



## Clearing and Ground Disturbance Procedure

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MMG

Environment

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Internal ground disturbance and clearing procedures ensure that all clearing of native vegetation and ground disturbance activities conducted by Mt Magnet Gold Pty Ltd (MMG) are done so in accordance with legislative requirements, government approvals and site procedures.

External native vegetation clearing approvals from government agencies aim to ensure that impacts to native flora and fauna and surface and ground water resources are minimised and that rare flora and fauna species are protected from harm.

This procedure will also limit the amount of area disturbed by the MMG mining operations, thereby reducing rehabilitation requirements and financial liability.

### 2. OBJECTIVES

This Clearing and Ground Disturbance Procedure outlines the minimum steps to be taken on site prior to, during and following any land clearing on the MMG site. This process ensures:

- Clearing and ground disturbance activities are undertaken in compliance with government approvals;
- Clearance of vegetation is within approved boundaries;
- Cultural heritage sites are protected;
- Rare and priority flora and fauna species are protected;
- Minimises the introduction and spread of weeds from clearing and disturbance activities;
- Ensure topsoil is handled appropriately;
- Ensure cleared areas are surveyed immediately after completion for annual compliance reporting; and
- Ensure cleared or disturbed areas are rehabilitated in accordance with legislative approvals / licences and tenement conditions.

### 3. REGULATORY APPROVALS

MMG Environment are responsible for ensuring Native Vegetation Clearing Permit (NVCP) from Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety and any other relevant approvals are obtained prior to any Internal Clearing Permit being issued.

All requests for site clearing are to be submitted using MMG Clearing Permit Form and all required information is to accompany the clearing request (area required to be cleared, map, MGA 94 string files and or dxf files). This information is required to be submitted to Environment 24 hours prior to the clearing permit being issued. No clearing of native vegetation/topsoil is to be undertaken until the Clearing Permit has been approved and signed off by Environment and the Mine/Project Manager.



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### 4. CLEARING PERMIT WORK FLOW

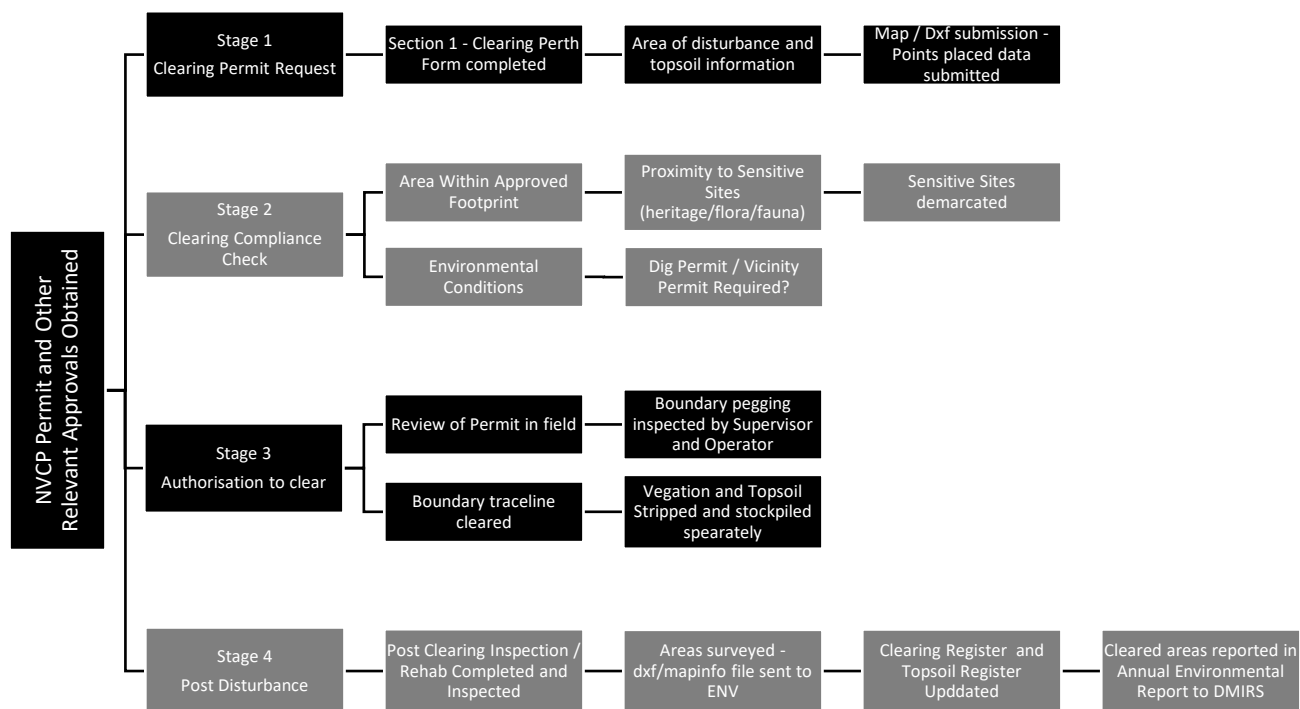


Figure 1: Clearing Permit Work Flow

### 5. CLEARING PERMIT APPROVAL PROCESS

Table 1 below outlines the process for obtaining an on-site internal Clearing Permit once all regulatory approvals have been obtained. Only once all regulatory approvals are in place and relevant controls are established, can a Clearing Permit be issued from Environment.

Table 1: Clearing Permit Approval Process

| Section 1 - Request   | Responsibility |
|---|----------------|
| <p>MMG Clearing Permit Form completed by the Department Manager or delegate and submitted to Environment</p> <p>A map of the proposed area to be cleared and the corresponding dxf files must be provided with the clearing permit form to Environment.</p> <p>Calculated area of disturbance and topsoil to be stripped must also be provided in the clearing permit form</p> <p>Reason for disturbance and description of proposed activities</p> | Mine Manager   |



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| Section 2 - Environmental Compliance Review   | Responsibility                             |
|---|--|
| <p>Review and assess Section 1 of Clearing Permit Form and map/dxf of points placed data. This assessment includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring all regulatory permits / licences are applied for and approval granted relevant to the scope of works</li> <li>Clearing polygon of points placed data is within approved footprint</li> <li>Proximity to Sensitive Sites (heritage / flora / fauna)</li> <li>Ensuring sites are demarcated / fenced</li> <li>Obtain Pastoral owners approval to enter onto pastoral leases (if required)</li> </ul>   | Environment                                |
| Review permit application and clearing polygon to determine whether a MMG Permit to Dig Form or MMG Powerline Vicinity Access Permit is required  | Electrical                                 |
| Section 3 - Authorisation to Clear  | Responsibility                             |
| Sign off from relevant Management   | Mine Manager /<br>Environment / Electrical |
| Review of Permit with Contractor / Operator   | Mine Manager                               |
| <p>Machinery involved in clearing and ground disturbance operations are required to be clean and free from soil and vegetation when leaving and entering the area to be cleared. Refer to MMG Weed Hygiene Procedure</p> <p>Pre-inspection of boundary pegging by Supervisor / Operator</p> <p>Boundary trace line of clearing undertaken</p> <p>Vegetation and Topsoil to be stripped in accordance with MMG Topsoil Management Procedure</p> <p>Vegetation and Topsoil to be stockpiled and sign posted</p> <p>Where applicable, rehabilitation to be completed as soon as practicable in accordance with MMG Rehabilitation Management Procedure</p> | Mine Manager                               |
| Survey pick up of cleared area to be submitted to Environment immediately after clearing has completed (within 2 weeks)   | Mine Manager                               |
| Section 4 - Post Disturbance  | Responsibility                             |
| <p>Environmental Review of post clearing survey data</p> <p>Ensure that disturbance is within the approved area</p> <p>Ensure compliance with regulatory licence / permit conditions</p> <p>Topsoil stockpiled correctly and sign posted</p> <p>Photos of disturbance collected</p> <p>Close out of Clearing Permit</p> <p>Update clearing and topsoil registers</p>  | Environment                                |

### 6. EXPLORATION CLEARING

Clearing for exploration purposes is exempt from requiring a clearing permit (NVCP) provided it is not within an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA), and is conducted under an authority granted under the Mining Act 1978 (e.g. an approved Programme of Work). This exemption is found at item 25 of the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004.

Exploration manages their own clearing, rehabilitation and reporting in accordance with their Programme of Work's. An internal clearing permit is required when exploration activities disturb



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existing site rehabilitation, this includes waste rock landforms. Should exploration activities require fencing to be removed and or abandonment bunds to be opened, exploration is required to advise environment prior to such activities being undertaken. These activities impact site compliance, have the potential to increase environment risk and mine closure commitments.

Exploration are required to provide environment with disturbance and rehabilitation areas for each PoW by 30th April annually. This information is required for MMG MRF annual compliance reporting.

### 7. NON-CONFORMANCE WITH CLEARING PERMIT

Incidents of non-conformance with the MMG Clearing Permit Form are to be investigated in accordance with MMG Incident Investigation Procedure.

If clearing has occurred outside the NVCP approved area, DMIRS must be notified and a report must be submitted to the Department within 3 working days.

### 8. RELEATED DOCUMENTS

**MMG Clearing Permit Form**

**MMG Weed Hygiene Procedure**

**MMG Rehabilitation Procedure**

**MMG Topsoil Management Procedure**

**RMS Incident Investigation Procedure**

**RMS Incident Investigation Report Form**

**MMG Powerline Vicinity Access Permit**

**MMG Permit to Dig Form**