



## **CLEARING PERMIT**

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

### **PERMIT DETAILS**

Area Permit Number: 3378/1  
File Number: DEC13465  
Duration of Permit: Insert Date

### **PERMIT HOLDER**

Shire of Menzies

### **LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE**

Lot 500 on Plan 65988  
Lot 501 on Plan 65988  
Lot 503 on Plan 65988  
Lot 502 on Plan 65989  
Lot 504 on Plan 65989

### **AUTHORISED ACTIVITY**

Clearing of up to 18 hectares of native vegetation the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 3378/1.

### **CONDITIONS**

Nil.

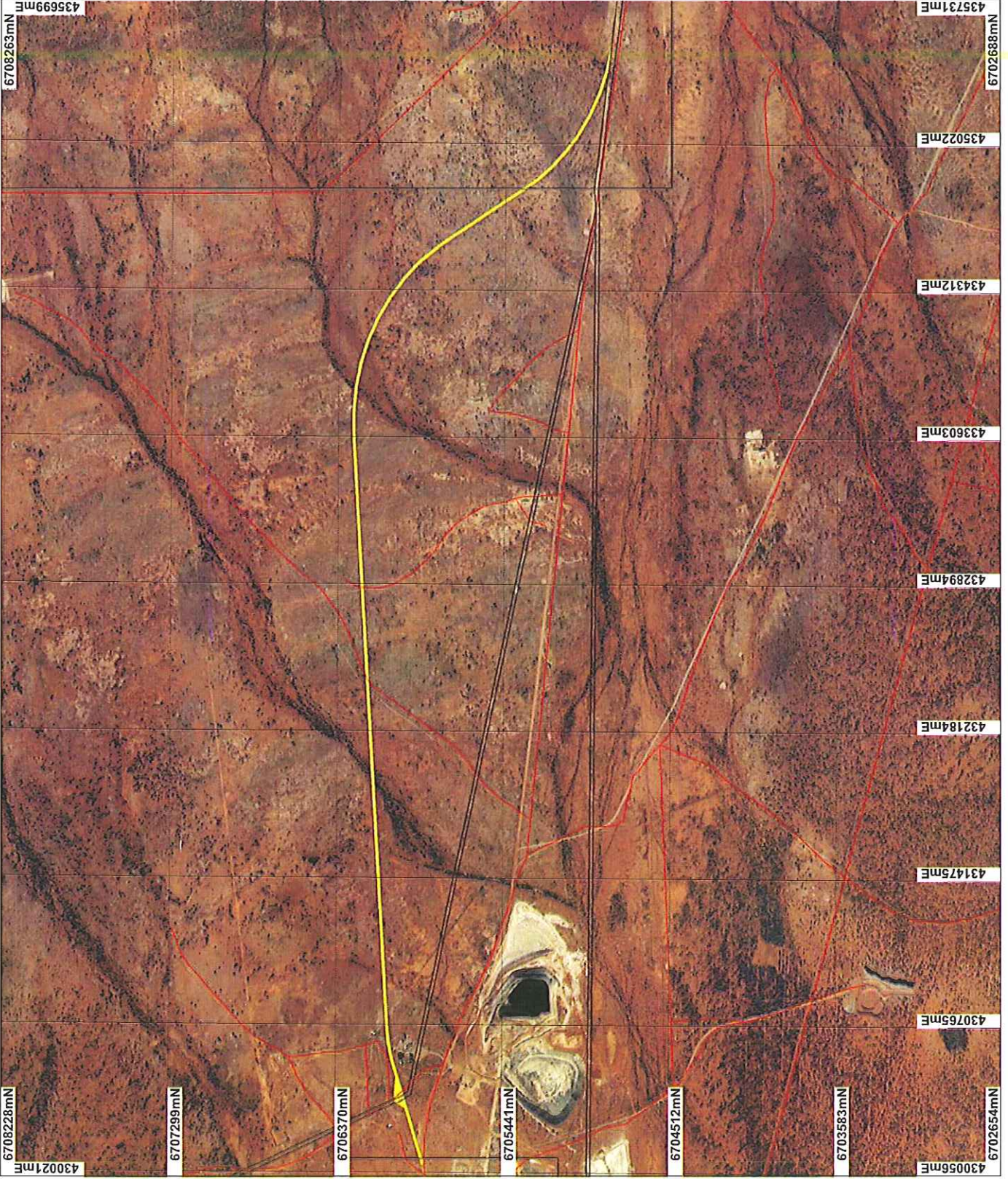
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MANAGER  
NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION BRANCH

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

Insert Date

# Draft Plan 3378/1



## LEGEND

- Clearing Insettlement
- Area Approved to Clear
- Road Centrelines
- Cadastral
- Edwards 1, Am Orth 2002



0 750 m

Scale 1:27105  
(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.

K Faulkner Date .....

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.

**Department of Environment and Conservation**  
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## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 3378/1  
Permit type: Area Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Saracen Gold Mines Pty Limited

### 1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 14 ON PLAN 238159 ( KOOKYNIE 6431)  
LOT 14 ON PLAN 238159 ( KOOKYNIE 6431)

Local Government Area:

Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
18		Mechanical Removal Mechanical Removal	Road construction or maintenance Road construction or maintenance

## 2. Site Information

### 2.1. Existing environment and information

#### 2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description	Clearing Description	Vegetation Condition	Comment
Beard vegetation association 400: Succulent steppe with open low woodland; mulga over bluebush.  (Shepherd 2007)	The application is to clear 18ha of native vegetation for road upgrades.  The vegetation condition ranges from very good to good (Keighery 1994) condition, with a history of extensive grazing (Alexander Holm & Associates 2009).	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)	The vegetation description and condition was determined from vegetation surveys provided by the applicant (Alexander Holm & Associates 2009).
As above	As above	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994)	As above

## 3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

### Comments

The application is to clear 18ha of native vegetation in a linear strip for road upgrades. The vegetation condition ranges from very good to good (Keighery 1994) condition, with a history of extensive grazing (Alexander Holm & Associates 2009). The application area is mapped as Beard vegetation association 400: Succulent steppe with open low woodland; mulga over bluebush, of which close to 100% of the pre-European extent remains within the Murchison bioregion (Shepherd 2007). Four main vegetation communities were identified during the vegetation survey, Calcyphytic pearl bluebush shrublands, Stony bluebush mixed shrublands, sandy granitic acacia shrublands and mulga drainage line shrublands/woodlands with chenopod understoreys (Alexander Holm & Associates 2009).

No rare flora, fauna or threatened ecological communities have been recorded within the local area (20km radius) of the application area. Two priority flora species have been recorded within the local area, *Acacia eremophila* numerous-nerved variant (P3) and *Thryptomene eremaea* (P2), both 4km south east of the proposed clearing, within same vegetation type as the application. Neither these species, nor other priority or rare flora species, were recorded during the flora survey (Alexander Holm & Associates 2009).

One priority fauna species, *Aspidites ramsayi* (Woma - P1), has been recorded within a 20km radius of the proposed clearing. The woma occurs in the arid zones of Western Australia, favouring open myrtaceous heath on sandplains, and dunefields dominated by *Spinifex* (*Triodia* spp.) (DEC 2009). The vegetation under application is dominated by *Acacia* shrublands, and as the proposal is for the clearing of 18ha in a linear strip within a vegetation association which retains close to 100% of its pre-European extent (Shepherd 2007), it is not likely to comprise significant habitat for the aforementioned priority species.

The area under application intersects 5 minor non-perennial watercourses, and therefore may contain riparian vegetation and may be at variance to principle (f).

The mapped chief soil type is shallow earthy loams, and the topography ranges from 360m - 400m, and is of low relief. The risk of salinity is minimal given that the application area is a thin linear section of a very large remnant. Rainfall is mapped as 300mm per annum, and as such flooding is unlikely to occur as a result of clearing. No conservation areas are mapped within 20km radius of the area under application.

The proposed clearing is considered unlikely to result in any significant environmental impacts.

**Methodology** Alexander Holm & Associates (2009)  
DEC (2009)  
Keighery (1994)  
Shepherd (2007)

GIS database:

- DEC Tenure - CALM 01/06/05
- SAC Biodatasets - accessed 17 Nov 09
- Pre European Vegetation - DA 01/01
- Clearing Regulations, Environmentally Sensitive Areas 30 May 2005
- Hydrography linear (hierarchy) - DoW 13/7/06
- Soils, Statewide DA 11/99
- Topographic contours statewide - DOLA and ARMY 12/09/02

#### **Planning instrument, Native Title, Previous EPA decision or other matter.**

##### **Comments**

Transfer of the land within which the clearing is proposed to the Shire of Menzies is currently in order for dealings.

The proposal is exempt from requiring WAPC approval (DOC103986), and as the works is on behalf of the Shire of Menzies, no other approvals are required.

##### **Methodology**

#### **4. Assessor's comments**

##### **Comment**

The application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with s51O of the Environmental Protection Act 1986, and the proposed clearing may be at variance to Principle (f) and is not likely to be at variance to the remaining clearing Principles.

#### **5. References**

- Alexander Holm & Associates (2009). Environmental Assessment: Proposed Yarri Road Diversion Porphyry-Enterprise. TRIM ref DOC101507.
- DEC (2009) NatureBase - Fauna Species Profile: Woma. Accessed at <http://www.naturebase.net/content/view/840/1288/>. Accessed 2/12/2009. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Shepherd, D.P. (2007). Adapted from: Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R., and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001), Native Vegetation in Western Australia. Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture Western Australia, South Perth. Includes subsequent updates for 2006 from Vegetation Extent dataset ANZWA1050000124.

#### **6. Glossary**

Term	Meaning
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BCS	Biodiversity Coordination Section of DEC
CALM	Department of Conservation and Land Management (now BCS)
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food
DEC	Department of Environment and Conservation
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection (now DEC)
DoE	Department of Environment (now DEC)
DMP	Department of Mines and Petroleum (ex DoIR)
DRF	Declared Rare Flora
EPP	Environmental Protection Policy
GIS	Geographical Information System
ha	Hectare (10,000 square metres)
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community
WRC	Water and Rivers Commission (now DEC)