



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	CPS 2546/5
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	6 September 2008 – 31 July 2018

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

### PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED

**1. Purpose for which clearing may be done**

Clearing for the purpose of power station and fenceline construction and maintenance.

**2. Land on which clearing is to be done**

Miscellaneous Licence 47/221  
Lot 264 on Deposited Plan 220363, Maitland

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 50 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow on attached Plan 2546/5.

**4. Period in which clearing is authorised**

The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation after 31 July 2013.

**5. 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.

**6. Type of clearing authorised**

This Permit authorises the Permit Holder to clear native vegetation for activities to the extent that the Permit Holder has the right to access land under the *Land Administration Act 1997* or any other written law.

**7. Compliance with Assessment Sequence and Management Procedures**

Prior to clearing any native vegetation under conditions 1, 2 and 3 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**

### **8. Avoid, minimise etc clearing**

In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared authorised under this Permit, 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.

### **9. Weed control**

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

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) ensure that no *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (a) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

### **10. Fencing**

The Permit holder shall construct and maintain a fence of a standard to be adequate to exclude cattle access from the Roebourne Plains coastal grasslands Ecological Community. Construction of the fence shall be completed by 31 July 2013.

### **11. Retain vegetative material and topsoil, revegetation and rehabilitation**

The Permit Holder shall:

- (a) Retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing authorised under this Permit and stockpile the vegetative material and topsoil in an area that has already been cleared.
- (b) Within 12 months following completion of activities under this permit, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* areas not required for future scheduled and approved development, by:
  - (i) Reshaping the surface of the land so that it is consistent with the surrounding 5m of uncleared land; and
  - (ii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under condition 11(a)
- (c) Within 4 years of laying the vegetative material and topsoil on the cleared area in accordance with condition 11(b) of this Permit:
  - (i) engage an *environmental specialist* to determine the species composition, structure and density of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*; and
  - (ii) where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, the composition structure and density determined under condition 11(c)(i) of this Permit will not result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, *revegetate* the area by deliberately *planting* and/or *direct seeding* native vegetation that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area and ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used.
- (d) Where additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation is undertaken in accordance with condition 11(c)(ii) of this permit, the Permit Holder shall repeat condition 11(c)(i) and 11(c)(ii) within 24 months of undertaking the additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation.
- (e) Where a determination by an *environmental specialist* that the composition, structure and density within areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* will result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, as determined in condition 11(c)(i) and (ii) of this permit, that determination shall be submitted for the CEO's consideration. If the CEO does not agree with the determination made under condition 11(c)(ii), the CEO may require the Permit Holder to undertake additional *planting* and *direct seeding* in accordance with the requirements under condition 11(c)(ii).

## **PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING**

### **12. Records must be kept**

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

- (a) In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:
  - (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 Eastings and Northings;
  - (iii) the date that the area was cleared; and
  - (iv) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).
- (b) In relation to the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* of areas pursuant to condition 11 of this Permit
  - (i) the location of any areas revegetated and rehabilitated, recorded using a global positioning system (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
  - (ii) a description of the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* activities undertaken; and
  - (iii) the size of the area *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* (in hectares).

### **13. Reporting**

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO on or before 31 July of each year, a written report:
  - (i) of records required under condition 12 of this Permit; and
  - (ii) concerning activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 July and 30 June of the preceding year.
- (b) Prior to 31 July 2018, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 12 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 13(a) of this Permit.

## **DEFINITIONS**

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

*direct seeding* means a method of re-establishing vegetation through the establishment of a seed bed and the introduction of seeds of the desired plant species;

*environmental specialist* means a person who is engaged by the Permit Holder for the purpose of providing environmental advice, who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this Permit;

*fill* means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

*local provenance* means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 50 kilometres of the area cleared.

*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;

*planting* means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating favourable soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species;

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

*rehabilitate/ed/ion* means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area;

*revegetate/ed/ion* means the re-establishment of a cover of *local provenance* native vegetation in an area using methods such as *regeneration*, *direct seeding* and/or *planting*, so that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area.

*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 *Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Act 1976*.

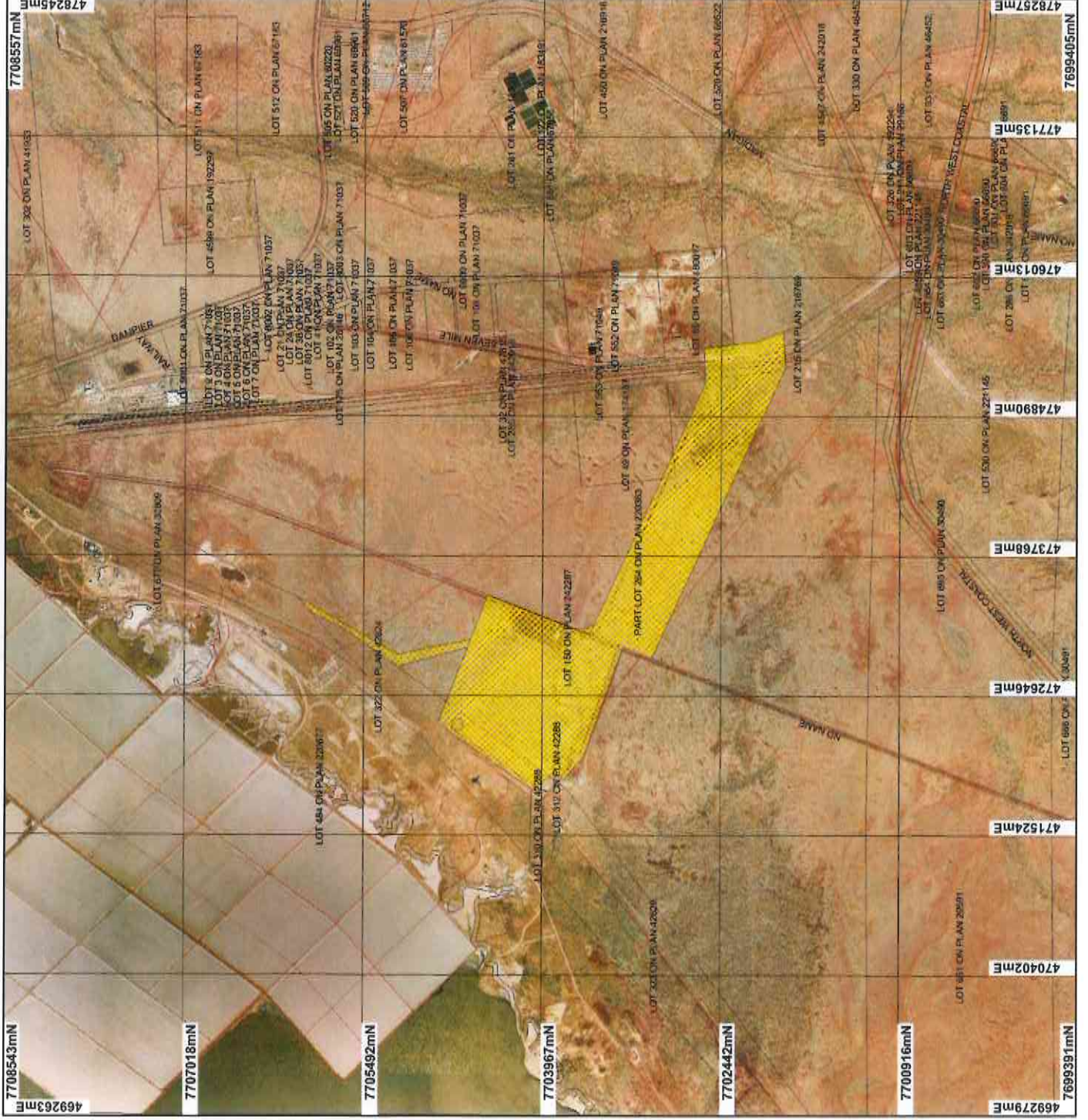


M Warnock  
A/MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

16 August 2012

# Plan 2546/5



## LEGEND

- Cadastral
- Firebreak
- Crown Reserve
- State Forest / Timber Reserve
- Marine Park
- Crown Lease
- Lease / Reserve
- Lease on State Forest / Timber Reserve
- Public Roads
- Unallocated Crown Land
- Water
- Road Centrelines
- Clearing Instruments
- Areas Approved to Clear
- Dampler and Extensions 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2008

\* Project Data. This data has not been quality assured. Please contact map author for details.



Scale 1:45079  
(Approximate when reproduced at 1:600)  
Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distortion or measurement inaccuracies.

16/8/12  
M. Wiamock

Information derived from this map should be confirmed with the data custodian acknowledged by the agency acronym in the legend.





## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 2546/5  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd

### 1.3. Property details

Property: PART LOT 264 ON PLAN 220363 (Lot No. 264 NORTH WEST COASTAL MAITLAND 6714)  
LOT 322 ON PLAN 42624 (MAITLAND 6714)  
LOT 215 ON PLAN 216769 (GAP RIDGE 6714)  
LOT 32 ON PLAN 47815 (MAITLAND 6714)  
LOT 285 ON PLAN 242018 (GAP RIDGE 6714)  
LOT 49 ON PLAN 174107 (GAP RIDGE 6714)  
LOT 150 ON PLAN 242287 (MAITLAND 6714)  
UNALLOCATED CROWN LAND (GAP RIDGE 6714)

Local Government Area: Shire of Roebourne  
Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
50		Mechanical Removal	Building or Structure

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 16 August 2012

## 2. Site Information

### 2.1. Existing environment and information

#### 2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description	Clearing Description	Vegetation Condition	Comment
One Beard vegetation association is located within the application area; 589: Mosaic: Short bunch grassland savanna, with soft spinifex hummock grasslands (Shepherd et al, 2009).	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd has applied to clear up to 50ha for the purpose of constructing a power station and fenceline. The proposal includes the construction of the power station site, heavy access route, associated infrastructure and the construction and maintenance of a fenceline to exclude cattle from the Priority 1 Roebourne Plains Coastal Grasslands. The site is located approximately 8km south of Dampier and approximately 8km west of Karratha. Clearing will be by dozer, blade down, and the topsoil and vegetation will be used in the rehabilitation process (Hamersley Iron, 2008).	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994) To Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation condition was derived from two flora surveys conducted by Biota Environmental Sciences in March and April 2008.
	The following four vegetation types were identified within the application area in two flora surveys by Biota Environmental Sciences, (2008): 1) Eragrostis xerophila tussock grassland on clay plains. 2) Acacia bivenosa, A. ancistrocarpa, A. inaequilatera tall shrubland over Triodia wiseana hummock grassland on stony clay plains. 3) Acacia bivenosa, A. inaequilatera open shrubland over Chrysopogon fallax very open tussock grassland and Triodia wiseana grassland on stony clay plains. 4) Acacia inaequilatera scattered tall shrubs over Triodia wiseana hummock grassland on stony clay plains.		

### 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

#### Comments

The proponent has applied to increase the clearing footprint and the area to be cleared by 2.5 hectares, giving a total proposed clearing of 50ha, for the purpose of constructing and maintaining a fence to exclude cattle from the Priority 1 Roebourne Plains Coastal Grasslands. A review of current environmental information reveals no new additional information. Therefore the assessment against the clearing principles has not changed and can be found in the Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 2546/4.

#### Methodology

References:

- Shepherd et al (2009)
- Hamersley Iron (2008)
- Biota Environmental Sciences (2008)
- Keighery (1994)

GIS Databases:

- SAC Bio Datasets (accessed August 2012)
- Hydrography linear

### Planning instrument, Native Title, Previous EPA decision or other matter.

#### Comments

This amendment has been made to increase the footprint area of Clearing Permit CPS 2546/5.

The new clearing area falls outside of Miscellaneous licence 47/221 and occurs partly within Lot 264 on Deposited Plan 220363. This Lot is subject to the terms and conditions of Pastoral Lease CL55/1967.

No submissions from the public have been received.

#### Methodology

### 4. References

- Biota Environmental Sciences (2008) 7-Mile Power Station and Ancillary Works: Native Vegetation Clearing Permit Report. Pilbara Iron Company, Western Australia.
- Hamersley Iron (2008) EP Act - Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd - Clearing Permit. Supporting Documentation. Rio Tinto Group, Western Australia.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R., and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001), Native Vegetation in Western Australia. Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture Western Australia, South Perth.

### 5. Glossary

Term	Meaning
BCS	Biodiversity Coordination Section of DEC
CALM	Department of Conservation and Land Management (now BCS)
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food
DEC	Department of Environment and Conservation
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection (now DEC)
DoE	Department of Environment
DoIR	Department of Industry and Resources
DRF	Declared Rare Flora
EPP	Environmental Protection Policy
GIS	Geographical Information System
ha	Hectare (10,000 square metres)
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community
WRC	Water and Rivers Commission (now DEC)