



## CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	CPS 4887/2
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Roy Hill Infrastructure Pty Ltd
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	25 May 2012 – 20 December 2019

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 port construction support including temporary lay down, equipment storage, buildings, roads, car parks, communications tower, accommodation camp and other support facilities.

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

LOT 203 ON DEPOSITED PLAN 220594 (BOODARIE 6722)  
LOT 324 ON DEPOSITED PLAN 220768 (BOODARIE 6722)  
LOT 1282 ON DEPOSITED PLAN 70562 (BOODARIE 6722)

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 186.54 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 4887/2.

**4. Period in which clearing is authorised**

The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation after 20 December 2014

**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.

**6. 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 right to access land under the *Land Administration Act 1997* or any other written law.

**7. 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

### **8. 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.

### **9. Weed control**

- (a) 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.
- (b) At least once in each 12 month period for the term of this Permit, the Permit Holder must remove or kill any *weeds* growing within areas cleared under this Permit.

### **10. Fauna management**

The Permit Holder must implement and adhere to the Roy Hill Project Vertebrate Fauna Management Plan for the Roy Hill Railway Corridor 100RH-3000-EN-REP-2009 December 2011.

### **11. 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 in an area that has already been cleared.
- (b) Within six months following clearing authorised under this permit, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area(s) that are no longer required for the purpose for which they were cleared under this by:
  - (i) re-shaping the surface of the land so that it is consistent with the surrounding 5 metres of uncleared land; and
  - (ii) ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction; and
  - (iii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under condition 11(a) on the cleared area(s).
- (c) Within 24 months of laying the vegetative material and topsoil on the cleared area in accordance with condition 11(b) 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 11(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.
- (d) Where additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation is undertaken in accordance with condition 11(c)(ii) of this permit, the Permit Holder shall repeat condition 11(c)(i) and 11(c)(ii) within 24 months of undertaking the additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation.
- (e) Where a determination by an *environmental specialist* that the composition, structure and density within areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* will result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, as determined in condition 11(c)(i) and (ii) of this permit, that determination shall be submitted for the CEO's consideration. If the CEO does not agree with the determination made under condition 11(c)(ii),

the CEO may require the Permit Holder to undertake additional *planting* and *direct seeding* in accordance with the requirements under condition 11(c)(ii).

### **PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING**

#### **12. Records must 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 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 or decimal degrees;
  - (iii) the date that the area was cleared; and
  - (iv) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).
  
- (b) In relation to the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* of areas pursuant to condition 11 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*.

#### **13. 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 12 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 20 September 2019, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 12 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 13(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;

*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;

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

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

*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;

*weed/s* means any plant

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



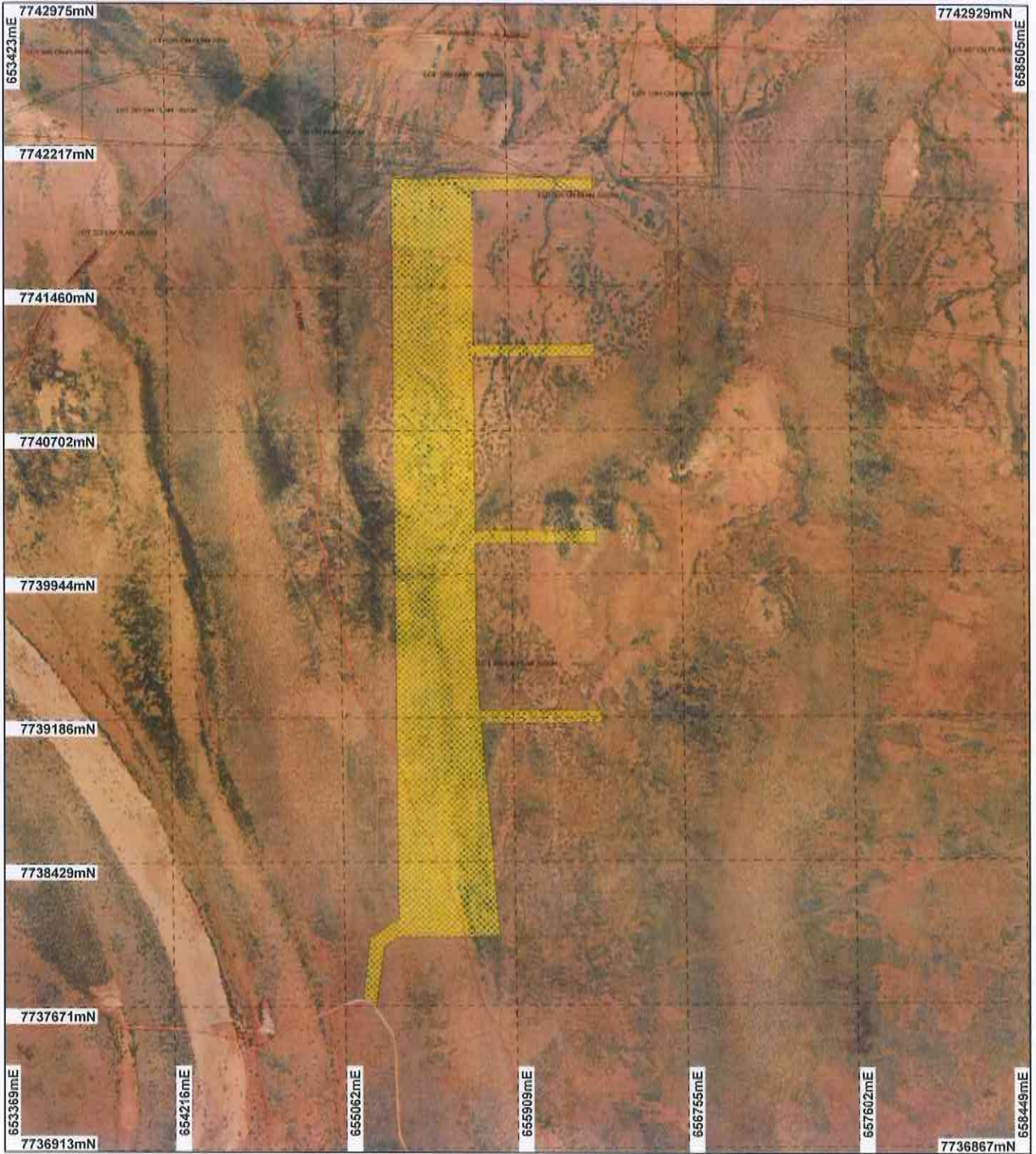
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M Warnock  
MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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


13 June 2013

# Plan 4887/2



**LEGEND**

<b>Clearing Instruments</b>	<b>Cadastre for labelling</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Areas Approved to Clear</li> <li> Road Centrelines</li> <li> Towns</li> </ul>	



0 -750 m

Scale 1:27958  
(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.

*M Warnock* Date **13/6/13**

M Warnock  
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.



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## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4887/2  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Roy Hill Infrastructure Pty Ltd

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 203 ON PLAN 220594 ( BOODARIE 6722)  
LOT 324 ON PLAN 220768 ( BOODARIE 6722)  
LOT 203 ON PLAN 220594 ( BOODARIE 6722)  
LOT 1282 ON PLAN 70562 ( BOODARIE 6722)

Local Government Area: Town of Port Hedland

Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
186.5		Mechanical Removal	Building or Structure

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 13 June 2013

## 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
Beard Vegetation Association: 647 eastern 2/3 - Hummock grasslands, dwarf-shrub steppe; Acacia translucens over soft spinifex (Shepherd et al, 2001)	The application is to clear 186.54 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 203 on Deposited Plan 220594, Lot 324 on Deposited Plan 220768 and Lot 1282 on Deposited Plan 70562, Boodarie, for a temporary lay down area for port construction including equipment storage, buildings, roads, car parks, communications tower, accommodation camp and other support facilities (RHI, 2012 and RHI, 2013).	Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation description and condition was determined through aerial imagery, photographs and description in survey reports provided by the applicant (RHI, 2012; Woodman, 2011; Terrestrial Ecosystems, 2012).
589 western 1/3 - Mosaic: Short bunch grassland - savanna / grass plain (Pilbara) / Hummock grasslands, grass steppe; soft spinifex (Shepherd, 2001)		To	
FCT 6a: occasional mid isolated shrubs of Acacia tumida var. pilbarensis over low isolated shrubs of Acacia stellaticeps over low hummock grassland dominated by Triodia epactia with other dominant species including Aristida spp., Chrysopogon fallax, Eriachne obtusa, Eragrostis eriopoda, red sand to sandy loam on dunes, and midslope - plain areas (Woodman, 2011). Nearly all of the application area was mapped as this vegetation type (Woodman, 2011).	The application area is approximately 4 kilometres long and 0.5 kilometre wide and is located within the approved corridor of the Roy Hill Infrastructure Pty Railway, to the west of the final rail alignment.	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	
	The majority of the application area is described as FCT 6a, which was recorded to support a total of 115 flora species during a survey of the railway corridor that included the application area (Woodman, 2011).		
	A fence line is reported to run across the application		

FCT 4: occasional mid isolated shrubs of *Acacia tumida* var. *pilbarensis* over occasional low isolated shrubs of *Acacia stellaticeps* over low hummock grassland of *Triodia epactia* on red sandy clay in closed depressions and flats (Woodman, 2011). Two small areas, near the northern and eastern edges of the application area were described as this vegetation type (Woodman, 2011).

area which indicates it was once used for grazing stock but there is no evidence of stock in the area now (Terrestrial Ecosystems, 2012). Vegetation condition mapping indicates that the application area ranges from excellent to very good (Keighery, 1994) condition, with some weed presence (Woodman, 2011).

### 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

#### Comments

Roy Hill Infrastructure Pty Ltd (RHI) have revised the layout and access arrangements to the laydown area approved to be cleared under CPS 4887/1. This amendment has resulted in the amount of vegetation clearing being reduced from 406.54 hectares (ha) to 186.54ha. The reduced area includes 3.41ha for the creation of an additional access track located in the southwest corner of the original laydown area (RHI, 2013).

The assessment against the clearing principles has not changed. The findings from the previous assessment are still relevant and can be found in Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 4887/1.

**Methodology** References:  
RHI (2013)

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

#### Comments

The clearing footprint has been modified, reducing the amount of clearing required; the clearing boundary has also been modified. As a result an application has been made to the Department of Regional Development and Lands for a new s91 Licence to cover the revised clearing footprint and is awaiting finalisation (RHI, 2013).

**Methodology** References:  
RHI (2013)

### 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.
- RHI (2012) Application to Clear Native Vegetation CPS 4887/1 and supporting information. Roy Hill Infrastructure Pty Ltd. DEC Ref: A475262; A475261; A484335; A492026; A492979
- RHI (2013) Roy Hill Infrastructure Pty Ltd, amendment to clearing permit application CPS 4887/1 - supporting information. (DEC Ref: A619977)
- 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.
- Terrestrial Ecosystems (2012) *Vertebrate Fauna Assessment - Laydown Area Ch 9 -13*. February 2012. Terrestrial Ecosystems, Mount Claremont. DEC Ref: A481813; A481816
- Woodman (2011) *Flora and Vegetation Survey RH1 Railway Project 0 - 93km Survey Area*. September 2011. Woodman Environmental Consulting Pty Ltd. DEC Ref: A481810

### 5. Glossary

Term	Meaning
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)