



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	5879/2
Duration of Permit:	From 22 February 2014 to 22 February 2024
Permit Holder:	Atlas Iron Limited

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

PART I - CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Land on which clearing is to be done

Mining Lease 45/1197
Mining Lease 45/1209

2. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purposes of mineral production and associated activities

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 115 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 5879/2.

4. Type of Clearing Authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless the purpose for which the clearing is authorised is enacted within 6 months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

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.

PART II - MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

6. 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*:

- (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.

7. Vegetation Management

- (a) Where practicable the Permit Holder shall avoid clearing *riparian vegetation*; and
- (b) Where a *watercourse* is to be impacted by clearing, the Permit Holder shall maintain the existing surface flow.

8. Fauna management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the area(s) shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* who shall identify habitat suitable to be utilised by fauna species listed below:
 - (i) *Liasis olivaceus barroni* (Pilbara Olive Python).
- (b) Prior to clearing, any habitat identified by Condition 8(a) shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* for the presence of fauna listed in Condition 8(a).
- (c) Where fauna are identified in relation to Condition 8(b) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) no clearing of the identified habitat occurs, unless first approved by the *CEO*;
 - (ii) no taking of identified fauna occurs, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

9. Records to 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 or decimal degrees;
 - (ii) the date that the area was cleared;
 - (iii) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); and
 - (iv) purpose for which clearing was undertaken.
- (b) In relation to fauna management pursuant to Condition 8 of this Permit:
 - (i) the location of each habitat identified 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) the species of fauna reasonably likely to utilise, or that have been observed utilising, the habitat; and
 - (iii) the location and date where relocated fauna was released, 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.

10. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the General Manager Environmental Compliance, Resource and Environmental Compliance Division, Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety by 31 July each year for the life of this permit, demonstrating adherence to all conditions of this permit, and setting out the records required under Condition 9 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (b) Prior to 22 February 2024, the Permit Holder must provide to the General Manager Environmental Compliance, Resource and Environmental Compliance Division, Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety 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:

CEO means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Water and Environment Regulation or an officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

fauna specialist means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specializing in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in fauna identification and surveys of fauna native to the region being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the *CEO* as a suitable fauna specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* or the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*;

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;

riparian vegetation has the meaning given to it in Regulation 3 of the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004;

watercourse has the meaning given to it in section 3 of the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*;

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 a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.



Daniel Endacott
General Manager Environmental Compliance
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division
17 January 2019

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