



## CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	5648/3
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	From 24 August 2013 to 23 August 2028
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Hinckley Range 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**

Exploration Licence 69/3065

**2. Clearing authorised (purpose)**

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the purpose of mineral exploration.

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 40 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

### **PART II - MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS**

**6. 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.

**7. 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.

## 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 threatened flora listed in the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice* and *priority flora* in accordance with *EPA Technical Guidance*.
- (b) Where threatened flora or *priority flora* are identified in relation to Condition 8(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
  - (i) 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*;
  - (ii) no clearing occurs within 50 metres of identified threatened flora, unless approved by the *CEO*; and
  - (iii) no clearing of identified *priority flora* occurs and no clearing occurs within 10 metres of identified *priority flora*, 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 undertake *clearance surveys* for greater bilby (*Macrotis lagotis*), mulgara (*Dasyercus* species) and great desert skink (*Liopholis kintorei*).
- (b) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall provide the results of the *clearance survey* in a report to the *CEO*.
- (c) The *fauna survey* report must include the following:
  - (i) the location of the 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; and
  - (ii) the location of any fauna species, as listed in Condition 9(a) identified, 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
  - (iii) the species name of each fauna species identified; and
  - (iv) the methodology used to survey the Permit Area; and
  - (v) a description of the fauna habitat identified.
- (d) Where fauna habitat is identified under Condition 9(a) of the Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the identified fauna habitat, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

### **PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING**

#### **9. 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 6; and (e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> in accordance with Condition 7.
2.	In relation to flora management pursuant to Condition 8	(f) the name and location of each <i>threatened flora</i> and/or <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; (g) actions taken to demarcate each <i>threatened flora</i> and/or <i>priority flora</i> species recorded and their relevant buffers; and (h) actions taken to avoid the clearing of <i>threatened flora</i> and/or <i>priority flora</i> species.
3.	In relation to fauna management pursuant to Condition 9	(i) Actions taken in accordance to Condition 9.

#### **10. 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 9 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 23 August 2028, the Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under Condition 6 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 10(a) or 10(b) of this Permit.

## DEFINITIONS

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

**Table 2: Definitions**

Term	Definition
botanist	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.
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> .
clearance survey	a search of immediate impact areas prior to clearing to locate fauna. The clearance survey should focus on locating burrows, recent foraging signs, fresh tracks and scats.
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.
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.
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.
EPA Technical Guidance	Environmental Protection Authority (2016), <i>Technical Guidance - Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment</i> , EPA, Western Australia.
fauna specialist	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 CEO as a suitable fauna specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> .
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> (WA).
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.
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	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).
targeted flora survey	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 flora	plant taxa listed as threatened flora under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> .
Wildlife Conservation	plant taxa gazetted as a threatened flora pursuant to section 19(1) of the <i>Biodiversity</i>

Term	Definition
(Rare Flora) Notice	<i>Conservation Act 2016</i> (as amended).
weed/s	means any plant – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="536 331 1418 398">(a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the <i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007</i>; or</li> <li data-bbox="536 405 1418 506">(b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or</li> <li data-bbox="536 512 1418 551">(c) not indigenous to the area concerned.</li> </ul>

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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  
 22 August 2023

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).

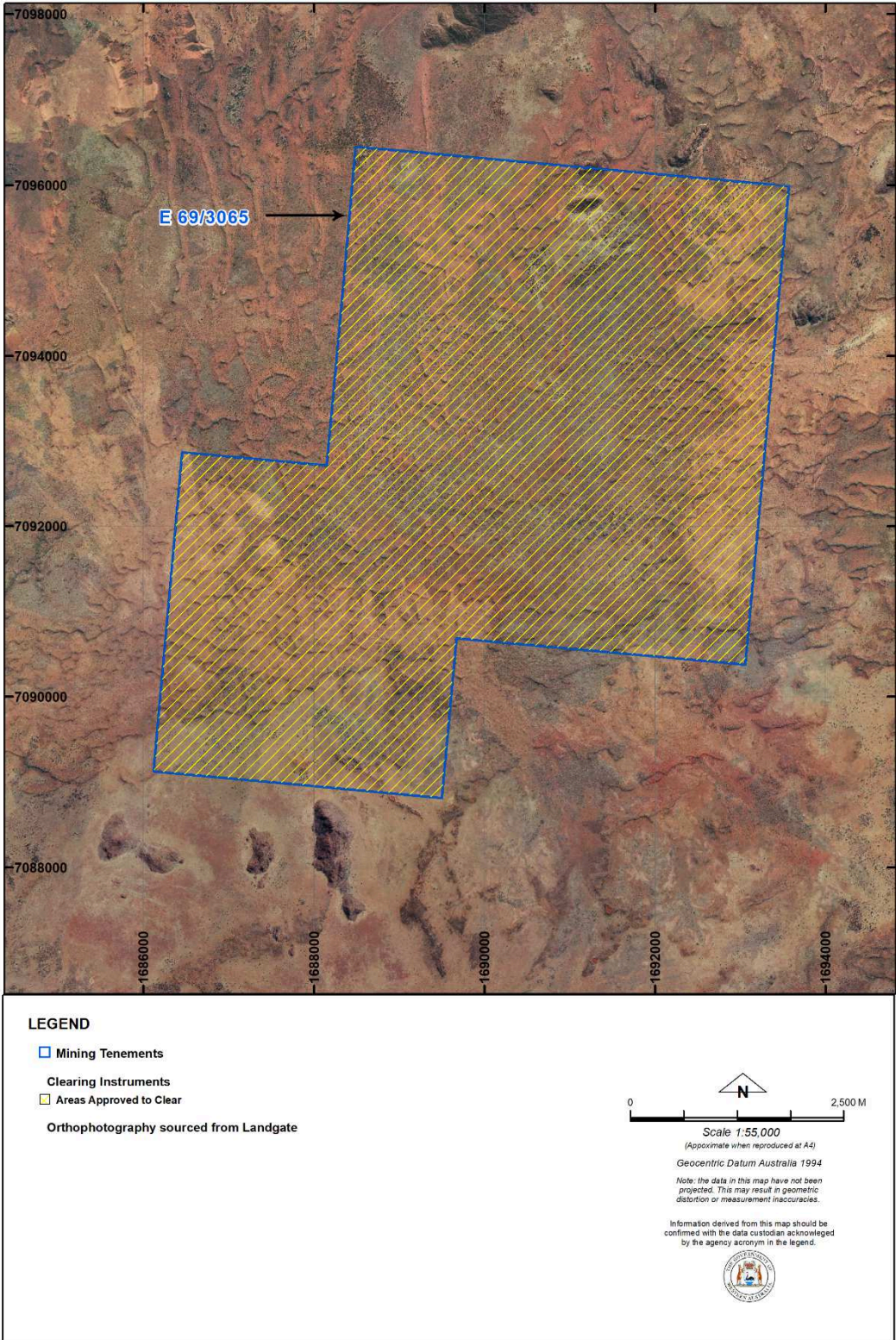


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur