



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	8515/1
Duration of Permit:	From 7 December 2019 to 6 December 2024
Permit Holder:	Cassini Resources 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

Miscellaneous Licence 69/45

2. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of hydrogeological investigations.

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 40 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 8515/1.

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.

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:

- (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.

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. Flora Management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *botanist* to conduct a *targeted flora survey* of the areas to be cleared for the presence of rare flora listed in the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice* and *priority flora*.
- (b) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall provide the results of the *targeted flora survey* in a report to the *CEO*.
- (c) If rare or *priority flora* are identified within the Permit Area, the *targeted flora survey* report must include the following:
 - (i) the location of each rare or *priority flora*, either as the location of individual plants, or where this is not practical, the aerial extent of the population and an estimate of the number of plants, 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; and
 - (ii) the species name of each rare or *priority flora*, identified; and
 - (iii) the methodology, used to survey the Permit Area and to establish the *critical habitat* of flora; and
 - (iv) a site description of the habitat of rare or *priority flora* found.
- (d) Where rare or *priority flora* are identified under Condition 7(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) no clearing within 10 metres of *priority flora* occurs, unless first approved by the *CEO*.
 - (ii) no clearing within 50 metres of rare flora occurs, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

8. Fauna Management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 8515/1, the areas to be cleared shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* for the presence of:
 - (i) *Liopholis kintorei* (Great Desert Skink) burrows;
 - (ii) *Dasyercus blythi* (Brush-tailed Mulgara) burrows; and
 - (iii) *Macrotis lagotis* (Greater Bilby) burrows.
- (b) Where *Liopholis kintorei* (Great Desert Skink) burrows, are identified in relation to Condition 8(a) of this permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 200 metres of the identified burrows, unless first approved by the *CEO*.
- (c) Where *Dasyercus blythi* (Brush-tailed Mulgara) burrows, are identified in relation to Condition 8(a) of this permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the identified burrows, unless first approved by the *CEO*.
- (d) Where *Macrotis lagotis* (Greater Bilby) burrows, are identified in relation to Condition 8(a) of this permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the identified burrows, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

9. Fauna Management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised within the areas cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 8515/1, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to identify *critical habitat* for the fauna species listed below:
 - (i) *Liopholis kintorei* (Great Desert Skink);
 - (ii) *Dasyercus blythi* (Brush-tailed Mulgara); and
 - (iii) *Macrotis lagotis* (Greater Bilby).
- (b) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised within the areas of *critical habitat* identified in relation to Condition 9(a), the areas to be cleared shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* for the presence of:
 - (i) *Liopholis kintorei* (Great Desert Skink) burrows;
 - (ii) *Dasyercus blythi* (Brush-tailed Mulgara) burrows; and
 - (iii) *Macrotis lagotis* (Greater Bilby)
- (c) Where *Liopholis kintorei* (Great Desert Skink) burrows, are identified in relation to Condition 9(b) of this permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 200 metres of the identified burrows, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

- (d) Where *Dasyercus blythi* (Brush-tailed Mulgara) burrows, are identified in relation to Condition 9(b) of this permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the identified burrows, unless first approved by the *CEO*.
- (e) Where *Macrotis lagotis* (Greater Bilby) burrows, are identified in relation to Condition 9(b) of this permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the identified burrows, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

10. 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) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and the extent of clearing in accordance with Condition 5 of this Permit; and
- (c) actions taken to minimise the introduction and spread of *weeds* in accordance with Condition 6 of this Permit.
- (d) 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 name of fauna reasonably likely to utilise, or that have been observed utilising, the habitat(s);
 - (iii) a copy of the fauna specialist's report.

11. 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 1 October each year for the life of this permit, demonstrating adherence to all conditions of this permit, and setting out the records required under Condition 10 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (b) Prior to 6 December 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 10 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 11(a) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

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

botanist means a person who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in identification and surveys of flora native to the bioregion being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the *CEO* as a suitable botanist for the bioregion;

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

critical habitat means any part of the Permit Area comprising of the habitat of flora or fauna species and its population, that is critical for the health and long term survival of the flora or fauna species and its population;

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;

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;

priority flora means those plant taxa described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions' Threatened and Priority Flora List for Western Australia (as amended);

targeted flora survey means a field-based investigation, including a review of established literature, of the biodiversity of flora and vegetation of the Permit Area, focusing on habitat suitable for flora species that are being targeted and carried out during the optimal time to identify those species. Where target flora are identified in the Permit Area, the survey should also include sufficient surrounding areas to place the Permit Area into local context;

weed/s means any plant -

- (a) that is a declared pest under the section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or
- (b) published in a Department of Parks and Wildlife Regional Weed Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice means those plant taxa gazetted as rare flora pursuant to section 23F(2) of the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* (as amended).



Daniel Endacott
General Manager Environmental Compliance
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division
14 November 2019

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