



## CLEARING PERMIT

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

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	5505/4
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	From 8 June 2013 to 7 June 2027
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Western Areas 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**

Mining Lease 77/545  
Mining Lease 77/582  
Mining Lease 77/583  
Mining Lease 77/584  
Mining Lease 77/912

**2. Clearing authorised (purpose)**

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the purposes of mineral exploration and mineral production.

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 30 hectares of native vegetation within the areas cross-hatched yellow, shaded red and shaded green in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

**4. Type of Clearing Authorised – staged clearing**

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. Clearing Not Authorised**

The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation within the areas shaded green in Figure 1 of Schedule 1 unless first approved by the *CEO*.

**6. Clearing Not Authorised**

The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation within the area shaded red in Figure 1 of Schedule 1 for the purpose of mineral production unless first approved by the *CEO*.

### **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:

- 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.

## 8. Weed and Dieback 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* and *dieback*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) only move soils in *dry conditions*;
- (c) ensure that no known *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (d) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

## 9. Vegetation Management – watercourse management

- (a) where practicable the Permit Holder shall avoid clearing *riparian vegetation*; and
- (b) where a *watercourse* 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. 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 area to be cleared for the presence of *threatened flora* listed in the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice* and *priority flora*;
- (b) where *threatened flora* or *priority flora* are identified in relation to Condition 10(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
  - (i) no clearing occurs within 50 metres of identified *threatened flora*, unless first approved by the *CEO*;
  - (ii) no clearing of identified *priority flora* occurs, unless first approved by the *CEO*; and
  - (iii) no clearing occurs within 10 metres of identified *priority flora*, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

## 11. Flora Management

Where *threatened flora* or *priority flora* have been identified and their written locations provided to the *CEO* within the reports 'Flora & Vegetation Survey of the Greater New Morning/Spotted Quoll Area, Tenements: E77/1568, M77/912, E77/1866, M77/584, M77/583 & E77/1865, January 2013' and 'Flora & Vegetation Survey of the Greater Flying Fox Area, Tenements: M77/582, M77/911 and M77/545, January 2013', the Permit Holder shall ensure that:

- (a) no clearing occurs within 50 metres of identified *threatened flora*, unless first approved by the *CEO*; and
- (b) no clearing of identified *priority flora* occurs, unless first approved by the *CEO*; and
- (c) no clearing occurs within 10 metres of identified *priority flora*, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

## 12. Fauna Management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the areas shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* who shall identify *habitat/habitat tree(s)* suitable to be utilised as habitat by fauna listed in the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice*;
- (b) Prior to clearing, any *habitat/habitat tree(s)* identified by Condition 12(a) shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* for the presence of fauna listed in the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice*.
- (c) Where fauna are identified in relation to Condition 12(b) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
  - (i) no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the identified *habitat/habitat tree(s)* unless first approved by the *CEO*.

## 13. Fauna Management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the area(s) shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* for the presence of *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mounds.
- (b) Where *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mounds are identified in relation to Condition 13(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the identified *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) mounds, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

## **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**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Relevant matter</b>	<b>Specifications</b>
1.	In relation to the authorised clearing activities generally	(a) 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; (b) the date that the area was cleared; (c) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); (d) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with Condition 7; and (e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> and <i>dieback</i> in accordance with Condition 8.
2.	In relation to flora management pursuant to Condition 10 of this Permit	(a) the location of each <i>threatened</i> and <i>priority flora</i> species, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings; (b) the species name of each <i>threatened</i> and <i>priority flora</i> species identified; and (c) a copy of the <i>botanist's</i> flora survey report.
3.	In relation to fauna management pursuant to Condition 12 of this Permit	(a) the location of each <i>habitat/habitat tree</i> identified recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings; (b) the species name of fauna reasonably likely to utilise, or that have been observed utilising, the <i>habitat/habitat tree(s)</i> ; and (c) a copy of the <i>fauna specialist's</i> report.
4.	In relation to fauna management pursuant to Condition 13 of this Permit	(a) the location of each <i>Leipoa ocellata</i> (Malleefowl) mound recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings; and (b) a copy of the <i>fauna specialist's</i> report.

### **15. 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 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 31 July of each year.
- (c) Prior to 7 June 2027, 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**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
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 <i>CEO</i> as a suitable botanist for the bioregion.
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.
dieback	means the effect of <i>Phytophthora</i> species on native vegetation.
drainage line/s	means a natural depression that carries surface water runoff.
dry conditions	means when soils (not dust) do not freely adhere to rubber tyres, tracks, vehicle chassis or wheel arches.
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.
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 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.
habitat tree(s)	means trees that have a diameter, measured at 1.5 metres from the base of the tree, of 50 centimetres or greater, that contains or has the potential to develop hollows or roosts suitable for native fauna.
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 Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions' <i>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) Regulations 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 target flora are identified in the Permit Area, the

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
	survey should also include sufficient 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 – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the <i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007</i>; or</li> <li>(b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or</li> <li>(c) not indigenous to the area concerned.</li> </ul>
Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice	means those plant taxa gazetted as a threatened flora pursuant to section 19(1) of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (as amended).
Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice	means those fauna taxa gazetted as threatened fauna pursuant to section 19(1) of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (as amended).

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## END OF CONDITIONS



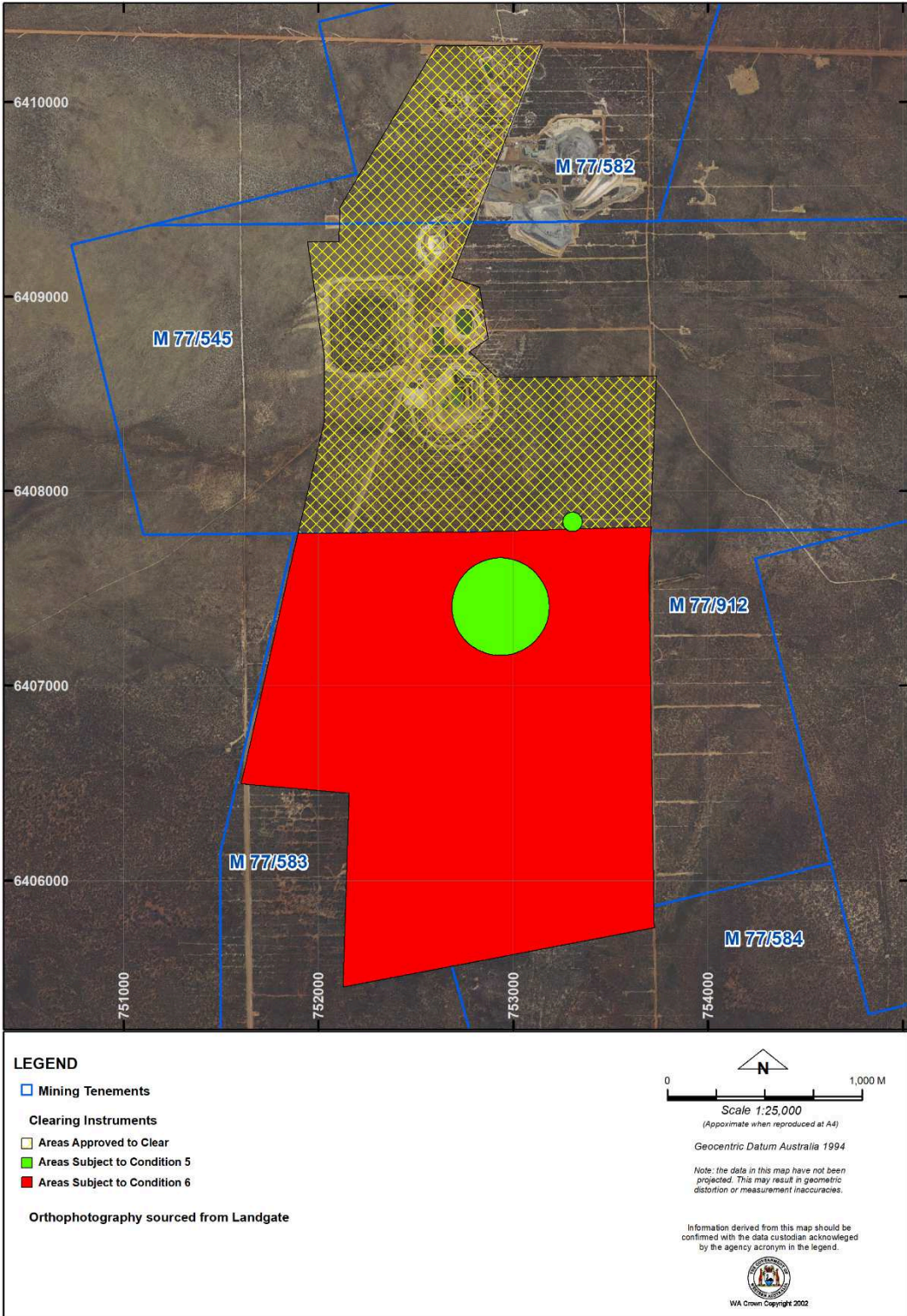

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Travis Inman  
General Manager Mine Closure and Environmental Services  
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division  
24 March 2022

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

**SCHEDULE 1**

The boundary of the area authorised to be cleared and the areas subject to conditions are shown in the map below (Figure 1).



**Figure 1: Map showing the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur, and the areas subject to restricted clearing conditions.**