



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

PERMIT DETAILS

Purpose Permit Number: 3723 / 1
File Number: A0763/201001
Duration of Permit: From 31 July 2010 to 31 July 2020

PERMIT HOLDER

BC Iron Limited

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Mining Lease 46/515
Miscellaneous Licence 46/73
Miscellaneous Licence 46/74
Miscellaneous Licence 46/75
Miscellaneous Licence 46/76
Miscellaneous Licence 46/81
Miscellaneous Licence 46/82
General Purpose Lease 46/9

PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE CLEARING MAY BE DONE

1. Clearing for the purposes of mineral production.

CONDITIONS

Type of clearing authorised

1. The Permit Holder must not clear more than 450.3 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the areas cross-hatched yellow, shaded red, shaded blue, shaded pink and shaded purple on attached Plan 3723/1.
2. The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation within the areas shaded green on attached Plan 3723/1.
3. The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 1.5 hectares of native vegetation within the areas shaded red on attached Plan 3723/1.
4. The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 1 hectare of native vegetation within the areas shaded blue on attached Plan 3723/1.
5. The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 10 hectares of native vegetation within the areas shaded pink on attached Plan 3723/1.
6. The Permit Holder shall not clear more than 4.8 hectares of native vegetation within the areas shaded purple on attached Plan 3723/1.

Avoid, minimise etc clearing

7. 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:
- (i) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
 - (ii) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
 - (iii) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

Weed control

8. 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.

Flora management

9. (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *botanist* to inspect that area for the presence of the following *priority flora taxa*:
- (i) *Stemodia sp.* Battle Hill.
- (b) Where *priority flora taxa* are identified in relation to condition 9(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
- (i) all records of *priority flora taxa* are submitted to the Director, Environment Division, Department of Mines and Petroleum; and
 - (ii) no clearing occurs with 10 metres of identified *priority flora taxa*, unless approved by the Director, Environment Division, Department of Mines and Petroleum.

Retain and spread vegetative material and topsoil

10. 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 areas cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 3723/1;
 - (b) Within 24 months following 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) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under Condition 10(a).
 - (c) Within 4 years of laying the vegetative material and topsoil on the cleared area in accordance with Condition 10(b)(i) 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 10(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.

Records to be kept

11. 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;
 - (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 flora management pursuant to Conditions 9(a) and 9(b) of this Permit:
 - (i) the location of each *Stemodia* sp. Battle Hill 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 name of each *Priority flora taxa* identified.

- (c) In relation to the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* of areas pursuant to Conditions 10(a), 10(b) and 10(c) 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;
 - (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*.

Reporting

12. (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the Director, Environment Division, 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 Conditions 11(a), 11(b) and 11(c) of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (b) Prior to 31 July 2020, the Permit Holder must provide to the Director, Environment Division, Department of Mines and Petroleum a written report of records required under Conditions 11(a), 11(b) and 11(c) 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:

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;

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;

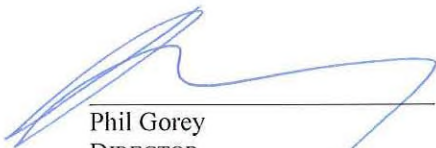
priority flora taxa means those plant taxa that described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the *Department's Declared Rare and Priority Flora List for Western Australia* (as amended);

regenerate/ed/ion means *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*.



Phil Gorey
DIRECTOR
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND PETROLEUM

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

1 July 2010