



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose permit number:	CPS 2896/1
Permit holder:	Ernest George Nominees Pty Ltd
Duration of permit:	6 March 2009 – 6 March 2017

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 silviculture

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

LOT 10250 ON PLAN 203449
LOT 10249 ON PLAN 203449
LOT 10248 ON PLAN 203449
LOT 10245 ON PLAN 203452

3. Area of Clearing

The permit holder must not clear more than 58 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 2986/1.

4. 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.

5. 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

6. Type of clearing authorised

- (a) The Permit Holder may undertake the following activities:
- (i) clearing of *understorey* within the areas cross-hatched yellow on Plan 2896/1;
 - (ii) *thinning* of Marri (*Corymbia calophylla*) and Karri (*Eucalyptus diversicolor*) trees;
 - (iii) *culling* of unsaleable trees; and
 - (iv) burning of cleared *understorey* and *culled* trees.

- (b) Clearing authorised under this Permit must be completed by 6 March 2013, being four years from the date from which this Permit becomes valid

7. 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.

8. Dieback and 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* and *dieback*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) shall not move soils in wet conditions;
- (c) ensure that no *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (d) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

9. Vegetation management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, an *environmental specialist* must determine the species composition, structure and density of the understorey of areas proposed to be *thinned*.
- (b) The Permit Holder must retain a minimum of 2 *habitat trees* within the area of clearing authorised under this Permit in each hectare authorised under this Permit.
- (c) A minimum retention rate of 20m²/ha *basal area* is required within the area of clearing authorised under this Permit.
- (d) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must exclude all *stock* from the areas subject to *thinning* activities.
- (e) Within two years of completing clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must:
 - (i) determine the species composition, structure and density of the *understorey* of areas subject to *thinning*; and
 - (ii) where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, there is evidence that *understorey* will not recover and develop towards its pre-clearing composition, structure and density determined under condition 9(e)(i), the Permit Holder must undertake *remedial action* at an *optimal time* within the next 12 months to ensure re-establishment of *understorey* prior to expiry of this Permit.

10. Vegetation management – watercourse

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation within 30 metres of the *riparian vegetation* of any *watercourse* or within 100 metres of a *wetland* within the area cross-hatched yellow on Plan 2896/1.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

11. Records must be kept

- (a) In relation to the clearing of native vegetation undertaken pursuant to 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 vegetation management pursuant to condition 9 of this Permit:
- (i) prior to clearing native vegetation authorised under this Permit, the species composition, structure and density of *understorey*;
 - (ii) the species and number per hectare of *habitat trees* retained;
 - (iii) the location of *habitat trees* retained, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;
 - (iv) monitoring undertaken to ensure that the specified minimum *basal area* is retained;
 - (v) photographs of the *understorey* taken at one year, two years and three years after completing clearing authorised under this Permit; and
 - (vi) a detailed description of the nature and extent of any *remedial actions* undertaken.

12. 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 11 of this Permit and activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.
- (b) Prior to 6 December 2016, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 11 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 12(a) of this Permit.

Definitions

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

dieback means the effect of *Phytophthora* species on native vegetation;

culled/ing means the selective removal and/or killing of unsaleable trees for *thinning*, using methods including notching, felling or machine pushing;

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

habitat tree(s) means trees that have a diameter, at average adult human chest height, of greater than 70cm, healthy but with dead limbs and broken crowns that are likely to contain hollows and roosts suitable for native fauna, or where these are not present then healthy but with the potential to contain hollows and roosts;

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;

riparian vegetation has the meaning given to it in Regulation 3 of the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004;

watercourse has the meaning given to it in section 3 of the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*;

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.

wetland/s means an area of seasonally, intermittently or permanently waterlogged or inundated land, whether natural or otherwise, and includes a lake, swamp, marsh, spring, dampland, tidal flat or estuary

understorey means, for the purpose of this Permit, all native vegetation that does not include trees to be *culled* or subject to harvest



Keith Claymore
A/ ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
NATURE CONSERVATION DIVISION

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

6 February 2009