

## **CLEARING PERMIT**

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

## **PERMIT DETAILS**

Area Permit Number:	CPS 8582/2
File Number:	DWERVT3058
Duration of Permit:	From 5 June 2021 to 5 June 2033

## ADVICE NOTE

The funds referred to in condition 5 of this permit are intended for contributing towards the purchase of 30.61 hectares of native vegetation with habitat for Carnaby's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*), Baudin's cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*) and Forest Red-tailed black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*).

## PERMIT HOLDER

Holcim (Australia) Pty Ltd

## LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Lot 3 on Plan 14769, Martin.

## AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

The permit holder must not clear more than 10.7 hectares of *native vegetation* within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

## CONDITIONS

## 1. Period during which clearing is authorised

The permit holder must not clear any native vegetation after 5 June 2023.

#### 2. Avoid, minimise, and reduce impacts and extent of clearing

In determining the *native vegetation* authorised to be cleared under this permit, the permit holder must apply the following principles, set out in descending 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.

#### 3. Weed and dieback management

When undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit, the permit holder must take the following measures to minimise the risk of introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback*:

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

## 4. Directional clearing

The permit holder shall conduct clearing in a slow progressive manner from one direction to the other (e.g. east to west) to allow fauna to move into adjacent native vegetation ahead of the clearing activity.

## 5. Offsets – monetary contributions to the Offsets Fund

Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit, the permit holder must provide documentary evidence to the *CEO* that funding of \$159,172 has been transferred to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation for the purpose of establishing or maintaining native vegetation as an environmental offset for the clearing activities authorised under this permit.

#### 6. Records that must be kept

The permit holder must maintain records relating to the listed relevant matters in accordance with the specifications detailed in Table 1.

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications	
1.	In relation to the authorised clearing activities generally	(a)	the species composition, structure, and density of the cleared area;
		(b)	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;
		(c)	the date that the area was cleared;
		(d)	the size of the area cleared (in hectares);
		(e)	actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 2;
		(f)	actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds and dieback in accordance with condition 3; and
		(g)	direction of the clearing undertaken in accordance with condition 4.

#### Table 1: Records that must be kept

## 7. Reporting

The permit holder must provide to the *CEO* the records required under condition 6 of this permit when requested by the *CEO*.

## **DEFINITIONS**

In this permit, the terms in Table have the meanings defined.

#### **Table 2: Definitions**

Term	Definition		
black cockatoo species	<ul> <li>means one or more of the following species:</li> <li>(a) <i>Calyptorhynchus lateriosis</i> (Carnaby's cockatoo);</li> <li>(b) <i>Calyptorhynchus baudinii</i> (Baudin's cockatoo); and/or</li> <li>(c) <i>Calyptorhynchus banksii naso</i> (forest red-tailed black cockatoo).</li> </ul>		
CEO	Chief Executive Officer of the department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> .		
clearing	has the meaning given under section $3(1)$ of the EP Act.		
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.		
dieback	means the effect of <i>Phytophthora</i> species on native vegetation.		
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.		
native vegetation	has the meaning given under section 3(1) and section 51A of the EP Act.		
	means any plant –		
weeds	<ul> <li>(a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the <i>Biosecurity and</i> <i>Agriculture Management Act 2007</i>; or</li> <li>(b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or</li> <li>(c) not indigenous to the area concerned.</li> </ul>		

## **END OF CONDITIONS**

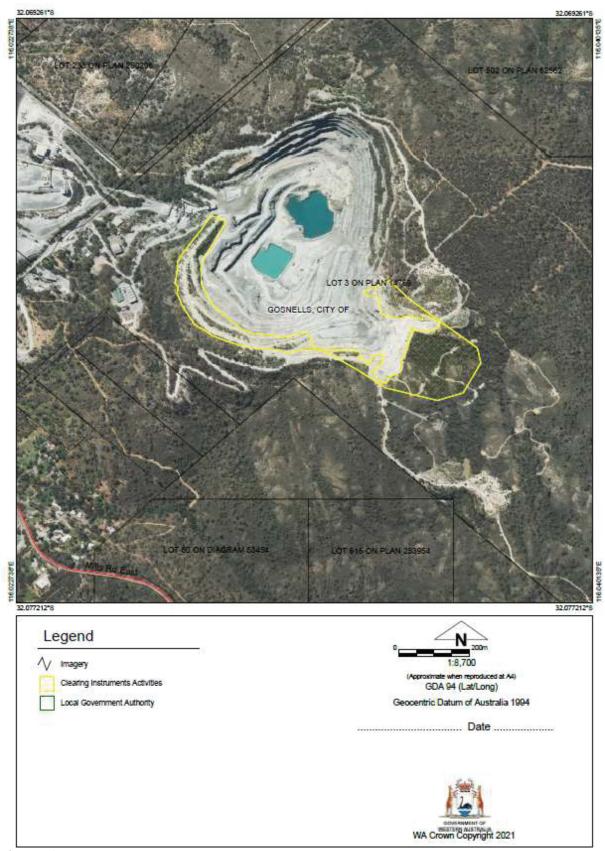
Mathew Gannaway MANAGER NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

30 March 2022

# **SCHEDULE 1**

The boundary of the area authorised to be cleared is shown in the map below (





CPS 8582/2, 30 March 20222

32.069261*8	32.069261*8
LOT 230 ON FLAM 250206	
	LOT SQL ON PLAN 82562
18 19/5	
GOSNEL	LOT 3 ON PLAN 1778
	0.3
LOT SE ON DIAGRAM SSUSE	LOT 615 ON PLAN 253954
32.077212*8	32.077212*8
Legend V Imagery	N 200m 1:8,700 (Approximate when reproduced at A4)
Clearing Instruments Activities	GDA 94 (Lat/Long) Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994
	Date
	121
	WA Crown Copyright 2021

Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur



# **Clearing Permit Decision Report**

#### 1 Application details and outcome 1.1. Permit application details Permit number: CPS 8582/2 Permit type: Area permit Applicant name: Holcim (Australia) Pty Ltd **Application area:** 10.7 hectares (ha) Purpose of clearing: Extractive Industry Lot 3 on Plan 14769 **Property:** Location (LGA area/s): City of Gosnells Localities (suburb/s): Martin

## 1.2. Description of clearing activities

The application is to amend Clearing Permit CPS 8582/1 which was granted on 13 May 2021. Clearing Permit CPS 8582/1 authorises the clearing of 10.7 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose extractive industry.

This amendment is to remove conditions 5 and 6 as they are no longer required to mitigate impacts to breeding habitat for black cockatoo species.

1.3. Decision on application				
Decision:	Granted			
Decision date:	30 March 2022			
Decision area:	Up to 10.7 hectares of native vegetation, as depicted in Section 1.5, below.			

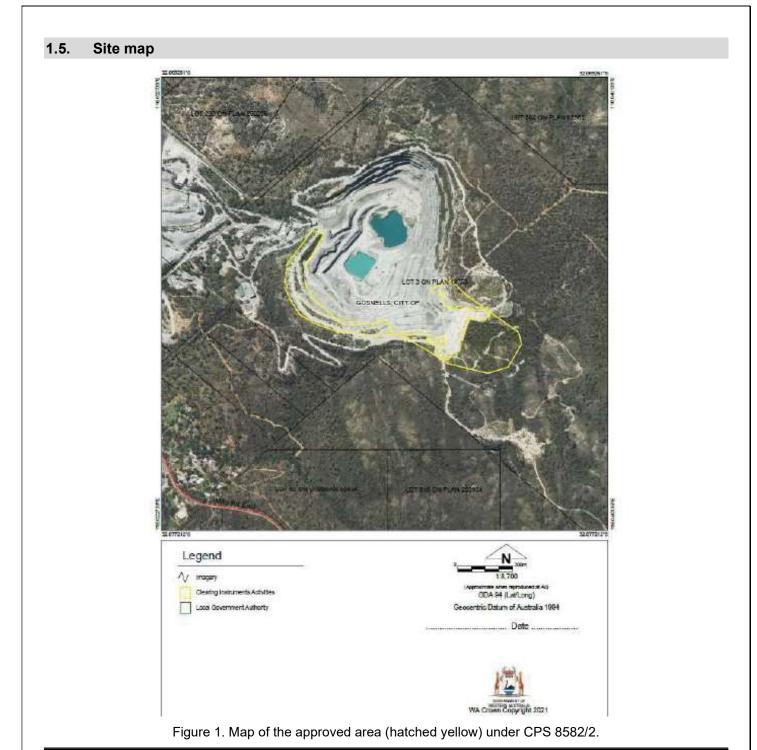
## 1.4. Reasons for decision

This clearing permit amendment application was made in accordance with section 51KA(1) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) and was received by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) on 16 December 2021. DWER advertised the application for public comment for a period of 21 days, and no submissions were received.

In undertaking the assessment, the Delegated Officer had regard for the site characteristics, relevant datasets, the findings of a habitat assessment, the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act, and any other matters considered relevant to the assessment.

The assessment against the clearing principles have not changed since the assessment for CPS 8582/1, except for clearing principle (b) where there is no longer an environmental impact to breeding habitat for black cockatoo species. The Delegated Officer has determined that the proposed amendment to CPS 8582/1 is not likely to lead to an unacceptable risk to environmental values.

The Delegated Officer determined to remove conditions 5 and 6 on the permit as they are no longer required to mitigate impacts to breeding habitat for black cockatoo species. The remainder of the conditions remain unchanged.



## 2 Legislative context

The clearing of native vegetation in Western Australia is regulated under the EP Act and the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004 (Clearing Regulations).

In addition to the matters considered in accordance with section 51O of the EP Act (see Section 1.4), the Delegated Officer has also had regard to the objects and principles under section 4A of the EP Act, particularly:

- the precautionary principle
- the principle of intergenerational equity
- the principle of the conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity.
- Other legislation of relevance for this assessment include:

Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (WA) (BC Act)

The key guidance documents which inform this assessment are:

- A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation (DER, December 2013)
- Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits (DWER, October 2019)
- Technical guidance Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment (EPA, 2016)

#### 3 Detailed assessment of application

#### 3.1. Assessment of impacts on environmental values.

During assessment of the application for clearing permit CPS 8582/1, potential breeding trees suitable for black cockatoos were observed within the application area by Bamford (2017). As a result, fauna management conditions to reduce impacts to breeding habitat for black cockatoos, were placed on clearing permit CPS 8582/1.

Under condition 5(a) of clearing permit CPS 8582/1, prior to clearing, the permit holder was required to engage a fauna specialist to inspect trees within the permit area, identified as black cockatoo breeding trees within the report 'Holcim Gosnells Quarry - Fauna Assessment of the Quarry Area' dated 19 July 2017, for evidence of current or past breeding use by black cockatoo species listed below:

- (i) Calyptorhynchus latirostris (Carnaby's cockatoo);
- (ii) Calyptorhynchus banksii naso (forest red-tailed black cockatoo); and
- (iii) Calyptorhynchus baudinii (Baudin's cockatoo).

Conditions 5(e) and 5(f) of the clearing permit CPS 8582/1 stated;

- (i) For each black cockatoo breeding tree identified that cannot be avoided, the permit holder must install an artificial black cockatoo nest hollow.
- (ii) Each artificial black cockatoo nesting hollow required by condition 5(e) must be installed prior to commencement of any clearing activities otherwise authorised under this permit.

The definition of a black cockatoo breeding tree, on the permit, was "trees that have a diameter, measured at 150 centimetres from the base of the tree, of 50 centimetres or greater (or 30 centimetres or greater for *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* or *Eucalyptus wandoo*) that contain hollows suitable for breeding by black cockatoo species".

As a result of this permit condition, Holcim Australia Pty Ltd commissioned iNSiGHT Ornithology to conduct a habitat tree inspection of the permit area on 10th March 2021. Four potential breeding trees were inspected and three were deemed as containing suitable hollows for Black Cockatoos. As such, Holcim installed three artificial Black Cockatoo hollows within an area located within Lot 3 Cockram Road, Martin, to mitigate impact to potential breeding habitat as required under condition 5(e) and 5(f) of the clearing permit CPS 8582/1.

However, further investigation by Holcim determined that these habitat trees did not occur within the permit area boundary for CPS 8582/1 as can be seen in Figure 3 in Appendix A.

A review of the fauna habitat assessment by Bamford (2017) has found that the three trees with 500mm DBH with large hollows or broken branches that might contain large hollows, have been recorded within the permit area (see Appendix A, Figure 2). However, Bamford (2017) went on to further state that these trees did not have vertical or near vertical hollows that are preferred by black cockatoos and therefore are not likely to provide suitable breeding habitat for these conservation significant species.

Further review of previous habitat tree assessments undertaken at Holcim's Gosnells Quarry (Astron Environmental Services (2012; 2013) for clearing application CPS 5543/3) that included the entire permit area for CPS 8582/1 was also performed. This review found that two potential black cockatoo habitat trees were identified within the northern portion of the permit area for CPS 8582/1 (Astron Environmental Services, 2012) (see Figure 4, Appendix A). Further investigation by Astron Environmental Services (2013) which involved the physical inspection of potential habitat trees found that these two trees did not have hollows suitable for black cockatoo breeding.

Given the above, as it has been confirmed that trees with suitable hollows for black cockatoos do not occur within the permit area, condition 5 is no longer required to mitigate impacts to breeding habitat for black cockatoos.

Under condition 6 of clearing permit CPS 8582/1, the permit holder must place a conservation covenant over the area on Lot 3 Cockram Rd, Martin, where artificial hollows are installed to ensure that the area is protected in perpetuity. Given that there is no longer a requirement to install artificial hollows as no breeding trees occur within the application area, a conservation covenant is also no longer required.

The Delegated Officer considers that condition 5 and 6 has been addressed through further investigation of the proposed clearing area and is no longer required on the clearing permit. In addition, the Delegated Officer considers that the extent to which the impacts of the clearing present a risk to biological, conservation, or land and water resource values, and the remaining conditions to mitigate potential impacts also remains unchanged from the original assessment and can be found within Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 8582/1.

## Appendix A. Biological survey information excerpts (Bamford, 2017, Insight Ornithology, 2021, Astron Environmental Services, 2012)

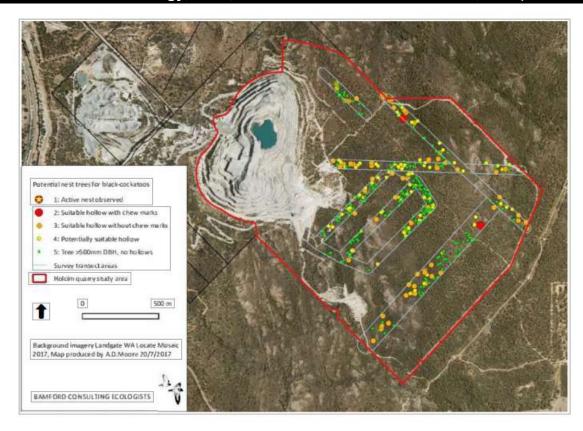


Figure 2: Potential breeding trees within Gosnells Quarry future development area (Bamford, 2017)



Figure 3: Location of potential breeding trees inspected (Insight Ornithology, 2021)

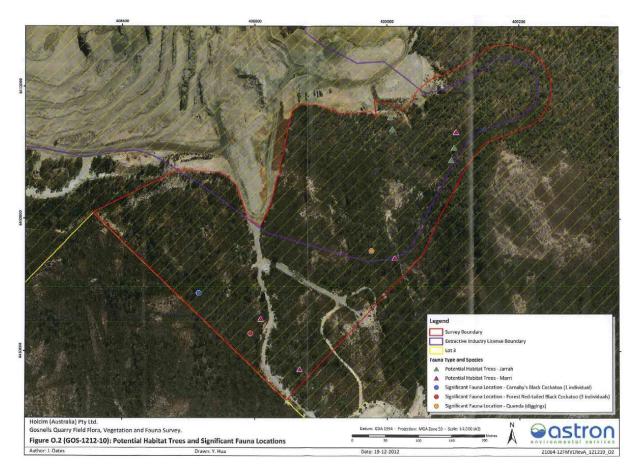


Figure 4: Potential breeding trees within a related application area of 5543/3 which covers the permit area of CPS 8582/1 (Astron Environmental Services, 2012)

## Appendix B. Sources of information

#### B.1. GIS databases

Publicly available GIS Databases used (sourced from www.data.wa.gov.au):

- 10 Metre Contours (DPIRD-073)
- Aboriginal Heritage Places (DPLH-001)
- Cadastre (LGATE-218)
- Contours (DPIRD-073)
- DBCA Lands of Interest (DBCA-012)
- DBCA Legislated Lands and Waters (DBCA-011)
- Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia Western Australia (DBCA-045)
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046)
- Flood Risk (DPIRD-007)
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide (DWER-026)
- Hydrography Inland Waters Waterlines
- Hydrological Zones of Western Australia (DPIRD-069)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- Imagery
- Local Planning Scheme Zones and Reserves (DPLH-071)
- Native Title (ILUA) (LGATE-067)
- Offsets Register Offsets (DWER-078)
- Pre-European Vegetation Statistics
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (DWER-033)
- Ramsar Sites (DBCA-010)
- Regional Parks (DBCA-026)
- Remnant Vegetation, All Areas
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas (DWER-034)
- RIWI Act, Surface Water Areas and Irrigation Districts (DWER-037)

- Soil Landscape Mapping Best Available
- Soil Landscape Mapping Systems

Restricted GIS Databases used:

- ICMS (Incident Complaints Management System) Points and Polygons
- Threatened Flora (TPFL)
- Threatened Flora (WAHerb)
- Threatened Fauna
- Threatened Ecological Communities and Priority Ecological Communities

## B.2. References

Astron Environmental Services (2013) Gosnells Quarry Black Cockatoo Tree Inspection, September 2013. Supporting information for clearing application CPS 5543/1. DWER ref A622936

Astron Environmental Service (2012) Gosnells Quarry Filed Flora, Vegetation and Fauna Survey. October 2012. Prepared for Holcim (Australia) Pty Ltd. Supporting information for clearing application CPS 5543/1. DWER ref A622936

Bamford (2017) Holcim Gosnells Quarry – Fauna Assessment of the Quarry Area, July 2017. Unpublished report for Holcim (Australia) Pty Ltd prepared by M.J. & A.R. Bamford Consulting Ecologists. (DWER ref DWERDT172922)

Holcim (Australia) Pty Ltd (2021) Application for amendment of Clearing Permit CPS 8582/1 and supporting information. Received by DWER on 16 December 2021. (DWER Ref: A2073911).

Insight Ornithology (2021) Holcim Quarry Habitat Tree Assessment. Letter Report for Holcim (Australia) Pty Ltd. March 2021. (DWER Ref: A2073911)