

Public record pursuant to s39(1) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Proposal Title: Non-Lethal Trial of SMART drumlines

Proposal Location: Offshore from Gracetown - Shire of Augusta- Margaret River

Case Number: CMS17539

Date referral received: 21-12-2018 **Date more information received:** 15-01-2019

Referrer: Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Proponent: Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Potential significant effects:

Potential impacts to marine fauna through hooking, entanglement and/or interaction with the drumlines. Localised and minor impacts on marine benthic communities and habitat.

Public comment on referral information:

Do not assess:	4
Assess: a) Referral information	1
b) Environmental review - no public review	3
c) Public environmental review	91

Total public comments:99

Decision: s. 39A – Not Assess

Referral Examined, preliminary investigations and inquiries conducted. Proposal not to be assessed under *Part IV of the Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) – Advice Given.

Explanation of decision:

The proposal is to undertake a non-lethal trial of 10 SMART drumlines for 15 months and be limited in geographical extent to an 11.5 kilometre stretch of coast offshore from Gracetown.

The EPA considers that the likely environmental effects of the proposed trial are not so significant as to warrant formal assessment because the extent and consequence of the potential impacts are predicted to be small. The EPA is of the view that the potential impacts of the proposal can be adequately managed through implementation of the proposal in accordance with the referral documentation, and the proponent's measures to minimise impacts to marine fauna species. The EPA has noted the level of public interest about the potential impacts of the proposal and has therefore provided advice and recommendations to the proponent about making available the information from monitoring the implementation of the trial and results of ongoing reviews.

Appeals: This decision is appealable. Appeals close 31-01-2019. Appeals are administered by the Office of the Appeals Convenor.



Dr Tom Hatton

CHAIRMAN

Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority

Date: 16/1/19