



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose permit number:	4532/13
Duration of permit:	5 November 2011 to 5 November 2037
Permit holder:	Argyle Diamonds Pty Limited

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

Diamond (Argyle Diamond Mines Joint Venture) Agreement Act 1981, Mining Lease 259SA (AM 70/259)
Mining Lease 80/114
Miscellaneous Licences 80/1, 80/11, 80/24 and 80/53

2. Clearing authorised (purpose)

The permit holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the purpose of closure and decommissioning related activities.

3. Area of clearing

The permit holder must not clear more than 566 hectares of native vegetation within the areas shaded yellow in Figures 1 to 3 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 months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

5. Period in which clearing is authorised

The permit holder must not clear any native vegetation after 5 November 2030.

6. Directional clearing

The permit holder shall:

- (a) conduct all clearing authorised under this permit in one direction towards adjacent vegetation; and
- (b) allow a reasonable time for fauna present within the area being cleared to move into that adjacent native vegetation ahead of the clearing activity.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

7. 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:

- (c) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- (d) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- (e) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

8. 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.

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, or reinstated downstream into existing natural *drainage lines*.

10. Fauna management (Gouldian finch – non-breeding season)

Where clearing authorised under this Permit is to occur between 1 June and 31 December, the Permit Holder shall:

- (a) Within three months prior to undertaking any clearing, engage an *environmental specialist* to conduct an inspection for *suitable Gouldian finch (Chloebeia gouldiae) nesting trees*.
- (b) Where *suitable Gouldian finch (Chloebeia gouldiae) nesting trees* have been identified under Condition 10(a), the Permit Holder shall engage an *environmental specialist* to conduct an inspection of these trees to identify hollows.
- (c) Where *suitable Gouldian finch (Chloebeia gouldiae) nesting trees* with hollows have been identified under Condition 10(b), the Permit Holder shall retain *suitable Gouldian finch (Chloebeia gouldiae) nesting trees* with hollows, where practicable.

11. Fauna management (Gouldian finch – breeding season)

Where clearing authorised under this Permit is to occur between 1 January and 31 May, the Permit Holder shall:

- (a) Within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing, engage an *environmental specialist* to conduct an inspection for *suitable Gouldian finch (Chloebeia gouldiae) nesting trees*.
- (b) Where *suitable Gouldian finch (Chloebeia gouldiae) nesting trees* have been identified under Condition 11(a), the Permit Holder shall engage an *environmental specialist* to conduct an inspection of these trees to identify hollows.
- (c) Where *suitable Gouldian finch (Chloebeia gouldiae) nesting trees* with hollows have been identified under Condition 11(b), the Permit Holder shall retain *suitable Gouldian finch (Chloebeia gouldiae) nesting trees* with hollows, where practicable.
- (d) Where *suitable Gouldian finch (Chloebeia gouldiae) nesting trees* with hollows cannot be retained in accordance with Condition 11(c), the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to inspect *suitable Gouldian finch (Chloebeia gouldiae) nesting trees* with hollows for evidence of *active nesting use*.
- (e) Where evidence of *active nesting use* has been identified under Condition 11(d), the Permit Holder must not clear any trees that show evidence of *active nesting use*.

12. Retain and spread vegetative material and topsoil

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 for later use in *rehabilitation* of the *Argyle Diamond Mine*;
- (b) within 12 months following 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) re-shaping the surface of the land so that it is consistent with the surrounding 5 metres of uncleared land;
 - (ii) ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction;
 - (iii) deliberately laying vegetative material that has comparable vegetation types and comparable soil types to pre-clearing vegetation types within the permit area;
 - (iv) deliberately *revegetating* native vegetation that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area;
 - (v) ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used to *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area.
- (c) within 4 years of undertaking *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* in accordance with condition 12(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 12(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.
- (d) where additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation is undertaken in accordance with condition 12(c)(ii) of this permit, the permit holder shall repeat condition 12(c)(i) and 12(c)(ii) within 24 months of undertaking the additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation.
- (e) where a determination by an *environmental specialist* that the composition, structure and density within areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* will result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, as determined in condition 12(c)(i) and 12(c)(ii) of this permit, that determination shall be submitted for the *CEO*'s consideration. If the *CEO* does not agree with the determination made under condition 12(c)(ii), the *CEO* may require the permit holder to undertake additional *planting* and *direct seeding* in accordance with the requirements under condition 12(c)(ii).

13. Retain vegetative material and topsoil, revegetation and rehabilitation

- (a) The permit holder shall *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* 67.59 hectares of *temporary disturbance* previously cleared within the areas shaded yellow in Figures 1 to 3 of Schedule 1 by:
 - (i) laying vegetative material and topsoil previously retained within the areas shaded yellow in Figures 1 to 3 of Schedule 1 on the cleared areas;
 - (ii) ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction; and
 - (iii) re-shaping the surface of the land so that it is consistent with the surrounding 5 metres of uncleared land.
- (b) Within 4 years of undertaking *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* in accordance with condition 13(a) 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 13(b)(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.

- (c) Where additional *planting* and/or *direct seeding* of native vegetation is undertaken in accordance with condition 13(b)(ii) of this permit, the permit holder shall repeat condition 13(b)(i) and 13(b)(ii) within 24 months of undertaking the additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation.
- (d) Where a determination by an *environmental specialist* that the composition, structure and density within areas revegetated and rehabilitated will result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, as determined in condition 13(b)(i) and 13(b)(ii) of this permit, that determination shall be submitted for the *CEO's* consideration. If the *CEO* does not agree with the determination made under condition 13(b)(ii), the *CEO* may require the permit holder to undertake additional *planting* and *direct seeding* in accordance with the requirements under condition 13(b)(ii).

PART III – RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

14. 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 in accordance with condition 6; (f) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 7; (g) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> in accordance with condition 8; and (h) actions taken in accordance with condition 9.
2.	In relation to fauna management for the Gouldian finch (non-breeding season) pursuant to Condition 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the number of tree(s) with hollows identified under Condition 10(b); and (b) the number of hollow bearing tree(s) retained under Condition 10(c), and for any hollow bearing tree(s) not retained the reasons why the tree(s) could not be retained.
3.	In relation to fauna management for the Gouldian finch (breeding season) pursuant to Condition 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the number of tree(s) with hollows identified under Condition 11(b); (b) the number of hollow bearing tree(s) retained under Condition 11(c), and for any hollow bearing tree(s) not retained the reasons why the tree(s) could not be retained; (c) the methodology used to inspect hollows; (d) the number and location of any <i>active nesting use</i> trees identified under Condition 11(d), 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 (e) the name of the <i>fauna specialist</i> that inspected hollows in accordance with Condition 11(d).
4.	In relation to the <i>revegetation</i> and <i>rehabilitation</i> management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The location of any areas <i>revegetated</i> and <i>rehabilitated</i>, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications
	pursuant to conditions 12 and 13	<p>to Geocentric Datum of 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>

15. Reporting

- (a) The permit holder must provide a written report to the *CEO* by 30 September each year for the life of this permit, demonstrating adherence to all conditions of this permit, and setting out the records required under condition 14 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 30 September of each year.
- (c) Prior to 5 November 2037, the permit holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under condition 14 of this permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 15(a) or 15(b) of this permit.

DEFINITIONS

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

Table 2: Definitions

Term	Definition
active nesting use	evidence of current Gouldian finch (<i>Chloebia gouldiae</i>) nesting in tree hollows as identified by a <i>fauna specialist</i> .
Argyle Diamond Mine	means the area covered by the <i>Diamond (Argyle Diamond Mines Joint Venture) Agreement Act 1981</i> , Mining Lease 259SA (AM 70/259), Mining Lease 80/114 and Miscellaneous Licences 80/1, 80/11, 80/24 and 80/53.
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.
drainage line(s)	means a natural depression that carries surface water runoff.
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, and who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> where applicable.
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

Term	Definition
	who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> where applicable.
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.
Gouldian finch (<i>Chloebia gouldiae</i>) nesting season	means from January to May, noting that breeding typically occurs until the end of April and nestlings can take up to 25 days to fledge.
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.
planting	means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating favourable soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species.
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.
riparian vegetation	has the meaning given to it in Regulation 3 of the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004.
suitable Gouldian finch (<i>Chloebia gouldiae</i>) nesting trees	means any trees that have the potential to contain hollows suitable for Gouldian finch (<i>Chloebia gouldiae</i>) nesting.
temporary disturbance	means areas cleared for the purpose of mineral exploration; construction and maintenance of access roads; fibre optic cables; maintenance activities; geotechnical investigations; borrow pits; laydown areas; assembly areas; water bores; turkey nests; culverts; and ancillary infrastructure.
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 – (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.
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 areas authorised to be cleared is shown in the maps below (Figures 1 to 3).

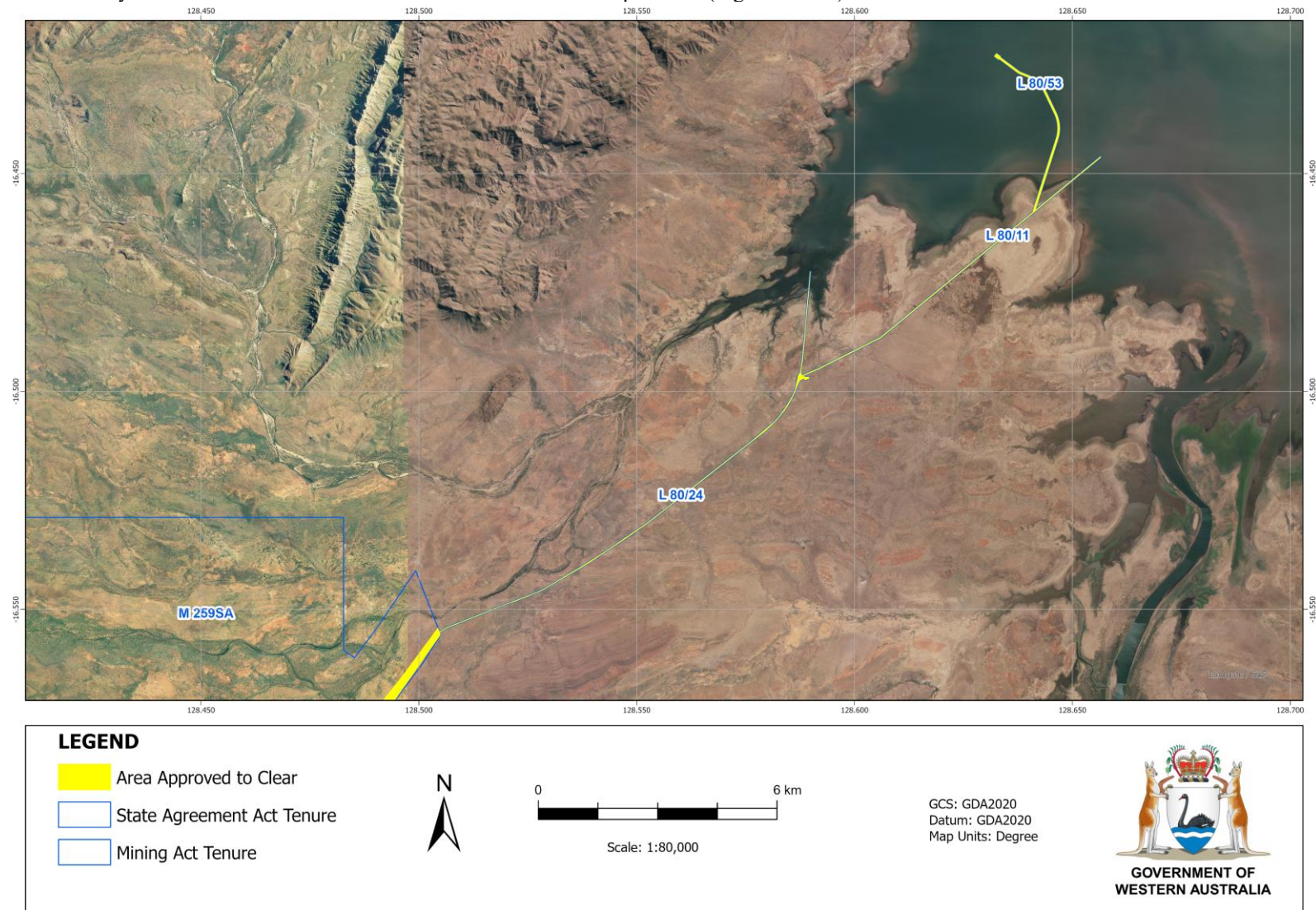


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur – Area 1.

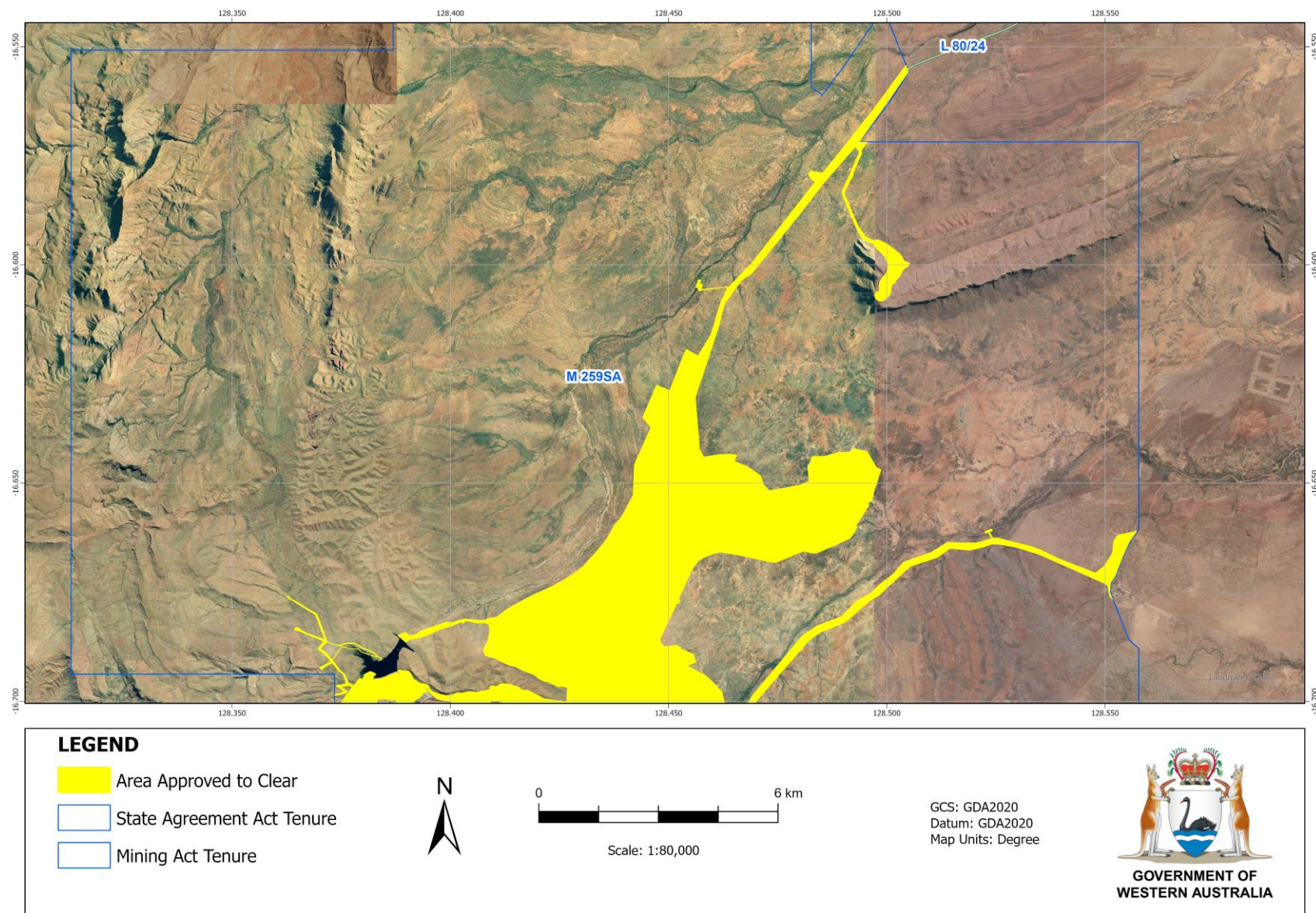


Figure 2: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur – Area 2.

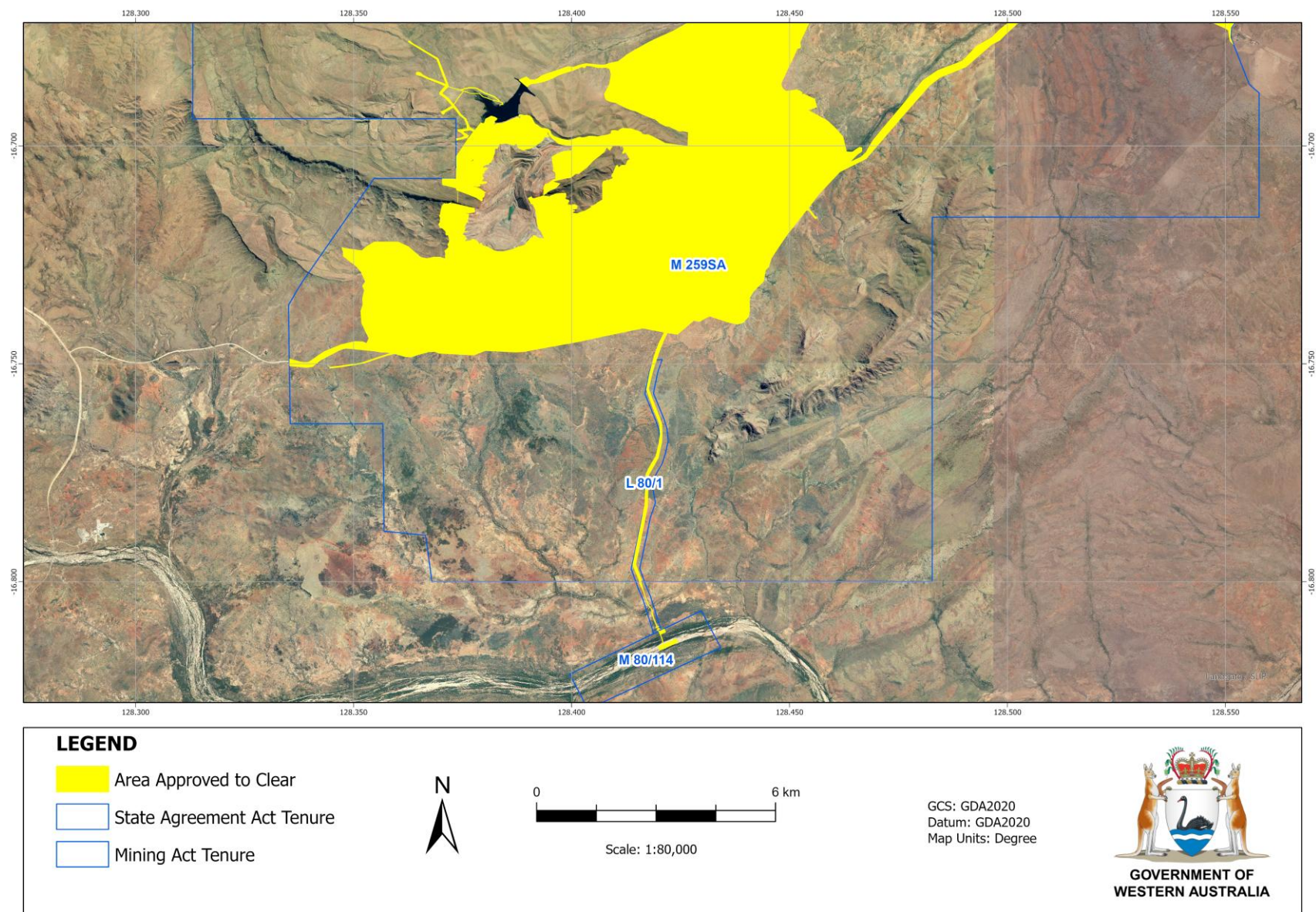


Figure 3: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur – Area 3.