



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	5572/3
Duration of Permit:	From 20 July 2013 to 30 November 2035
Permit Holder:	BHP Iron Ore 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

Iron Ore (Mount Goldsworthy) Agreement Act 1964, Mining Lease 235SA (AML 70/235)
Iron Ore (Mount Goldsworthy) Agreement Act 1964, Mining Lease 249SA (AML 70/249)
General Purpose Lease 45/278

2. Clearing authorised (purpose)

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the purpose of closure activities, borrow pits, exploration, hydrogeological and geotechnical investigations, infrastructure maintenance and associated activities.

3. Area of clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 110 hectares of native vegetation within the areas cross-hatched yellow and shaded red in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

4. Clearing restricted

The Permit Holder shall only clear native vegetation within the areas shaded red in Figure 1 of Schedule 1 for the purpose of closure activities.

5. Type of clearing authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless the purpose for which the clearing is authorised is enacted within six months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

6. Period in which clearing is authorised

The Permit Holder must not clear any native vegetation after 30 November 2030.

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:

- (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. 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* 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 locations of *recorded conservation significant flora* within the areas cross-hatched yellow and shaded red in Figure 1 of Schedule 1, must be demarcated and avoided with a minimum 10 metre buffer, where practicable.
- (b) Where *recorded conservation significant flora* cannot be avoided under Condition 10(a), the permit holder may clear *recorded conservation significant flora* only for the purpose of closure activities.

11. Fauna management – greater bilby and brush-tailed mulgara

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to identify habitat suitable for:
 - (i) *Macrotis lagotis* (greater bilby) burrows; and
 - (ii) *Dasyercus blythi* (brush-tailed mulgara) burrows.
- (b) Within two weeks prior to clearing any habitat identified in relation to Condition 11(a), the areas shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* for the presence of active burrows listed under Condition 11(a).
- (c) Where active burrows are identified in relation to Condition 11(b) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the identified active burrows.

12. Fauna management – western pebble-mound mouse

Where active western pebble-mound mouse (*Pseudomys chapmani*) mounds have been identified and their locations provided to the *CEO* within the report as retained on DMPE file A0767/201301: 'Mt Goldsworthy on-tenure targeted significant vertebrate fauna survey. Prepared for BHP WAIO, by Biota Environmental Services, October 2025' as Object ID A100212018, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:

- (i) no clearing of active western pebble-mound mouse (*Pseudomys chapmani*) mounds occurs unless first approved by the *CEO*; and
- (ii) no clearing occurs within 10 metres of active western pebble-mound mouse (*Pseudomys chapmani*) mounds unless first approved by the *CEO*.

13. Retain vegetative material and topsoil, revegetation and rehabilitation

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;
- (b) within 12 months following completion of 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) ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction;
 - (ii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under Condition 13(a) on the cleared area; and
 - (iii) re-shaping the surface of the land so that it is consistent with the surrounding 5 metres of uncleared land.
- (c) within 4 years of undertaking *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* in accordance with Condition 13(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 13(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.

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 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 5;(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 flora management pursuant to Condition 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) actions taken to demarcate and avoid <i>recorded conservation significant flora</i> with a 10 metre buffer, where practicable;(b) if <i>recorded conservation significant flora</i> cannot be avoided, the:<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) date <i>recorded conservation significant flora</i> species were cleared;(ii) location of <i>recorded conservation significant flora</i> cleared, recorded using a GPS unit set to

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications
		GDA2020, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings; (iii) the <i>recorded conservation significant flora</i> taxa and number of individuals cleared; and (iv) the purpose for which the <i>recorded conservation significant flora</i> were cleared.
3.	In relation to fauna management pursuant to Condition 11	(a) the location of suitable habitat recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; (b) the location of burrows recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; (c) the method used to determine whether the located burrow is active; (d) the species name of fauna reasonably likely to utilise, or that have been observed utilising the located burrow; (e) a copy of the <i>fauna specialist's</i> report; (f) actions taken to demarcate active burrows and their relevant buffers; and (g) actions taken to avoid clearing within 50 metres of identified active burrows.
4.	In relation to fauna management pursuant to Condition 12	(a) actions taken to demarcate each active mound of the western pebble-mound mouse recorded and their relevant buffers; and (b) actions taken to avoid the clearing of active mounds of the western pebble-mound mouse.
5.	In relation to the <i>revegetation</i> and <i>rehabilitation</i> management pursuant to Condition 13	(a) The location of any areas <i>revegetated</i> and <i>rehabilitated</i> , recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; (b) a description of the <i>revegetation</i> and <i>rehabilitation</i> activities undertaken; and (c) the size of the area <i>revegetated</i> and <i>rehabilitated</i> (in hectares).

15. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the *CEO* by 1 October 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 1 October of each year.
- (c) Prior to 30 November 2035, 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
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	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 CEO as a suitable environmental specialist.
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> (WA)
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 <i>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</i> .
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.
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.
recorded conservation significant flora	means individuals of <i>Euphorbia clementii</i> , <i>Rothia indica</i> subsp. <i>australis</i> , <i>Euphorbia inappendiculata</i> var. <i>inappendiculata</i> , <i>Euphorbia inappendiculata</i> var. <i>queenslandica</i> , and <i>Polymeria</i> sp. indet., found within the areas cross-hatched yellow and shaded red in Figure 1 of Schedule 1 during the following surveys: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biota Environmental Services (2025) <i>Mt Goldsworthy South detailed flora and vegetation survey, prepared for BHP WAIO, October 2025</i>. • Spectrum Ecology Pty Ltd (2025) <i>Mt Goldsworthy single-phase detailed flora & vegetation survey, prepared for BHP WAIO, October 2025</i>. • Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited (2025) <i>Mt Goldsworthy Project: Detailed flora and vegetation survey, prepared for BHP Western Australia Iron Ore, September 2025</i>.
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 /	means the re-establishment of a cover of <i>local provenance</i> native vegetation in an

Term	Definition
revegetation	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) Regulation 2004.
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.

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).

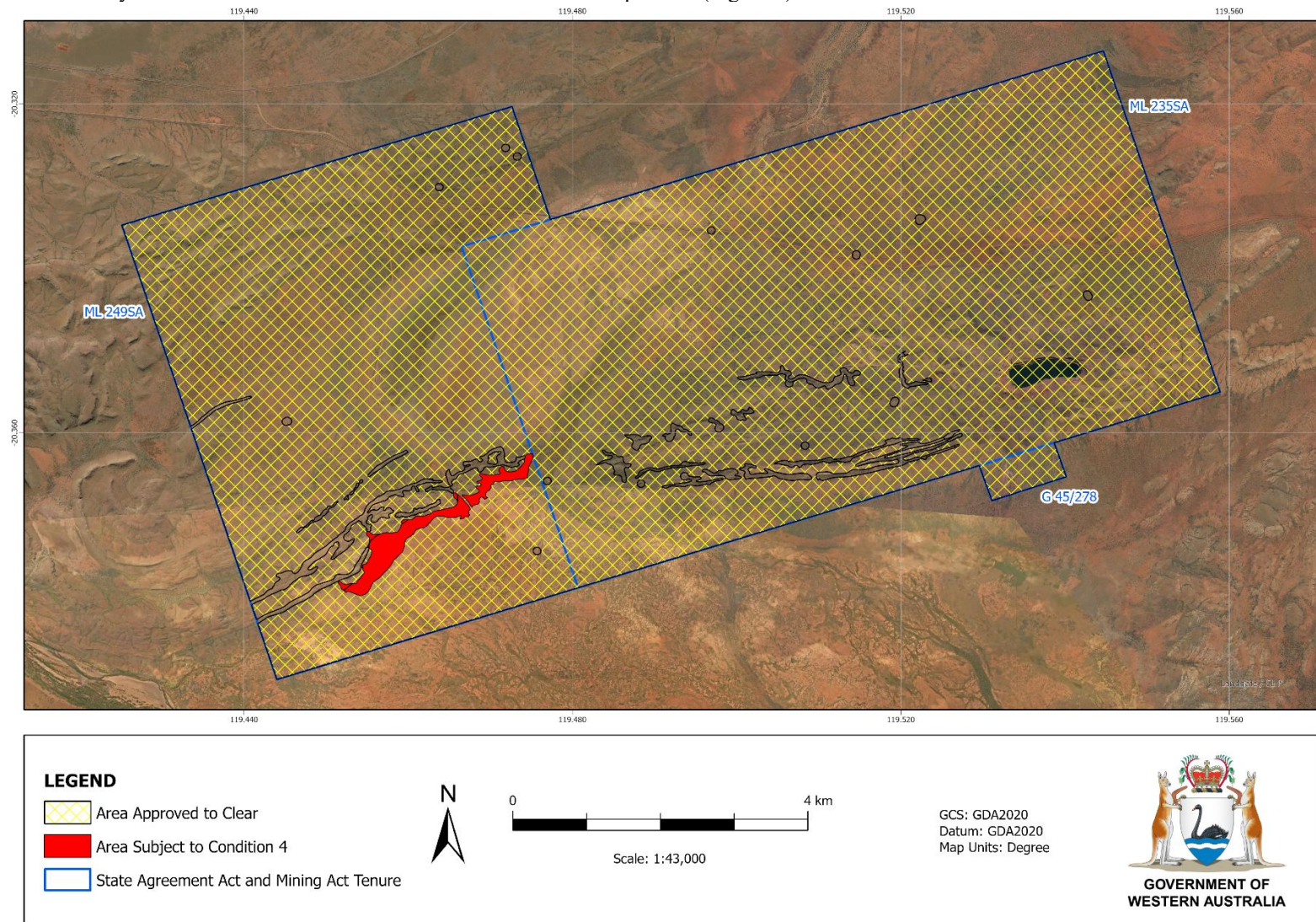


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur.