

#### CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number: CPS 2908/6

Permit Holder: Chevron Australia Pty Ltd

Duration of Permit: 5 March 2009 - 5 July 2021

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 geotechnical investigation and archaeological excavation.

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

Section 91 Licence 951/2008 within the following lots:

Lot 507 on Plan 69197 (TALANDJI, 6710)

Lot 153 on Plan 220110 (TALANDJI, 6710)

Lot 540 on Plan 69197 (TALANDJI, 6710)

Lot 500 on Plan 69197 (TALANDJI, 6710)

Lot 508 on Plan 69197 (TALANDJI, 6710)

Lot 518 on Plan 69197 (TALANDJI, 6710)

Lot 304 on Plan 71345, unallocated Crown land (TALANDJI, 6710)

Lot 400 on Plan 72906, Crown Reserve 51074 (TALANDJI, 6710)

Lot 569 on Plan 71345, Crown Reserve 51074 (TALANDJI, 6710)

#### 3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 25 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 2908/6.

#### 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. Type of clearing authorised

- (a) This Permit authorises the Permit Holder to clear native vegetation for activities to the extent that the Permit Holder has the power to clear native vegetation for those activities under the Land Administration Act 1997 or any other written law.
- (b) The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation after 5 July 2012.

# 6. 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

# 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. Flora Management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the site shall be inspected by a *flora specialist* for the presence of the following *priority flora taxa*:
  - (i) Triumfetta echinata (Priority 3); and
  - (ii) Acacia ryaniana (Priority 2).
- (b) Where *priority flora taxa* are identified in relation to condition 8(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
  - (i) all records of priority flora taxa are submitted to the CEO; and
  - (ii) no clearing occurs with 10 metres of identified priority flora taxa, unless approved by the CEO.

#### 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
- (c) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

# 10. Retain and spread vegetative material

The Permit Holder shall:

- (a) Retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing authorised under this Permit
- (b) At an optimal time within 12 months following completion of activities under this permit; revegetate and rehabilitate areas not required for future scheduled and approved development;
- (c) Within 12 months following completion of activities under this permit conduct surveys of each of the vegetation communities to be rehabilitated to collect adequate information to assist setting completion criteria for rehabilitation;
- (d) Prepare the methodology of the survey required in condition 10(c) to be approved by the CEO;
- (e) Within 18 months following completion of activities under this permit develop completion criteria for rehabilitation for that area to be approved by the CEO;
- (f) After 5 years of the completion of rehabilitation, ensure that the percentage cover and species diversity of living self sustaining native vegetation in rehabilitation areas shall be comparable to the completion criteria required by condition 10(c); and
- (g) Ensure that no new species of declared weeds and environmental weeds shall be introduced into the rehabilitated areas which are likely to be attributed to the activities under this permit.

# PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

#### 11. Records must be kept

- (a) The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit 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 flora management pursuant to condition 8 of this Permit:
  - (i) the location of *priority flora taxa* recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings; and
  - (ii) the species of priority flora taxa identified.
- (c) In relation to the revegetation and rehabilitation of areas pursuant to condition 10 of this Permit:
  - 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;
  - (iii) the size of the area revegetated and rehabilitated (in hectares);
  - (iv) a copy of the completion criteria for rehabilitation; and
  - (v) the species composition, structure and density of revegetation and rehabilitation.

# 12. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO on or before 30 June of each year, a written report:
  - (i) of records required under condition 11 of this Permit; and
  - (ii) concerning activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding year.
- (b) Prior to 14 April 2021, 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:

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;

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

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

*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;

optimal time means the period from November to December; for undertaking direct seeding; and

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

priority flora taxa means those plant taxa that described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the Department's Declared Rare and Priority Flora List for Western Australia (as amended);

regenerate/ed/ion means re-establishment of vegetation from in situ seed banks and propagating material (such as lignotubers, bulbs, rhizomes) 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 natural regeneration, direct seeding and/or planting, so that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area;

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

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.

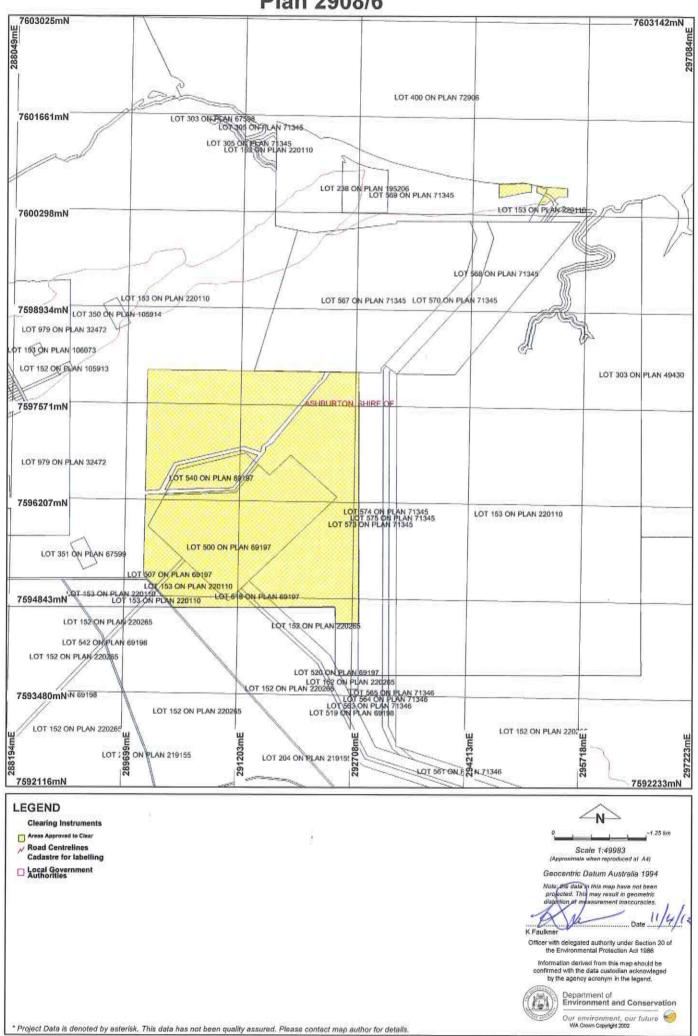
Kelly Faulkner MANAGER

NATIVE VEGETETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

11 April 2012

Plan 2908/6







# Clearing Permit Decision Report

# 1. Application details

Permit application details

Permit application No.:

Permit type:

Purpose Permit

Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Chevron Australia Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property:

LOT 238 ON PLAN 195206 ( TALANDJI 6710) LOT 153 ON PLAN 220110 ( TALANDJI 6710)

LOT 3055 ON PLAN 52026 ( ASHBURTON, SHIRE OF )

LOT 153 ON PLAN 220110 ( TALANDJI 6710) UNALLOCATED CROWN LAND ( TALANDJI 6710) LOT 238 ON PLAN 195206 ( TALANDJI 6710) UNALLOCATED CROWN LAND ( TALANDJI 6710)

Local Government Area:

Shire of Ashburton

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

Method of Clearing

For the purpose of:

25

Mechanical Removal

Geotechnical investigations

**Decision on application** 

Decision on Permit Application:

No. Trees

**Decision Date:** 

11 April 2012

#### 2. Site Information

#### Existing environment and information

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

#### Vegetation Description

**Beard Vegetation Associations:** 

676 - Succulent steppe; samphire

127 - Bare areas; mud flats

177 - Hummock grasslands, sparse shrub steppe; Acacia bivenosa over hard spinifex, Triodia brizioides

589 - Mosaic: Short bunch grassland - savanna / grass plain (Pilbara) / Hummock grasslands, grass steppe; soft spinifex.

(Shepherd, 2009)

#### Clearing Description

The application to clear 25 hectares of native vegetation is for the purpose of geotechnical investigations.

#### Coastal Fringe

- \* Interidal Mud Flats Very good condition
- \* Tidal Swamp Excellent
- \* Foredune Good
- \* Coastal Dune Good-Degraded

#### Undulating Inland Plain

- \* Plain Good Degraded
- \* Inland Dune Very Good
- \* Interdunal Swale Very Good
- \* Calcrete Platform Very Good Good
- \* Drainage Foci Good
- \*Unincised Drainage Line Good

#### Saline Plain

- \* Claypan Excellent Very Good
- \* Saline Plains Very Good Good
- \* Fringing Claypan Scalds Good -Degraded

# Vegetation Condition

Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery 1994)

The vegetation condition was assessed through Flora and Vegetation survey (Onshore 2008a and 2008b).

Comment

To

Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)

# 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

This amendment is to reduce the clearing permit footprint area, removing areas associated with Hooley Creek

and Four Mile Creek. 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 2908/4.

Methodology

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

Comments

No submission have been received.

Methodology

## 4. References

Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

Onshore, 2008a. Flora and vegetation survey. Ashburton North Project, Chevron Australia. Onshore Environmental Consultants Pty Ltd. August 2008

Onshore, 2008b. Flora and vegetation survey. Ashburton North Project Area - Stage 2, Chevron Australia. Onshore Environmental Consultants Pty Ltd. November 2008

Shepherd, D.P. (2009) Adapted from: 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
Water and Bisser Commission (new)

WRC Water and Rivers Commission (now DEC)