

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:

CPS 5049/2

Permit Holder:

BHP Billiton Iron ore Pty Ltd

Duration of Permit:

6 July 2012 - 6 July 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 the construction and maintenance of rail roads, access roads and laydown areas.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Special Lease J998591 (Goldsworthy Rail Lease), being; Lot 47 on Deposited Plan 241374, Pippingarra.

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 5 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 5049/2.

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 right to access land 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:

- (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.

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

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

9. 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).

10. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO on or before 1 October of each year, a written report:
 - (i) of records required under condition 9 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 6 April 2017, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 9 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 10(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

5 July 2012

 Project Data. This data has not been quality assured. Please contact map author for details. information derived from this map should be confirmed with the data custodian acknowleged by the agency accomm in the legend. Department of Environment and Conservation Our environment, our future S Seccentris, Datum Australia 1994 (Approximate when reproduced at A4) Scale 1:14449 Z Road Centreli 3m018578 7742383mN 673417mE LOT 145 ON PLAN 214355 LOT 202 ON OT 505 ON PLAN 70785 Bm850578 2529 ON PLAN 18 503 ON PLAN 65734 LOT 504 ON PLAN 65734 **BM558278** LOT 379 ON PLAN 221147 Plan 5049/2 LOT 47 ON RIVAN 241374 3m042278 LOF BB10 ON PLAN 21 571848mE OT 29 ON PLAN 16819 3m234179 LOT 2444 ON PLAN 212197 OT 16 ON PLAN 163352 3m690178 860N671mE 101860N9 101863mE 7743366mN 7742890mN 7745267mN 7744792mN 7744316mN 7743841mN 7742415mN

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Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:

5049/2

Permit type:

Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name:

BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property:

LOT 47 ON PLAN 241374 (PIPPINGARRA 6722)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

Town of Port Hedland

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

For the purpose of:

Mechanical Removal

Railway construction or maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application:

Decision Date:

Grant 5 July 2012

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description

Mapped Beard vegetation association 647 is described as Hummock grasslands, dwarf - shrub steppe, Acacia translucens over soft spinifex (Shepherd et al, 2001).

Clearing Description

The proposed clearing of 5 ha is for the construction and maintenance of rail roads, access roads and laydown areas.

The application area consists of an open Acacia colei var. colei shrublands over low Acacia stellaticeps shrublands over Triodia epactia and triodia epactia and Triodia secunda hummock grassland mosaic (ENV Australia, 2011a).

Vegetation Condition

Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)

Comment

The condition of the application was established through a survey carried out in February 2011 of the application area by ENV Australia(2011a), and through aerial imagery

(Port Hedland 50cm Orthomosaic-Landgate, 2008)

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

An administrative error occurred regarding the Lot on which clearing was to be undertaken on Clearing Permit CPS5049/1. A review of current environmental information reveals no new additional information. Therefore the assessment against the clearing principles has not changed and can be found in the Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 5049/1.

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

Comments

No submissions from the public have been received.

4. References

ENV Australia (2011a) Port Hedland regional Flora and Vegetation Assessment. Additional information for CPS 4867/1 - BHP Billiton Iron ore Pty Ltd. Lot 86 on Plan 213620, Pippingarra. DEC ref A472727

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

Department of Conservation and Land Management (now BCS) Department of Agriculture and Food CALM

DAFWA

DEC Department of Environment and Conservation Department of Environmental Protection (now DEC) DEP

Department of Environment DoE

DolR Department of Industry and Resources

DRF

Declared Rare Flora Environmental Protection Policy EPP GIS Geographical Information System Hectare (10,000 square metres) Threatened Ecological Community ha TEC

WRC Water and Rivers Commission (now DEC)