



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	6361/3
Duration of Permit:	From 21 February 2015 to 21 February 2030
Permit Holder:	APA Operations 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

Pipeline Licence 108

2. Clearing authorised (purpose)

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the purpose of gas pipeline.

3. Authorised activity

When undertaking any vegetation clearing within the areas shaded red in Figure 2 of Schedule 1, the Permit Holder shall not clear any *understory*, except for the purpose of *minor ground disturbing activities*, unless approved by the *CEO*.

4. Area of clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 570.52 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow and red in Figure 1 and 2 of Schedule 1.

5. Directional clearing

The Permit Holder must:

- (a) conduct all clearing authorised under this permit in one direction towards adjacent vegetation; and
- (b) allow a reasonable time for fauna present within the area being cleared to move into that adjacent native vegetation ahead of the clearing activity.

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 or *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 *drainage line* or *wetland* is to be impacted by clearing, the Permit Holder shall ensure that the existing surface flow is maintained.

9. Fauna management (malleefowl)

- (a) Within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing under this Permit, engage an *environmental specialist* to conduct an inspection of the area to be cleared to identify malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) mounds.
- (b) where a malleefowl mound is identified in relation to Condition 9(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) mound/s, unless approved by the *CEO*.
- (c) where an *active (in use) malleefowl mound* is identified under Condition 9(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 200 metres of the mound/s, between 1 September and 31 January, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

10. Fauna management (clearance survey)

- (a) Within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a fauna specialist to undertake *clearance surveys* for sandhill dunnart (*Sminthopsis psammophila*), mulgara (*Dasycercus* species), southern marsupial mole (*Notoryctes typhlops*), great desert skink (*Liopholis kintorei*) and woma python (*Aspidites ramsayi*).
- (b) Where sandhill dunnart, mulgara, southern marsupial mole, great desert skink and/or woma python evidence or burrows are identified under Condition 10(a), the Permit Holder shall not clear vegetation within 10 metres of the identified evidence or burrows unless:
 - (i) the Permit Holder engages a *fauna specialist* to determine if the burrow is occupied; and
 - (ii) within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing, the Permit Holder engages a *fauna specialist* to relocate any sandhill dunnart, mulgara, southern marsupial mole, great desert skink, and/or woma python under Condition 10(a) and 10(b) of this Permit.
- (c) The Permit Holder shall engage a fauna spotter to traverse the project area ahead of clearing machinery, at the time of clearing and alert machinery operators to avoid fauna injury or mortality.
- (d) Where any sandhill dunnart, mulgara, southern marsupial mole, great desert skink, and/or woma python are identified and relocated under Condition 10(a), 10(b) and 10(c) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall include the following in a report submitted to the *CEO*:
 - (i) the location of any evidence of sandhill dunnart, mulgara, southern marsupial mole, great desert skink, and/or woma python recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA20), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
 - (ii) the type of evidence recorded under Condition 10(a) e.g. fauna individuals, burrows, scats, tracks;
 - (iii) the location and date where any sandhill dunnart, mulgara, southern marsupial mole, great desert skink, and/or woma python were relocated using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA20), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
 - (iv) the name of the *fauna specialist* that relocated the sandhill dunnart, mulgara, southern marsupial mole, great desert skink, and/or woma python under Condition 10(b)(ii); and
 - (v) a copy of the fauna licence authorising the relocation of the sandhill dunnart, mulgara, southern marsupial mole, great desert skink, and/or woma python under Condition 10(b)(ii).

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

11. 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 3;(e) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with Condition 6;(f) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> in accordance with Condition 7; and(g) actions taken in accordance with Condition 8.
2.	In relation to fauna management pursuant to Condition 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) the location of malleefowl (<i>Leipoa ocellata</i>) mound/s 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 <i>active (in use) malleefowl mound/s</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; and(c) actions taken in accordance with Condition 9.
3.	In relation to fauna management pursuant to Condition 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) a copy of the report.

12. 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 11 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 21 February 2030, the Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under Condition 11 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 12(a) or 12(b) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

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

Table 2: Definitions

Term	Definition
active (in use) malleefowl mound	means a mound with evidence of current malleefowl (<i>Leipoa ocellata</i>) activity, such as: working of the mound; scratching; litter trails leading to the mound; or loose uncompacted surfaces. The form and structure of the mound will show that it is currently being prepared for egg laying or it already contains eggs.
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/s	means 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.
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.
drainage line/s	means a natural depression that carries surface water runoff.
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 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> .
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.
minor ground disturbing activities	means areas cleared for the purpose of pipeline integrity dig (up to 1 kilometre), selective tree removal, and maintaining vehicle access tracks.
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.
riparian vegetation	has the meaning given to it in Regulation 3 of the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulation 2004.
understory	means vegetation that is under 500 millimetres in height.
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,

Term	Definition
	regardless of ranking; or (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.
wetland/s	means an area of seasonally, intermittently or permanently waterlogged or inundated land, whether natural or otherwise, and includes a lake, swamp, marsh, spring, dampland, tidal flat or estuary.

END OF CONDITIONS

Danielle Risbey

Danielle Risbey | General Manager Mine Closure and Environmental Services
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division
20 February 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).

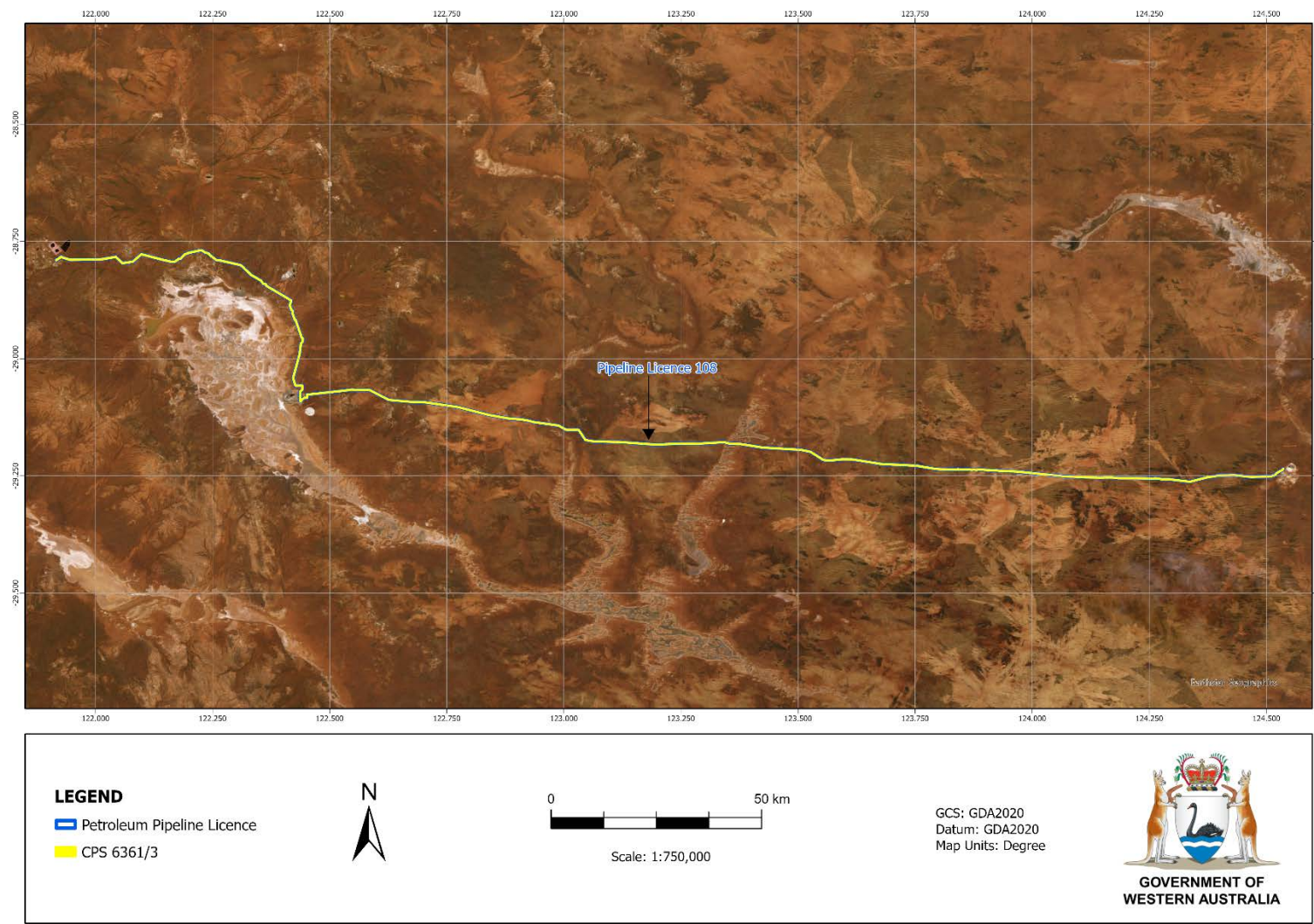


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur.

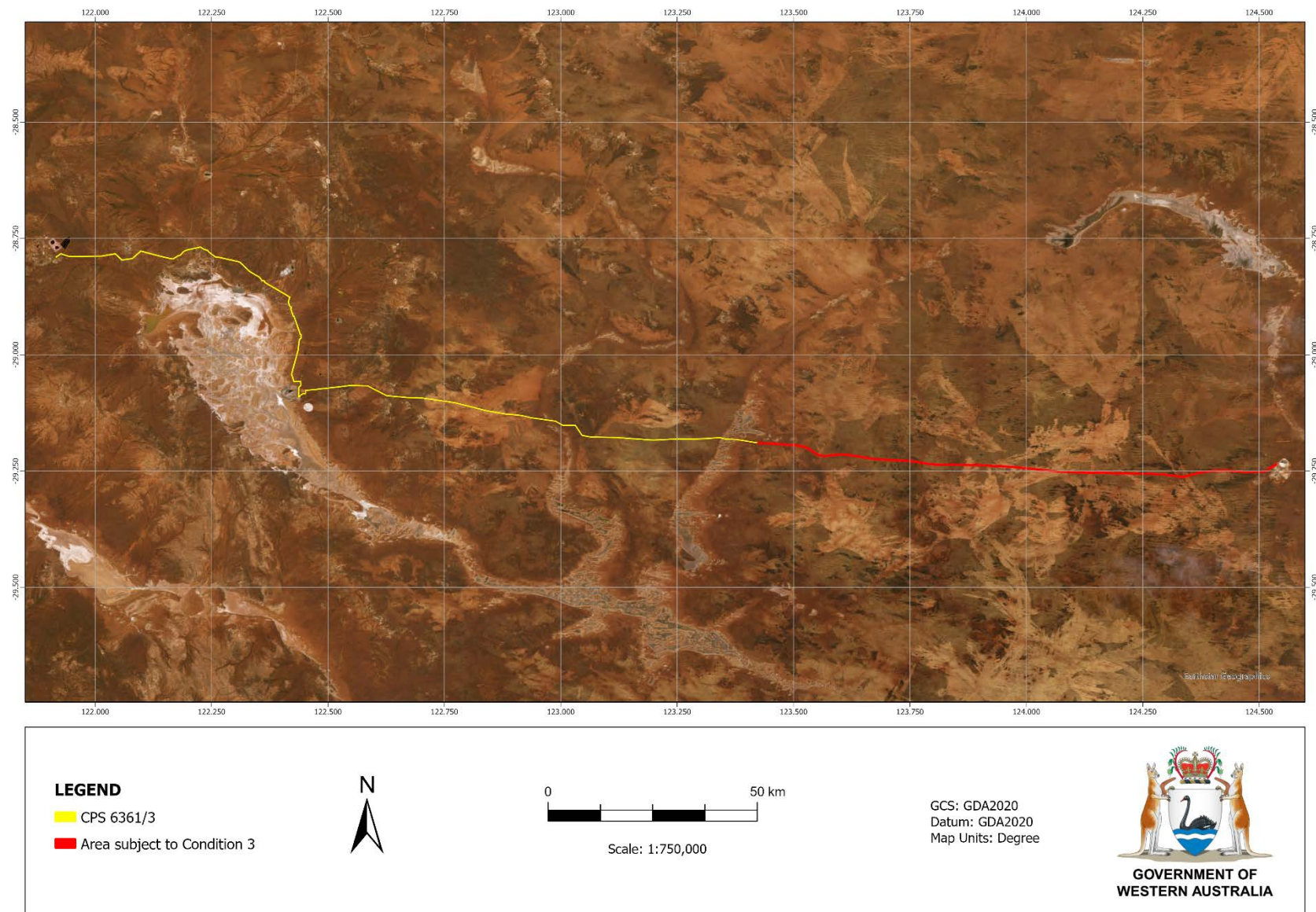


Figure 2: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur and areas subject to Condition 3.