



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 8164/2
Permit Holder:	BHP Billiton Nickel West Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit:	19 November 2018 – 19 November 2028

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 mineral processing.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 66 on Deposited Plan 14433, Feysville
Lot 100 on Deposited Plan 212288, Feysville

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 8164/2.

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.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

5. Avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of 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:

- avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

6. Vegetation Management

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation within 30 metres of the *riparian vegetation* of any *watercourse* or *wetland* within the area cross-hatched yellow on Plan 8164/2.

7. 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:

- clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- ensure that no weed-affected soil, mulch, fill or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

8. Records must be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit, 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;
- (c) the size of the area cleared (in hectares);
- (d) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and the extent of clearing in accordance with condition 5 of this Permit; and
- (e) actions taken to minimise the introduction and spread of weeds in accordance with condition 7 of this Permit.

9. Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO the records required under Condition 8 of this Permit, when requested by the CEO.

DEFINITIONS

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

CEO means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

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.

wetland/s means an area of seasonally, intermittently or permanently waterlogged or inundated land, whether natural or otherwise, and includes a lake, swamp, marsh, spring, dampland, tidal flat or estuary.

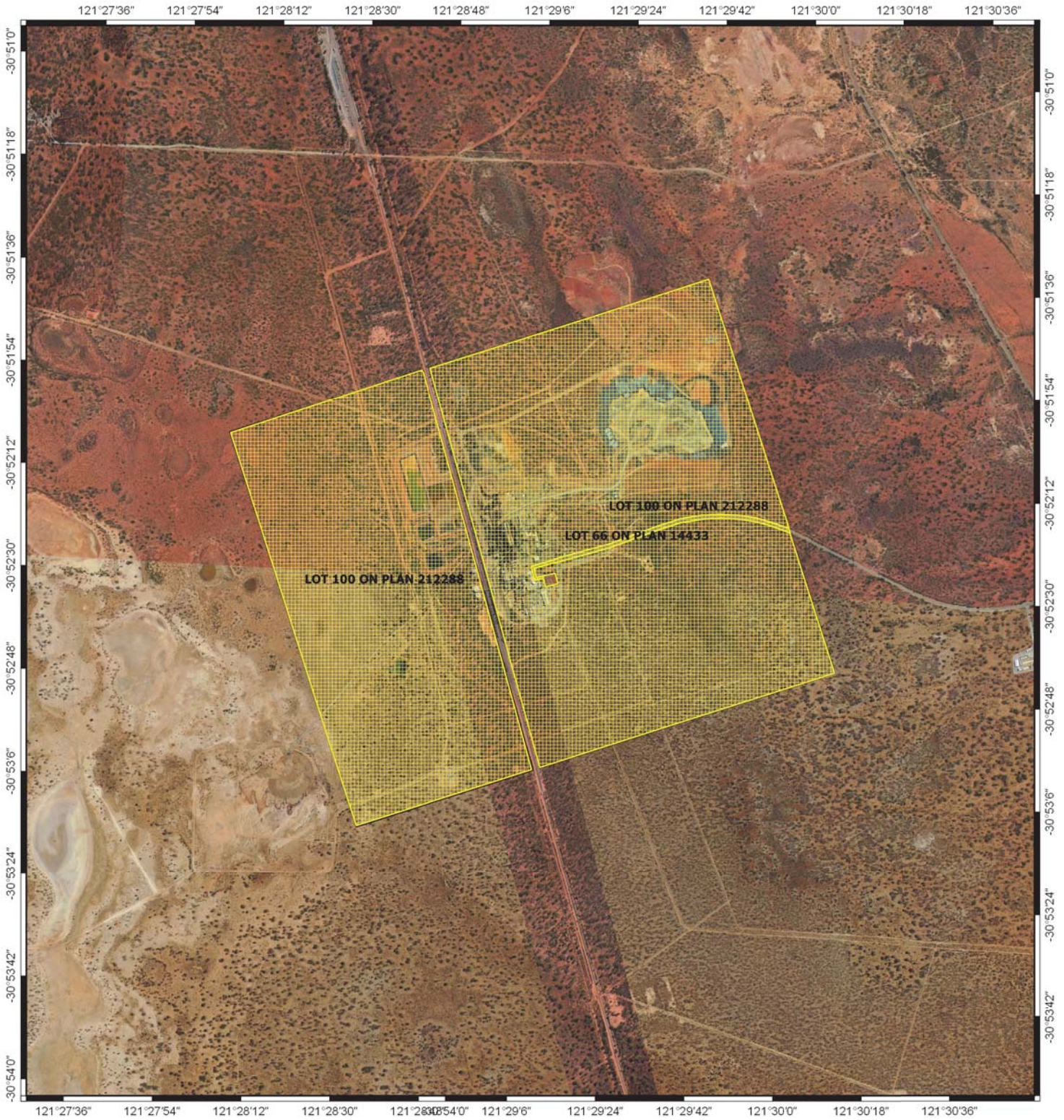
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Ryan Mincham
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

19 November 2018

Plan 8164/2



Legend

 Areas approved to clear



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Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

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



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 8164/2
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: BHP Billiton Nickel West Pty Ltd
Application received date: 14 August 2018

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 100 ON PLAN 212288, FEYSVILLE
LOT 66 ON PLAN 14433, FEYSVILLE
Local Government Authority: City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Localities: Feysville

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	Purpose category:
15		Mechanical Removal	Mineral production

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 19 November 2018
Reasons for Decision: The clearing permit application to amend has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with section 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. It has been concluded that given the amendment corrected a spelling error in the clearing permit and that one of the land parcels was missing from the permit plan, the findings from the previous assessment for CPS 8164/1 are still relevant.

The Delegated Officer determined to grant clearing permit 8164/2.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description The amended application is to clear 15 hectares of native vegetation within a 694 hectare footprint area within Lot 66 on Plan 14433 and Lot 100 on Plan 212288, Feysville, for the purpose of mineral processing (BHP Billiton, 2018). The applicant has advised that the clearing will be undertaken at a rate of 1.5 hectares per annum.

Vegetation Description The vegetation within the application area comprises low open *Eucalyptus* woodlands and shrublands (Mattiske, 2008) and is mapped as the following Beard vegetation associations (Shepherd et al, 2001):

- 9 - Medium woodland comprising Coral gum (*Eucalyptus torquata*) and Goldfields blackbutt (*E. le soufii*);
- 936 - Medium woodland; salmon gum; and
- 1294 - Medium woodland; coral gum.

Vegetation association 936 comprises approximately 48 hectares of the vegetation in the south-west corner of the clearing footprint, whilst the other two associations comprise the remainder of the application area.

Vegetation Condition Sections of the clearing footprint area have been previously used as, and continue to be used as, a mineral ore processing/mine site, with approximately 148 hectares comprising related infrastructure and internal roads. A previous 2008 clearing assessment (CPS 2602/2) and flora and vegetation survey (Mattiske, 2008) determined that the clearing footprint area varied from being in a completely degraded to very good (Keighery, 1994) condition. Based on current aerial imagery (Virtual Mosaic: Image), this determination remains valid.

Soil type The soils of the application area are mapped as shallow calcareous loamy soils and alkaline red earths with limestone at shallow depths (DPIRD, 2017; Northcote et al., 2001).

Comments The local area considered in the assessment of the application is described as a 20 kilometre radius measured from the application area. The local area retains approximately 70 per cent native vegetation cover.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Following the issuing of CPS 8164/1 on 25 October 2018, the applicant advised of a spelling error on the clearing permit and that the clearing permit plan did not display one of the two land parcels upon which clearing has been approved.

CPS 8164/2 has been issued to correct these two administrative errors.

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

The assessment against Planning and Other Matters are still relevant and can be found in Decision Report CPS 8164/1.

4. References

- Benshemesh, J. (2007). National Recovery Plan for Malleefowl. Department for Environment and Heritage, South Australia
- BHP Billiton Nickel West Pty Ltd (BHP) (BHP) (2018) Application for clearing permit and supporting documentation CPS 8164/1 (DWER Ref: A1711584)
- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- Threatened Species Scientific Committee (TSSC)(2015) – Conservation Advice for *Ogyris subterrestris petrina* (arid bronze azure) Threatened Species Scientific Committee Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions 25 March 2015 (<http://environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/species/pubs/77743-conservation-advice.pdf>)
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Parks and Wildlife. URL: <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>.
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) (2017) NRInfo Digital Mapping. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. Government of Western Australia. URL: <https://maps.agric.wa.gov.au/nrm-info/> (accessed April 2018).
- Government of Western Australia (2018) 2017 State-wide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of December 2017. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Mattiske Consulting (2008) Flora and Vegetation Survey of the Furnace Rebuild Project Area, prepared for BHP Billiton, May 2008 by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd KNS0801/048/08
- Northcote, K. H. with Beckmann G, Bettenay E., Churchward H. M., van Dijk D. C., Dimmock G. M., Hubble G. D., Isbell R. F., McArthur W. M., Murtha G. G., Nicolls K. D., Paton T. R., Thompson C. H., Webb A. A. and Wright M. J. (1960-68): 'Atlas of Australian Soils, Sheets 1 to 10, with explanatory data'. CSIRO and Melbourne University Press: Melbourne.
- Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R. and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001) Native Vegetation in Western Australia, Extent, Type and Status. Resource Management Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.
- Western Australian Herbarium (WAH) (1998-) FloraBase-the Western Australian Flora. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. <https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>
- Woinarski, J., Burbidge, A. & Harrison, P. (2014). The Action Plan for Australian Mammals 2012. (pp. 203-207). CSIRO Publishing.

GIS Databases:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Tenure
- Groundwater salinity
- Hydrography, General Hydro
- Hydrography, Wetlands
- SAC bio datasets
- TPFL Data
- WAHerb Data
- WA TEC PEC Boundaries
- Virtual Mosaic: Image - (accessed October 2018)