

Department of Environment and Conservation
South Coast Region



COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT REPORT (Ministerial Statement 884)

22 December 2011 to 21 December 2012

**Coastal Walk Trail from Point Ann to
Hamersley Inlet
– Fitzgerald River National Park**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	INTRODUCTION.....	1
2.	CURRENT STATUS	1
3.	STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE.....	2
4.	DETAILS OF DECLARED COMPLIANCE STATUS.....	2
4.1	Key Characteristics Table (Condition 1-1)	2
4.2	Protection of Wilderness Management Zone (Condition 5-1)	3
4.3	Environmental Management Plan (Conditions 6-1, 6-2 and 6-3).....	3
4.4	Pre-construction Flora and Vegetation Surveys and Assessments (Conditions 7-1 and 7-2).....	8
4.5	Flora and Vegetation Monitoring Reference Sites (Conditions 7-3 and 7-4)	9
4.6	Dieback Risk Assessment and Management Plan (Conditions 8-1, 8-2 and 9-1 to 9-5).....	13
4.7	Staging of Plans (Condition 10-1)	13
5.	PROPONENT DECLARATION.....	14
6.	APPENDICES.....	15

1. INTRODUCTION

This Compliance Assessment Report has been prepared by the proponent, the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC), to meet condition 4-6 of Ministerial Statement 884 (Statement 884) issued on 22 December 2011 for the Coastal Walk Trail from Point Ann to Hamersley Inlet – Fitzgerald River National Park (the Project). This Compliance Assessment Report covers the first year of implementation of the Project, from 22 December 2011 to 21 December 2012.

In accordance with section 45C of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, in July 2012 DEC applied to amend the proposal, from a coastal walk trail from Point Ann to Hamersley Inlet in the Fitzgerald River National Park (FRNP) to two shorter trails from Cave Point to Quoin Head (eastern alignment) and Point Ann to Fitzgerald Inlet (western alignment). This change was required to comply with Statement 884 condition 5-1, which stipulated that no aspect of the proposal should be implemented within the wilderness management zone. DEC also applied for minor amendment to the boundary of the wilderness management zone, as an administrative error was discovered in the initial proposal map which displayed an incorrect boundary for the wilderness management zone. These changes were approved by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) on 28 August 2012.

2. CURRENT STATUS

The Project is currently in construction phase, with on-ground construction works on the western trail alignment commencing on 10 September 2012. Construction of the eastern trail alignment had not commenced during the reporting period of this report.

The completion of the pre-construction conditions for this Project were staged (as per condition 10-1), with the pre-construction conditions for the western trail alignment completed on 30 August 2012 and on 21 November 2012 for the eastern alignment.

The milestones and achievements of this Project over the 2011/2012 reporting period, in relation to the conditions of Statement 884, are outlined as follows:

- A Compliance Assessment Plan was accepted by the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority (OEPA) on 23 August 2012 (OEPA reference A536149: OEPA 2011/000056).
- DEC applied to the OEPA for minor changes to the proposal (as described in Schedule 1 to Statement 884) under section 45C of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. This was approved by the EPA on 28 August 2012 (EPA reference: A524261: OEPA 2012/000437).
- The *FRNP Improvement Project Walk Trails Environmental Management Plan 2012-2013* was reviewed by OEPA and determined to satisfy condition 6-1 on 30 August 2012 (OEPA references: A529473, A524253 and A524257).
- A flora and vegetation survey report was reviewed by OEPA and determined to satisfy condition 7-1 on 30 August 2012 (OEPA references: A529473, A524253 and A524257).
- An assessment of the threatened and significant flora of the western trail alignment was reviewed by OEPA and determined to satisfy condition 7-2 on 30 August 2012 (OEPA references: A529473, A524253 and A524257).
- Construction on the western walk trail alignment commenced on 10 September 2012.
- An assessment of the threatened and significant flora of the eastern trail alignment was reviewed by OEPA and determined to satisfy condition 7-2 for the eastern alignment on 21 November 2012 (OEPA reference A565324: OEPA 2012/000056).

There are no proposed changes to the Compliance Assessment Plan.

3. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

DEC has complied with all the conditions of Ministerial Statement 884 over the reporting period of 22 December 2011 to 21 December 2012. The compliance status for each of the conditions, as of 21 December 2012, is indicated in the attached audit table (see Appendix 1). Details of the declared compliance status for each of the conditions are provided in section 4.

4. DETAILS OF DECLARED COMPLIANCE STATUS

4.1 Key Characteristics Table (condition 1-1)

An amendment to the Key Characteristics Table of Statement 884 (Schedule 1) was approved by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) on 28 August 2012 in accordance with Section 45C of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* to modify the proposal from a coastal walk trail from Point Ann to Hamersley Inlet to two shorter trails from Cave Point to Quoin Head (eastern alignment) and Point Ann to Fitzgerald Inlet (western alignment).

DEC has complied with the updated Schedule 1 (see Appendix 2). Details of the compliance status for each element in the Key Characteristics Table are included in the table below.

Table 1: Compliance status and supporting information for each element in the Key Characteristics Table.

Element	Description of proposal (as per Schedule 1)	Status	Further information
Coastal walk trail	<p>Two walk trails:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> an eastern walk trail from Quoin Head to Cave Point including a spur trail to Hamersley Inlet; and a western walk trail from Point Ann to Fitzgerald Inlet with shorter walk option at Lake Nameless. <p>Construct the trail to various classifications between Class 3 and Class 4 according to Australian Standards AS 2156.1-2001 Infrastructure Design and 2156.2001 Walking Tracks-Classification Signage.</p>	Compliant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of the western walk trail from Point Ann to Fitzgerald Inlet with a shorter walk option at Lake Nameless, commenced on 10 September 2012. Construction of the eastern walk trail had not commenced during this reporting period.
Overnight camping facilities	Shelter, toilet and water tank at Whalebone Beach. At Fitzgerald Inlet provision of a toilet and tent based camping.	Compliant	Construction of the overnight camping facilities has not yet commenced. Current plans for the sites are as per the proposal description.
Trail head	Shelter, boot cleaning station and an information panel at Point Ann, Hamersley Inlet and Cave Point. Smaller trail heads at Fitzgerald Inlet and Quoin Head.	Compliant	Construction of the trail heads has not yet commenced. Current plans for the trail heads are as per the proposal description.
Access Tracks	Use existing access tracks for construction and maintenance including Quoin Head, Whalebone Beach, Edwards Point, Cave Point, Hamersley Inlet and Point Ann tracks.	Compliant	Only existing access tracks, as listed in the proposal description, have been used for construction access.

4.2 Compliance Assessment Plan (condition 4-1)

The OEPA's CEO accepted the Compliance Assessment Plan on 23 August 2012 (OEPA reference A536149: OEPA 2011/00005 – see Appendix 3).

4.3 Protection of Wilderness Management Zone (condition 5-1)

With the EPA's amendment of Schedule 1 of Statement 884 (Appendix 2), DEC is compliant with condition 5-1 which stipulated that no aspect of the proposal should be implemented within the wilderness management zone. The amendments made to the walk trail alignment removed the requirement to enter the wilderness management zone for construction or management of the walk trail. The route through the wilderness management zone remains as an unmarked wilderness route, as detailed in the *Fitzgerald River National Park Management Plan 1991-2001*.

4.4 Environmental Management Plan (conditions 6-1, 6-2 and 6-3)

The *FRNP Improvement Project Walk Trails Environmental Management Plan 2012-2013* (EMP) was completed in April 2012 for the construction of the trails. The plan was reviewed by the OEPA and determined to satisfy condition 6-1 on 30 August 2012 (OEPA references: A529473, A524253 and A524257 – see Appendix 4).



Construction of the western walk trail alignment, which began on 10 September 2012, has followed the requirements of the EMP, in accordance with Statement 884 condition 6-2. As detailed in the EMP, compliance is monitored by the DEC Walk Trail Project Officer or Environment Officer, which is then summarised in monthly environmental reports to the DEC South Coast Regional Nature Conservation Leader. The compliance status and supporting information from the monthly environmental reports for the key management objectives of the EMP is provided in Table 2, as required under condition 6-3.

During the 2012 EMP reporting period, there were two minor environmental incidents during construction of the walk trail, of unauthorised public access (trail bikes) to the construction site. The incidents of unauthorised trail bike access are of significant concern to DEC as they are potential vectors for *Phytophthora* dieback onto the walk trail. Preventative actions taken include installing improved management signage and bollards to further restrict vehicle access of the walk trail construction site, or camouflaging of the construction site access points where possible.



DEC completed an annual review of the EMP and it was not amended.


Table 2: Compliance status and supporting information for each of the key management objectives of the EMP.

EMP Key Objectives	Status	Further Information
Vegetation clearing management.	Compliant	<p>Clearing for the walk trail has been a maximum of two metre wide and completed either by hand or with a machine mounted slasher. The edges of the machine clearing has been kept very neat by pre-clearing by hand and cleaning up afterwards. This is done to reduce incidental deaths of damaged plants along edge of trail.</p> 

EMP Key Objectives	Status	Further Information
Rehabilitation management	Compliant	<p>In most areas, the mulched vegetation has been left on the trail to stabilise the tread surface. Some of the plants on the edge of the slashed area that were trimmed/slashed are already re-sprouting.</p> 
Dieback and other plant pathogens hygiene management	Compliant	<p>All vehicles, machines and equipment taken on site have been cleaned and inspected by either Walk Trail Project Officer or Environment Officer. Works have ceased following rainfall events to prevent spread of material along the trail alignment, and have not recommenced until soil conditions are deemed suitable (soil does not adhere to the tyres or undercarriages of vehicles, or may be transported by machinery and footwear).</p> 

EMP Key Objectives	Status	Further Information
Access management	Compliant	<p>The walk trail construction site was closed to public access via signage and fencing. There were two incidents of unauthorised trail bike access to the site, following which further preventative action of improved management signage, a gate and more bollards were installed.</p> 
Weed management	Compliant	<p>No introduction of weeds has been noted. A small patch of Dune Onion Weed (<i>Trachyandra divaricata</i>) on the Point Charles foredune that was identified from the flora surveys was physically removed from site. This will require on-going monitoring and control.</p> 
Fauna management	Compliant	<p>There have been no death or injury of fauna on site, although there have been several snake encounters. There has been two incidents of wildlife (one snake, one kangaroo) hit and killed by DEC vehicles on-route to the construction site.</p>
Threatened and significant flora species/ communities management	Compliant	<p>Priority flora species have been marked on-site with flagging tape prior to clearing, and avoided where possible. Construction crew have been given a priority flora identification booklet to enable them to identify the species to avoid on-site.</p>

EMP Key Objectives	Status	Further Information
Cultural and heritage sites management	Compliant	<p>No Aboriginal artefacts have been found during construction activities. Several artefacts from the telegraph line (e.g. telegraph poles, transformer fragments) have been located. The trail has gone around artefacts where possible, or they have been moved off to the side of the trail and marked with flagging tape to ensure they are not accidentally damaged during construction.</p> 
Visual amenity management	Compliant	<p>Strict housekeeping practices have been followed so that no litter has been left on site from construction activities.</p>
Materials and infrastructure management	Compliant	<p>Natural rock from the trail or nearby has been utilised to construct rock bars and other trail features, no other basic raw materials have been brought on-site.</p> 
Water management	Compliant	<p>No water has been used for the construction progress.</p>
Waste management	Compliant	<p>Construction activities have not resulted in any waste that requires disposal.</p>

EMP Key Objectives	Status	Further Information
Drainage and erosion management	Compliant	<p>Water bars and other trail erosion management features have been constructed to minimise potential erosion of trail.</p> 
Fuel, oil and other hazardous substances management	Compliant	<p>There have been no oil or fuel spills or leaks. All fuel and oil have been managed according to the EMP procedures.</p>
Fire control and response management	Compliant	<p>Construction activities have been following strict safety protocols including fire extinguishers on all machines and work has ceased during extreme or catastrophic fire weather conditions.</p>
Travel and overnight management	Compliant	<p>Existing camping facilities at St Mary's have been used for overnight camping with no open fires permitted.</p>

4.5 Pre-construction Flora and Vegetation Surveys and Assessments (conditions 7-1 and 7-2)

DEC was compliant with conditions 7-1 and 7-2 by completing flora and vegetation surveys and assessing the potential impacts of the trail alignment prior to construction.

A detailed flora and vegetation survey of a 20 metre wide corridor following the originally proposed alignment for the FRNP coastal walk trail from Point Ann to Hamersley Inlet was completed by botanist Cate Tauss in summer 2010 and again in spring 2011 and approved by the OEPA – see Appendix 4). Due to some subsequent trail realignments, some short sections of the trail were either missed completely or only surveyed once. The whole of the alignment has therefore been re-assessed by DEC Flora Officer Damian Rathbone, during autumn or spring 2012, as part of a comprehensive flora survey of the coastal catchments which the original trail alignment crossed (OEPA approval at Appendix 5).

The results of all the flora and vegetation surveys were used to assess the potential impacts of the trail alignment on threatened and significant flora and to adjust the alignment where required to minimise impacts. This assessment was summarised in two documents: *Threatened and Significant Flora and Vegetation near the Western Walk Trail, Fitzgerald River National Park* and *Threatened and Significant Flora and Vegetation near the Eastern Walk Trail, Fitzgerald River National Park*, and approved by the OEPA under condition 7-2 (see Appendix 4).

The constructed walk trail alignment is being kept within the 20 metre surveyed alignment. However, a few short sections have been, or are proposed to be, realigned slightly outside the 20 metre surveyed area. These realignments are for environmental protection, visitor safety or improved trail quality reasons. Prior to DEC approval of construction, each of these realignments have been (or will be) surveyed by the DEC Walk Trail Project Officer and Environment Officer (who have a general knowledge of the FRNP environment and can identify the area's threatened and significant flora), who then complete a risk assessment of the alignment on the flora, fauna, dieback and heritage values. If the realignment is found to go through a different vegetation type or landscape feature than the surveyed alignment, further surveys (flora, fauna, dieback or heritage) will be undertaken prior to construction. Only one realignment has been progressed to date.

4.6 Flora and Vegetation Monitoring Reference Sites (conditions 7-3 and 7-4)

DEC is compliant with condition 7-3 as permanent photographic monitoring points have been established along the walk trail alignment. These sites have been established approximately every 500 metres along the trail alignment, and in sensitive areas (i.e. dunes, high impact areas such as campsites), with the objective of:

- documenting the impacts of the walk trail construction on the flora and vegetation in the vicinity of the trail and related facilities; and
- monitoring for impacts on flora and vegetation and wear and tear on the trail over the life of the trails.

The methodology of this photographic monitoring is detailed in the *Fitzgerald River National Park Coastal Walk Trails Flora Monitoring Procedure*. The monitoring points are being established immediately prior to construction, so to date only the monitoring points for the western alignment have been established. The monitoring points will be permanently marked with discrete monitoring posts and trail marker pegs. However until the trail marker pegs have been designed, temporary survey pegs and flagging tape have been used. These will be replaced by the permanent monitoring posts and trail marker pegs in 2013.

DEC is compliant with condition 7-4 by photographing the monitoring points weekly during construction. The monitoring points for the eastern alignment also will be established immediately prior to construction in 2013.

Three examples of the photographic monitoring points (sites 12, 14 and 17) are provided in this report, showing before and after the vegetation clearing for the walk trail. Impacts of the walk trail construction are confined to the two metre wide trail alignment corridor.

Monitoring site 12



Pre-construction (5 October 2012)



Post vegetation clearing (6 October 2012)

Monitoring site 14



Pre-construction (22 November 2012)



Post vegetation clearing (28 November 2012)

Monitoring site 17



Pre-construction (22 November 2012)



Post vegetation clearing (28 November 2012)

4.7 Dieback Risk Assessment and Management Plan (conditions 8-1, 8-2 and 9-1 to 9-5)

The dieback risk assessment and management plan for the walk trail (conditions 8-1, 8-2 and 9-1 to 9-5) are currently in development, for implementation prior to operation of the trail. The compliance status for these conditions is therefore 'not required at this stage'.

The originally proposed walk trail alignment was interpreted for *Phytophthora* dieback via helicopter in July 2011, by DEC Interpreter Peter Blankendaal. This provided a baseline map of the trail, which will be required for the Dieback Management Plan that will be developed prior to operation of the trail (condition 9-2). The majority (86 per cent) of the trail alignment was assessed as uninfested, the other 14 per cent was uninterpretable. The uninterpretable areas were those areas that are either beach, dunes or uninterpretable vegetated areas close to estuaries and lakes.

The dieback interpretation will be repeated annually and prior to construction. The western walk trail alignment was re-surveyed on foot by DEC Interpreter Greg Freebury in August-November 2012, prior to construction. The trail alignment was assessed as uninfested, except the sections on the beach, dunes or close to Fitzgerald Inlet, which are uninterpretable.

4.8 Staging of Plans (Condition 10-1)

Condition 10-1 allows for staged implementation of the components of the Project. DEC is compliant with this condition, having staged the assessment of the potential impacts of the trail alignment on threatened and significant flora.

DEC is currently staging the implementation of the flora and vegetation monitoring reference sites (conditions 7-3 and 7-4), setting the sites up ahead of the trail construction (see section 4.5 above). To date the monitoring points for the western alignment have been established. The monitoring points for the eastern alignment will be established prior to construction in 2013.

5. PROPONENT DECLARATION

I, JAMES ROSS SHARP A/DIRECTOR GENERAL (full name and position title)
declare that I am authorised on behalf of (being the person
responsible for the proposal) to submit this form and that the information contained in this form
is true and not misleading.

Signature: .....

Date: 22.3.13.....

6. APPENDICES

The Audit Table (Appendix 1) is attached to this document below. The other appendices are provided as separate documents.

Appendix 1: Audit Table.

Appendix 2: Changes to the proposal (as described in Schedule 1 to Statement 884) under section 45C of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* approved by the EPA on 28 August 2012 (EPA reference: A524261; OEPA 2012/000437).

Appendix 3: Approval of the Compliance Assessment Plan by the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority (OEPA) on 23 August 2012 (OEPA reference A536149; OEPA 2011/000056).

Appendix 4: Approval of the Flora and Vegetation surveys, Monitoring and Environmental Management Plans by the OEPA on 30 August 2012 (OEPA references: A529473, A524253 and A524257).

Appendix 5: Approval of the threatened and significant flora of the eastern trail alignment by OEPA on 21 November 2012 (OEPA reference A565324; OEPA 2012/000056).

AUDIT TABLE

Statement Compliance Section

PROJECT: Coastal Walk Trail from Point Ann to Hamersley Inlet - Fitzgerald River National Park

APPENDIX 1 – AUDIT TABLE

Note:

- Phases that apply in this table = Pre-Construction, Construction, Operation, Decommissioning, Overall (several phases).
- This audit table is a summary and timetable of conditions and commitments applying to this project. Refer to the Minister's Statement for full detail/precise wording of individual elements.
- Code prefixes: M = Minister's condition, P = Proponent's commitment.
- Acronyms list: CEO = Chief Executive Officer of OEPA; DEC = Department of Environment and Conservation; DIA = Department of Indigenous Affairs; DMP = Department of Mining and Petroleum; EPA = Environmental Protection Authority; DoH = Department of Health; DoW = Department of Water, Minister for Env = Minister for the Environment; OEPA = Office of the Environmental Protection Authority.
- Compliance Status: C = Compliant, CLD = Completed, NA = Not Audited, NC = Non – compliant, NR = Not Required at this stage. Please note the terms VR = Verification Required and IP = In Process are only for OEPA use.

Audit Code	Subject	Action	How	Evidence	Satisfy	Advice	Phase	When	Status
884:G									
884:M1.1	Proposal Implementation	The proponent shall implement the proposal as documented and described in Schedule 1 of this statement subject to the conditions and procedures of this statement.	Implement the proposal as per Statement 884, Schedule 1.	Compliance Assessment Report	Minister for Env	Implementation of the proposal is in accordance with the requirements of Statement 884. A Section 45C amendment was approved by the EPA on 28 August 2012 to modify the proposal from a coastal walk trail from Point Ann to Hamersley Inlet to two shorter trails from Cave Point to Quoin Head (eastern alignment) and Point Ann to Fitzgerald Inlet (western alignment).	Overall		C
884:M2.1	Proponent Nomination and Contact Details	The proponent for the time being nominated by the Minister for Environment under sections 38(6) or 38(7) of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> is responsible for the implementation of the proposal.	Implement the proposal as per Statement 884, Schedule 1.	Compliance Assessment Report	Minister for Env	The nominated proponent for the proposal has not changed during the reporting period.	Overall		C
884:M2.2	Proponent Nomination and Contact Details	The proponent shall notify the Chief Executive Officer of the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority (CEO) of any change of the name and address of the proponent for the serving of notices or other correspondence within 30 days of such change.	Notify the CEO of OEPA of any change of name and address.	Copy of correspondence to CEO of OEPA advising of change of name and address.	CEO	There was no change to the contact name and/or address of the nominated proponent during the reporting period.	Overall	Within 30 days of such change.	NR
884:M3.1	Time Limit of Authorisation	The authorisation to implement the proposal provided for in this statement shall lapse and be void five years after the date of this statement if the proposal to which this statement relates is not substantially commenced.	Commence implementation of the proposal by 22 December 2016.	Compliance Assessment Report	Minister for Env	Project construction substantially commenced during the reporting period.	Overall	Commence implementation of the proposal by 22 December 2016.	C
884:M3.2	Time Limit of Authorisation	The proponent shall provide the CEO with written evidence which demonstrates that the proposal has substantially commenced on or before the expiration of five years from the date of this statement.	Provide written evidence to the CEO.	Compliance Assessment Report	CEO	Evidence is provided in this Compliance Assessment Report.	Overall	Annually	C
884:M4.1	Compliance Reporting	The proponent shall prepare and maintain a compliance assessment plan to the satisfaction of the CEO.	Preparation of a Compliance Assessment Plan and an Audit Table in compliance with the requirements of the OEPA.	Approved Compliance Assessment Plan and Audit Table (this document).	CEO	Compliance Assessment Plan approved on 23 August 2012 (OEPA reference A536149: OEPA 2011/00005).	Pre-construction	Compliance Assessment Plan prior to implementation of proposal.	CLD

AUDIT TABLE

Statement Compliance Section

PROJECT: Coastal Walk Trail from Point Ann to Hamersley Inlet - Fitzgerald River National Park

Audit Code	Subject	Action	How	Evidence	Satisfy	Advice	Phase	When	Status
884:M4.2	Compliance Reporting	The proponent shall submit to the CEO the compliance assessment plan required by condition 4-1 at least six months prior to the first compliance report required by condition 4-6, or prior to implementation, whichever is sooner. The compliance assessment plan shall indicate: 1. the frequency of compliance reporting; 2. the approach and timing of compliance assessments; 3. the retention of compliance assessments; 4. the method of reporting of potential non-compliances and corrective actions taken; 5. the table of contents of compliance assessment reports; and 6. public availability of compliance assessment reports.	Provide CEO with Compliance Assessment Plan in accordance with requirements of OEPA.	Approved Compliance Assessment Plan and Audit Table (this document).	CEO	Compliance Assessment Plan approved on 23 August 2012 (OEPA reference A536149: OEPA 2011/00005).	Pre-construction	Prior to implementation of proposal.	CLD
884:M4.3	Compliance Reporting	The proponent shall assess compliance with conditions in accordance with the compliance assessment plan required by condition 4-1.	As specified in Compliance Assessment Plan.	Compliance Assessment Report	Minister for Env	Evidence is provided in this Compliance Assessment Report	Overall	Annually by 22 March, reporting on the previous twelve month period from 22 December (date of issue of Statement).	C
884:M4.4	Compliance Reporting	The proponent shall retain reports of all compliance assessments described in the compliance assessment plan required by condition 4-1 and shall make those reports available when requested by the CEO.	Records and reports shall be retained and maintained in accordance with the DEC's document management system requirements so that they can be retrieved if requested	Availability of records at the request of the CEO.	CEO	Annual Compliance Reports are retained on DEC's corporate filing system.	Overall	When requested by CEO.	C
884:M4.5	Compliance Reporting	The proponent shall advise the CEO of any potential non-compliance within seven days of that non-compliance being known.	Notify the CEO in writing.	Written correspondence to CEO advising of non-compliance. Compliance Assessment Report.	CEO	There were no matters of non-compliance identified during the reporting period.	Overall	Within 7 days of non-compliance being known.	NR
884:M4.6	Compliance Reporting	The proponent shall submit to the CEO the first compliance assessment report fifteen months from the date of issue of this Statement addressing the twelve month period from the date of issue of this Statement and then annually from the date of submission of the first compliance assessment report. The compliance assessment report shall: 1. be endorsed by the proponent's Director General or a person delegated to sign on the Director General's behalf; 2. include a statement as to whether the proponent has complied with the conditions; 3. identify all potential non-compliances and describe corrective and preventative actions taken; 4. be made publicly available in accordance with the approved compliance assessment plan; and 5. indicate any proposed changes to the compliance assessment plan required by condition 4-1.	Provide CEO with Compliance Assessment Report in accordance with Compliance Assessment Plan.	Compliance Assessment Report. Endorsement by DEC's Director General (or delegate) of the Compliance Assessment Report. Copies of the Compliance Assessment Report available on DEC website (www.dec.wa.gov.au/frnp) and sent to DEC Library and PIMB (OEPA).	CEO	This report is the first Compliance Assessment Report prepared in accordance with the Compliance Assessment Plan and condition 4-6 and covers the period 22 December 2011 – 21 December 2012.	Overall	The first Compliance Assessment Report submitted by 22 March 2013, then annually by 22 March.	C
884:M5.1	Protection of Wilderness Management Zone	The proponent shall not implement any aspect of the proposal within the Wilderness Management Zone as depicted in Figure 1.	No aspect of the proposal will be implemented in the Wilderness Management Zone.	Compliance Assessment Report		The project does not impact on the Wilderness Management Zone. The EPA approved changes to the proposal, as described in Schedule 1, under section 45C of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> on 28 August 2012 (EPA reference: A524261: OEPA 2012/000437).	Overall	Duration of proposal.	C

AUDIT TABLE

Statement Compliance Section

PROJECT: Coastal Walk Trail from Point Ann to Hamersley Inlet - Fitzgerald River National Park

Audit Code	Subject	Action	How	Evidence	Satisfy	Advice	Phase	When	Status
884:M6.1	Environmental Management Plan	Prior to the commencement of construction of the proposal, the proponent shall prepare an Environmental Management Plan for the construction of the proposal to the satisfaction of the CEO. The primary objective of the Environmental Management Plan is to ensure that dieback disease (<i>Phytophthora</i> species) is not introduced as a direct or indirect result of construction activities into uninfected areas of the proposal area. Other potential impacts associated with construction including, but not limited to, weeds, fire, erosion and uncontrolled access, shall be addressed in the Plan.	Preparation of <i>Fitzgerald River National Park Improvement Project Walk Trails Environmental Management Plan (EMP)</i> addressing the environmental management of the proposal.	Walk Trails EMP to the satisfaction of the CEO.	CEO	The EMP was reviewed by the OEPA and determined to satisfy condition 6-1 on 30 August 2012 (OEPA references: A529473, A524253 and A524257).	Construction	Prior to construction.	CLD
884:M6.2	Environmental Management Plan	During the construction phase, the proponent shall implement the Environmental Management Plan referred to in condition 6-1.	Implementation of the Walk Trails EMP.	Monthly EMP compliance reports, which will be summarised in the Compliance Assessment Report.		The EMP has been implemented and there were no matters of non-compliance identified during the reporting period.	Construction	Annually during construction.	C
884:M6.3	Environmental Management Plan	During the construction phase, the proponent shall annually review and report progress on conditions 6-1 and 6-2 in the compliance assessment report required by condition 4-6.	Annual review of Walk Trails EMP and progress report as part of the Compliance Assessment Report.	Compliance Assessment Report.		The EMP was reviewed and was not amended.	Construction	Annually during construction.	C
884:M7.1	Flora and Vegetation	Prior to the commencement of construction of the proposal, the proponent shall conduct a detailed flora and vegetation survey of the proposal area to the satisfaction of the CEO.	Detailed flora survey and vegetation mapping of proposed walk trail alignment. Flora and vegetation surveys will be staged for different sections of the trail, as allowed for in Condition 10-1.	Report on the detailed flora and vegetation survey of the walk trail.	CEO	A flora and vegetation survey report was reviewed by OEPA and determined to satisfy condition 7-1 on 30 August 2012 (OEPA references: A529473, A524253 and A524257).	Pre-Construction	Prior to construction.	CLD
884:M7.2	Flora and Vegetation	Prior to the commencement of construction of the proposal, the proponent shall use the results of the detailed flora and vegetation survey required by condition 7-1 to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the CEO that the proposal has been located to avoid, where practicable, populations of rare or threatened communities or species, or species of restricted regional distribution.	Alignment of the walk trails will be designed to avoid significant flora and vegetation where practicable. The alignment and an assessment of potential impacts on threatened and priority flora species and communities submitted to the CEO.	Assessment of potential impacts on threatened and priority flora species and communities reports submitted to the CEO. EMP.	CEO	An assessment of potential impacts on threatened and priority flora species and communities was included in the EMP.	Pre-construction	Prior to construction.	CLD
884:M7.3	Flora and Vegetation	Prior to the commencement of construction of the proposal, the proponent shall establish reference sites to monitor potential impacts on flora and vegetation in the vicinity of the proposal.	Establishment of fixed photographic monitoring points every 500 metres along the trail alignment and in sensitive areas such as dunes or high impact areas such as campsites.	EMP. Compliance Assessment Report.	CEO	Fixed photographic monitoring points every 500 metres were established during the reporting period along the trail alignment being constructed.	Pre-construction.	Prior to construction.	C
884:M7.4	Flora and Vegetation	During the construction phase, the proponent shall monitor the reference sites referred to in Condition 7-3 and report the results in the compliance assessment report required by condition 4-6.	Weekly photographic monitoring to be undertaken during construction phase at each fixed monitoring point. Following construction, photographic monitoring at each reference site to be undertaken monthly for six months post construction, then annually for duration of proposal.	Monitoring records, maps and photographs. Compliance Assessment Report.	CEO	During construction, weekly photographic monitoring was undertaken during the reporting period at each fixed monitoring point.	Construction	Ongoing.	C

AUDIT TABLE

Statement Compliance Section

PROJECT: Coastal Walk Trail from Point Ann to Hamersley Inlet - Fitzgerald River National Park

Audit Code	Subject	Action	How	Evidence	Satisfy	Advice	Phase	When	Status
884:M8.1	Dieback Risk Assessment	Prior to the commencement of the operation of the proposal, the proponent shall prepare a Dieback Risk Assessment for the operation of the proposal to the satisfaction of the CEO. The primary objective of the Dieback Risk Assessment is to identify appropriate <i>Phytophthora</i> dieback disease risk management strategies for the operation of the proposal.	Dieback Risk Assessment and disease management strategies for the operation of the proposal. Submit Dieback Risk Assessment report to the CEO.	Dieback Risk Assessment.	CEO		Operational	Prior to commencement of walk trail operation.	NR
884:M8.2	Dieback Risk Assessment	The proponent shall commission an Independent Specialist to review the Dieback Risk Assessment for the operation of the proposal, with the Independent Specialist's assessment report being provided to the CEO within 20 business days of it being received by the proponent.	Engage Independent Specialist to review the Dieback Risk Assessment. Submit Independent Specialist's report to the CEO within 20 business days of receipt.	Consultant's assessment report on the Dieback Risk Assessment.	CEO	.	Operational	Prior to commencement of walk trail operation.	NR
884:M9.1	Dieback Management Plan	Prior to the commencement of the operation of the proposal, the proponent shall prepare a Dieback Management Plan for the operation of the proposal to the satisfaction of the CEO. The objective of the Dieback Management Plan is to ensure that <i>Phytophthora</i> dieback disease is not introduced into uninfected areas of the Fitzgerald River National Park during the ongoing management of the proposal.	Preparation of a Dieback Management Plan in accordance with stated objectives. Submit Dieback Management Plan to CEO.	Dieback Management Plan.	CEO		Operational	Prior to commencement of walk trail operation.	NR
884:M9.2	Dieback Management Plan	The Dieback Management Plan shall include, but not limited to: 1. the findings and outcomes from the Dieback Risk Assessment required by condition 8-1; 2. hygiene management measures to prevent the introduction of dieback disease; 3. surveys of the project area to identify and map the location of any dieback infestations; 4. a baseline map of any previously identified dieback infestations; 5. procedures for limiting and authorising access to areas that are dieback infected; 6. infrastructure and maintenance requirements; 7. public education programs and facilities; and 8. a dieback response plan detailing actions and contingency measures that will be taken if the proposal area is found to be infected by <i>Phytophthora</i> dieback including containment, resourcing and remedial treatment of <i>Phytophthora</i> dieback.	Preparation of Dieback Management Plan in accordance with stated criteria.	Dieback Management Plan.	CEO		Operational	Prior to commencement of coastal walk trail operation.	NR
884:M9.3	Dieback Management Plan	The proponent shall implement the Dieback Management Plan required by condition 9-1 during the ongoing operation of the proposal.	Implementation of Dieback Management Plan.	Compliance Assessment Report.			Operational	Annually for duration of proposal.	NR
884:M9.4	Dieback Management Plan	The proponent shall review annually the approved Dieback Management Plan required by condition 9-1 and report the results in the compliance assessment report required by condition 4-6.	Formal review of Dieback Management Plan.	Review of Dieback Management Plan. Compliance Assessment Report.			Operational	Annually for duration of proposal.	NR

AUDIT TABLE

Statement Compliance Section

PROJECT: Coastal Walk Trail from Point Ann to Hamersley Inlet - Fitzgerald River National Park

Audit Code	Subject	Action	How	Evidence	Satisfy	Advice	Phase	When	Status
884:M9.5	Dieback Management Plan	The proponent shall make the Dieback Management Plan required by Conditions 9-1 publicly available.	<p>Within 14 days of submission to the OEPA, the document will be posted on the DEC website for the life of the project.</p> <p>Within 14 days from the date of making documents publicly available, the website address/link at which they can be located shall be provided to the Proposal Implementation Monitoring Branch (PIMB).</p>	<p>Document available on DEC website (www.dec.wa.gov.au/frmp).</p> <p>Copy of document to DEC Library and PIMB (OEPA).</p>	CEO		Operational	Following completion of Dieback Management Plan.	NR
884:M10.1	Staging of Plans	Where a plan, assessment or survey is required by these conditions to be prepared and approved prior to the commencement of an activity, it is required that the plan, assessment or survey can be prepared and approved as per the relevant condition requirements for a component or stage of the activity, allowing staged implementation.	<p>Staged flora and vegetation surveys.</p> <p>Staged assessments of impacts on threatened and priority flora species as required for Condition 7-2.</p>	<p>Flora and vegetation surveys reports.</p> <p>Assessment of potential impacts on threatened and priority flora species and communities reports submitted to the CEO.</p>	CEO	Staged planning has occurred were appropriate during the reporting period.	Overall	Ongoing	C



Environmental Protection Authority

The Atrium,
Level 8, 168 St Georges Terrace,
Perth, Western Australia 6000.
Telephone: (08) 6467 5000.
Facsimile: (08) 6467 5557.

Postal Address: Locked Bag 33,
Cloisters Square, Perth, Western Australia 6850.
Website: www.epa.wa.gov.au

Mr Keiran McNamara
Director General
Department of Environment and Conservation
Level 4, The Atrium
168 St Georges Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

Your Ref: CEO790/12
Our Ref: A524261: OEPA 2012/000437
Enquiries: Euan Sutherland (6467 5511)
Email: euan.sutherland@epa.wa.gov.au

Keiran

Dear Mr McNamara

COASTAL WALK TRAIL FROM POINT ANN TO HAMERSLEY INLET – FITZGERALD RIVER NATIONAL PARK (MINISTERIAL STATEMENT 884) – SECTION 45C APPLICATION

Thank you for your letter of 9 July 2012 requesting approval of a change to the above proposal under section 45C of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

Under section 45C of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* I am able to approve a change or changes to a proposal without a revised proposal being submitted to the Environmental Protection Authority.

I consider that the changes described in Attachment 1 to Ministerial Statement 884 will not result in a significant, detrimental, environmental effect in addition to, or different from, the effect of the original proposal. I also note that the Department of Environment and Conservation has consulted with representatives of the Friends of the Fitzgerald River National Park, and the Shires of Jerramungup and Ravensthorpe, who are supportive of the changes.

Approval of the changes to the proposal is therefore granted under section 45C of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. You are reminded that this approval shall be implemented in accordance with the implementation conditions in Ministerial Statement 884, and also that this approval does not replace any responsibilities you may have for seeking approvals from other government agencies to implement the change.

Yours sincerely


Dr Paul Vogel
CHAIRMAN

28 August 2012

Encl: Attachment 1 to Ministerial Statement 884

Attachment 1 to Ministerial Statement 884

Change to proposal under s45C of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Proposal: Coastal Walk Trail Point Ann to Hamersley Inlet – Fitzgerald River National Park

Proponent: Department of Environment and Conservation

Change: Two walk trails; an Eastern walk trail from Quoin Head to Cave Point including a spur trail to Hamersley Inlet; and a Western trail from Point Ann to Fitzgerald Inlet with shorter walk option at Lake Nameless; reduction and relocation of overnight camping, and amendment to Wilderness Management Zone Boundary.

Key Characteristics Table: This table replaces Table 1 in Schedule 1

<u>Element</u>	<u>Description of proposal</u>	<u>Description of approved change to proposal</u>
Coastal walk trail	<p>A walk trail from Point Ann to Hamersley Inlet, Fitzgerald River National Park.</p> <p>Construct the trail to various classifications between Class 3 and Class 4 according to Australian Standards AS 2156.1-2001 Infrastructure Design and 2156.2001 Walking Tracks-Classification Signage.</p>	<p>Two walk trails:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an eastern walk trail from Quoin Head to Cave Point including a spur trail to Hamersley Inlet; and • a western walk trail from Point Ann to Fitzgerald Inlet with shorter walk option at Lake Nameless. <p>Construct the trail to various classifications between Class 3 and Class 4 according to Australian Standards AS 2156.1-2001 Infrastructure Design and 2156.2001 Walking Tracks-Classification Signage.</p>
Overnight camping facilities	Shelter, toilet and water tank at Fitzgerald Inlet, Twin Bays and Quoin Head.	Shelter, toilet and water tank at Whalebone Beach. At Fitzgerald Inlet, provision of a toilet and tent based camping.
Trail Head	Shelter, boot cleaning station and an information panel at Point Ann and Hamersley Inlet. Smaller trail heads at Fitzgerald Inlet, Twin Bays and Quoin Head.	Shelter, boot cleaning station and an information panel at Point Ann, Hamersley Inlet and Cave Point. Smaller trail heads at Fitzgerald Inlet, Quoin Head.

Access Tracks	Use existing access tracks for construction and maintenance including Fitzgerald Inlet, Twin Bays, Marshes, Lagoon, Telegraph and Quoin Head tracks.	Use existing access tracks for construction and maintenance including Quoin Head, Whalebone Beach, Edwards Point, Cave Point, Hamersley Inlet and Point Ann tracks.
---------------	--	--

Note: Text in **bold** in the Key Characteristics Table, indicates change/s to the proposal.

List of Replacement Figures and Schedules:

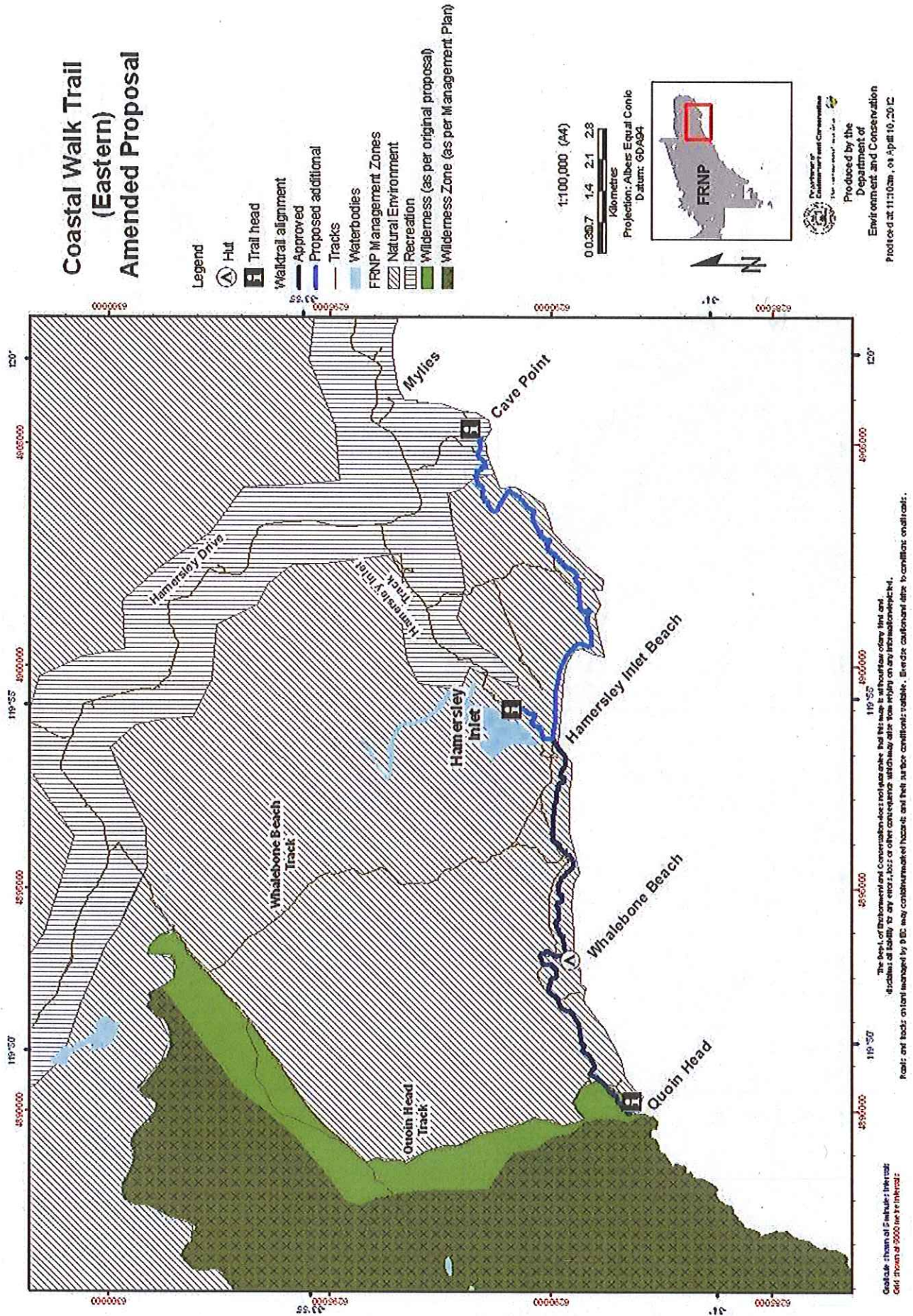
Figures 1 and 2 of Attachment 1 replace Figure 1 in Schedule 1



Dr Paul Vogel
 CHAIRMAN
 Environmental Protection Authority
 under delegated authority

Approval date: 28. 8 .12

Coastal Walk Trail (Eastern) Amended Proposal



The Dept. of Environment and Conservation does not guarantee that this map is without error or that it is free from liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from relying on any information depicted. Road and track symbols managed by D.E.C. may contain unmarked hazards and their nature/conditions variable. Exercise caution and drive to conditions on all roads.

Coordinate system of this map: MGRS
Grid datum: GDA94

Figure 1: Coastal Walk Trail (Eastern) Amendment

Coastal Walk Trail (Western) Amended Proposal

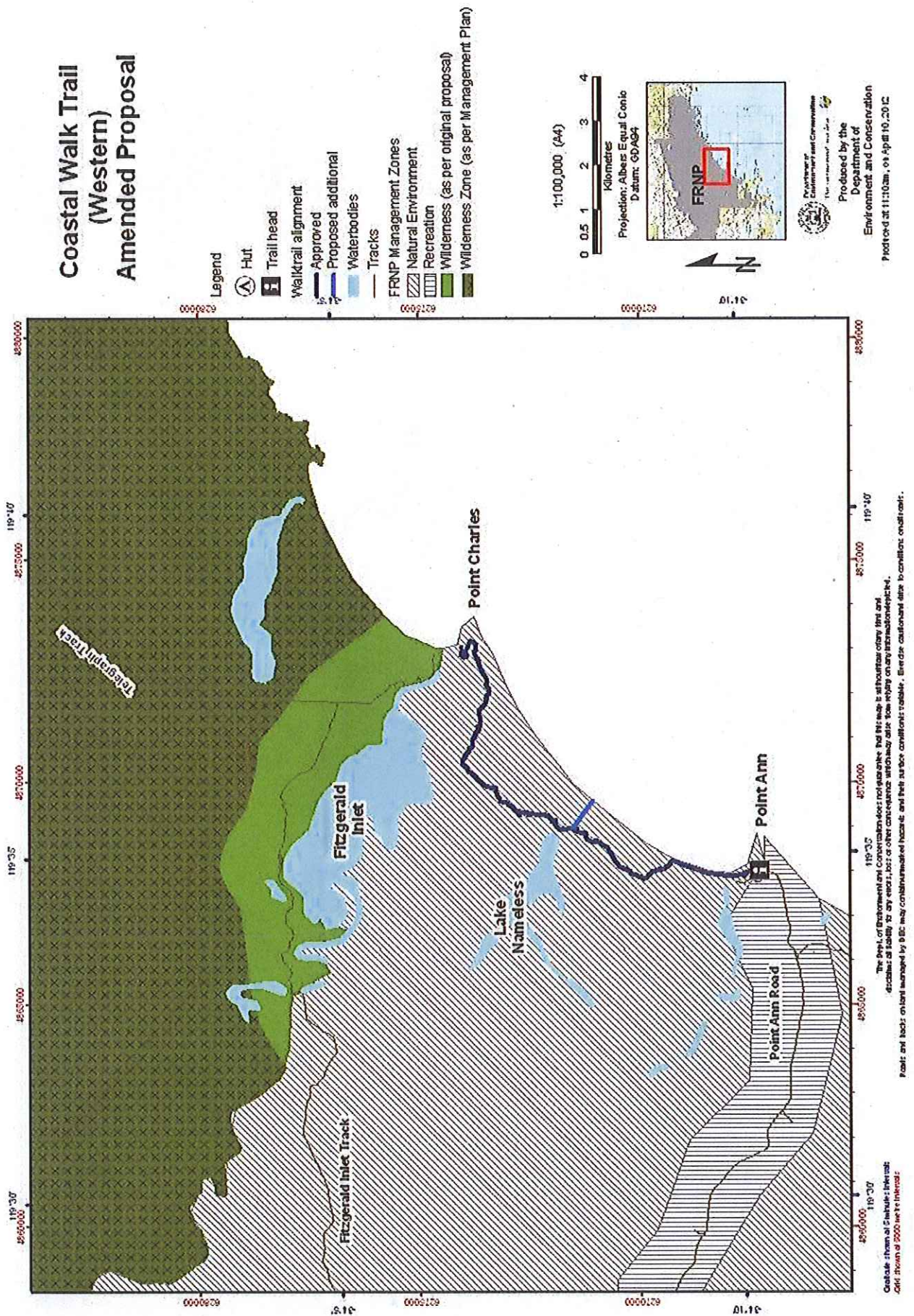


Figure 2: Coastal Walk Trail (Western) Amendment



Our Ref: A536149:OEPA2011/000056
Enquiries: Mark Rust, 6467 5316
mark.rust@epa.wa.gov.au

Mr Keiran McNamara
Director General
Department of Environment and Conservation
The Atrium
168 St Georges Terrace
Perth WA 6000

Attention: Ms Janet Newell, DEC's Fitzgerald River National Park Improvements Project Conservation Officer

Dear Mr McNamara

STATEMENT 884 - COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT PLAN

Thank you for your letter dated 9 July 2012 and subsequent email from the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) dated 20 August 2012 submitting the amended Coastal Walk Trail from Point Ann to Hamersley Inlet – Fitzgerald River National Park Compliance Assessment Pan (Ministerial Statement 884) to the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority (OEPA) as required by Conditions 4-1 and 4-2 of Statement 884.

The OEPA has reviewed the Coastal Walk Trail from Point Ann to Hamersley Inlet – Fitzgerald River National Park Compliance Assessment Pan (Ministerial Statement 884) and determined that it meets the requirements of Conditions 4-1 and 4-2 of Statement 884.

DEC is advised that the Coastal Walk Trail from Point Ann to Hamersley Inlet – Fitzgerald River National Park Compliance Assessment Pan (Ministerial Statement 884) is acceptable.

Yours sincerely

Kim Taylor
GENERAL MANAGER

23 August 2012



Government of **Western Australia**
Office of the **Environmental Protection Authority**

Your Ref: CEO790/12
Our Refs: A529473, A524253 and A524257
Enquiries: Mark Rust, 6467 5316
mark.rust@epa.wa.gov.au

Mr Keiran McNamara
Director General
Department of Environment and Conservation
Level 4, The Atrium
168 St Georges Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

Attention: Ms Janet Newell, DEC's Fitzgerald River National Park Improvements Project Conservation Officer

Dear Mr McNamara

STATEMENT 884 – FLORA AND VEGETATION SURVEYS, MONITORING AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN – CONDITIONS 6-1, 7-1, 7-2 AND 7-3

Thank you for your letter dated 9 July 2012 submitting the Fitzgerald River National Park Improvement Project Walk Trails Environmental Management Plan, the Flora and Vegetation of the Proposed Fitzgerald River National Park Coastal Walk Trail Survey (C. Taus 2012) and Threatened and Significant Flora and Vegetation near the Western Walk Trail Fitzgerald River National Park Report to the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority (OEPA) as required by Conditions 6-1, 7-1 and 7-2 of Statement 884.

The OEPA has reviewed the Fitzgerald River National Park Improvement Project Walk Trails Environmental Management Plan and determined that it satisfies the requirements of Condition 6-1 of Statement 884.

The OEPA has reviewed the Flora and Vegetation of the Proposed Fitzgerald River National Park Coastal Walk Trail Survey (C. Taus 2012) and determined that it meets the requirements of Condition 7-1 of Statement 884.

The OEPA has reviewed the Threatened and Significant Flora and Vegetation near the Western Walk Trail Fitzgerald River National Park Report and determined that it meets the requirements of Condition 7-2 for the Western section of the walk trail from the Point Ann Trail Head to the Fitzgerald Inlet Walk Trail Hut Site as shown in Figure 1 of Statement 884.

The OEPA note that the walk trail will be constructed in stages and the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) will submit details of threatened and significant flora and vegetation near the Eastern alignment of the walk trail from the Hamersley Inlet Trail Head to the Quoin Head Walk Trail Hut Site prior to works along this section of the walk trail.

The OEPA has reviewed flora and vegetation monitoring detailed in Section 4.1 of the Fitzgerald River National Park Improvement Project Walk Trails Environmental Management Plan and notes that DEC will:

- Establish fixed photographic monitoring points prior to construction every 500m along the walking trail and in sensitive areas such as dunes or high impact areas such as campsites; and
- Monitor photographic monitoring points using a standardized template weekly during construction of the particular section, and monthly throughout construction season.

The OEPA considers this monitoring meets the requirements of Condition 7-3 of Statement 884.

Should you require further information regarding this matter please contact Mr Mark Rust on (08) 6467 5316.

Yours sincerely



Kim Taylor
GENERAL MANAGER

August 2012



Mr Keiran McNamara
Director General
Dept of Environment and Conservation
Locked Bag 104
Bentley Delivery Centre
BENTLEY WA 6983

Your Ref: CEO1313/12
Our Ref: A565324:OEPA2012/000056
Enquiries: Mary Buttfield, 6467 5546
Email: mary.buttfield@epa.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr McNamara

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT 884 – FLORA AND VEGETATION SURVEY
FOR THE EASTERN ALIGNMENT OF THE FITZGERALD RIVER
NATIONAL PARK COASTAL WALK TRAIL**

Thank you for your letter of 5 November 2012 and the enclosed results of the completed flora and vegetation survey of the eastern alignment of the Fitzgerald River National Park Coastal Walk Trail.

I am satisfied that a detailed flora and vegetation survey of the proposal area has been completed as required by Condition 7-1 of Ministerial Statement 884.

I note that the populations of nine poorly known species listed in your correspondence will be protected from construction activities, and individuals from other identified priority or significant flora species will be avoided where possible. I am satisfied the proposal has been located to avoid, where practicable, populations of rare or threatened communities or species, or species of restricted regional distribution, as required by Condition 7-2 of Ministerial Statement 884.

Yours sincerely



Kim Taylor
GENERAL MANAGER

21 November 2012