



## CLEARING PERMIT

*Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	11000/1
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	From 12 July 2025 to 30 November 2035
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	BHP Iron Ore 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**

*Iron Ore (Mount Goldsworthy) Agreement Act 1964*, Special Lease for Mining Operations, Lease 3116/5647, Document I123410L, Lease Extension J973146, Lot 9 on Deposited Plan 193615.

**2. Clearing authorised (purpose)**

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the purpose of the construction and maintenance of potable bores and associated infrastructure.

**3. Area of clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 3.0 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

**4. Period in which clearing is authorised**

The Permit Holder must not clear any native vegetation after 30 November 2030.

### **PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS**

**5. 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.

## 6. 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.

## 7. Fauna management – directional clearing

The Permit Holder must conduct clearing activities in a slow, progressive manner toward adjacent native vegetation to allow fauna to move into adjacent native vegetation ahead of the clearing activity.

## 8. Fauna management – greater bilby

- (a) within fourteen (14) days prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit the Permit Holder must engage a *fauna specialist* to:
  - (i) undertake surveys using transects spaced at 20 metres on average, to identify evidence of burrows that may be suitable for greater bilby (*Macrotis lagotis*) use.
- (b) where potential greater bilby burrow/s are identified under Condition 8(a), the Permit Holder must engage a *fauna specialist* to:
  - (i) flag the location of the burrow/s; and
  - (ii) inspect the burrow/s and determine whether the burrow/s are *potentially occupied*.
- (c) where a *potentially occupied* burrow is identified under Condition 8(b), the Permit Holder must not clear within 50 metres of the *potentially occupied* burrow and ensure there is an undisturbed vegetative linkage between the *potentially occupied* burrow and vegetation outside of the area to be cleared, where practicable.
- (d) where a *potentially occupied* burrow is identified under Condition 8(b), and cannot be avoided with a minimum 50 metre vegetative buffer in accordance with Condition 8(c), the Permit Holder must engage a *fauna specialist* to:
  - (i) monitor the burrow with remote cameras for greater bilby use for a minimum of three (3) consecutive nights;
  - (ii) where no evidence of greater bilby activity is identified under Condition 8(d)(i), the burrow shall be deemed as *unoccupied* and the Permit Holder must engage a *fauna specialist* to:
    - A. carefully excavate the burrow by hand, and remove and relocate any native vertebrate fauna found within the burrow; and
    - B. collapse and fill the burrow immediately after the *fauna specialist* has confirmed no native vertebrate fauna are present within the burrow.
  - (iii) where evidence of greater bilby use is identified under Condition 8(d)(i), the Permit Holder must engage a *fauna specialist* to:
    - A. continue to monitor the burrow for greater bilby activity;
    - B. implement displacement techniques such as deliberate disturbance of the burrow entrance, while ensuring the disturbance does not prevent the greater bilby from exiting the burrow; and
    - C. once greater bilby displacement from the burrow is confirmed, stop monitoring, and undertake the actions required under Condition 8(d)(ii)A and Condition 8(d)(ii)B.
- (e) if the greater bilby has not moved on from an *occupied* burrow under Condition 8(d)(iii), the Permit Holder must, within 24 hours prior to clearing, engage a *fauna specialist* to remove and relocate the identified greater bilby to an area of *greater bilby suitable habitat* no closer than 100 metres from the area to be cleared, in accordance with a section 40 authorisation under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.
- (f) immediately after the greater bilby has been relocated under Condition 8(e), the Permit Holder must engage a *fauna specialist* to undertake the actions required under Condition 8(d)(ii)A and Condition 8(d)(ii)B.
- (g) within 24 hours prior to *clearing* the Permit Holder must engage a *fauna specialist* to re-inspect any flagged burrow/s identified under Condition 8(b)(i) for evidence of re-excavation by greater bilby,

unless these burrows are being avoided with a minimum 50 metre vegetative buffer in accordance with Condition 8(c).

- (h) where re-excavated greater bilby burrow/s are identified under Condition 8(g), the Permit Holder must engage a *fauna specialist* to:
  - (i) flag the location of the burrow/s; and
  - (ii) inspect the burrow/s and determine whether the burrow/s are *occupied*.
- (i) where an *occupied* burrow is identified under Condition 8(h)(ii), the Permit Holder must engage a *fauna specialist* to:
  - (i) remove and relocate any identified greater bilby from the burrow to an area of *greater bilby suitable habitat*, in accordance with a section 40 authorisation under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*; and
  - (ii) immediately after the greater bilby has been relocated under Condition 8(i)(i), undertake the actions required under Condition 8(d)(ii)A and Condition 8(d)(ii)B.
- (j) where an *unoccupied* burrow is identified under Condition 8(h)(ii), the Permit Holder must engage a *fauna specialist* to undertake the actions required under Condition 8(d)(ii)A and Condition 8(d)(ii)B.
- (k) where any greater bilby burrows are identified under Condition 8(a) or 8(g), and any greater bilby is relocated under Condition 8(e) or 8(i), the Permit Holder must include the following in a report to be submitted to the *CEO* within two (2) months of undertaking any *clearing* authorised under this permit:
  - (i) the location of any burrow identified including a description of whether the burrow was *unoccupied*, *potentially occupied*, or *occupied*, 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) a description of the remote camera monitoring actions undertaken under Condition 8(d);
  - (iii) the date and time that burrows have been excavated and collapsed under Conditions 8(d), 8(f), 8(i) and 8(j);
  - (iv) the date and time greater bilby are recorded as independently moving on from an *occupied* burrow under Condition 8(d);
  - (v) the sex of each greater bilby captured and relocated under Condition 8(e) or 8(i);
  - (vi) the location of any greater bilby captured under Condition 8(e) or 8(i), using a GPS unit set to GDA2020, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
  - (vii) the date, time and vegetation type at each location where greater bilby are captured under Condition 8(e) or 8(i);
  - (viii) the location of any greater bilby relocated under Condition 8(e) or 8(i), using a GPS unit set to GDA2020, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
  - (ix) the date, time and vegetation type at each location where greater bilby are relocated under Condition 8(e) or 8(i);
  - (x) the name of the *fauna specialist* that relocated greater bilby under Condition 8(e) or 8(i); and
  - (xi) a copy of the fauna licence authorising the relocation of greater bilby under Condition 8(e) or 8(i).

## 9. Fauna management – brush-tailed mulgara

- (a) within fourteen (14) days prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to conduct a *fauna survey* of that area to identify *Dasymercus blythi* (brush-tailed mulgara) burrows.
- (b) prior to undertaking any *clearing* authorised under the Permit, the Permit Holder shall provide the results of the *fauna survey* in a report to the *CEO*.
- (c) the *fauna survey* report must include the following:
  - (i) the location of any burrows 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 location of any *Dasymercus blythi* individuals if identified, recorded using a GPS unit set to GDA2020, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; and
  - (iii) the methodology used to survey the Permit Area.
- (d) where burrows are identified in relation to Condition 9(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 10 metres of the identified burrows, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

## 10. Flora management

Where the flora species *Gardenia pyriformis* subsp. *keartlandii* has been identified and its locations provided to the *CEO*, and retained on the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety file DMS03825/2025 as Doc ID A89742382, the Permit Holder must ensure:

- (a) no clearing of the identified flora species occurs, unless first approved by the *CEO*; and
- (b) no clearing occurs within 10 metres of the identified flora species, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

## 11. Retain vegetative material and topsoil, revegetation and rehabilitation

The Permit Holder shall:

- (a) retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing authorised under this Permit and stockpile the vegetative material and topsoil in an area that has already been cleared;
- (b) within 12 months following completion of clearing authorised under this Permit, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the areas that are no longer required for the purpose for which they were cleared under this Permit by:
  - (i) ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction;
  - (ii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under Condition 11(a) on the cleared area;
  - (iii) re-shaping the surface of the land so that it is consistent with the surrounding 5 metres of uncleared land;
- (c) within 4 years of undertaking *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* in accordance with Condition 11(b) of this Permit:
  - (i) engage an *environmental specialist* to determine the species composition, structure and density of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*; and
  - (ii) where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, the composition structure and density determined under Condition 11(c)(i) of this Permit will not result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, *revegetate* the area by deliberately *planting* and/or *direct seeding* native vegetation that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area and ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used.

## **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	<p>(a) the location where the clearing occurred, 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;</p> <p>(b) the date that the area was cleared;</p> <p>(c) the size of the area cleared (in hectares);</p> <p>(d) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with Condition 5;</p> <p>(e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> in accordance with Condition 6; and</p> <p>(f) actions taken in accordance with Condition 7.</p>
2.	In relation to fauna management pursuant to Condition 8	<p>(a) results of the pre-clearance surveys undertaken in accordance with Condition 8, including photographic records demonstrating the method and number of remote camera monitoring nights; and</p> <p>(b) a copy of the <i>fauna specialist's</i> report in accordance with Condition 8.</p>
3.	In relation to fauna management pursuant to Condition 9	<p>(a) the locations of burrows, 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; and</p> <p>(b) the location of any <i>Dasycercus blythi</i> individuals if identified, recorded using a GPS unit set to GDA 2020, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees.</p>
4.	In relation to flora management pursuant to Condition 10	<p>(a) actions taken to demarcate <i>Gardenia pyriformis</i> subsp. <i>keartlandii</i> individuals recorded and their relevant buffers; and</p> <p>(b) actions taken to avoid the clearing of <i>Gardenia pyriformis</i> subsp. <i>keartlandii</i>.</p>
5.	In relation to the <i>revegetation</i> and <i>rehabilitation</i> management pursuant to Condition 11	<p>(a) the location of any areas <i>revegetated</i> and <i>rehabilitated</i>, 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;</p> <p>(b) a description of the <i>revegetation</i> and <i>rehabilitation</i> activities undertaken; and</p> <p>(c) the size of the area <i>revegetated</i> and <i>rehabilitated</i> (in hectares).</p>

### 13. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the *CEO* by 1 October 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 1 October of each year.

- (c) Prior to 30 November 2035, the Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under Condition 13 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
CEO	means 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> .
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.
daytime hours	means the duration starting half an hour before sunrise and ending half an hour after sunset.
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.
direct seeding	means a method of re-establishing vegetation through the establishment of a seed bed and the introduction of seeds of the desired plant species.
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 <i>CEO</i> 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 <i>CEO</i> as a suitable fauna specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> .
fauna survey	means a field-based investigation, including a review of established literature, of the biodiversity of fauna and/or fauna habitat of the Permit Area. Where conservation significant fauna are identified in the Permit Area, the survey should also include sufficient surrounding areas to place the Permit Area into local context.
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.
greater bilby suitable habitat	means habitat known to support the greater bilby ( <i>Macrotis lagotis</i> ) within the known current distribution of the species.
local provenance	means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 200 kilometres in the same Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) subregion of the area cleared.
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.
occupied	means currently utilised, or where uncertainty exists, <i>potentially occupied</i> , by the greater bilby ( <i>Macrotis lagotis</i> ).
planting	means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating favourable soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species.
potentially occupied	means any greater bilby burrow that is open (i.e. round entrance and depth

Term	Definition
	characteristics adequate to house a greater bilby), with or without a sand apron, and/or there are fresh greater bilby sign/s present at the site.
regeneration	means <i>revegetation</i> that can be established from in situ seed banks contained either within the topsoil or seed-bearing <i>mulch</i> .
rehabilitate / rehabilitated / rehabilitation	means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area.
revegetate / revegetated / revegetation	means the re-establishment of a cover of <i>local provenance</i> native vegetation in an area using methods such as natural <i>regeneration</i> , <i>direct seeding</i> and/or <i>planting</i> , so that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area.
unoccupied	means any greater bilby burrow that – (a) has begun to collapse and no longer has a round entrance or cavity and would not enable a greater bilby to enter without additional digging, and there is no evidence that other vertebrates are making use of the burrow; or (b) has vegetation in the entrance and cob webs across the entrance and there is no evidence that any vertebrates are making use of the burrow.
weed/s	means any plant – (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.

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## END OF CONDITIONS

*Demelza Dravnieks*

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**Demelza Dravnieks** | Acting General Manager Mine Closure and Environmental Services  
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division  
19 June 2025

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.**