



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit Number: 3506/3
Duration of Permit: From 25 November 2010 to 31 July 2025
Permit Holder: Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd

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

PART I - CLEARING AUTHORISED

- 1. Land on which clearing is to be done**
Iron Ore (Hamersley Range) Agreement Act 1963, Mineral Lease 4SA (AML 70/4)
- 2. Purpose for which clearing may be done**
Clearing for the purposes of mineral exploration, hydrogeological investigations and fencing.
- 3. Area of Clearing**
The Permit Holder must not clear more than 9.6 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 3506/3.
- 4. Period in which clearing is authorised**
The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation after 31 July 2020.
- 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.

PART II - MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

- 6. 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*:
 - (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
 - (ii) ensure that no *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
 - (iii) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

7. 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 within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 3506/3.
- (b) within 6 months following completion of clearing authorised under this permit, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the areas that are no longer required for the purpose for which they were cleared under this Permit by:
 - (i) re-shaping the surface of the land so that it is consistent with the surrounding 5 metres of uncleared land; and
 - (ii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under Condition 7(a) on the cleared areas.
- (c) engage a *botanist* to determine that the areas rehabilitated under Condition 7(b) achieve species composition, structure and density comparable to adjacent undisturbed areas.
- (d) develop and implement a comprehensive research and annual monitoring program to demonstrate progress towards, and achievement of, the requirements of Condition 7(c). Where, in the opinion of a *botanist*, the composition structure and density determined under Condition 7(c) of this Permit will not result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, the Permit Holder shall implement remedial management measures as required to achieve the requirements of Condition 7(c).

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

8. Records to 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 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 or decimal degrees;
 - (ii) the date that the area was cleared;
 - (iii) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); and
 - (iv) purpose for which clearing was undertaken.
- (b) In relation to the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* of areas pursuant to Condition 7 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;
 - (iii) the size of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* (in hectares); and
 - (iv) the species composition, structure and density of *revegetation* and *rehabilitation*.

9. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the Director Operations, Environment, Department of Mines and Petroleum by 31 July each year for the life of this permit, an annual report on rehabilitation activities, any remedial management measures, and the results of the monitoring program.
- (b) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the Director Operations, Environment, Department of Mines and Petroleum by 31 July each year for the life of this permit, demonstrating adherence to all conditions of this permit, and setting out the records required under Condition 8 of this Permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (c) Prior to 31 July 2025, the Permit Holder must provide to the Director Operations, Environment, Department of Mines and Petroleum a written report of records required under Condition 8 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 9(a) and 9(b) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

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

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

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;

local provenance means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 10 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 any plant -

- (a) that is a declared pest under the section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or
- (b) published in a Department of Parks and Wildlife Regional Weed Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.



Steve Tantala
A/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ENVIRONMENT
DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND PETROLEUM

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

12 February 2015