



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number: CPS 374/6
Permit Holder: Paddington Gold Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit: 20 June 2005 - 20 June 2018

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of mineral production.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Mining Lease 24/403	Mining Lease 24/321	Mining Lease 24/79
Mining Lease 24/255	Mining Lease 24/302	Mining Lease 24/236
Mining Lease 24/231	Mining Lease 24/234	Mining Lease 24/166
Mining Lease 24/291	Mining Lease 24/81	Mining Lease 24/256
Mining Lease 24/205	Mining Lease 24/82	Mining Lease 24/102
Mining Lease 24/270	Mining Lease 24/710	Mining Lease 24/211
Mining Lease 24/138	Mining Lease 24/182	Mining Lease 24/810
Mining Lease 24/187	Mining Lease 24/223	Mining Lease 24/796
Mining Lease 24/271	Mining Lease 24/16	Mining Lease 24/708
Mining Lease 24/220	Mining Lease 24/227	Mining Lease 24/172
Mining Lease 24/272	Mining Lease 24/705	Mining Lease 24/304
Mining Lease 24/393	Mining Lease 24/709	Mining Lease 24/618
Mining Lease 24/229	Mining Lease 24/266	General Purpose Lease 24/11
Mining Lease 24/432	Mining Lease 24/265	General Purpose Lease 24/12
Mining Lease 24/60	Mining Lease 24/155	

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 230 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 374/6.

4. Type of clearing authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless the purpose for which clearing is authorised is enacted within six 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. 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 *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. Avoid, minimise etc.

In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in 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.

8. Flora management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *botanist* to conduct a *targeted flora survey* of the Permit Area for the presence of rare flora listed in the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice* and *priority flora* in accordance with *Guidance Statement No. 51*.
- (b) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall provide the results of the *targeted flora survey* in a report to the CEO.
- (c) If rare or *priority flora* are identified within the Permit Area, the *targeted flora survey* report must include the following:
 - (i) the location of each rare and/or *priority flora*, 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 Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; and
 - (ii) the species name of each rare and/or *priority flora* identified.
- (d) Where rare or *priority flora* are identified under condition 8(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) no clearing within 50 metres of the identified rare flora occurs, unless first approved by the CEO; and
 - (ii) no clearing of *priority flora* occurs, unless first approved by the CEO.

9. Fauna management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to conduct a *fauna survey* of the Permit Area, to identify *critical habitat* being utilised by fauna listed in the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice* and *priority fauna* in accordance with Guidance Statement No. 56.
- (b) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this 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 the *critical habitat* 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 location of any fauna species, 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;
 - (iii) the name of each fauna species identified;
 - (iv) the methodology, used to survey the Permit Area and to establish the *critical habitat*;
 - (v) the extent of the *critical habitat* of the identified rare or *priority fauna* shown on a map; and
 - (vi) a description of the *critical habitat* of rare or *priority fauna* found.
- (d) Where fauna are identified under condition 9(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) no clearing of *critical habitat* of the identified rare or *priority fauna* occurs, unless first approved by the CEO; and
 - (ii) no taking of identified fauna occurs, unless first approved by the CEO.

10. Threatened ecological community management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage an *ecologist* to conduct a *flora and vegetation survey* of the Permit Area to identify *threatened ecological communities* and *priority ecological communities*.
- (b) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall provide to the CEO, the results of the *flora and vegetation survey* in a report.
- (c) If *threatened ecological communities* and *priority ecological communities* are identified, the *flora and vegetation survey* report must include the following;
 - (i) the location of *threatened ecological communities* and *priority ecological communities* 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 name of each *threatened ecological community* and *priority ecological community* identified;
 - (iii) the methodology used to survey and identify *threatened ecological communities* and *priority ecological communities*; and
 - (iv) the extent of the *threatened ecological communities* or *priority ecological communities* shown on a map.
- (d) Where *threatened ecological communities* or *priority ecological communities* are identified under condition 10(a) the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) no clearing occurs within 50 metres of identified *threatened ecological communities*, unless first approved by the CEO; and
 - (ii) no clearing occurs within 20 metres of identified *priority ecological communities*, unless first approved by the CEO.

11. Watercourse management

Where water flows or collects within a cleared area, the Permit Holder shall construct levee banks to divert water away from the cleared area and into existing drainage channels.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

12. Records to be kept

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

- (a) 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) the purpose for which clearing was undertaken.

13. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO on or before 31 July of each year, a written report:
 - (i) of records required under condition 12 of this Permit; and
 - (ii) concerning activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 July to 30 June of the preceding financial year.
- (b) If no clearing authorised under this Permit was undertaken between 1 July to 30 June of the preceding financial year, a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been carried out, must be provided to the CEO on or before 31 July of each year.
- (c) Prior to 20 March 2018, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 12 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 13(a) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

Except as otherwise provided, terms used in this Permit have the meaning set out in the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

botanist means a person who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in identification and surveys of flora native to the bioregion being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the CEO as a suitable botanist for the bioregion;

priority flora means priority flora as identified in the Declared Rare and Priority Flora List for Western Australia as published by the Department of Parks and Wildlife from time to time.

critical habitat means any part of the Permit Area comprising of the habitat of flora or fauna species and its population, that is critical for the health and long term survival of the flora or fauna species and its population;

ecologist means a person who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in flora identification, flora and vegetation surveys and vegetation data analysis of flora and vegetation native to the bioregion being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the CEO as a suitable ecologist for the bioregion;

fauna specialist means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specializing 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*;

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;

flora and vegetation 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 priority or threatened ecological communities. The survey should include sufficient surrounding areas to place the Permit Area into local context;

Guidance Statement No. 51 means the Environmental Protection Authority Guidance Statement No 51, Guidance for the Assessment of Environmental Factors - Terrestrial Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment in Western Australia (2004);

Guidance Statement No 56 means Guidance for the Assessment of Environmental Factors: Terrestrial Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment in Western Australia. Guidance Statement No 56, Environmental Protection Authority (2004);

priority ecological community/ies mean those ecological communities described as priority classes 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 in the *Department of Parks and Wildlife's Priority Ecological Communities for Western Australia* (as amended);

priority fauna means those fauna taxa describes as priority fauna, classes 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 in the *Department of Parks and Wildlife's Threatened and Priority Fauna Rankings List for Western Australia* (as amended);

priority flora means those plant taxa described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 in the *Department of Parks and Wildlife's Threatened and Priority Flora List for Western Australia* (as amended);

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 target flora are identified in the Permit Area, the survey should also include sufficient surrounding areas to place the Permit Area into local context;

threatened ecological community/ies has the meaning given to it in clause 3 of the *Environmental Protection (Environmentally Sensitive Areas) Notice 2005*;

Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice means those plant taxa gazetted as rare flora pursuant to section 23F(2) of the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* (as amended).

Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice means those fauna taxa gazetted as rare fauna pursuant to section 14(4)(a) of the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* (as amended).

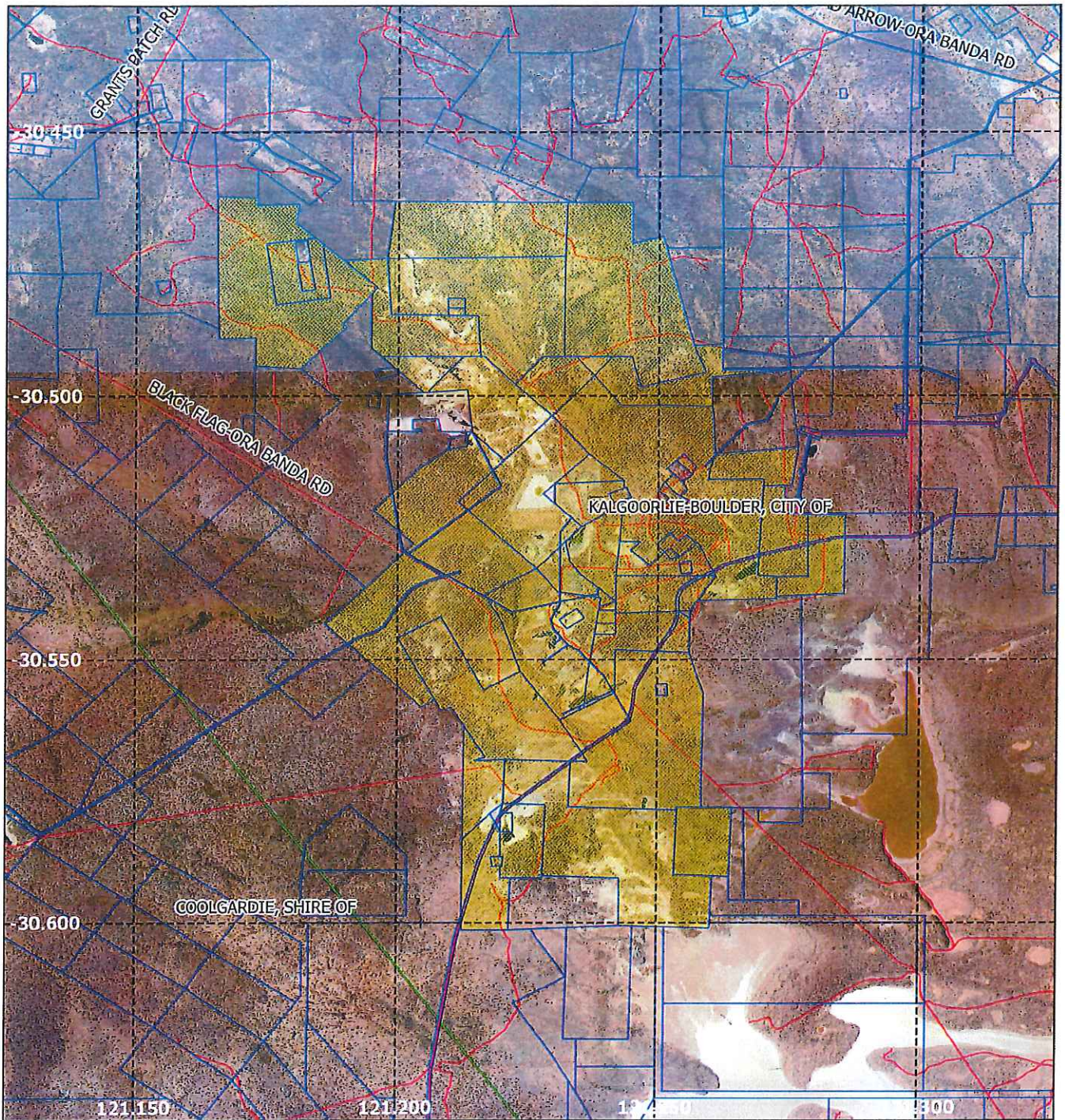


Jane Clarkson
A/ SENIOR MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

26 November 2015

Plan 374/6



Legend

- Areas approved to clear
- Roads
- local_gov_authority
- Virtual Mosaic
- Mining Tenements
- Live



1:80,000

MGA 94
Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994

[Signature] Date 26/11/15
Jane Clarkson

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





1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 374/6
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Applicant details

Applicant's name: Paddington Gold Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: M24/403
M24/255
M24/231
M24/291
M24/205
M24/270
M24/138
M24/187
M24/271
M24/220
M24/272
M24/393
M24/229
M24/432
M24/60
M24/321
M24/234
M24/81
M24/82
M24/710
M24/182
M24/223
M24/16
M24/227
M24/705
M24/709
M24/266
M24/265
M24/155
M24/79
G24/11
G24/12
M24/236
M24/166
M24/256
M24/102
M24/211
M24/810
M24/796
M24/708
M24/172
M24/304
M24/618
M24/302

Colloquial name: Mount Pleasant Project
Local Government: City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Authority:
DER Region: Goldfields
DPaW District: No district
LCDC: Kalgoorlie
Localities: Ora Banda and Kanowna

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
230		Mechanical Removal	Mineral production

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Grant

Application:

Decision Date: 26 November 2015

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 125: Bare areas - salt lakes;	Paddington Gold Pty Ltd proposes to clear up to 230 hectares of native vegetation within a total boundary of approximately 9,153 hectares for the purpose of mineral production.	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994);	Vegetation condition was determined from aerial imagery, an Edith Cowan University (2005) report and information received from the Department of Industry and Resources (DOIR, 2005).
Beard Vegetation Association 128: Bare areas - rock outcrops;		To:	
Beard Vegetation Association 468: Medium woodland - salmon gum and Goldfields blackbutt;		Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).	
Beard Vegetation Association 540: Succulent steppe with open low woodland - sheoak over saltbush;			
Beard Vegetation Association 936: Medium woodland - salmon gum;			
Beard Vegetation Association 2901: Mosaic Medium woodland - <i>Allocasuarina cristata</i> & Goldfields blackbutt/Shrublands; <i>Acacia quadrimarginea</i> thicket (Shepherd et al., 2001).			

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments	<p>The clearing permit has been amended to increase the area to be cleared from 100 hectares to 230 hectares of native vegetation, in order to expand mining operations within the Mount Pleasant Project. The clearing permit boundary is unchanged.</p> <p>Two soil types have been mapped within the application area, including greenstone rocky ranges and hills of calcareous loamy soils, and salt lakes with gypseous and saline loamy soil (Northcote et al., 1960-68). The proposed increase in clearing has the potential to increase land degradation on a local scale as a result of wind erosion, particularly within sandy areas. Therefore, the proposed clearing may be at variance to Principle (g). Land degradation via wind erosion may be minimised by the implementation of staged clearing practices.</p> <p>Current environmental information has been reviewed and the assessment of the remaining clearing Principles is consistent with the assessment in clearing permit decision report CPS 374/2.</p>
Methodology	References: Northcote et al. (1960-68)

Planning instruments and other relevant matters.

Comments	<p>The clearing permit has been amended to increase the amount to be cleared from 100 hectares to 230 hectares of native vegetation. A Mining Proposal associated with this increase in clearing has been granted by the Department of Mines and Petroleum (Reg ID: 56096).</p> <p>The assessment against planning and other matters from the previous assessment are still relevant and can be found in the Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 374/2.</p> <p>Permit conditions have been updated to reflect current standard wording used by the Department of Environment Regulation.</p> <p>The application was advertised by the Department of Environment Regulation on 7 September 2015. No submissions from the public have been received.</p>
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4. References

- DOIR (2005) Submission. Department of Industry and Resources, Western Australia. DOE TRIM Ref ND 620.
- Edith Cowan University (2005) Vegetation and Flora of the Mt Pleasant Mining Area, Kalgoorlie West Operations - A report prepared for Placer Dome Inc, April 2005. Centre for Ecosystem Management, Edith Cowan University. DOE TRIM ref NI 1027.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Northcote, K. H. with Beckmann G G, Bettenay E., Churchward H. M., van Dijk D. C., Dimmock G. M., Hubble G. D., Isbell R. F., McArthur W. M., Murtha G. G., Nicolls K. D., Paton T. R., Thompson C. H., Webb A. A. and Wright M. J. (1960-68): 'Atlas of Australian Soils, Sheets 1 to 10, with explanatory data'. CSIRO and Melbourne University Press: Melbourne.
- 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.