



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 6352/1
Permit Holder:	Robe River Mining Co Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit:	30 January 2015 to 30 January 2020

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purpose of rail infrastructure maintenance.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 61 on Deposited Plan 54397, Millstream

Lot 62 on Deposited Plan 57725, Millstream

Lot 506 on Deposited Plan 61847, Millstream

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 0.4 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow on attached Plan 6352/1.

4. Application

This Permit allows the Permit Holder to authorise persons, including employees, contractors and agents of the Permit Holder, to clear native vegetation for the purposes of this Permit subject to compliance with the conditions of this Permit and approval from the Permit Holder.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

5. Avoid, minimise etc clearing

In determining the amount of native vegetation to be cleared authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must have regard to the following principles, set out in 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.

6. 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*:

- clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- ensure that no *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

DEFINITIONS

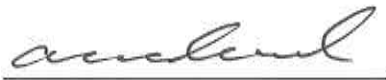
The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

fill means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

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;

weed/s means any plant -

- (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or
- (b) published in a Department of Parks and Wildlife Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

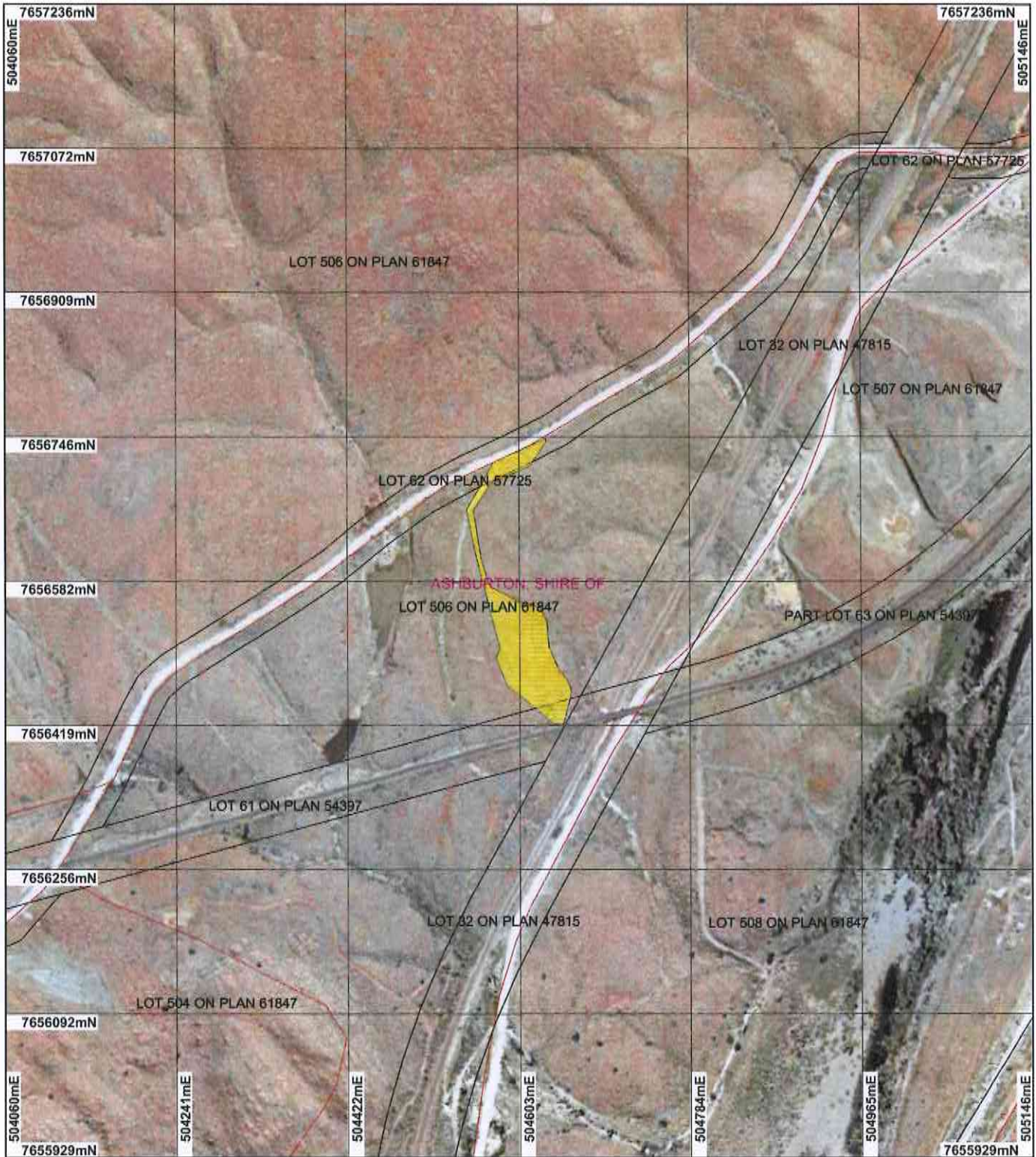


M Warnock
SENIOR MANAGER
CLEARING REGULATION

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

31 December 2014

Plan 6352/1



LEGEND

- Road Centrelines
- Cadastre for labelling
- Local Government Authorities

Clearing Instruments_1

- Areas Approved to Clear

Cooya Pooya 1.4m
Orthomosaic - Landgate
1998

Scale 1:6000
(Approximate when reproduced at A4)

Geocentric Datum Australia 1994

Note: the data in this map have not been projected. This may result in geometric distortion or measurement inaccuracies.

M Warnock Date 31/12/14

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

Information derived from this map should be confirmed with the data custodian acknowledged by the agency acronym in the legend.

Government of Western Australia
Department of Environment Regulation

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* Project Data is denoted by asterisk. This data has not been quality assured. Please contact map author for details.



Clearing Permit Decision Report

Government of Western Australia
Department of Environment Regulation

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6352/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Robe River Mining Co Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: LOT 506 ON PLAN 61847 (Lot No. 506 WARLU MILLSTREAM 6716)
LOT 62 ON PLAN 57725 (MILLSTREAM 6716)
LOT 61 ON PLAN 54397 (MILLSTREAM 6716)

Local Government Area: Shire of Ashburton

Colloquial name:

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.4		Mechanical Removal	Railway construction or maintenance

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 31 December 2014

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description

Mapped Beard Vegetation Association:

152: Hummock grasslands, grass steppe; soft & hard spinifex soft spinifex (Shepherd et al, 2001).

Vegetation Condition

Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery 1994)

To

Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery 1994)

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments This application proposes to clear 0.4 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 61 on Deposited Plan 54397, Lot 62 on Deposited Plan 57725 and Lot 506 on Deposited Plan 61847, Millstream, for the purpose of rail infrastructure maintenance.

Consideration has been given to impacts to biodiversity, significant fauna habitat, rare flora, threatened ecological communities, remnant vegetation values, wetlands, watercourses, land degradation, surface water quality, groundwater quality, and flooding. The assessment has found that the clearing under application is not likely to be at variance to any of the clearing principles.

Methodology

References:

- Parks and Wildlife (2014)

GIS Databases:

- Hydrology, linear
- IBRA Australia
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- DPaW Tenure
- Groundwater salinity, statewide
- Soils, statewide
- RIWI Act, Areas

- Pre-European Vegetation
- SAC Biodatasets Accessed December 2014

Planning instrument, Native Title, Previous EPA decision or other matter.

Comments This application proposes to clear 0.4 hectares of native vegetation within Lot 61 on Deposited Plan 54397, Lot 62 on Deposited Plan 57725 and Lot 506 on Deposited Plan 61847, Millstream, for the purpose of rail infrastructure maintenance.

In order to access the area where the proposed works are being undertaken, the applicant needs to utilise the Deepdale Rail access road and existing track within the Millstream Chichester National Park (Crown Reserve 30071). The disturbance caused by the proposed clearing may increase the risk of weeds being spread when accessing areas of the Millstream Chichester National Park. The Department of Parks and Wildlife (2014) has provided consent to the applicant for use of the track, provided strict hygiene and weed management practices are adhered to.

The Department of Water (DoW, 2014) has advised that the proposal lies within the Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947 (CAWS Act) gazetted Harding Dam Catchment Area and is assigned as a 'Priority 1' Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA). DoW (2014) has advised that the proposed clearing is compatible with conditions in P1 PDWSAs.

DoW (2014) has advised that the Harding Dam aquifer is largely unconfined and is highly vulnerable to contamination. DoW (2014) has advised that the proposal is unlikely to impact on the quality of groundwater, provided the proposed clearing is conducted in accordance with the practices outlined in the Departments Water Quality Protection Guidelines for the mining and mineral industry. DoW (2014) recommends that in order to reduce the risk the associated activities pose to the Water Reserve, the applicant follow the best management practices outlined in the "Water Quality Protection Note (WQPN) 6 – Vegetation buffers to sensitive water resources", "WQPN 44 – Roads near sensitive water resources", "WQPN 83 – Infrastructure corridors near sensitive water resources" and "WQPN 60 – Tanks for mobile fuel storage in PDWSAs (DoW, 2006; DoW, 2006a; DoW, 2007 and DoW, 2013).

The application area falls within a Native Title Claimant area. The claimants, the Ngarluma and Yindjibarndi people, and their representing bodies, the Ngarluma and Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporations, have been notified and to date have not provided comments.

No Aboriginal Sites of Significance have been mapped over the application area.

The area under application is zoned as 'local road' and 'conservation, recreation and nature landscape' under the Town Planning Scheme.

No submissions from the public have been received for the proposed clearing.

Methodology

References:

- Parks and Wildlife (2014)
- DoW (2014)
- DoW (2006)
- DoW (2006a)
- DoW (2007)
- DoW (2013)

GIS Databases:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- Town Planning Scheme

4. References

- Department of Parks and Wildlife (2014) Additional information for Clearing Permit Application CPS 6352/1. Department of Parks and Wildlife. Western Australia. (DER Ref: A827262).
- DoW (2006) Water Quality Protection Note 'Vegetation buffers to sensitive water resources'. Western Australia. <http://www.water.wa.gov.au/PublicationStore/first/81872.pdf> (Accessed 30/12/14)
- DoW (2006a) Water Quality Protection Note 'Roads near sensitive water resources'. Western Australia. <http://www.water.wa.gov.au/PublicationStore/first/81912.pdf> (Accessed 30/12/14)
- DoW (2007) Water Quality Protection Note 'Infrastructure corridors near sensitive water resources'. Western Australia. <http://www.water.wa.gov.au/PublicationStore/first/82127.pdf> (Accessed 30/12/14).
- DoW (2013) Water Quality Protection Note 'Tanks for mobile fuel storage in Public Drinking Water Source Areas'. Western Australia. <http://www.water.wa.gov.au/PublicationStore/first/106041.pdf> (Accessed 30/12/14).
- DoW (2014) Advice for Clearing Permit CPS 6352/1. Department of Water. Western Australia. (DER Ref: A848028).
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R., and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001), Native Vegetation in Western Australia. Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture Western Australia, South Perth.