



PILBARA IRON ORE PROJECT

Borrow Pit Rehabilitation Procedure



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1. PURPOSE

A number borrow pits will be constructed throughout the life of a project. The rehabilitation of these areas is necessary to achieve FMG's closure objectives. The purpose of this procedure is to provide guidance on the necessary steps for the rehabilitation of borrow pits.

2. SCOPE

This procedure applies to all borrow pits constructed within FMG's areas.

3. PROCEDURE

3.1 Prior to Borrow Pit Construction

Prior to establishing a borrow pit, the following should be considered:

- Select borrow pit sites in accordance with minimal vegetation disturbance.
- Survey the area to be disturbed and plot on map.
- Clear vegetation with the dozer blade raised above the soil surface in order to preserve vegetation rootstock.
- Strip the top 250mm of topsoil and conserve in piles not more than 2 metres in height.
- Spread cleared vegetation over the topsoil stockpiles. This helps to keep the topsoil seed bank viable.
- The pit should be designed to be self draining where practicable. In addition the slope of the edges should be less than 20°.

3.2 Rehabilitation of Borrow Pits

When rehabilitating borrow pits, the following will be adhered to:

- Use a bulldozer for rehabilitation work. Spacing between tines should be minimal to provide comprehensive ripping.
- Deep ripping is required, not simple scarification, to enable rip lines to hold up after heavy rainfall.
- Ripping to be done along contour, not up and down slope which leads to enhanced erosion.
- Topsoil to be re-spread across borrow pit evenly.



- Minimise bowl effect within pit, i.e. attempt to reduce the depth of the pit as far as is practicable to minimise ponding - surface ponding reduces the efficiency of revegetation, leading to bare patches or poor regrowth and potential erosion.
- Around the perimeter of the borrow pit, drag in undisturbed vegetation from up to 5m to break up edge-effect and promote seed distribution and mulching.
- All rubbish, equipment, etc, to be removed from the borrow pit.
- Clearly identify the borrow pits which have to be left open for future work.

3.3 Monitoring

- Annual inspections will be carried out on all rehabilitated borrow pits to determine rehabilitation success and assess any potential weed infestations.
- Additional seeding may be carried out using local species if adequate vegetation growth has not been achieved using the seed bank in topsoil.
- If any weeds are present weed control measures will be undertaken.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES

Environmental Dept:

Ensures that rehabilitation of borrow pits are undertaken in an appropriate manner. Monitor the success of the rehabilitation.

All Employees: Ensure this procedure is followed when rehabilitating borrow pits.

5. DOCUMENT CONTROL

This procedure is to be reviewed annually by the Environmental Department

This procedure is to be approved by:

- Head of Environment

A single original controlled hard copy of this Procedure will be held at the FMG Perth office.

The controlled copy will be signed by the Head of Environment. The controlled electronic copy of this Procedure will be available to all employees via the FMG Intranet. Printed copies will remain valid for 14 days from the date of print.