



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 4825/1
Permit Holder:	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit:	9 April 2012 – 9 April 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 constructing a fence

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Part Lot 77 on Deposited Plan 220192 (Rocklea 6751)

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 9.6 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 4825/1.

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. 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 power to clear native vegetation for those activities under the *Land Administration Act 1997* or any other written law.

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:

- avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

8. 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.

9. Watercourse

- (a) Where practicable the Permit Holder shall avoid clearing riparian vegetation.
- (b) Where a watercourse is to be impacted by clearing, the Permit Holder shall maintain the existing surface flow of that watercourse by use of culverts.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

10. Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records in relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:

- (a) 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;
- (b) the date that the area was cleared; and
- (c) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).

11. 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 10 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 9 January 2017, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 10 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 11(a) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

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

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

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;

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*.

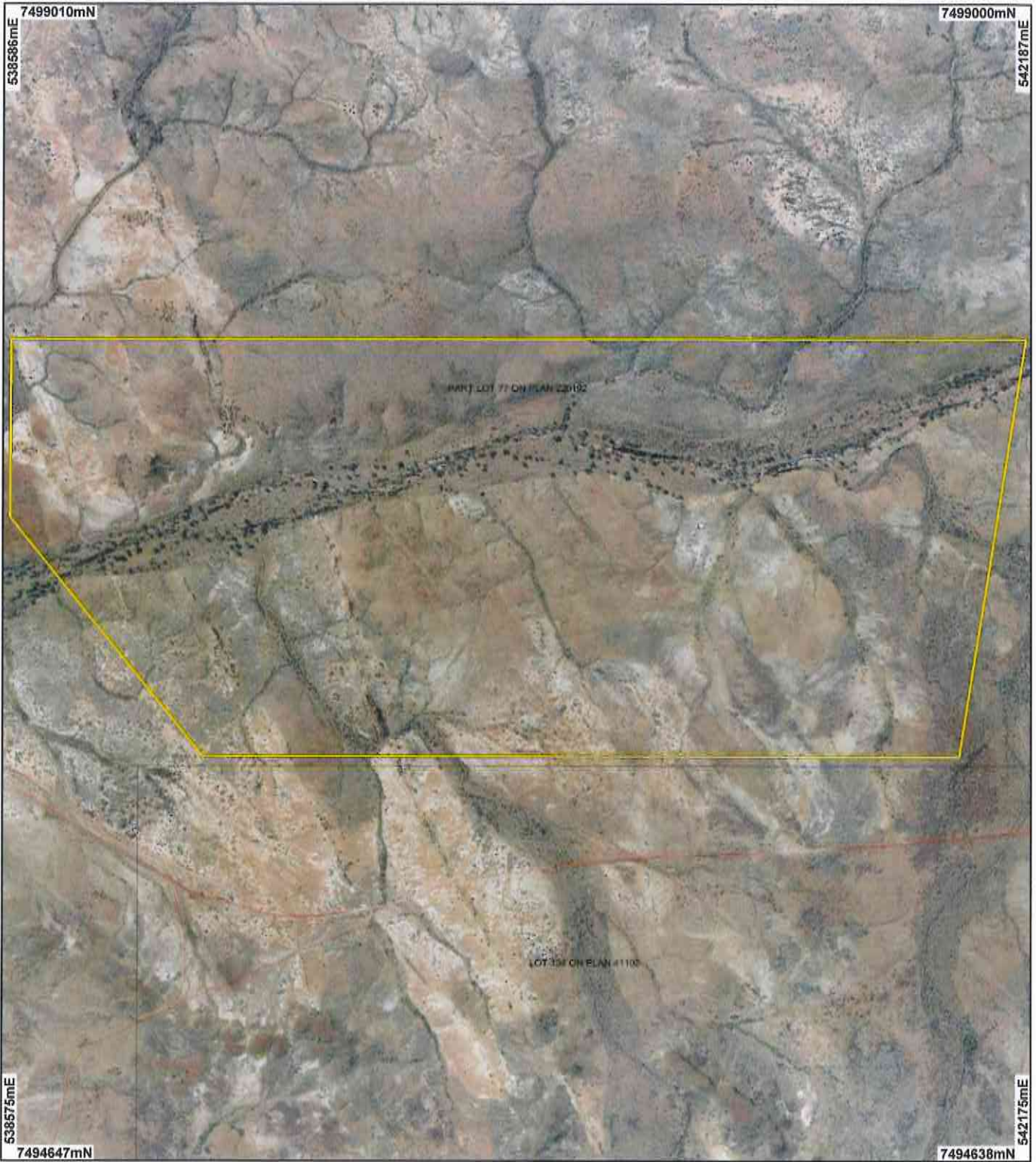


Kelly Faulkner
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

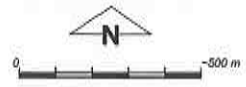
15 March 2012

Plan 4825/1



LEGEND

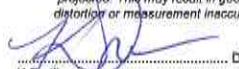
-  Road Centrelines
-  Clearing Instruments
-  Areas Approved to Clear
-  Cadastre for labelling
-  Rocklea 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004



Scale 1:20000
(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

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

 Date 15/3/12
K Eaulkner

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

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.: 4825/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: PART LOT 77 ON PLAN 220192 (ROCKLEA 6751)
Local Government Area: Shire of Ashburton
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
9.6		Mechanical Removal	Fence Line Maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 15 March 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
Mapped Beard vegetation association 567 is described as Hummock grasslands, shrub steppe; mulga & kanji over soft spinifex & <i>Triodia</i> basedowii (Shepherd 2009)	The application proposes to clear up to 9.6 hectares of native vegetation within Part Lot 77 on Plan 220192 (CL3114 1166), Rocklea for the purpose of fence construction. The vegetation is in very good (Keighery 1994) condition.	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	The condition of the vegetation was determined through aerial imagery (Rocklea 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

The application proposes to clear up to 9.6 hectares of native vegetation within Part Lot 77 on Plan 220192 (CL3114 1166), Rocklea for the purpose of fence construction. The construction of the fence line is required to keep livestock out of the White Quartz Cultural Camp which belongs to the local traditional owner group (Hamersley 2012).

Within the local area (20km radius) four fauna species of conservation significance have been recorded. The Australian Bustard (*Ardeotis australis*, Priority 4 Wildlife Conservation Act 1950), the Bush Stone Curlew (*Burhinus grallarius*, Priority 4 Wildlife Conservation Act 1950), the Short-tailed Mouse (*Leggadina lakedownensis*, Priority 4 Wildlife Conservation Act 1950) and the Orange Leafnosed-bat (*Rhinonicteris aurantius*, Threatened Wildlife Conservation Act 1950). The Australian Bustard has the closest record of 11km east of the application area. The vegetation within the applied area is not likely to provide significant habitat for the above mentioned fauna. Therefore the vegetation under application is not significant habitat for indigenous fauna.

The application area is intersected by a number of minor non-perennial watercourses; therefore the vegetation within the application area may be growing in association with a watercourse and therefore may be at variance to principle (f). Watercourse management will assist in mitigating any impacts to watercourses within the proposed clearing area.

The assessment determined that the proposed clearing is not likely to significantly impact any biodiversity, habitat or environmental values or cause appreciable land degradation within the local or regional context. Given the above, the proposal may be at variance to principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the any of the remaining clearing principles.

Methodology Reference:
DEC (2007-)
Hamersley (2012)

GIS Databases:

- Rocklea 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2004
- SAC Biodatasets - Accessed March 2012
- Hydrography, linear

Planning Instrument, Native Title, Previous EPA decision or other matter.

Comments

The application proposes to clear up to 9.6 hectares of native vegetation within Part Lot 77 on Plan 220192 (CL3114 1166), Rocklea for the purpose of fence construction. The construction of the fence line is required to keep livestock out of the White quartz Cultural camp which belongs to the local traditional owner group (Hamersley 2012).

The area under application falls within the Pilbara Groundwater and Surface Water area which are areas proclaimed under the Rights in Water and Irrigation (RIWI) Act 1914. The applicant has obtained a permit to Obstruct or Interfere under the RIWI Act 1914 from the Department of Water for works within the watercourses (Hamersley 2012).

Methodology References
Hamersley (2012)

GIS Databases:
 - RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas
 - RIWI Act, Areas
 - Cadastre

4. References

- DEC (2007 -) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Environment and Conservation. URL: <http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed 12/03/2012.
- Hamersley (2012) Application for a clearing Permit (Purpose Permit) - White Quartz Culture Camp fence line DEC ref: A465779
- 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. (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
WRC	Water and Rivers Commission (now DEC)