

Targeted Fauna Survey

CPS 8241/1

(Mining Lease 04/21, 04/22, 04/69 & 04/75)

Kimberley Quarry Pty Ltd

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Version 1

On behalf of:

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1. INTRODUCTION

This report details the results of a targeted fauna survey carried out within several Mining Leases (M 04/21, 04/22, 04/69 & 04/75) held by Kimberley Quarry Pty Ltd in accordance with some conditions contained within granted Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) clearing permit CPS 8241/1 (Appendix A).

The mining leases have a combine area of about 390 hectares (ha), with the current clearing permit allowing for the clearing of 98 ha from within this area. The proposed clearing within the permit area is being undertaken to allow for the ongoing extraction of rock from within select sections of the mining lease area.

Conditions imposed within the granted clearing permit require a fauna assessment specifically targeting greater bilby (*Macrotis lagotis*) be carried out over areas subject to imminent clearing.

In this case Kimberley Quarry Pty Ltd planned to clear about 30 ha of the total 98 ha allowed (Figure 1). The following report details the results of the targeted greater bilby survey undertaken to allow this clearing to proceed.

2. SCOPE OF WORKS

The scope of works has been formulated to comply with Condition 6 of the granted clearing permit which states:

6. Fauna Management

- (a) 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 the greater bilby (*Macrotis lagotis*).
- (b) Where greater bilby burrows are identified under Condition 6(a), the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to determine if the burrow is occupied.
- (c) Within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to relocate any greater bilby found under Condition 6(a) and 6(b) of this permit.
- (d) 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 greater bilby injury or mortality.

- (e) Where any greater bilby are identified and relocated under Condition 6(a), 6(b), 6(c) and 6(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 greater bilby recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
 - (ii) the type of evidence recorded under Condition 6(e)(i) e.g. fauna individuals, burrows, scats, tracks;
 - (iii) the location and date where any greater bilby was relocated using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
 - (iv) the name of the fauna specialist that relocated the greater bilby under Condition 6(c); and
 - (v) a copy of the fauna licence authorising the relocation of the greater bilby under Condition 6(c).

DWER Definitions

clearance survey/s 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;

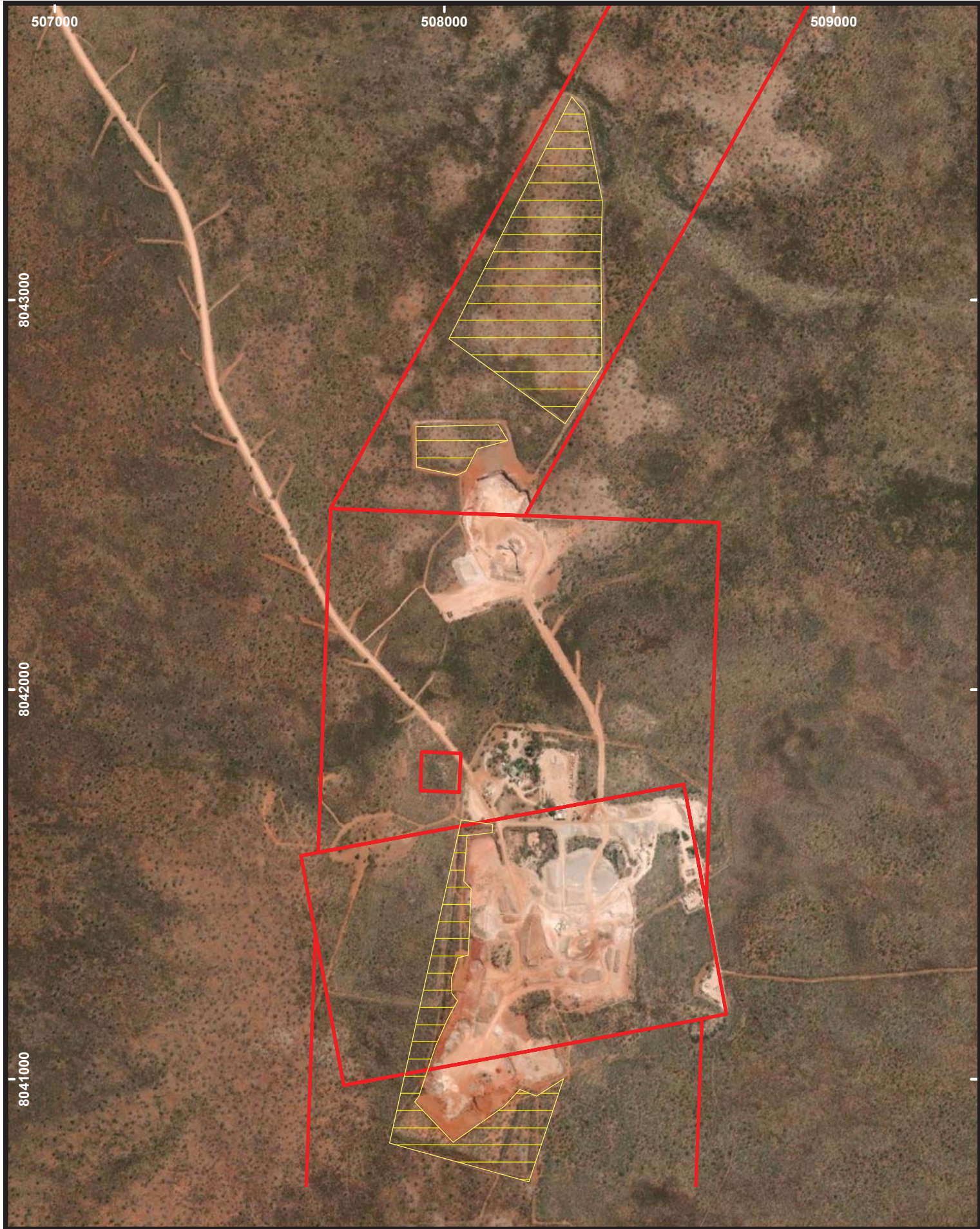
fauna specialist means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specialising in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in fauna identification and surveys of fauna native to the region being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the CEO as a suitable fauna specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950.

3. METHODS

Survey work was carried out between the 3 and 5 June 2023 by Greg Harewood (Zoologist – 20 years' experience).

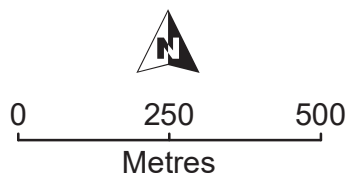
The areas within CPS 8241/1 subject to imminent clearing were examined on foot by way ~25 metre spaces parallel transects (Figure 2). The transects totalled about 27.0 km. Beside burrows, other evidence searched for included diggings, tracks and scats of the target species. Termite mounds were also inspected. Track files and the location of any observations were recorded with a handheld GPS.

Clearing of vegetation was undertaken immediately after areas were inspected and where no evidence of greater bilbies was detected.



Legend

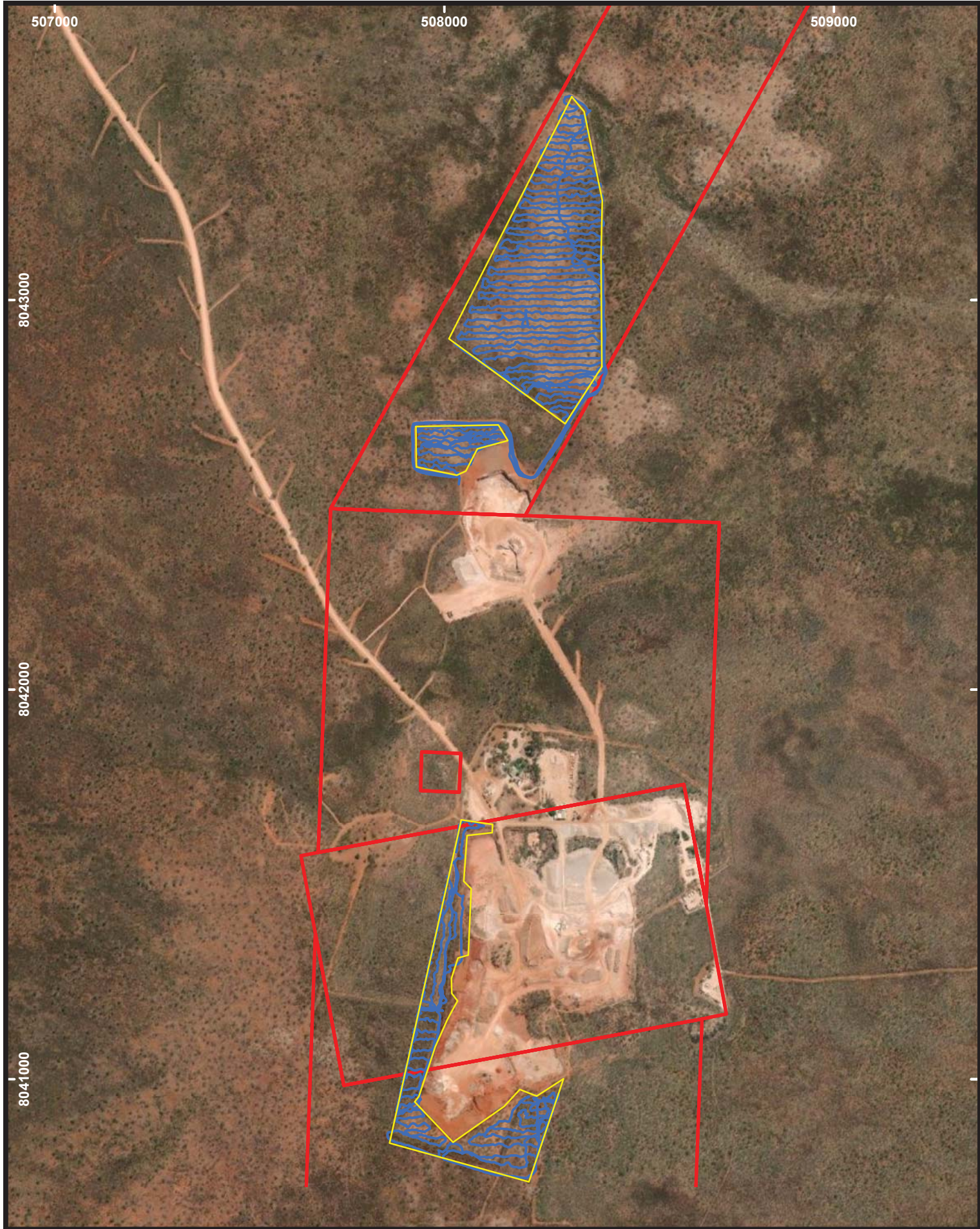
- CPS_8241_1
- Survey Areas



Drawn: G. Harewood
Date: June 2023
Scale: 1:12,500

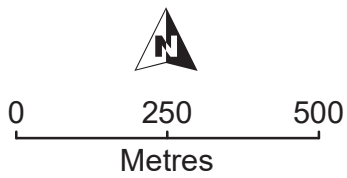
CPS 8241/1
Kimberley Quarry Pty Ltd

**CPS 8241/1
Aerial Photograph**



Legend

- CPS_8241_1
- Survey Areas
- Completed Transects



Drawn: G. Harewood
Date: June 2023
Scale: 1:12,500

CPS 8241/1
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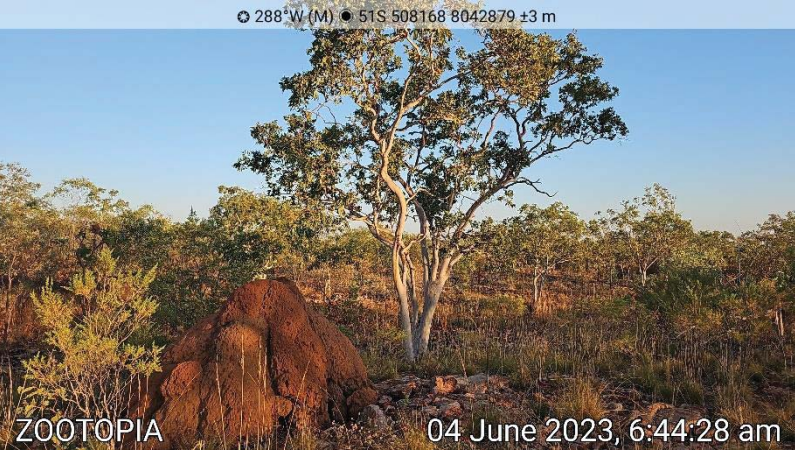

**CPS 8241/1
Completed Transects**


4. RESULTS

Fauna habitats within the proposed working area were found to be mainly comprised of an open grassland with scattered eucalypts (*Corymbia* spp.) and shrubs on rocks. Smaller sections of the areas surveyed contained a dense tall shrubland over an open grassland on a thin loamy sand, with occasional outcropping rocks. A significant part of the southern area survey was represented by regrowth tall shrubland over previously cleared areas.

Example images of the vegetation present are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Example Images of the Fauna Habitats within CPS 8241/1

Fauna Habitat Description	Example Image
<p>Open grassland with scattered eucalypts (<i>Corymbia</i> spp.) and shrubs on rocks.</p>	
<p>Tall shrubland/shrubland over a grassland with scattered small eucalypts on thin loamy sand.</p>	

Fauna Habitat Description	Example Image
<p>Regrowth tall shrubland over bare ground in previously cleared areas on thin loamy sand.</p>	

No greater bilby burrows, diggings, tracks or scats were identified during the survey. A small number of small burrows seen were attributed to skinks or varanids, based on their small entrance size and/or shape. Tracks attributed to dingoes/dogs, cats and macropods were also observed.

The vast majority the area survey appeared unsuitable for bilbies given the nature of the rocky substrate making it difficult, if not impossible for the species to construct suitably sized burrows.

5. CONCLUSION

No evidence of the target species (greater bilby) was detected during the survey period. It is the Authors opinion that the level of survey was sufficient to draw the conclusion that the species was not utilising the areas inspected.

Given that greater bilbies appeared unlikely to be present, no additional fauna management measures relating specifically to this species were implemented and clearing was subsequently undertaken in accordance with the granted permit CPS 8241/1.

APPENDIX A

Clearing Permit and Plan



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	8241/1
Duration of Permit:	From 12 January 2019 to 11 January 2024
Permit Holder:	Kimberley Quarry Pty Ltd

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 04/21
Mining Lease 04/22
Mining Lease 04/69
Mining Lease 04/75

2. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of mineral production.

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 98 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 8241/1.

4. Type of clearing authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation unless the purpose for which the clearing was authorised is enacted within 6 months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

5. Application

This Permit allows the Permit Holder to authorise persons, including employees, contractors and agents of the Permit Holder, to clear native vegetation for the purposes of this Permit subject to compliance with the conditions of this Permit and approval from the Permit Holder.

PART II - MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

6. Fauna management

- 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 the greater bilby (*Macrotis lagotis*).
- Where greater bilby burrows are identified under Condition 6(a), the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to determine if the burrow is occupied.
- Within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to relocate any greater bilby found under Condition 6(a) and 6(b) of this permit.
- 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 greater bilby injury or mortality.

- (e) Where any greater bilby are identified and relocated under Condition 6(a), 6(b), 6(c) and 6(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 greater bilby recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
 - (ii) the type of evidence recorded under Condition 6(e)(i) e.g. fauna individuals, burrows, scats, tracks;
 - (iii) the location and date where any greater bilby was relocated using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
 - (iv) the name of the *fauna specialist* that relocated the greater bilby under Condition 6(c); and
 - (v) a copy of the fauna licence authorising the relocation of the greater bilby under Condition 6(c).

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*:

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

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

8. Records to be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit:

In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:

- (i) 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 or decimal degrees;
- (ii) the date that the area was cleared;
- (iii) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); and
- (iv) purpose for which clearing was undertaken.

9. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the General Manager Environmental Compliance, Resource and Environmental Compliance Division, Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety 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 8 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (b) Prior to 11 January 2024, the Permit Holder must provide to the General Manager Environmental Compliance, Resource and Environmental Compliance Division, Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety a written report of records required under Condition 8 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 9(a) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

CEO means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation or an officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

clearance survey/s 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;

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 *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*;

fill means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

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;

weed/s means any plant -

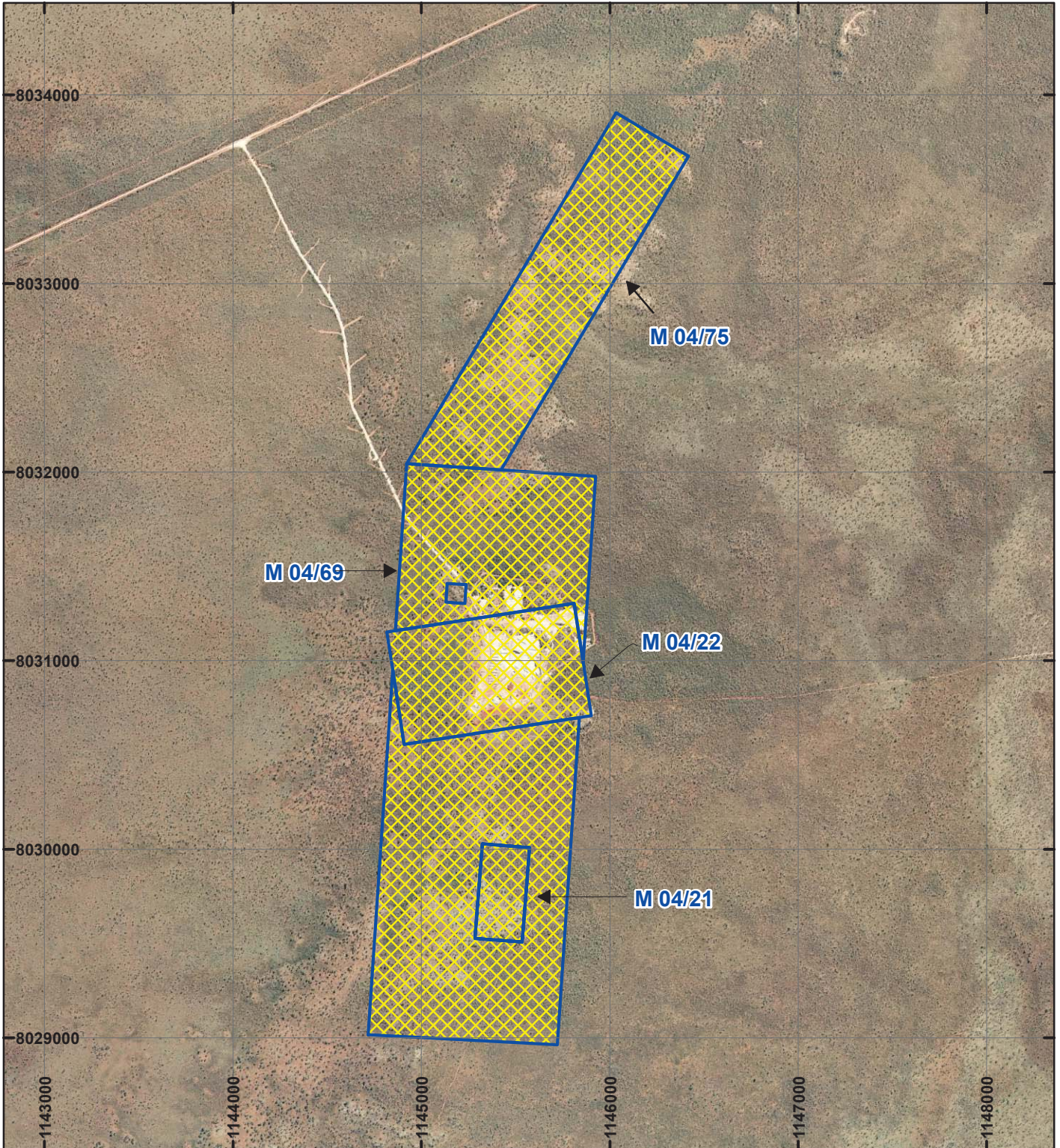
- (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or
- (b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.



Daniel Endacott
General Manager Environmental Compliance
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division
20 December 2018

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

PLAN 8241/1



LEGEND

 Mining Tenements

Clearing Instruments

 Areas Approved to Clear

Orthophotography sourced from Landgate



Scale 1:30,000

(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distortion or measurement inaccuracies.


DANIEL ENDACOTT Date 20/12/2018

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

Information derived from this map should be confirmed with the data custodian acknowledged by the agency acronym in the legend.



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The conclusions are based upon field data and the environmental monitoring and/or testing carried out over a limited period of time and are therefore merely indicative of the environmental condition of the site at the time of preparing the report. Also it should be recognised that site conditions, can change with time.

Within the limitations imposed by the scope of services, the field assessment and preparation of this report have been undertaken and performed in a professional manner, in accordance with generally accepted practices and using a degree of skill and care ordinarily exercised by reputable environmental consultants under similar circumstances. No other warranty, expressed or implied, is made.

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