



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 5570/1
Permit Holder:	Fortescue Metals Group Ltd
Duration of Permit:	20 July 2013 – 20 July 2018

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 installing navigational beacons.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 370 on Deposited Plan 35619, Wedgefield.

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.00015 hectares of native vegetation within the areas shaded yellow on attached Plan 5570/1.

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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M Warnock", written over a horizontal line.

M Warnock
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

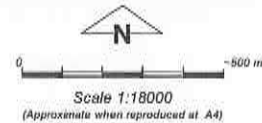
20 June 2013

Plan 5570/1



LEGEND

- Road Centrelines
 - Cadastre
 - Local Government Authorities_1
 - Clearing Instruments
 - Areas Approved to Clear
- Port Hedland 50cm
Orthomosaic - Landgate
2004



Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

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

approved Date 20/6/13

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.



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



1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 5570/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Fortescue Metals Group Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 370 ON PLAN 35619 (WEDGEFIELD 6721)
Local Government Area: Town of Port Headland
Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.0001		Mechanical Removal	Hazard reduction or fire control

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 20 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
The vegetation under application is mapped as Beard vegetation association 43 (Abydos Plain), described as low forest, mangroves (Kimberley) or thicket; mangroves (Pilbara) (Shepherd et al. 2001).	The application is for the proposed clearing of 0.00015 ha within South West Creek (Herb Elliot Port facility) for the purpose of installing a navigation beacon. The vegetation under application consists of mangroves.	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation condition and description was determined from information supplied by Fortescue Metals (2013) and aerial imagery (Port Headland 50cm Orthomosaic, Landgate 2004).

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The application is to clear up to 0.00015 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of installing navigation beacons within South West Creek (Herb Elliot Port facility) and is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts. A construction execution procedure has been written to limit the impacts to mangrove habitat. Impacts will be avoided by accessing the site through the use of a floating barge, with a temporary gangway and crane employed (Fortescue Metals, 2013).

There are no rare or priority flora species or threatened ecological communities in the vicinity of the project. As the clearing consists of 1.5 metres squared and the local area (10 km radius) is highly vegetated (90 per cent), it is unlikely the proposed clearing contains significant fauna habitat, contains a high biodiversity, will impact on conservation areas, cause or exacerbate land degradation or flooding, or impact on water quality.

As the application falls within a tidally influenced mudflat it involves clearing vegetation associated with a watercourse. Given the limited size of the application area and the proposed management actions, impacts are likely to be minimal.

The assessment of the application identified that the clearing is at variance to clearing Principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing Principles.

- Methodology** References:
- Fortescue Metals (2013)
- GIS databases:
- Hydrography, linear
 - Pre-European vegetation
 - SAC Bio datasets (Accessed June 2013)
 - DEC tenure

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

Comments

The clearing of 0.00015 hectares is for the purpose of installing navigation beacons in South West Creek (Herb Elliot Port facility), to allow for safe navigation within an extension to the port.

The installation is a requirement from the Port Headland Port Authority.

The expansion of the Port was assessed by the Environment Protection Authority and ministerial statement 859, South West Creek Dredging and reclamation Project, issued on the 15 March 2011. The clearing application falls outside of this area.

The Shire of Port Headland has been advised of the proposed clearing, no reply was received.

Works approval for the expansion of the port has been granted (Fortescue Metals, 2013).

The Department of Water (DoW) have advised that a bed and banks Permit may be required (DoW, 2013).

No submissions from the public have been received.

No Aboriginal Sites of Significance have been mapped within the application area.

- Methodology** References:
- DoW (2013)
 - Fortescue Metals (2013)
- GIS databases:
- Town Planning Scheme Zones

4. References

DoW (2013) Advise regarding the applicant responsibilities under the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914. Department of Water, Western Australia (DEC Ref: A626982).

Fortescue Metals (2013) Supporting Documentation for Clearing Permit Application CPS 5570/1. Fortescue Metals Group (DEC Ref: A614869).

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