



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	10369/1
Duration of Permit:	From 10 August 2024 to 9 August 2029
Permit Holder:	Northern Star 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

Mining Lease 36/503
Mining Lease 36/504
Mining Lease 36/512
Mining Lease 36/525
Mining Lease 36/542
Mining Lease 36/582
Mining Lease 36/585
Mining Lease 37/339
Mining Lease 37/340
Mining Lease 37/356
Mining Lease 37/357
Mining Lease 37/358
Mining Lease 37/359
Mining Lease 37/360
Mining Lease 37/361
Mining Lease 37/367
Mining Lease 37/368
Mining Lease 37/437
Mining Lease 37/465
Mining Lease 37/493
Mining Lease 37/998
Miscellaneous Licence 36/158
Miscellaneous Licence 37/61
Miscellaneous Licence 37/73
Miscellaneous Licence 37/142
Miscellaneous Licence 37/166
Miscellaneous Licence 37/199
Miscellaneous Licence 37/215
Miscellaneous Licence 37/216

2. Clearing authorised (purpose)

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities.

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 2,500 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

4. Type of Clearing Authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless the purpose for which the clearing is authorised is enacted within six months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

5. Directional clearing

The Permit Holder shall must:

- (a) conduct all clearing authorised under this permit in one direction towards adjacent vegetation; and
- (b) allow a reasonable time for fauna present within the area being cleared to move into that adjacent native vegetation ahead of the clearing activity.

PART II - MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

6. Avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing

In determining the amount of native vegetation 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.

7. 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*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) ensure that no known *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.

8. Vegetation Management

- (a) where practicable the Permit Holder shall avoid *clearing riparian vegetation*; and
- (b) where a *watercourse* or *drainage line* is to be impacted by clearing, the Permit Holder shall ensure that the existing surface flow is maintained, or reinstated downstream into existing natural drainage lines.

9. 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 area to be cleared for the presence of threatened flora listed in the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice* and *priority flora*.
- (b) Where threatened flora and *priority flora* are identified under Condition 9(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) no clearing occurs within 50 metres of identified threatened flora unless first approved by the *CEO*;
 - (ii) no clearing of identified *priority flora* occurs unless first approved by the *CEO*; and
 - (iii) no clearing occurs within 10 metres of identified *priority flora* unless first approved by the *CEO*.
- (c) 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*.

- (d) If threatened flora or *priority flora* are identified within the Permit Area, the *targeted flora survey* report must include the following:
 - (i) the location of each threatened flora or *priority flora*, either as the location of individual plants, or where this is not practical, the areal 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 2020 (GDA20), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
 - (ii) the species name of each threatened flora or *priority flora* identified; and
 - (iii) the methodology, used to survey the Permit Area.
- (e) For the purpose of this Permit, a *targeted flora survey* conducted within five years preceding the clearing will satisfy Condition 9(a).

10. Fauna management – Brush-tailed Mulgara

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* identify *suitable habitat* for the fauna species listed below:
 - (i) Brush-tailed Mulgara (*Dasyercus blythi*).
- (b) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall provide a report to the CEO which must include the following:
 - (i) the location of the *suitable habitat* recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA20), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
 - (ii) the methodology, used to survey the Permit Area and to establish the *suitable habitat*;
 - (iii) the extent of the *suitable habitat* of the identified fauna shown on a map; and
 - (iv) a description of the *suitable habitat* of fauna found.
- (c) Where *suitable habitat* is identified under Condition 10(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure:
 - (i) Within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to undertake *clearance surveys* for mulgara (*Dasyercus blythi*).
 - (ii) Where greater mulgara burrows are identified under Condition 10(d), the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to determine if the burrow is occupied.
 - (iii) Within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to relocate any mulgara found under Condition 10(d) of this permit.
 - (iv) The Permit Holder shall engage a fauna spotter to traverse the project area ahead of clearing machinery, at the time of clearing and alert machinery operators to avoid mulgara injury or mortality.
- (d) Where any mulgara are identified and relocated under Condition 10(d) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall include the following in a report submitted to the CEO:
 - (i) the location of any evidence of mulgara recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
 - (ii) the type of evidence recorded under Condition 10(e)(i) e.g. fauna individuals, burrows, scats, tracks;
 - (iii) the location and date where any mulgara were relocated using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
 - (iv) the name of the *fauna specialist* that relocated the mulgara under Condition 10(d); and
 - (v) a copy of the fauna licence authorising the relocation of the mulgara under Condition 10(d).

11. Fauna Management - Malleefowl

Where clearing authorised under this Permit is to occur between 1 September and 31 January, the Permit Holder shall:

- (a) Within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing, engage an *environmental specialist* to conduct an inspection of the area to be cleared to identify *active (in use) Malleefowl (Leipoa ocellata) mounds*.
- (b) Where an *active (in use) Malleefowl mound* is identified under Condition 11(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 200 metres of the mound, during the months of September through to January, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

12. Records to be kept

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

Table 1: Records that must be kept

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications
1.	In relation to the authorised clearing activities generally	<ol style="list-style-type: none">(a) the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA20), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;(b) the date that the area was cleared;(c) the size of the area cleared (in hectares);(d) actions taken in accordance with Condition 4;(e) actions taken in accordance with Condition 5;(f) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with Condition 6;(g) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> in accordance with Condition 7;(h) actions taken in accordance with Condition 8;(i) actions taken in accordance with Condition 9;(j) actions taken in accordance with Condition 10; and(k) actions taken in accordance with Condition 11.
2.	In relation to the fauna management pursuant to Condition 10	<ol style="list-style-type: none">(a) the location of any fauna species, as listed in condition 10(a) identified, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA20), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;(b) the name of each fauna species identified.

13. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the *CEO* by 31 July each year for the life of this Permit, demonstrating adherence to all conditions of this Permit, and setting out the records required under Condition 12 of this Permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (b) If no clearing authorised under this Permit was undertaken between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year, a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been carried out, must be provided to the *CEO* by 31 July of each year.
- (c) Prior to 9 August 2029, the Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under Condition 12 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 13(a) or 13(b) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

In this Permit, the terms in Table 2 have the meanings defined.

Table 2: Definitions

Term	Definition
active (in use) Malleefowl mound	means a mound with evidence of current Malleefowl (<i>Leipoa ocellata</i>) activity, such as: working of the mound; scratching; litter trails leading to the mound; or loose uncompacted surfaces. The form and structure of the mound will show that it is currently being prepared for egg laying or it already contains eggs.
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 <i>botanist</i> for the bioregion.
CEO	the Chief Executive Officer of the Department responsible for administering the clearing provisions contained within the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> or an Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> .
clearance surveys	means a search of immediate impact areas prior to clearing to locate fauna. The clearance survey should focus on locating burrows, recent foraging signs, fresh tracks and scats.
clearing	has the meaning given under section 3(1) of the EP Act.
condition/s	a condition to which this clearing permit is subject under section 51H of the EP Act.
department	means the department established under section 35 of the <i>Public Sector Management Act 1994</i> (WA) and designated as responsible for the administration of the EP Act, which includes Part V Division 3.
drainage line/s	means a natural depression that carries surface water runoff.
environmental specialist	means a person who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this Permit, or who is approved by the CEO as a suitable environmental specialist.
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> (WA)
fauna specialist	means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specialising 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, and who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> where required;
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.
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.
priority flora	means those plant taxa described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3, or 4 in the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions' <i>Threatened and Priority Flora List for Western Australia</i> (as amended).
riparian vegetation	has the meaning given to it in Regulation 3 of the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulation 2004.
suitable habitat	means habitat known to support Bursh-tailed Mulgara (<i>Dasyercus blythi</i>) within the known current distribution of the species. This often includes hummock

Term	Definition
	grasslands, or paleo-drainage systems or drainage lines in sandplain or sand dune habitats.
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.
threatened flora	means those plant taxa listed as threatened flora under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> .
watercourse	has the meaning given to it in section 3 of the <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i> .
Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice	means those plant taxa gazetted as a threatened flora pursuant to section 19(1) of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (as amended).
weed/s	means any plant – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the <i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007</i>; or (b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

END OF CONDITIONS

Danielle Risbey

Danielle Risbey | Acting General Manager Mine Closure and Environmental Services
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division
18 July 2024

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

SCHEDULE 1

The boundary of the area authorised to be cleared is shown in the map below (Figure 1).

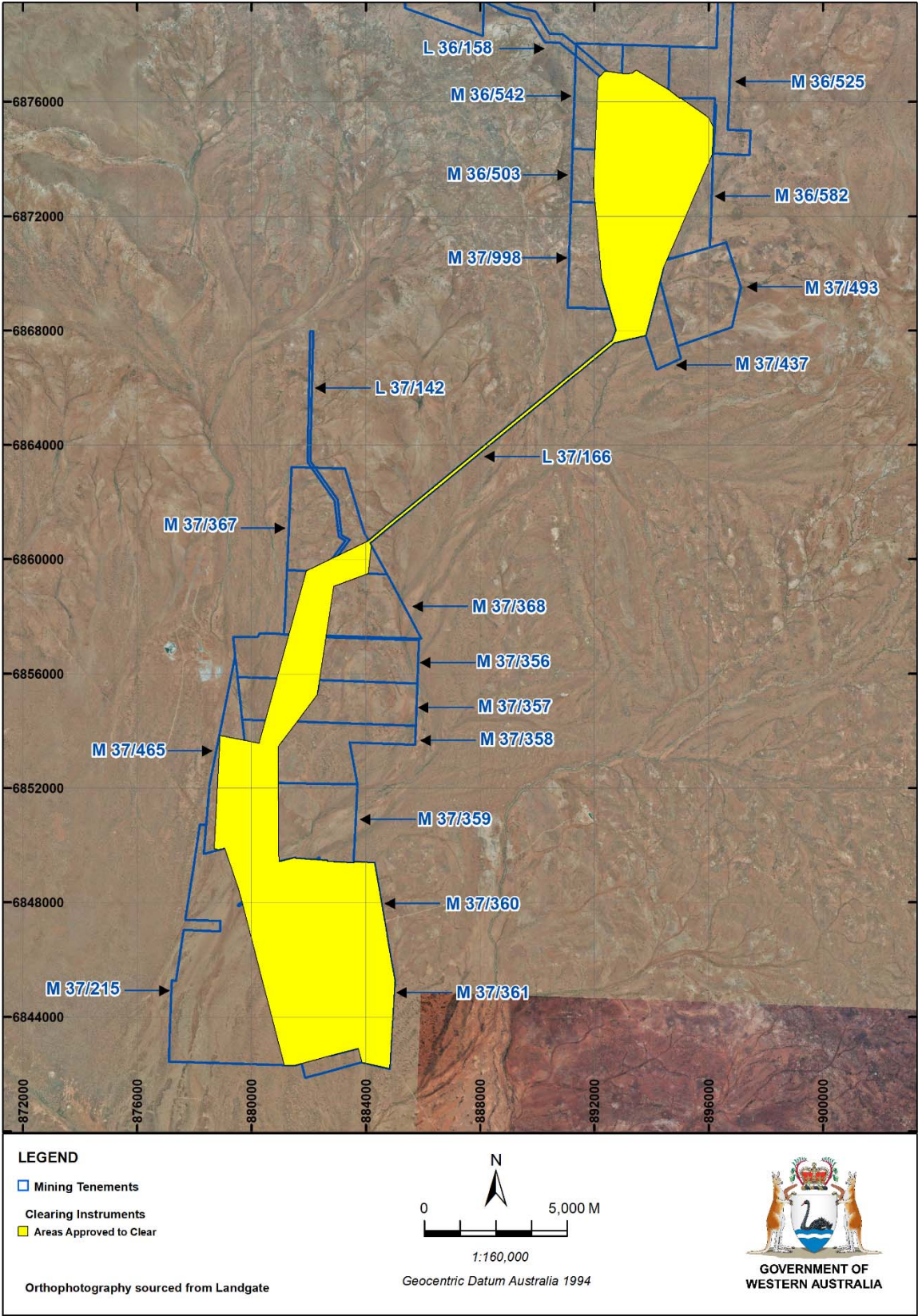


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur.