

# CLEARING PERMIT Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose permit number: CPS 1688/1

Permit holder: Inpex Browse Limited
Purpose of clearing: Geotechnical investigations

Shire: Wyndham East Kimberley

**Duration of permit:** 30 April 2007 – 30 April 2009

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Inpex Browse Limited Geotechnical investigations

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The permit holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the above stated purposes, subject to the conditions of this Permit.

## PART I - CLEARING AUTHORISED

# 1 Land on which clearing is to be done

South Maret Island North Maret Island

## 2 Area of clearing

Clearing of up to 0.7 hectares of native vegetation.

#### 3 Application

This Permit allows the permit holder to authorise persons, including employees, contractors and agents of the permit holder, to clear *native vegetation* for the purposes of this Permit subject to compliance with the conditions of this Permit and approval from the Permit Holder.

#### 4 Compliance with Assessment Sequence and Management Procedures

Prior to clearing any native vegetation under conditions 1 and 2 of this Permit, the permit holder must comply with the Assessment Sequence and the Management Procedures set out in Part II of this Permit.

#### PART II – ASSESSMENT SEQUENCE AND MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

# 5 Avoid, minimise etc clearing

- a) In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared for the purposes of geotechnical investigations the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in order of preference:
  - i) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
  - ii) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
  - iii) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

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#### 6 Weed control

When undertaking any *clearing* and *revegetation*, or other activity pursuant to this Permit the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds*:

- (i) clean all machinery and tools of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (ii) ensure that no weed-affected materials are brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (iii) restrict the movement of all machinery to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

# 7 Flora Management

- a) Prior to clearing, the site shall be inspected by a *flora specialist* to identify the presence of *Phyllanthus aridus* and *Pittosporum moluccanum*.
- b) Where *Phyllanthus aridus* and *Pittosporum moluccanum* are identified in relation to condition 7(a) the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs with 10m of identified *Phyllanthus aridus* and *Pittosporum moluccanum*, unless approved by the *CEO*.

## 8 Revegetation

- a) The Permit Holder shall stockpile the vegetative material and topsoil cleared under this Permit.
- b) Within one month of the area no longer being required for the purpose of geotechnical investigations the permit holder must revegetate the area by laying vegetative material and topsoil retained in accordance with condition 8(a) on the area.
- c) Within one year of undertaking revegetation in accordance with condition 8(b), the Permit Holder must:
  - (i) Determine the species composition, structure and density of the area revegetated;
  - (ii) Where, in the opinion of an *flora specialist*, the composition structure and density determined under condition 8(c)(i) will not result in a similar species composition, structure and density to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area the Permit Holder must undertake planting or seeding of *native vegetation*.
  - (iii) Propagative material used for *revegetation* in accordance with condition 8(c)(ii) must be sourced from the island on which the site to be revegetated occurs.

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# Part III - Record Keeping And Reporting

#### 9 Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit, as relevant:

- a) In relation to the *clearing* of *native vegetation* undertaken pursuant to the purpose of clearing:
  - (i) The species composition, structure and density of the cleared area;.
  - (ii) The location where the clearing occurred, recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994;
  - (iii) The date that the area was cleared; and
  - (iv) The size of the area cleared (in hectares).
- b) In relation to flora management pursuant to condition 7, the location of each *Phyllanthus aridus* or *Pittosporum moluccanum* recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994:
- c) In relation to the *revegetation* of areas pursuant to condition 9:
  - (i) The commencement date of revegetation;
  - (ii) The location of any area *revegetated* recorded using Geocentric Datum Australia 1994;
  - (iii) A description of the revegetation activities undertaken;
  - (iv) The size of the area revegetated (in hectares); and
  - (v) The species, structure and composition of revegetation measured.

# 10 Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* on or before 30 June of each year, for the *term* of this permit, a written report of records requested under condition 9 and activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.

#### 11 Definitions

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

**CEO** means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment;

clearing has the meaning given to it in section 51A of the Environmental Protection Act 1986;

dieback means the effect of Phytophthora species on native vegetation;

**EP** Act means the Environmental Protection Act 1986;

flora specialist means a person with specific training and/or experience in the ecology and taxonomy of Western Australian flora.

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mulch means the use of organic matter, wood chips or rocks to slow the movement of water across the soil surface and to reduce evaporation;

native vegetation has the meaning given to it in sections 3 and 51A of the Environmental Protection Act 1986;

revegetation means the re-establishment of a cover of native vegetation in an area such that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, and can involve regeneration, direct seeding and/or planting;

term means the duration of this Permit, including as amended or renewed; and

weed means a species listed in Appendix 3 of the "Environmental Weed Strategy" published by the Department of Conservation and Land Management (1999), and plants declared under section 37 of the Agricultural and Related Resources Protection Act 1976.

Kim Taylor

A/Depuly Director General, Environment

Department of Environment and Conservation.

Officer delegated under Section 20

of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

30 March 2007