



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 2496/2
Permit holder:	BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd
Purpose of clearing:	Geotechnical investigations
Shire:	Town of Port Hedland
Duration of Permit:	10 August 2008 – 10 August 2013

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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

LOT 47 ON PLAN 241374 (BOODARIE 6722)
 LOT 125 ON PLAN 219861 (BOODARIE 6722)
 LOT 203 ON PLAN 220594 (BOODARIE 6722)
 LOT 311 ON PLAN 194620 (BOODARIE 6722)
 LOT 370 ON PLAN 35619 (WEDGEFIELD 6721)
 LOT 372 ON PLAN 35620 (PORT HEDLAND, TOWN OF)
 LOT 3000 ON PLAN 51079 (FINUCANE 6722)

2. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 10 hectares of native vegetation, within the areas hatched yellow on attached Plan 2496/2.

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

In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared for the purpose of geotechnical investigations, the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in order of preference:

- (a) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- (b) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- (c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

6. Flora Management

Where *priority flora taxa* *Abutilon trudgenii* (priority 3) and *Gymnanthera cunninghamii* (priority 3) have been identified as occurring within the authorised area, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 10 metres of identified *priority flora taxa*, unless approved by the CEO.

7. Weed Control

- (a) When undertaking any clearing or other activity pursuant to this Permit, must the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds*:
 - (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared; and
 - (ii) ensure that no *weed*-affected soil or other material is brought into the area to be cleared.
- (b) At least once in each 12 month period for the *term* of this Permit, the Permit Holder must remove or kill any *weeds* growing within areas cleared under this Permit.

8. Regeneration

The Permit Holder shall retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing authorised under this Permit.

- (a) Vegetative material and topsoil must be stockpiled in an area that has been cleared under this Permit; and
- (b) As soon as possible or at an *optimal time* within 12 months of clearing under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall lay the vegetative material and topsoil on the cleared areas once those areas are no longer required for the purpose for which they were cleared under this Permit.

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 a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Easting's and Northing's;
 - (iii) the date that the area was cleared; and
 - (iv) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).
- (b) In relation to the *regeneration* of areas pursuant to condition 8:
 - (i) a map showing the location of any area *regenerated*;
 - (ii) a description of the *regeneration* activities undertaken; and
 - (iii) the size of the area *regenerated* (in hectares).

10. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO, on or before 30 June of each year, a written report of records required under condition 9 and activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.
- (b) Prior to 10 May 2013, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 9 where these records have not already been provided under condition 10(a).

DEFINITIONS

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

optimal time means the period from November to December for undertaking *direct seeding*, and the period from November to December for undertaking *planting* with irrigation;

priority flora taxa means those plant taxa that described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the *Declared Rare and Priority Flora List for Western Australia*, Department of Environment and Conservation, as amended;

regenerate/ed/ion means *revegetation* that can be established from in situ seed banks contained either within the topsoil or seed-bearing *mulch*;

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

weed/s 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.



Kelly Faulkner
A/MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

*Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

25 September 2008