



## CLEARING PERMIT

*Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	CPS 4993/2
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	23 June 2012 – 31 December 2022

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 investigations and associated activities.

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

Lot 77 on Deposited Plan 220192 (Rocklea)  
Lot 134 on Deposited Plan 41102 (Mount Sheila)  
Lot 7 on Deposited Plan 28944 (Mount Sheila)

#### 3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 30 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 4993/2.

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

The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation after 31 December 2017.

#### 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**

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 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 12 months following completion of geotechnical investigations, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* areas not required for future scheduled and approved development, by:
  - (i) ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction; and
  - (ii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under condition 10(a) on the cleared area(s).
- (c) Within 2 years of laying the vegetative material and topsoil on the cleared area in accordance with condition 10(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 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.

### **11 Flora management**

Where *priority flora* have been identified and their written location(s) provided to the CEO, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:

- (a) no clearing of identified *priority flora* occurs; and
- (b) no clearing occurs within 10 metres of identified *priority flora*, unless approved by the CEO.

## **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 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; and
  - (iii) the size of the area cleared (in hectares).
- (b) In relation to the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* of areas pursuant to condition 10 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; and
  - (iii) the size of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* (in hectares).

### **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 July and 30 June of the preceding year.
- (b) Prior to 31 September 2022, 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;

*priority flora* means those plant taxa 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);

*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;

***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*.



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Kelly Faulkner  
MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

28 June 2012

# Plan 4993/2



## LEGEND

- Cadastre  
Bunbury 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate  
2008
- Clearing Instruments
- Areas Approved in Clear

\* Project Data. This data has not been quality assured. Please contact map author for details.



0 2 km

Scale 1:124892  
(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map has not been verified. This may result in geospatial information measurement inaccuracies.

*K. Faulstich* Date 28/6/12

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.



Department of Environment and Conservation

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## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4993/2  
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)  
LOT 134 ON PLAN 41102 (MOUNT SHEILA 6751)  
LOT 7 ON PLAN 28944 (MOUNT SHEILA 6751)

Local Government Area: Shire of Ashburton

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
30		Mechanical Removal	Geotechnical investigations

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 28 June 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
The area under application have been mapped as: Beard vegetation association 82 - Hummock grasslands, low tree steppe; snappy gum over <i>Triodia wiseana</i> .	The application is to clear up to 30 hectares of native vegetation over a 1,162ha footprint area within allocated and un-allocated Crown land associated with Rocklea Station/Hamersley Iron lease, for the purpose of geotechnical investigations. Clearing will involve a raised blade technique where possible, or blade down in areas of steep or rough terrain.	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	Vegetation condition reported by Biota Environmental Sciences (Biota Environmental Sciences, 2012)
Beard vegetation association 567 - Hummock grassland, shrub steppe; mulga and kanji over soft spinifex and <i>Triodia basedowii</i> (Shepherd et al, 2001).			

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

### Comments

An administrative error was noted in CPS 4993/1 at condition 11(b) relating to a clearing buffer of 50m in the vicinity of priority listed flora, instead of the standard 10m. As a result, CPS 4993/2 was created to correct the error.

The assessment against the Clearing Principles has not changed and can be found in Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 4993/1

### Methodology

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

### Comments

The assessment against Planning and Other Matters has not changed and can be found in Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 4993/1

### Methodology

## 4. References

Biota Environmental Sciences Pty Ltd (2012) Application to clear native vegetation CPS 4993/1 received 5 April 2012. (DEC

Ref: A491098)

DEC (2007 - ) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Environment and Conservation. URL: <http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au/>. Accessed 18/05/2012

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., 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)