

**NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA**  
**Section 38(1)(h) – Pastoral Land Act (NT)**

**CONSENT TO CLEAR PASTORAL LAND**

**PERMIT NUMBER: PLC16/11**

I, PAUL ZLOTKOWSKI, Chairman, Pastoral Land Board

**GRANT TO:** Markus Anthony Rathsmann and each Pastoral Lessee from time to time (collectively “the **Permit Holders**”) in respect of Perpetual Pastoral Lease No 1212 (“**PPL**”) Mount Ringwood Station which relates to NT Portion 6298,

**A PERMIT TO CLEAR PASTORAL LAND** (“the **Permit**”), for the area within NT Portion 6298 (being part of the PPL) which is more particularly depicted in the Endorsed Clearing Plan contained at Schedule 1 of this Permit,

**COMMENCING:** on the date of this Permit and expiring on the Expiry Date (“the **Term**”),

**SUBJECT TO:** the Schedule of Conditions contained at Schedule 2 of this Permit, and I

**CONSENT TO THE PERMIT HOLDERS:**

Undertaking the clearing of approximately 664.5 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of planting improved pasture (“the **Clearing Activities**”).

**PROVIDED THAT:**

The Permit Holders must Substantially Commence the Clearing Activities within the Commencement Period and (subject to the Pastoral Land Board granting an extension of the Expiry Date) complete the Clearing Activities by the Expiry Date, otherwise this Permit will expire upon the expiry of the Commencement Period or upon the Expiry Date (as the case may be).

**EXTENSION OF TERM OF PERMIT:**

The Permit Holders may apply to the Pastoral Land Board for an extension of the Term of this Permit, provided that:

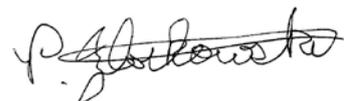
- i. the Permit Holders have Substantially Commenced the Clearing Activities within the Commencement Period; and
- ii. the application for extension is submitted to the Pastoral Land Board in the approved form at least one (1) year before the Expiry Date.

The Pastoral Land Board may, in its absolute discretion, grant or reject the request, or grant the request subject to conditions.

## REASONS FOR DECISION:

- A. On 31 May 2016, Mr Markus Rathsmann, Lessee of Mount Ringwood Station, submitted the Original Application to the Pastoral Land Board, requesting consent to clear pastoral land under section 38(1)(h) of the *Pastoral Land Act* (NT).
- B. In response to feedback from Northern Territory Government agencies and authorities, the Lessee submitted Amending Documents on 12 August 2016, which consisted of a letter of reply, revised clearing polygons, a revised plan that excluded a drainage line in Curray Paddock and an area of slope from Hartnett Paddock, and a report from Biodiversity Watch in relation to threatened species.
- C. At the 110th meeting on 22 August 2016, in considering the feedback from the Northern Territory Government agencies and authorities and the Amending Documents, the Pastoral Land Board raised concerns about the likelihood of threatened species being present on Mount Ringwood Station, and agreed the Amending Documents did not provide enough specific detail about the presence or monitoring of threatened species, specifically the Black-footed Tree-rat and Pale Field-rat.
- D. On 20 September 2016 the Pastoral Land Board wrote to the Lessee, requesting that targeted surveys be conducted, or the clearing plan be amended, to reduce the risk of impact to any potential threatened species. On 13 November 2016 the Lessee provided a revised land clearing plan and shape files. Flora and Fauna Division of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) confirm the amended plan sufficiently mitigates risk to the Black-footed Tree-rat and Pale Field-rat.
- E. On the basis of the information contained in the Original Application, the Amending Document, revised clearing map and shape files and the advice of Flora and Fauna Division (DENR), the Pastoral Land Board is satisfied that it is appropriate to issue this Permit.

DATED            30 November 2016



Chairman  
Pastoral Land Board

## **DEFINITIONS:**

In this Permit:

“Commencement Period” means the period of two (2) years of the date of this Permit.

“Expiry Date” means the period of six (6) years from the date of this Permit.

“Original Application” means the document entitled “*Application to Clear Pastoral Land s.38(1)(h) Pastoral Land Act*” submitted 31 May 2016.

“Amending Document” means the letter submitted via email 12 August 2016.

“Pastoral Lessee” has the same meaning as in the *Pastoral Land Act*.

“Substantially Commenced” and “Substantially Commence” means not less than 10% of the total area proposed for clearing under this Permit has been cleared.

**SCHEDULE 1  
AREA OF LAND**

(refer attached drawing)

## SCHEDULE 2 SCHEDULE OF CONDITIONS

### CONDITIONS

1. Weed management and weed spread prevention activities must be employed throughout the clearing and pasture improvement phases of the proposed development to the satisfaction of Department of Environment and Natural Resources (“DENR”), Weed Management Branch. Ongoing herbicide treatment of weed species will be required on site until preferred species are established and maintained.
2. The clearing, clearing methods, pasture establishment, ongoing pasture and grazing management and ongoing environmental management (including erosion and sediment control) of cleared areas must be undertaken:
  - a. in accordance with the Original Application;
  - b. in accordance with the Endorsed Clearing Plan; and
  - c. to the satisfaction of the Pastoral Land Board.
3. The Permit Holder is required to ensure land management practices do not instigate erosion and to ensure that appropriate erosion and sediment control measures are employed throughout the development and establishment stages, including:
  - a. retention of buffer zones where appropriate and measures to address seasonal timing of works;
  - b. management of groundcover and minimisation of bare ground, crop layout and maintenance of natural sheet flow patterns;
  - c. avoidance or removal of soil windrows or other surface modifications that create concentrated flow paths for runoff; and
  - d. use of erosion controls on access tracks where appropriate.

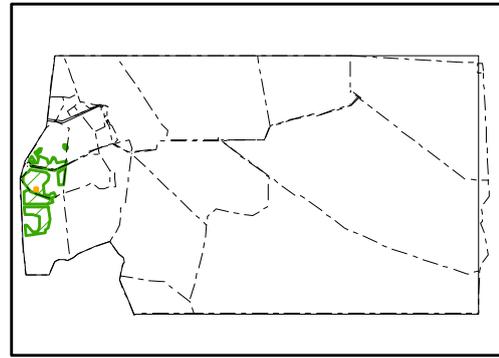
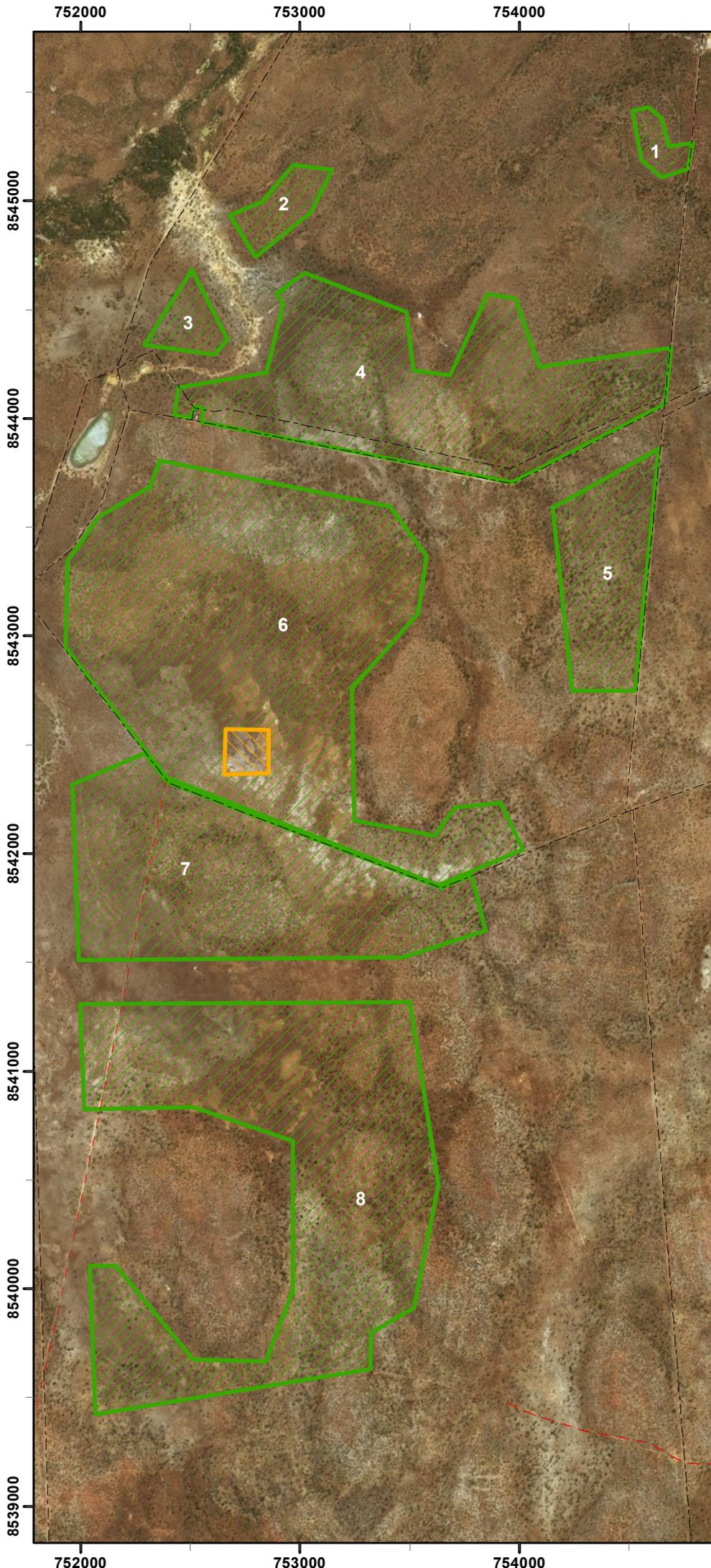
Further information regarding erosion and sediment control is available on the DENR website (<https://nt.gov.au/environment/soil-land-vegetation>).

4. The Permit Holder must notify the Director Pastoral Lease Administration and Board, DENR before the commencement of each stage of clearing and on completion of the clearing as outlined in the Original Application.
5. The Permit Holder must take due care during clearing works and if any archaeological sites (Aboriginal or historic) are identified then works in the immediate area should cease and the Heritage Branch should be contacted for comment.
6. This Permit is subject to the Permit Holder’s ongoing compliance with its obligations under the PPL.
7. Despite any term or condition of this Permit, the Permit Holder must at its own cost in all respects, comply with all laws, statutes and subordinate instruments, applicable to the clearing of pastoral land including but not limited to the following:
  - a. *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act (NT)*;

- b. *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act (NT)*;
  - c. *Weeds Management Act (NT)*;
  - d. *Bushfires Act (NT)*;
  - e. *Heritage Act (NT)*;
  - f. *Environmental Assessment Act (NT)*; and
  - g. *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)*.
8. This Permit is at all times subject to existing rights, title and interests of all other persons (including any rights or interests registered on the certificate of title). The Permit Holder must comply with all terms and conditions of such existing rights, title and interests. The Permit Holder must not unreasonably or unduly interfere with, impede, restrict or limit the rights, title or interests of any person.
9. This Permit shall be revoked automatically upon the:
- a. termination of the PPL; or
  - b. surrender of the PPL.
10. For the avoidance of doubt, a transfer of the PPL does not revoke this Permit.
11. The Pastoral Land Board may immediately revoke this Permit by written notice to the Permit Holder if the Permit Holder breaches any condition of this Permit and fails to remedy the breach within ninety (90) days after receiving notice requiring it to do so.

## NOTES

1. Under the *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act* (NT), entry onto and carrying out of work on Aboriginal sacred sites is an offence unless the work is done in accordance with an Authority Certificate issued by the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (“**AAPA**”). The Permit Holder must ensure that all clearing complies with the requirements of that Act.
2. The Permit Holder is advised that there are statutory obligations under the *Weeds Management Act* (NT) to take all practical measures to manage weeds on the property. It is the responsibility of the Permit Holder to ensure that all clearing complies with the requirements of that Act. For advice on weed management please contact the Regional Weeds Officer, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (“**DENR**”) on telephone 8999 4567. The Permit Holder can also access information on the requirements of that Act on DLRM’s website (<http://www.lrm.nt.gov.au/>)
3. Fire prevention measures are to be implemented in accordance with the requirements of the *Bushfires Act* (NT). A permit must be obtained before ignition of any felled timber in this area. It is the responsibility of the Permit Holder to ensure that all clearing complies with the requirements of that Act. Please contact the Regional Fire Control Officer of the DENR on telephone (08) 8976 0098. The Permit Holder can also access information on the requirements of that Act on DENR’s website (<http://www.lrm.nt.gov.au/>)
4. The *Heritage Act* (NT) protects archaeological places and objects, regardless of the level of documentation that the Department of Tourism and Culture (Heritage Branch) (“**DTC**”) has of such sites. It is an offence to undertake work on a heritage place or object without first obtaining the relevant approval under the Act. It is the responsibility of the Permit Holder to ensure that all clearing complies with the requirements of that Act. The Permit Holder can access information on the requirements of that Act on DTC’s website (<http://dlp.nt.gov.au/heritage/heritage-act>).
5. It is the responsibility of the Permit Holder to ensure that the proposal to clear pastoral land meets the requirements of the *Environmental Assessment Act* (NT). The Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (“**NTEPA**”) administers that Act. The Permit Holder can access information on the requirements of that Act on NTEPA’s website (<http://www.ntepa.nt.gov.au/>).
6. It is the responsibility of the Permit Holder to ensure that the proposal to clear pastoral land meets the requirements of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth). The Commonwealth Department of Environment (“**DoE**”) administers that Act. The Permit Holder can access information on the requirements of that Act on DoE’s website (<http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/index.html>).
7. Pursuant to section 119 of the *Pastoral Land Act*, a pastoral lessee who is dissatisfied with a decision of the Pastoral Land Board may appeal to the Northern Territory Civil and Administrative Tribunal against the decision of the Board.



Location of clearing within the property

**LEGEND**

-  Approved for clearing
-  Area to be retained
-  Vehicle Track
-  Fenceline

**DATA SOURCE**

**Clearing Areas:** Data provided by applicant  
**Cadastre:** Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (DIPL)  
**Infrastructure:** DENR and DIPL  
**Imagery:** ESRI ArcGIS Online and data partners, including imagery from agencies supplied via the Content Sharing Program

**CAUTION:** Infrastructure displayed may not be current.



**Projection:** Universal Transverse Mercator Projection  
**Map Grid or Australia (MGA) Zone 52**  
**Horizontal datum:** Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA) 1994

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This is the plan referred to in Pastoral Land Clearing  
**Permit No: PLC16/11**  
**Issued on: 30/11/2016**  
  
 Chairman, Pastoral Land Board

Total area approved for clearing: 664.5 ha  
 Total area excluded from application: 4.1 ha

**Clearing Plan 1 of 1**

**Mount Ringwood Station**  
 NT Portion 6298 PPL 1212

Sturt Plateau Pastoral District

Plan created by DENR: 17/11/2016

For further information contact:  
 Pastoral Lease Administration and Board Branch  
 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)  
 3rd Floor, Goyder Centre, Palmerston, Northern Territory  
 Phone: (08) 8999 4754, Fax: (08) 8999 4403  
 Email: [PastoralLandBoard@nt.gov.au](mailto:PastoralLandBoard@nt.gov.au)

