



Barrow Island Joint Venture Clearing Permit 123/9 Annual Report 2023

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

During the reporting period (1 January – 31 December 2023) Chevron Australia Pty Ltd (CAPL) held clearing permit 123/9, which apply to WA Oil operations. Clearing permit CPS 123/9 was issued by DWER on 13 June 2022.

Condition 23 CPS123/9 requires the Permit Holder to submit an annual report to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of DWER by 30 September each year.

This report is submitted to the CEO of DWER to meet the requirements of Condition 23, detailing the vegetation cleared under CPS123/9 for the reporting period.

1.2 Summary of activities

During the reporting period, 0.234 ha of vegetation was cleared under CPS 123/9, including:

- 0.0661 ha for infrastructure installation (Condition 6)
- 0.1682 ha for pipeline works (Condition 19 of CPS123/9).

No botanist reports associated with vegetation clearing were issued during the reporting period.

An annual internal audit was conducted for the reporting period as required by Condition 25 of CPS 123/9.

The biennial external audit was conducted for the reporting period 10 June 2022 to 11 March 2024 as required by Condition 26 of CPS 123/9.

There was one non-compliance associated with clearing permit CPS 123/9. On 25 February 2023, an unauthorised off road vehicle access disturbed 0.0102 ha of vegetation. The unauthorised off road vehicle access is detailed in Table 3-1 and Table 3-2, which contains the extent of clearing under Condition 6 by environmental priority category and vegetation unit respectively.

Section 2 provides the summary of performance for clearing permit CPS123/9.

2 Summary of performance – Clearing Permit CPS123/9

Condition	Report Requirement	Summary of Activities
CPS123/9 - Condition 22(a) – Extent, location and method of all clearing (excluding clearing under Condition 4)	For all clearing, other than clearing under condition 4 where the vegetation has been previously disturbed, a record of the extent, location and method of clearing carried out under this Permit.	<p>The extent and method of clearing under CPS123/9 during the reporting period is detailed in Sections 3 and 4.</p> <p>The location of each clearing event can be viewed in the shapefiles that were emailed to DWER with this report.</p>
CPS123/9 - Condition 22(b) – Extent, location and method of clearing under Condition 6 (excluding clearing for pipelines)	For clearing under condition 6, an additional summary of the extent, location and method of this clearing by reference to vegetation or area types referred to in Annexure 2, Annexure 3, Annexure 4 or Annexure 5 and the reasons why such clearing was required.	<p>The amount of vegetation cleared during the reporting period under Condition 6 of CPS123/9 was 0.0661 ha (refer to Section 3). This comprised 0 ha in P1 areas, 0.0313 ha in P2 areas and 0.0348 ha in P4 areas, as identified in Annexure 2 of CPS123/9.</p> <p>The activity, method, extent, and certificate numbers are detailed in Table 3-1 and Table 3-2.</p> <p>Refer to Table 3-1 for each occasion of vegetation disturbance under condition 6, by environmental priority category (Annexure 2 of CPS123/9). Refer to Table 3-2 for each occasion of vegetation disturbance under Condition 6 by vegetation unit (Annexure 4 of CPS123/9).</p> <p>The location of each clearing event can be viewed in the shapefiles that were emailed to DWER with this report.</p>
CPS123/9 - Condition 22(c) – Clearing relating to pipelines	<p>In relation to clearing for pipelines,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the type of pipelines involved; (ii) the location, extent and method of clearing in each case; (iii) the location, extent and method of clearing of any identified vegetation or areas of the vegetation types or areas described in Annexure 2, Annexure 3, Annexure 4 or Annexure 5 that were cleared; (iv) the reasons why such clearing was required 	<p>The amount of vegetation cleared during the reporting period under Condition 19 of CPS123/9 (related to flowline maintenance) was 0.1682 ha (refer to Section 4). This comprised 0.1503 ha in P1 areas, 0 ha in P2 areas and 0.0179 ha in P4 areas, as identified in Annexure 2 of CPS123/9.</p> <p>The activity, method, extent, and certificate number are detailed in Table 4-1 for each occasion of vegetation disturbance under Condition 19 (CPS123/9), by environmental priority category (Annexure 2 of CPS123/9). The activity, method, extent, and certificate number are detailed in</p> <p>Table 4-2 for each occasion of vegetation disturbance under Condition 19 (CPS123/9), by vegetation unit (Annexure 4 of CPS123/9).</p> <p>The location of each clearing event can be viewed in the shapefiles that were emailed to DWER with this report.</p>
CPS123/9 - Condition 22(d) – Clearing relating to emergencies	<p>The location, extent and method of any clearing carried out in accordance with condition 7.</p> <p>Condition 7. Emergencies The Permit Holder may clear vegetation:</p>	No vegetation was cleared for emergencies during the reporting period.

Condition	Report Requirement	Summary of Activities
	<p>(a) for the purpose of preventing danger to human life or health or irreversible damage to a significant portion of the environment;</p> <p>(b) to prevent or reduce imminent damage to infrastructure in response to the impact of a destructive natural event such as a storm, lightning strike, fire or flood;</p> <p>(c) where reasonably necessary to immediately respond to an accident such as a leak, fire or medical emergency or to repair damage caused by vandalism</p> <p>and may carry out this clearing without complying with Part II and such clearing shall not be subject to the 105 hectare limit on total clearing that otherwise applies to this Permit.</p>	
<p>CPS123/9 - Condition 22(e) – Clearing for marine activities</p>	<p>The location and extent of any clearing carried out in accordance with condition 5.</p> <p>Condition 5. Clearing for Marine Activities Authorised</p> <p>In accordance with this Permit, the Permit Holder may clear vegetation without complying with Part II for the purposes of:</p> <p>inspecting, accessing, operating and maintaining existing Marine Infrastructure;</p> <p>replacing and upgrading existing Marine Infrastructure in the same location;</p> <p>environmental monitoring; and</p> <p>activities associated with decommissioning, demolition and abandonment of infrastructure.</p>	<p>No vegetation was cleared for marine activities during the reporting period.</p>
<p>CPS123/9 - Condition 22(f) – Areal extent of Mattiske vegetation units impacted</p>	<p>The areal extent of each vegetation type set out in Annexure 1, that has been:</p> <p>(i) cleared in that year; and</p> <p>(ii) that is remaining on Barrow Island; expressed as a percentage of the areal extent of those same vegetation types as identified in Mattiske (1993).</p>	<p>The areal extent of each vegetation type cleared and remaining on Barrow Island for the Mattiske vegetation units presented in Annexure 1 of CPS 123/9 is provided in Table 5-1.</p> <p>The data are presented as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The total area cleared for each Mattiske vegetation unit during the reporting period. • The area of each Mattiske vegetation unit cleared during the reporting period as a percentage of the original (pre-disturbance) area. • The area of each Mattiske vegetation unit remaining at 1 January 2024. • The percentage of each Mattiske vegetation unit remaining in

Condition	Report Requirement	Summary of Activities
		comparison to the original (pre-disturbed) area.
CPS123/8 - Condition 20(g) & CPS123/9 - Condition 22(g)– Botanist reports referred to during assessment	A list of all reports provided by qualified botanists as required by this Permit in relation to Barrow Island.	No clearing was undertaken during the reporting period that required assessment by a qualified botanist.
CPS123/8 - Condition 20(h) & CPS123/9 - Condition 22(h)– Active rehabilitation	The location, extent and method of any active rehabilitation carried out in relation to Barrow Island.	No sites were rehabilitated since the last reporting period as there was a focus on-site remediation and investigations into rehabilitation methods.
CPS123/9 - Condition 22(j)– Audit reports	<p>Audit reports required under conditions 25 and 26 of CPS123/9 below</p> <p>Condition 25. Internal Auditing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The Permit Holder must conduct internal environmental audits for areas specified in condition 25(c) to determine the Permit Holder’s compliance with the conditions of this Permit, with particular emphasis on (i) to (vi). (b) The Permit Holder must conduct its internal environmental audits annually for the term of this Permit. (c) The areas to be audited under condition 25(a) must be selected by the auditor using a structured and documented risk-based selection framework, and must include at least one cleared area in each Priority area as described in Annexure 2 in which clearing has been done under this Permit within the previous 12 months. (d) The Permit Holder must implement corrective action required to address any non-compliance with conditions of this Permit identified from the internal environmental audits. (e) The Permit Holder must provide written reports of the internal environmental audits conducted pursuant to this condition 25 to the CEO on or before 31 March of each year for the term of this Permit. The reports must include details of corrective action taken by the Permit Holder to 	<p>Details of all assurance activities are provided in Table 6-1.</p> <p>CPS123/9 – Condition 25. Internal Auditing: Audit conducted 27-28 February 2024 and submitted to the Regulator on 13 March 2024 for the reporting period (1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2023).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the Annual Internal Audit (Ref. 1), one non-compliance was identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As per Condition 17(b) (iii) the extent (in hectares) of the clearing approved is not specified in the GVD. <p>CPS123/9 – Condition 26. External Auditing: The Biennial External Audit (Ref. 2) was conducted between 29-31 January and 1-4 March 2024, with the report issued 19 March 2024 and submitted to the Regulator on 25 March 2024. The reporting period covered by Audit is 10 June 2022 to 11 March 2024.</p> <p>The report was published to the Chevron Australia website on 10 April 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the Biennial External Audit four non-compliances were identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Two instances of unauthorised clearing were recorded ○ The extent (in hectares) of the clearing to be done was not provided to the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions when seeking a submission under condition 14(a). ○ Where off road vehicle access is approved, significant occurrences of trees, shrubs or habitat must be avoided. This is not recorded on either the OE-

Condition	Report Requirement	Summary of Activities
	<p>address any non-compliance with conditions of this Permit</p> <p>Condition 26. External Auditing</p> <p>(a) The Permit Holder must engage an external accredited lead environmental auditor to undertake external environmental audits of the Permit Holder's compliance with the conditions of this Permit for each Priority area as described in Annexure 2 in which clearing is done under this Permit.</p> <p>(b) The external environmental audits must be conducted every second year for the term of this Permit and/or as otherwise required by the CEO.</p> <p>(c) Where the Permit is due to expire before the next external environmental audits, the Permit Holder must arrange for a final external environmental audit to be conducted prior to the expiry of the Permit.</p> <p>(d) The Permit Holder must implement corrective action required to address any non-compliance with conditions of this Permit identified from the external environmental audits.</p> <p>(e) The Permit Holder must provide the lead environmental auditor's written reports of the external environmental audits to the CEO on or before 31 March in each year that an external environmental audit is conducted and/or as otherwise required by the CEO. The reports must include details of corrective action taken by the Permit Holder to address any non-compliance with conditions of this Permit.</p> <p>(f) Where a final external environmental audit is arranged in accordance with condition 25(c) of this Permit, the Permit Holder must provide the lead environmental auditor's written reports of such an audit to the CEO on or before</p>	<p>03.06.3142 ABU Ground and Vegetation Disturbance Form or the Appendix A: BWI-COP-00291 Additional Requirements for CPS123/9 form. See Recommendation Clause 15(e)(vii).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The OE-03.06.3142 ABU Ground and Vegetation Disturbance Form must specify the extent (in hectares) of the clearing approved. However, the extent of the clearing approved (in hectares) is not specified on the Ground and Vegetation Assessment form.

Condition	Report Requirement	Summary of Activities
	31 March of the year of the expiry date of the Permit. (g) The Permit Holder must make the lead environmental auditor's written reports of the external environmental audits publicly available within 30 days of the submission of the reports to the CEO	
Condition 20(j) – Environmental sensitivity mapping database	A copy of the environmental sensitivity mapping database in an electronic form.	An electronic version of the Environmental Sensitivity database can be viewed in the shapefiles that were emailed to DWER with this report.

3 Clearing under Condition 6

Table 3-1: Clearing under Condition 6 by environmental priority category

Activity	Method	Environmental Priority Category	Extent (ha)	Certificate Number
Bore Construction	Blading	P2	0.0313	249
	Blading	P4	0.0080	
	Rolling (Off Road Driving)		0.0031	121b
	Blading		0.0039	121e
	Blading		0.0032	121f
	Rolling (Off Road Driving)		0.0166	121g
Total			0.0661	

Table 3-2: Clearing under Condition 6 by vegetation unit

Activity	Method	Vegetation Unit	Extent (ha)	Certificate Number
Bore Construction	Blading	D2	0.0313	249
	Blading	V1	0.0080	249
	Rolling (Off Road Driving)		0.0031	121b
	Blading		0.0039	121e
	Blading		0.0032	121f
	Rolling (Off Road Driving)		0.0166	121g
Total			0.0661	

4 Clearing under Condition 19 (CPS123/9)

Table 4-1: Clearing under Condition 19 (CPS123/9) by environmental priority category

Activity	Method	Environmental Priority Category	Extent (ha)	Certificate Number
Accessing Infrastructure	Removal	P4	0.0151	270
			0.0028	
Decommission Infrastructure	Removal	P1	0.0716	303
			0.0787	
Total			0.1682	

Table 4-2: Clearing under Condition 19 (CPS123/9) by vegetation unit

Activity	Method	Vegetation Unit	Extent (ha)	Certificate Number
Accessing Infrastructure	Removal	L1	0.0151	270
		V1	0.0028	
Decommission Infrastructure	Removal	F7	0.0716	303
		L6	0.0787	
Total			0.1682	

5 Clearing of Matiske vegetation units

Table 5-1: Areal extent of each Matiske Vegetation Unit cleared

Matiske vegetation unit	Original area (ha) ¹	Areas cleared during reporting period (ha)	Area cleared as % of original area	Area remaining (ha) ²	Area remaining as % of original area
D2	1,095.2600	0.0614	0.5606%	854.2293	77.9933%
L1	2,728.2700	0.2067	0.7576%	2,635.2739	96.5914%
V1	6,820.1200	0.0657	0.0963%	6,457.4405	94.6822%
F7	861.1800	0.0716	0.8314%	856.3562	99.4399%
L6	93.6700	0.0787	8.4018%	92.5423	98.7961%

¹ These figures are an indication of the estimated areal extent of Matiske vegetation units before the oilfield existed.

² These figures are affected by the additional subtraction of long-term clearing (i.e. clearing that occurred before the permit was issued on 12 June 2006). They are not an indication of total clearing within the permit area.

6 Assurance Activities

Table 6-1: Assurance Activities undertaken during the reporting period

Assurance Activity	Description
Internal Audit March 2024	Annual Internal Audit (Ref. 1) conducted 27-28 February 2024. It was and submitted to the Regulator on 13 March 2024. The reporting period covered by the audit is calendar year 2023. One non-compliance was identified and the corrective action has been closed out.
External Audit March 2024	The Biennial External Audit (Ref. 2) was conducted between 29-31 January and 1-4 March 2024, with the report issued 19 March 2024 and submitted to the Regulator on 25 March 2024. The reporting period covered by the Audit is 10 June 2022 to 11 March 2024). Four non-compliances were identified and all corrective actions have been closed out. The report was published to the Chevron Australia website on 10 April 2024.

7 Acronyms and abbreviations

Table 7-1 defines the acronyms and abbreviations used in this document.

Table 7-1: Acronyms and abbreviations

Acronym / abbreviation	Definition
CAPL	Chevron Australia Pty Ltd
CEO	Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
DWER	Western Australian Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
GVD	Ground Vegetation Disturbance
Ha	Hectare

8 References

The following documentation is either directly referenced in this document or is a recommended source of background information.

Table 8-1: Document References

Ref. No.	Description	Document ID
1.	Chevron Australia. 2024. WA Oil Barrow Island CPS123/9 Internal Audit Report (Rev 1.0). Chevron Australia, Perth, Western Australia.	ABU240200033
2.	Mandatory Independent Environmental Compliance Audit: Clearing Permit 123/9 - WAO March 2024 Elemental Consulting Services on behalf of Chevron Australia	ABU240500184

9 Vegetation units cleared

Mattiske vegetation unit	Vegetation units disturbed during the reporting period CPS123
D2	Hummock Grassland of <i>Triodia angusta</i> along minor creek-lines and drainage lines
F7	Hummock Grassland of <i>Triodia pungens</i> - <i>Triodia angusta</i> - <i>Triodia wiseana</i> on slopes of escarpments on fringes of red earth flats
L1	Hummock Grassland of <i>Triodia wiseana</i> with <i>Ficus platypoda</i> var. <i>platypoda</i> on central limestone ridges
L6	Hummock Grassland of <i>Triodia wiseana</i> with emergent <i>Grevillea pyramidalis</i> on limestone ridges
V1	Hummock Grassland of <i>Triodia wiseana</i> with mixed emergent shrub species on valley slopes