



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 5190/1
Permit Holder:	Roy Hill Infrastructure Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit:	26 October 2012 – 26 October 2017

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of realigning Marble Bar Road and constructing a level crossing

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Section 91 Licence: Lic 00090-2012_1_60, being;
Crown Reserve 9700, Nullagine (PIN 1118006, 1017933)
Marble Bar Road reserve, Nullagine (PIN11736120)

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 15 hectares of native vegetation within the area hatched yellow on attached Plan 5190/1.

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

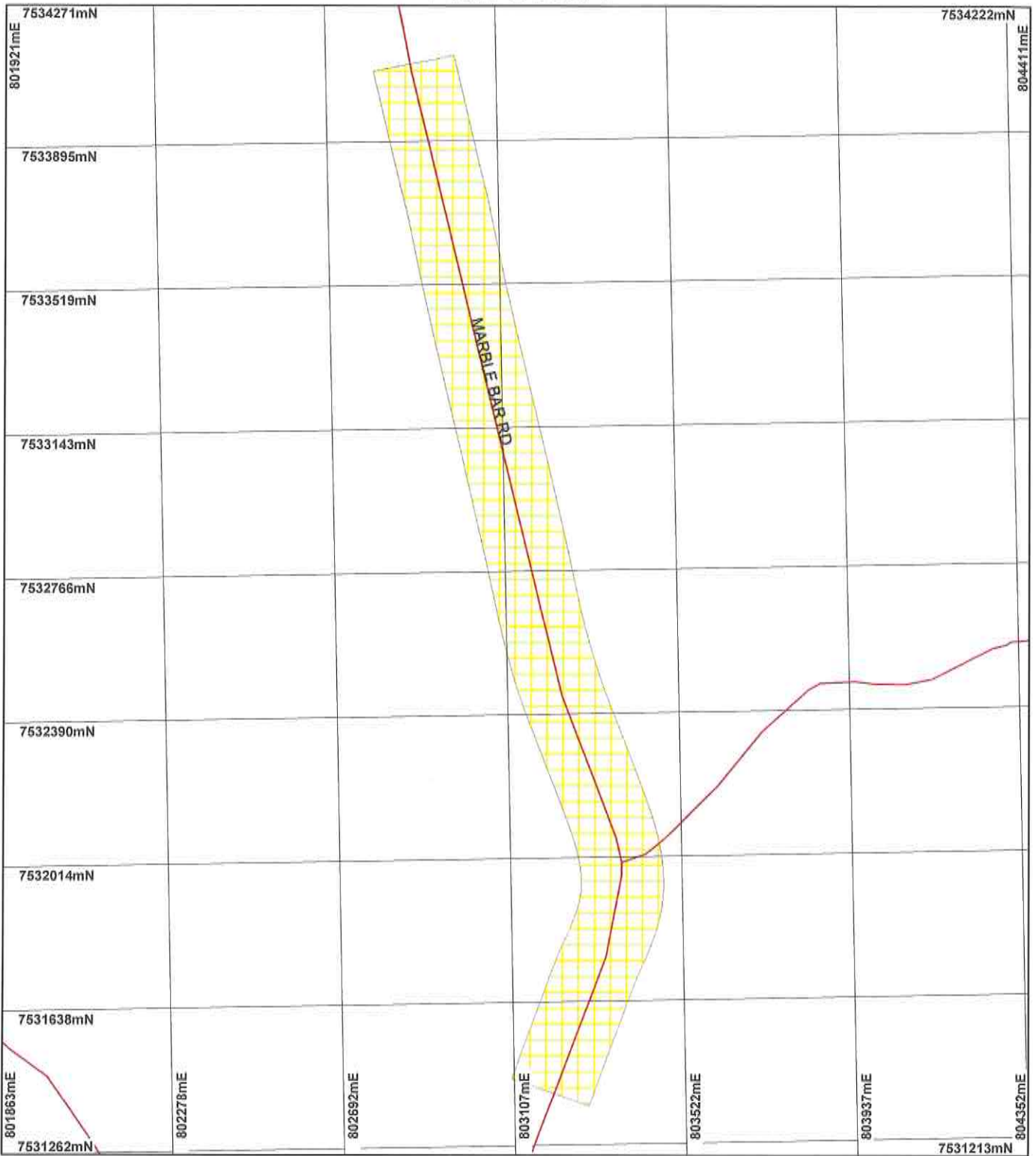
Handwritten signature of Roxane Shadbolt in black ink.

Roxane Shadbolt
A/MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

4 October 2012

Plan 5190/1



LEGEND

Clearing instruments

- Areas Approved to Clear
- Road Centrelines
- Towns



0 ————— 375 m

Scale 1:13796

(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.

R. Shadbolt Date 4/10/12
R. Shadbolt

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.: 5190/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Roy Hill Infrastructure Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: CROWN RESERVE 9700 (NULLAGINE 6758)
ROAD RESERVE (NULLAGINE 6758)
Local Government Area: Shire of East Pilbara

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
15		Mechanical Removal	Road construction or maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 4 October 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 173: Hummock grasslands, shrub steppe; kanji over soft spinifex & T. wiseana on basalt (Shepherd et al, 2001).	The application is to clear 15 hectares of native vegetation within a 55.7 hectare footprint. The application area is located within the Bonney land system comprising hills and undulating stony plains supporting soft spinifex grasslands (Roy Hill Infrastructure, 2012)	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery 1994)	The condition of the vegetation under application was obtained via aerial photography.
	The vegetation under application is in a degraded to very good (Keighery, 1994) condition.	To Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The application is to clear 15 hectares within a 55.7 hectare footprint for the purpose of realigning Marble Bar Road and constructing a level crossing. The application is approximately 45 km south of the townsite of Nullagine. The vegetation under application is in a degraded to very good (Keighery, 1994) condition.

Two priority flora species have been recorded within a 20km radius of the area under application. The species are Rhagodia sp. Hamersley (M.Trudgen) (P3) recorded approximately 14km south west of the area under application and Goodenia nuda (P4), recorded approximately 17km south west away from the proposed clearing. There has been no rare flora, threatened or priority ecological communities recorded within a 20km radius of the area under application.

Mattiske consulting as a part of the Roy Hill Infrastructure railway project conducted vegetation mapping and flora surveys, which included approximately 90 percent of the area under application. The survey did not record priority or rare flora species within the area under application (Roy Hill Infrastructure, 2012).

Several minor drainage lines intersect the area under application. The clearing as proposed, may impact upon

vegetation growing in association with these watercourses. The application may be at variance to principle (f).

The application has been assessed against the clearing principles and it is considered unlikely to impact upon biodiversity, ground water or surface water quality or cause appreciable land degradation in the local area.

Therefore, the application may be at variance to principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing principles.

Methodology **References**
- Keighery (1994)
- Roy Hill Infrastructure (2012)
GIS Database:
- Hydrography, linear
- SAC Bio Datasets August 2012

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

Comments

The area under application is subject to two native title claims. Both the claimants and their representative bodies have been notified of the application. To date no response has been received.

Approximately 90 percent of the area under application falls within the footprint of a previous assessed application, CPS 4219/1. The application was granted for the purpose of geotechnical and hydrogeological investigations and allowed for the clearing of 58 hectares.

The applicant has obtained a section 91 Licence in accordance with the Land Administration Act 1997 to access the land for the proposal.

The proposed realignment of the Marble Bar Road and level crossing construction will join the Roy Hill Infrastructure railway line. Roy Hill Infrastructure has obtained Part IV approval under the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (EP Act) (Ministerial Statement 847) for the construction and operation of the railway, however the realignment of the Marble Bar Road and construction of a level crossing were not included as part of the approval (Roy Hill Infrastructure, 2012)

Methodology **References**
- Roy Hill Infrastructure (2012)
GIS Database
- Native Title Claims

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.
- Roy Hill Infrastructure (2012) Additional information within Clearing Permit Application, CPS 5190/1. Roy Hill Infrastructure Pty Ltd (DEC Ref:A532784)
- 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)