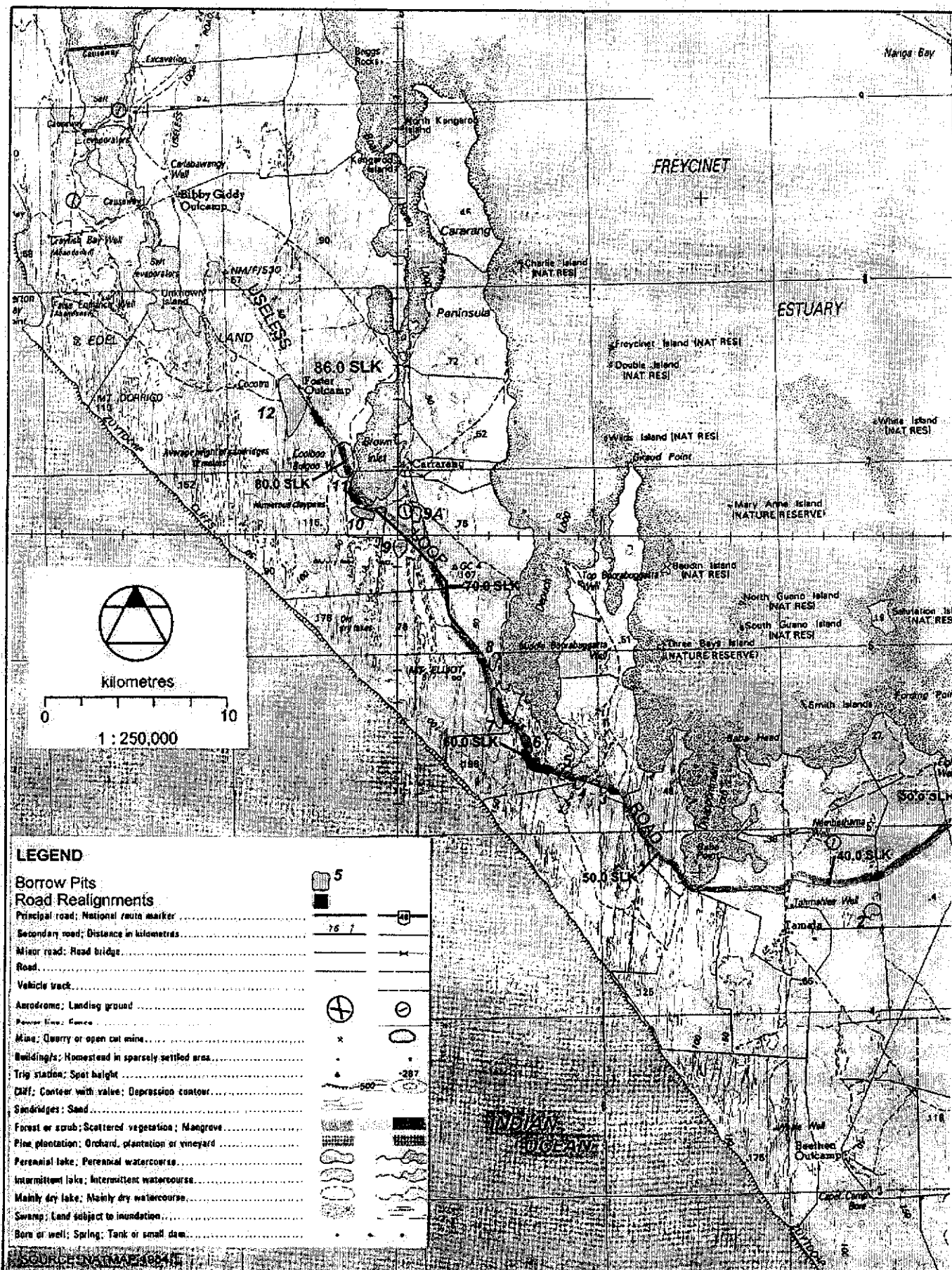


FIGURE 1 – CONTINUED

**Proponent's Consolidated Environmental Management
Commitments**

15 March 2001

**UPGRADING OF USELESS LOOP ROAD,
SHARK BAY (Assessment No. 1364)**

MAIN ROADS WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Schedule 2: Proponent's environmental management commitments – Upgrading of Useless Loop Road, Shark Bay (1364).

The proponent makes the following commitments to ensure appropriate environmental management of the road works. The following management plan actions are first to be addressed in the specifications and/or drawings during the design phase, prior to being undertaken by the Contractor or responsible officer.

Topic	Objective/s	Action	Timing	Advice
1 Consultation	To ensure that the potential environmental impacts of the proposal can be managed.	The proponent will continue to liaise with the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) on the implementation and management of this development.	Pre-construction Operation, Post-construction	CALM
2 Vegetation	To minimise and manage impact on native vegetation both within and outside the development areas.	Develop and implement a Vegetation Management Plan, relevant to the size and scope of the project, which addresses or provides for the following: 1. Develop a map which identifies the locations of priority flora along the route. 2. Instigate measures to minimise the amount of vegetation clearing, including limiting vegetation clearing to the edge of the earthworks and causing no damage to vegetation, landforms, or faunal habitat outside the work areas (as defined in the road design plans and pegged on the ground). 3. Continue to liaise with CALM in relation to native flora, particularly priority flora species, identified within the proposed works areas and management actions for such flora.	Develop at Pre-construction phase. Implement during operation	CALM
3 Rehabilitation	To rehabilitate the site and minimise long term impact, including erosion at the site.	Develop and implement a Rehabilitation Management Plan, relevant to the size and scope of the project, which addresses or provides for the following: 1. All areas of disturbance arising from road work activity will be rehabilitated. 2. All cleared areas within the work areas will be revegetated. 3. Local native species will be used for revegetation. 4. Wherever possible, cleared vegetation will be used for rehabilitation and to minimise erosion. 5. Disturbed areas will be re-contoured to blend in with the surrounding environment. 6. Define the proposed monitoring of rehabilitation and erosion including, timing, threshold levels for mitigating action, and contingency plans for when those threshold levels are exceeded. 7. Define criteria for undertaking supplementary planting and seeding and erosion control measures.	Develop at Pre-construction phase. Implement during operation	CALM

Topic	Objective/s	Action	Timing	Advice
4 Topsoil	To ensure that topsoil is managed in a way to maximise its value in rehabilitation of disturbed areas.	Develop and implement a Topsoil Management Plan, relevant to the size and scope of the project, which addresses or provides for the following: 1. Equate volume of topsoil removed with the amount respread within work areas. 2. Topsoil will be removed from the work areas, stockpiled and stored to prevent degrading activities, such as flooding. 3. Develop a map of the proposed movement of topsoil. 4. Topsoil will not be transported between work areas. Topsoil, once stockpiled, will not be used except to be re-spread. 5. Define where topsoil will be re-spread, including on batter slopes, verges and rehabilitation areas. 6. Topsoil will be re-spread to appropriately reflect topography. 7. Topsoil will be re-spread to similar depths to which it was removed. 8. Topsoil will not be re-spread on birrida borrow pit areas.	Develop at Pre-construction phase. Implement during operation	CALM
5 Drainage	To maintain natural drainage patterns at the development site, in particular at development areas which intercept significant drainage lines such as Brown Inlet and Depuch Loop.	Develop and implement a Drainage Management Plan, relevant to the size and scope of the project, which addresses or provides for the following: 1. Provide a map of natural drainage patterns. 2. Appropriately design drainage control structures will be installed to manage stormwater from all works areas, including road re-alignments and borrow pits. 3. Particular attention will be paid to maintaining natural drainage patterns and flows at development areas which intercept significant drainage lines such as Brown Inlet and Depuch Loop. 4. Appropriately designed culverts will be installed at drainage lines to ensure that surface water flow is not significantly obstructed.	Develop at Pre-construction phase. Implement during operation	Water and Rivers Commission Shire of Shark Bay
6 Weeds	To minimise the transport of weeds.	Develop and implement a Weed Management Plan, in line with the Main Roads WA standard specifications and relevant to the size and scope of the project, which addresses or provides for the following: 1. Detail vehicle, plant and equipment hygiene (including wash down) procedures. 2. Monitoring for weeds within the upgraded sections of the road reserve will be undertaken once per year (in spring). 3. Detail monitoring methodology. 4. Define threshold level of weed invasion that will instigate weed control measures.	Develop at Pre-construction phase. Implement during operation	CALM

Topic	Objective/s	Action	Timing	Advice
7	Dust and noise To minimise potential impacts of dust and noise from the construction and operation of the road upgrade.	Develop and implement a Dust and Noise Management Plan, relevant to the size and scope of the project, which addresses or provides for the following: 1. Acceptable hours of operation will be detailed specifically. 2. Dust control measures, including spraying with water, will be undertaken on cleared and exposed areas associated with road construction activity. Impacts of use of saline water for dust suppression will be managed.	Develop at Pre-construction phase. Implement during operation	CALM
8	Visual Amenity Minimise visual impact of proposed works.	1. Retain vegetation buffer between Useless Loop Road and borrow pits. 2. Limit clearing of native vegetation and rehabilitate all disturbed areas.	Construction	CALM
9	Rubbish Minimise environmental impact from rubbish disposal.	All rubbish items will be disposed of at the nearest waste disposal site. No rubbish will be burned or buried on site.	All development phases	Shire of Shark Bay
10	Fuel and Oils Minimise environmental impact from fuel and oils.	Adhere to the Main Roads WA standard specifications for management of fuel and oil.	All development phases	
11	Fire Prevention of fire	Water tanks, equipment and personnel will be provided to fight any fires that commence in the work areas until the construction contract is concluded.	All development phases	Shire of Shark Bay, CALM
12	Aboriginal heritage To ensure that Aboriginal sites are not adversely impacted by the proposal.	In areas where Aboriginal material may occur (coastal dune ridges of realignment sections 58.6 to 60.4 SLK, 62.4 to 63.1 SLK and 82.7 to 83.6 SLK), ground-disturbing activities will be monitored by a suitably qualified local Aboriginal Community Representative.	All development phases	Aboriginal Affairs Department
13	Aboriginal heritage To ensure that Aboriginal sites are not adversely impacted by the proposal.	In the event of any Aboriginal or archaeological material being identified (or material believed to be of significance to Aboriginal people), an archaeological investigation will be undertaken by a qualified archaeologist to determine the nature, extent and significance of any surface and/or subsurface archaeological material present.	All development phases	Aboriginal Affairs Department
14	Heritage sites To ensure that heritage sites are not adversely impacted by the proposal.	In the event of any heritage sites being identified, an archaeological investigation will be undertaken to determine the nature, extent and significance of any surface and/or subsurface archaeological material present.	All development phases	Heritage Council of Western Australia

Abbreviations:

CALM: Department of Conservation and Land Management

DEP: Department of Environmental Protection

Note 1

The above management plans will be developed from the Main Roads WA standard specifications, to a level relevant to the size and scale of the project.

Note 2

The proponent has indicated that the contractor will be given responsibility for implementing the commitments, except for ongoing monitoring arrangements which will be the responsibility of the proponent's Project Manager. The proponent's Asset Manager will be responsible for the preparation of compliance reports. Management plans and details may be incorporated into contractual arrangements for the protection of the environment.