

www.kalbarricruises.com Phone: (08) 9937 1601 Mobile: 0437 177 912 Email: kalbarricruises@westnet.com.au Po Box 443 Kalbarri WA 6536

4 July 2019

Deb Carson
Planning Officer/
Community Development Officer
A: PO Box 61 Northampton WA 6535
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E: cdo@northampton.wa.gov.au

Dear Deb,

## Re: Kalbarri Wilderness Cruises 10.6.7 – R25307 / OCR 27846 Commercial Recreational Tourism Activity on Crown Reserves

- 4.5.2 Applicants should address the criteria as outlined in Clause 4.4 and provide following information:
  - 1. (a) Previous relevant experience of the applicant(s);

I, Grant Ward have been successfully operating the Kalbarri Wilderness Cruises (Murchison River Princess) since April 6<sup>th</sup> 2012. I hold a Master IV (5) Marine qualification. I'm active member (Vice President) of the Kalbarri Voluntary Sea Search and Rescue (VMR673) and have extensive knowledge of boats, weather and safety. Over the last seven years I have operated my business, with my partner Tracy Grosvenor in a very proficient manner, feeling very proud of the clientele our tour attracts and the feedback we receive.

#### 2. (b) Full details of type of service to be operated;

We operate a fun and entertaining cruise along the lower reaches of the Murchison River in spectacular Kalbarri. Cruises operate at 10am or 4pm daily for 2.5 hours with departures based on the timing of the high tide. Weather patterns, pressure systems and the time of year all have an effect on the water levels in the Murchison, therefore operation spans to generally one cruise daily. By operating on the high tide, this ensures full access to the river to see the Murchison River at it's best.



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3. (c) Preferred location of operation (with alternatives);

The vessel is accommodated at the Kalbarri Maritime facility in a 15-meter pen.

Berth ID: KL\R16

Vessel Name: River Princess Vessel ID: M&H 5138 Vessel length: 10.55m

We depart from the Kalbarri Maritime facility and travel to the 'beach front', located in front of the Voluntary Marine Rescue Building (VMR673). Clients load onto the vessel via a wind down ramp, at the high tide mark (Beach access)

4. (d) Diagram of layout of service when in operation showing location of equipment, trailers, signs, operators table etc;

NA

5. (e) Hours and dates of operation;

We operate all year round (excluding Christmas day), cruises are highly dependant on tourism in the region, weather patterns and tide in the Murchison River. We are noticing that due to the silt build up in the Murchison, we are unable to access the river at various times for weeks on end, this has historically been late October and early November.

- 6. (f) Method of operation e.g.: hourly hire, 15minute rides, day trips, and proposed charges to clients;
- 2.5 hour cruises, between the hours of 7am to 12pm.

We hold a Special Facility Licence with the Department of Racing Gaming and Liquor, which permits operation for private groups to 12pm - Catering for private functions for a max period of 6 hours at a time.

7. (g) Type and numbers of equipment to be hired/used including details of make, age, special features etc;

The Murchison River Princess was specially designed and built for Kalbarri in 2000, holding a maximum number of 36 passengers and 2crew in comfortable seating. The vessel is in current survey by the Department of Transport and meets all requirements by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority regulation (AMSA).



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8. (h) All of the intended safety measures – i.e.: Marker buoys, rescue boats, sign etc;

Safety is paramount.

There are 38 life jackets on board with an additional 4 safety buoys, the vessel meets all requirements of Department of Transport and AMSA.

There are 5 separate bulkheads with high water alarms.

Clients boarding the vessel are provided an introduction of the tour, location of life jackets and safety procedures. We inform clients when booking that a hat, sunglasses, water, sunscreen, binoculars and a camera, as well as a coat is recommended.

A Toilet is located on the vessel for passenger convenience.

9 (i) A cover note or similar statement from an insurance company indicating a willingness to promote insurance coverage (minimum \$20 million public liability coverage required);

See attached

(j) Any on-site storage requirements (if permitted);

Nil

(k) Intended signage (may require Council's additional separate approval); and

Signage is located the departure point in the car park behind the Kalbarri Sea Search and rescue, with an 'A frame blackboard' also being used at this location.

(I) Any additional information specific to the individual service to be provided.

We support and recommend all tourism activities in Kalbarri and are member of the Kalbarri Visitor Centre. Tour bookings and enquiry are via the Visitor Centre, Our website and direct phone calls.



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# Below is a map showing the Vessel accommodation and Loading location

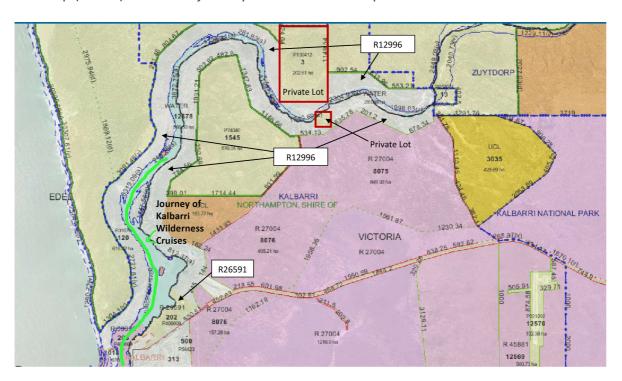




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This map (Below) shows the journey we take on tours up the Murchsion River.



We look forward to continuing our positive relationship with the Shire of Northampton and use of this area for our business.

Thank you