



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	5974/4
Duration of Permit:	From 29 March 2014 to 28 March 2028
Permit Holder:	Fortescue Metals Group 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

Exploration Licence 47/1396

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 36 hectares of native vegetation within the areas cross-hatched yellow and shaded blue in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

4. Clearing Restricted

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

5. Clearing Restricted

The Permit Holder shall only clear native vegetation within the area shaded blue on Figure 1 of Schedule 1 for the purpose of access track construction.

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:

- 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.

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. 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*.

9. Flora management

Where *priority flora* species *Hibiscus* sp. Mt Brockman (E. Thoma ET 1354) and *Indigofera rivularis* have been identified and their written location(s) provided to the *CEO*, within shapefile ‘CPS 5974/4 – Fortescue Metals Group Limited – Survey Report and Data’ as retained on Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety File No. A0175/201401 as Object Id A72760178, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:

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

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

10. 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	<ol 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 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; and(f) actions taken in accordance with Conditions 5 and 8.
2.	In relation to flora management pursuant to Condition 9	<ol style="list-style-type: none">(a) the name and location of each <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) actions taken to demarcate each <i>priority flora</i> species recorded and their relevant buffers; and(c) actions taken to avoid the clearing of <i>priority flora</i> species.

11. 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 10 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 28 March 2028, the Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under Condition 10 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 11(a) or 11(b) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

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

Table 2: Definitions

Term	Definition
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 (WA)</i> and designated as responsible for the administration of the EP Act, which includes Part V Division 3.
drainage line/s	means a natural depression that carries surface water runoff.
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)</i>
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	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) 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

Danielle Risbey

Danielle Risbey | Acting General Manager Mine Closure and Environmental Services
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division
28 March 2024

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).

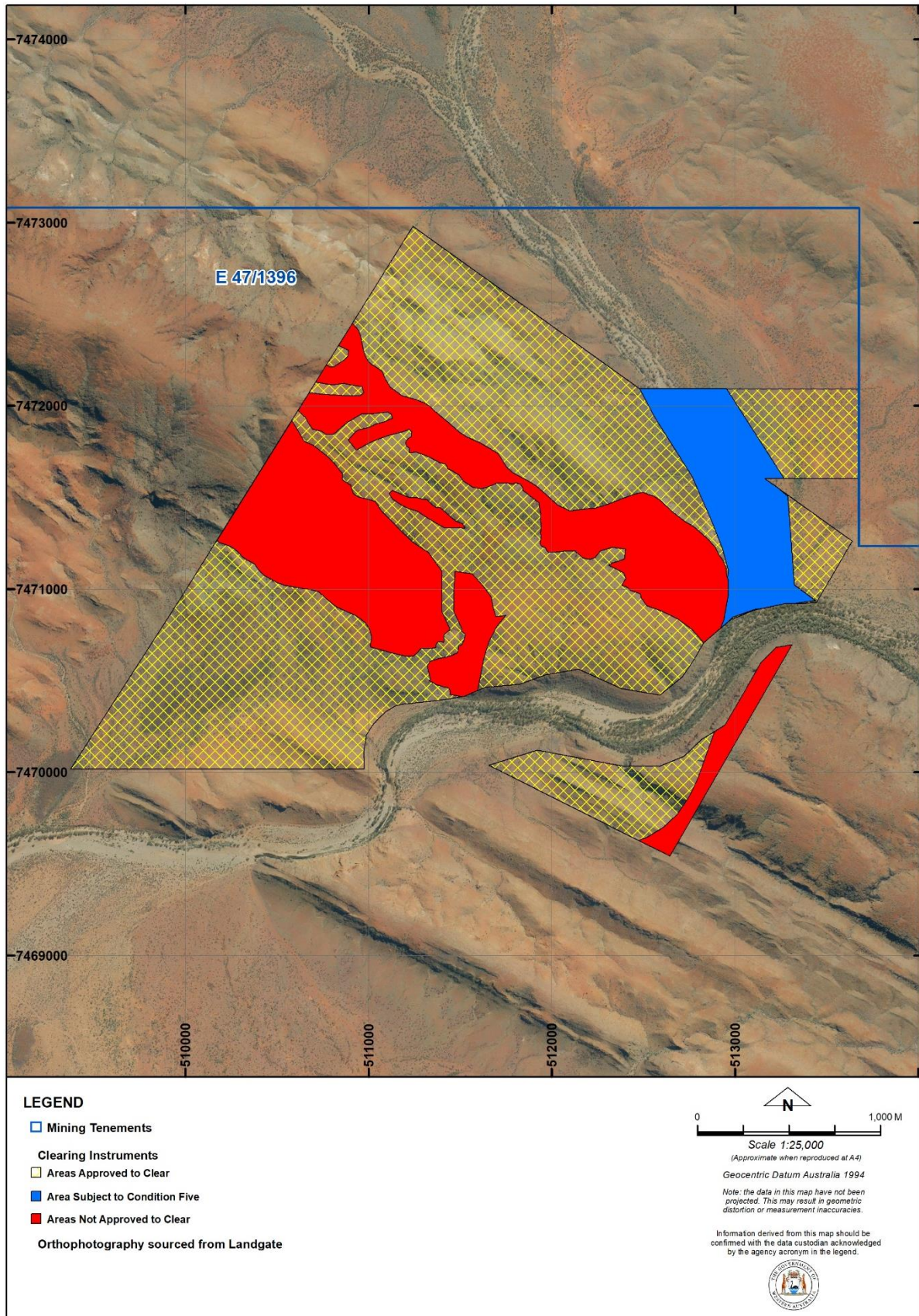


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur.