



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	11340/1
Duration of Permit:	From 8 January 2026 to 7 January 2031
Permit Holder:	Big Bell Gold Operations 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 20/12
Mining Lease 20/45
Mining Lease 20/68
Mining Lease 20/77
Mining Lease 20/214
Mining Lease 20/421

2. Clearing authorised (purpose)

The permit holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the purpose of mineral production.

3. Area of clearing

The permit holder must not clear more than 50 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched 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 three (3) months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

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:

- avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- 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. Flora management – pre-clearance survey

- (a) prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit within the areas cross-hatched red in Figure 2 of Schedule 1, the permit holder must engage a *botanist* to conduct a *targeted flora survey* of the areas to be cleared for the presence of *threatened flora* and *priority flora*.
- (b) where *threatened flora* is identified under condition 7(a), the permit holder must not cause or allow:
 - (i) clearing within 50 metres of the identified *threatened flora*; and
 - (ii) clearing of the identified *threatened flora*.
- (c) where *priority flora* is identified under condition 7(a), the permit holder must not cause or allow:
 - (i) clearing within 10 metres of the identified *priority flora*; and
 - (ii) clearing of the identified *priority flora*.
- (d) where *threatened flora* or *priority flora* are identified under condition 7(a) of this permit, the permit holder must include the following in a report submitted to the *CEO* within three (3) months of undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit:
 - (i) the species name of each *threatened flora* and *priority flora* individual(s) identified under condition 7(a);
 - (ii) the number of individuals identified;
 - (iii) the date each individual was identified;
 - (iv) the location of each *threatened flora* and *priority flora*, identified under condition 7(a), 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 of Australia 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
 - (v) the name of the *botanist* that undertook clearance surveys under condition 7(a) of this permit; and
 - (vi) the methodology used to survey the permit area.

8. Fauna management – fauna spotter

- (a) the permit holder must engage a *fauna specialist* to traverse the areas cross-hatched red in Figure 2 of Schedule 1, ahead of clearing machinery immediately prior to and for the duration of clearing activities, to identify West Coast mulga slider (*Lerista eupoda*).
- (b) where West Coast mulga slider (*Lerista eupoda*) is identified under condition 8(a), the permit holder must:
 - (i) cease clearing activities in any area where West Coast mulga slider (*Lerista eupoda*) was identified under condition 8(a), until the identified individual(s) have naturally dispersed from the clearing area to adjoining habitat; and
 - (ii) where West Coast mulga slider (*Lerista eupoda*) identified under condition 8(a) does not naturally disperse, the *fauna specialist* must remove and relocate the individual(s) to an area of suitable habitat outside of the authorised clearing area, prior to recommencing clearing.
- (c) where West Coast mulga slider (*Lerista eupoda*) is identified under condition 8(a), the permit holder shall include the following in a report submitted to the *CEO*, within six (6) months of undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit:
 - (i) the number of individuals identified;
 - (ii) the date each individual was identified;
 - (iii) the location where each individual was identified, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum of Australia 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographical

- coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
- (iv) the location of any native fauna captured and relocated, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum of Australia 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; and
- (v) the name of the *fauna specialist* that relocated West Coast mulga slider (*Lerista eupoda*) under condition 8(b).

9. Vegetation management

- (a) where practicable the permit holder shall avoid clearing *riparian vegetation*; and
- (b) where a *watercourse* or *drainage line* or *wetland* is to be impacted by clearing, the permit holder shall ensure that the existing surface flow is maintained by use of culverts.

PART III – RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

10. 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum of Australia 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; (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 to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 5; (f) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> in accordance with condition 6; and (g) actions taken in accordance with condition 9.
2.	In relation to flora management pursuant to condition 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) actions taken to demarcate each <i>threatened flora</i> and/or <i>priority flora</i> species recorded and their relevant buffers; (b) actions taken to avoid the clearing of <i>threatened flora</i> and/or <i>priority flora</i> species; (c) a copy of the <i>botanist's</i> report in accordance with condition 7(d).
3.	In relation to fauna management pursuant to condition 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a copy of the <i>fauna specialist's</i> report in accordance with condition 8.

11. 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 10 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 7 January 2031, the permit holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under condition 10 of this permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 11(a) or 11(b) of this permit.

DEFINITIONS

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

Table 2: Definitions

Term	Definition
botanist	means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specialising in environmental science or equivalent and has a minimum of two (2) years' work experience in Western Australian flora identification and undertaking flora surveys native to the bioregion being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the <i>CEO</i> as a suitable environmental specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid flora licence issued under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> .
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> .
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.
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 two (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> .
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 <i>Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions 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.
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 targeted flora are identified in the permit area, the survey must also include a minimum of a 10 metre radius of the 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> .
weed/s	means any plant –

Term	Definition
	<p>(a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the <i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007</i>; or</p> <p>(b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or</p> <p>(c) not indigenous to the area concerned.</p>
wetland/s	means an area of seasonally, intermittently or permanently waterlogged or inundated land, whether natural or otherwise, and includes a lake, swamp, marsh, spring, dampland, tidal flat or estuary.

END OF CONDITIONS

Demelza Dravnieks

Demelza Dravnieks | Acting General Manager Mine Closure and Environmental Services
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division
16 December 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).

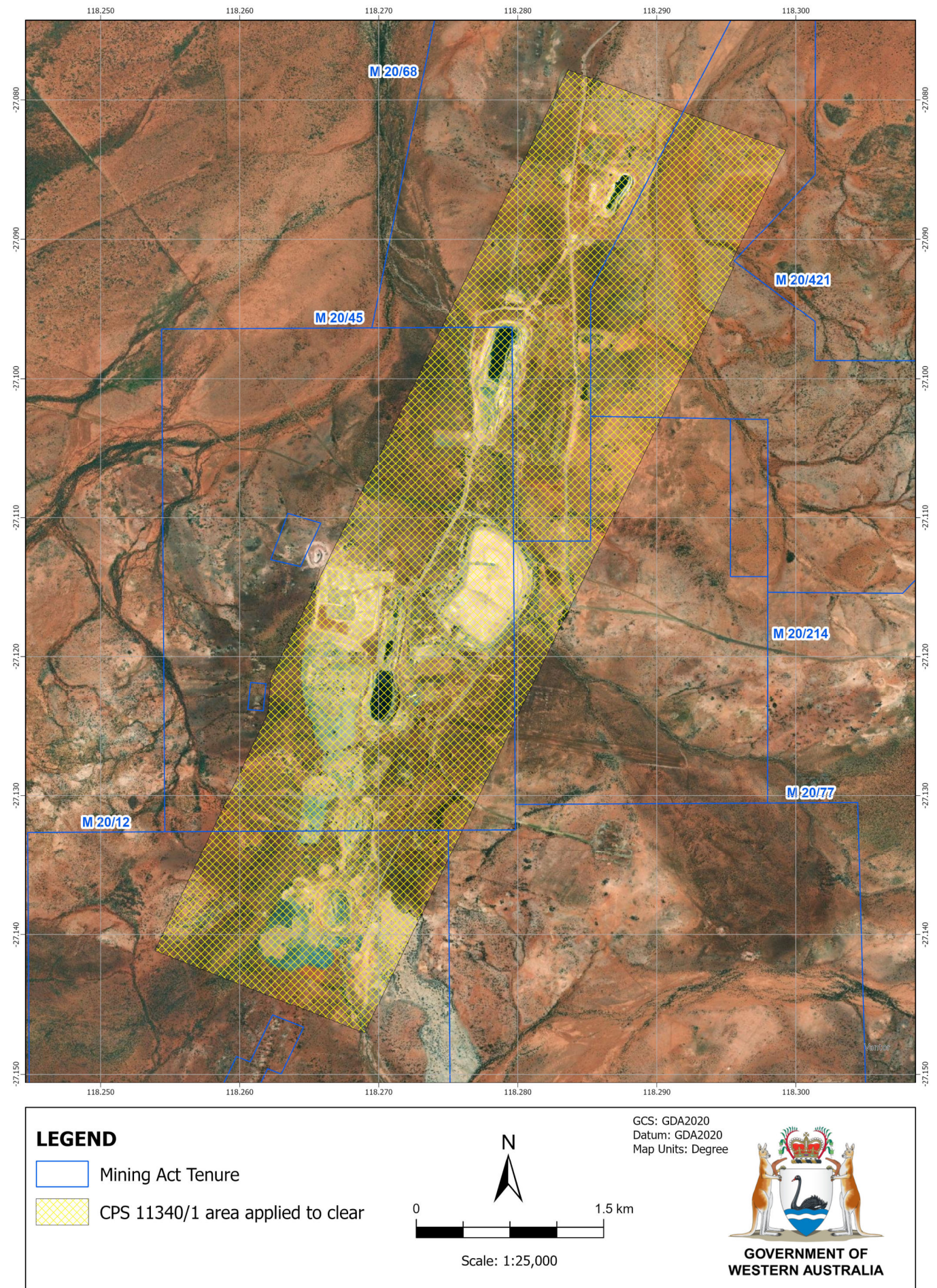


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur cross-hatched in yellow.

The boundary of the areas subject to condition 7 and condition 8 shown cross-hatched red in the map below (Figure 2).

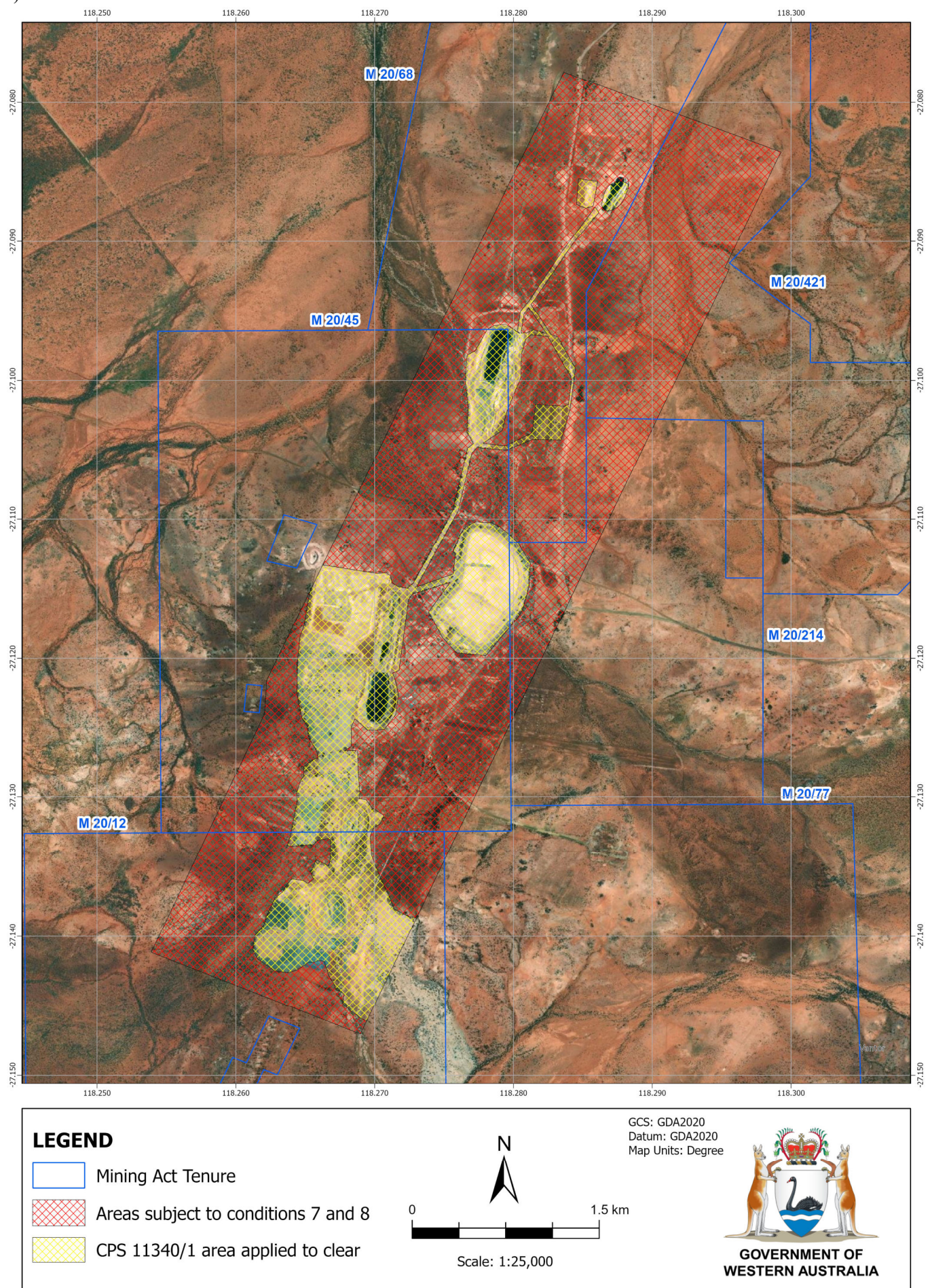


Figure 2: Map of the areas subject to condition 7 and condition 8 shown cross-hatched in red.