



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 6753/3
Permit Holder:	Commissioner of Main Roads Western Australia
Duration of Permit:	From 24 September 2016 to 24 September 2028

The permit holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this permit.

PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Clearing authorised (purpose)

The permit holder is authorised to clear *native vegetation* for the purpose of road upgrades, drainage, fencing, material pits and camps.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Goldfields highway road reserve (pins 11725138, 11725139, 11725140, 11725141, 11725142, 11725548, 11726903, 11725904, 11725905, 11725906, 12052624), Meekatharra

Unallocated crown land (PIN 1018559), Meekatharra

Crown reserve (R 29839), Meekatharra

Lot 40 on Deposited Plan 209469, Meekatharra

Lot 105 on Deposited Plan 220383, Meekatharra

Lot 143 on Deposited Plan 238583, (unallocated Crown land PINs 1017234, 1018563) Meekatharra

Lot 148 on Deposited Plan 238472, Meekatharra

Lot 151 on Deposited Plan 220519, Meekatharra

Lot 154 on Deposited Plan 240326, Meekatharra

Lot 159 on Deposited Plan 240311, Meekatharra

Lot 160 on Deposited Plan 240311 (Crown reserve R 9469), Meekatharra

Lot 301 on Deposited Plan 402607, (Crown reserve R 32459), Meekatharra

Lot 302 on Deposited Plan 402607, Meekatharra

Lot 303 on Deposited Plan 402609, Meekatharra

Lot 304 on Deposited Plan 402614, (Crown reserve R 23232), Meekatharra

Lot 305 on Deposited Plan 402614, Meekatharra

Lot 306 on Deposited Plan 402610 (Crown reserve R 9142), Meekatharra

Lot 307 on Deposited Plan 402610, Meekatharra

Lot 308 on Deposited Plan 402609, (Crown reserve R 15815), Meekatharra

Lot 309 on Deposited Plan 402609, Meekatharra

Lot 310 on Deposited Plan 402609, Meekatharra

Lot 311 on Deposited Plan 402609, Meekatharra
 Lot 312 on Deposited Plan 402609, (Crown reserve R 22610), Meekatharra
 Lot 313 on Deposited Plan 402609, Meekatharra
 Lot 314 on Deposited Plan 402609, Meekatharra
 Lot 315 on Deposited Plan 402609, Meekatharra
 Lot 317 on Deposited Plan 402607, Meekatharra
 Lot 319 on Deposited Plan 402607, Meekatharra
 Lot 320 on Deposited Plan 402607, Meekatharra
 Lot 322 on Deposited Plan 402616, Meekatharra
 Lot 324 on Deposited Plan 402616, Meekatharra
 Lot 325 on Deposited Plan 402616, Meekatharra
 Lot 328 on Deposited Plan 402616,(Unallocated Crown land PIN 4308084),
 Meekatharra
 Lot 333 on Deposited Plan 402616, Meekatharra
 Lot 336 on Deposited Plan 402617, (Crown reserve R 19253), Meekatharra
 Lot 337 on Deposited Plan 402617, Meekatharra
 Lot 338 on Deposited Plan 402609, Meekatharra
 Lot 339 on Deposited Plan 402609, Meekatharra
 Lot 1033 on Deposited Plan 29717, Meekatharra
 Goldfields Highway Road reserve (PINS 1343845, 1343846, 1343847, 1343848,
 1343854, 1343855, 1345581, 11725127, 11725128, 11725129, 11725903), Wiluna
 Crown Reserve (R 9699), Wiluna
 Crown Reserve (R 13096), Wiluna
 Lot 33 on Deposited Plan 220705, Wiluna
 Lot 38 on Deposited Plan 220383, Wiluna
 Lot 46 on Deposited Plan 220406, Wiluna
 Lot 47 on Deposited Plan 238630, Wiluna
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 Lot 334 on Deposited Plan 402616, Wiluna
 Lot 335 on Deposited Plan 402616, Wiluna
 Lot 341 on Deposited Plan 402618, Wiluna
 Lot 342 on Deposited Plan 402618, (Crown reserve R 42639), Wiluna
 Lot 1555 on Deposited Plan 33762, Wiluna

3. Clearing authorised

The permit holder must not clear more than 534 hectares of *native vegetation* within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figures 1-23 of Schedule 1.

4. Application of liability to agents of the permit holder

Without limiting or transferring the liability of the permit holder to comply with the conditions of this permit, the permit holder may authorise (in writing) additional persons, including employees, contractors, and agents of the permit holder, to clear *native vegetation* for the purpose(s) specified in condition 1.

5. Type of clearing authorised

The permit holder may clear *native vegetation* for the purpose(s) described in condition 1 of this permit to the extent that the permit holder has the power to carry out works involving clearing for those *project activities* under the *Main Roads Act 1930* or any other written law.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

6. Avoid, minimise, and reduce impacts and extent of clearing

In determining the native vegetation authorised 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 management

When undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit, the permit holder must take the following measures to minimise the risk of 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. Environmental Management Plan

The permit holder must implement and adhere to the following documents:

- (a) “*Main Roads Western Australia: Goldfields Highway Wiluna to Meekatharra PortLink Project – Environmental Impact Assessment and Management Plan, September 2014*”, and
- (b) “*Main Roads WA: Wiluna Meekatharra PortLink Project Fauna Management Plan, July 2016*”.

9. Flora management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit within the combined areas cross-hatched yellow on Figures 1-23 of Schedule 1, the permit holder must engage a *botanist* to conduct a *targeted flora survey* of the permit area for the presence of *Euploca mitchellii* (Priority 1) at a time when *E. mitchellii* is flowering; and
- (b) Where *E. mitchellii* is identified under condition 9(a) of this permit, the permit holder must not cause or allow clearing within 20 metres of the identified *E. mitchellii*, unless approved by the *CEO*.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

10. Records that must 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 species composition, structure, and density of the cleared area; (b) 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; (c) the date that the area was cleared; (d) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); (e) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 6; and (f) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds in accordance with condition 7.
2.	In relation to condition 8(a) and 8(b) of this permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Records of activities taken in accordance with the documents “<i>Main Roads Western Australia: Goldfields Highway Wiluna to Meekatharra PortLink Project – Environmental Impact Assessment and Management Plan, September 2014</i>” and “<i>Main Roads WA: Wiluna Meekatharra PortLINK Project Fauna Management Plan, July 2016</i>”
3.	In relation to 9 of this permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The location of each <i>E. mitchellii</i>, either as the location of individual plants, or where this is not practical, the areal extent of the population and an estimate of the number of plants, 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 (b) the methodology, used to survey the Permit Area.

11. Reporting

- (a) The permit holder must provide to the *CEO*, on or before 30 June of each calendar year, a written report containing:
- (i) the records required to be kept under condition 10; and
 - (ii) records of activities done by the permit holder under this permit between 1 January and 31 December of the preceding calendar year.
- (b) If no clearing authorised under this permit has been undertaken, a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been undertaken, must be provided to the *CEO* on or before 30 June of each calendar year.
- (c) The permit holder must provide to the *CEO*, no later than 90 calendar days prior to the expiry date of the permit, a written report of records required under condition 10, where these records have not already been provided under condition 11(a).

DEFINITIONS

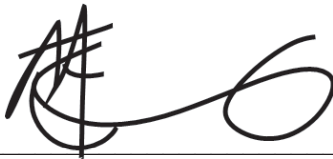
In this permit, the terms in Table 2 have the meanings defined.

Table 2: Definitions

Term	Definition
botanist	means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specialising in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of two (2) years work experience in Western Australian flora identification and undertaking flora surveys native to the bioregion being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the <i>CEO</i> as a suitable environmental specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid flora licence issued under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> .
CEO	Chief Executive Officer of the department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> .
clearing	has the meaning given under section 3(1) of the EP Act.
condition	a condition to which this clearing permit is subject under section 51H of the EP Act.
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.
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.
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> (WA)
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.
targeted flora survey	means 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 must also include a minimum of a 10 metre radius of the surrounding areas to place the permit area into local context.
weeds	means any plant – (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the <i>Biosecurity and</i>

Term	Definition
	<p><i>Agriculture Management Act 2007</i>; or</p> <p>(b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or</p> <p>(c) not indigenous to the area concerned.</p>

END OF CONDITIONS



Mathew Gannaway

MANAGER

NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

6 February 2023

Schedule 1

The boundary of the area authorised to be cleared is shown in the maps below (Figures 1:23)

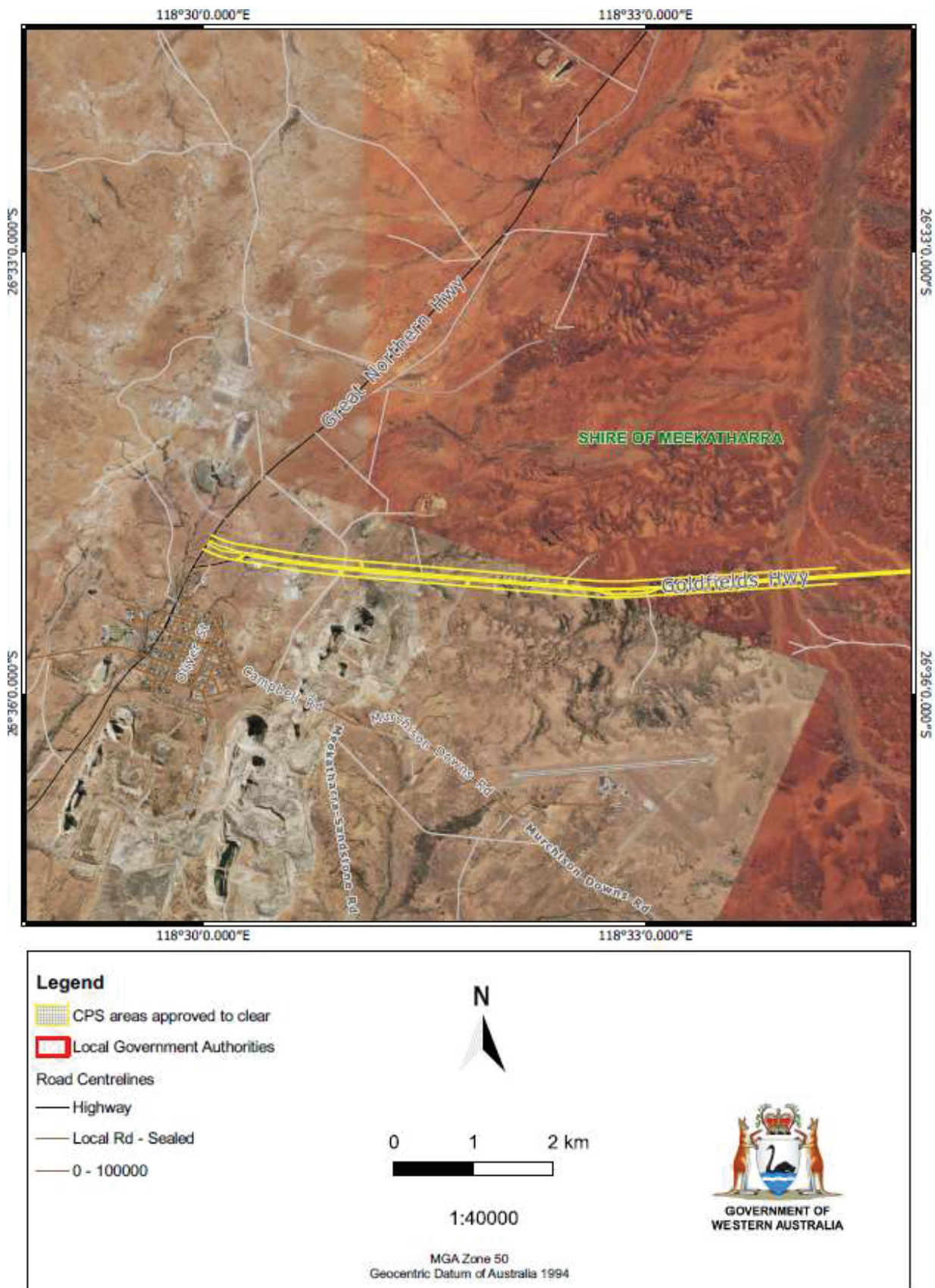


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

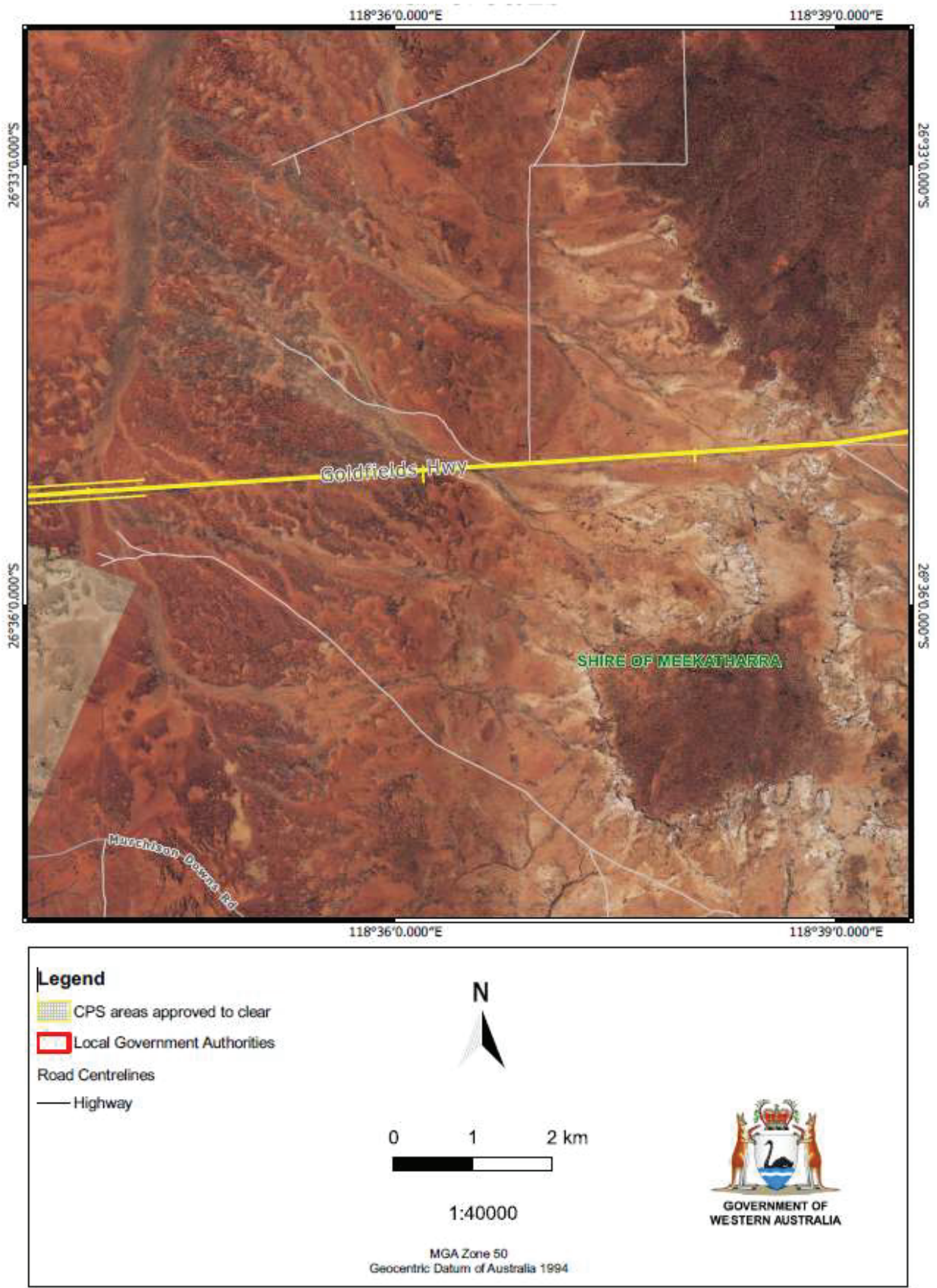


Figure 2 Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

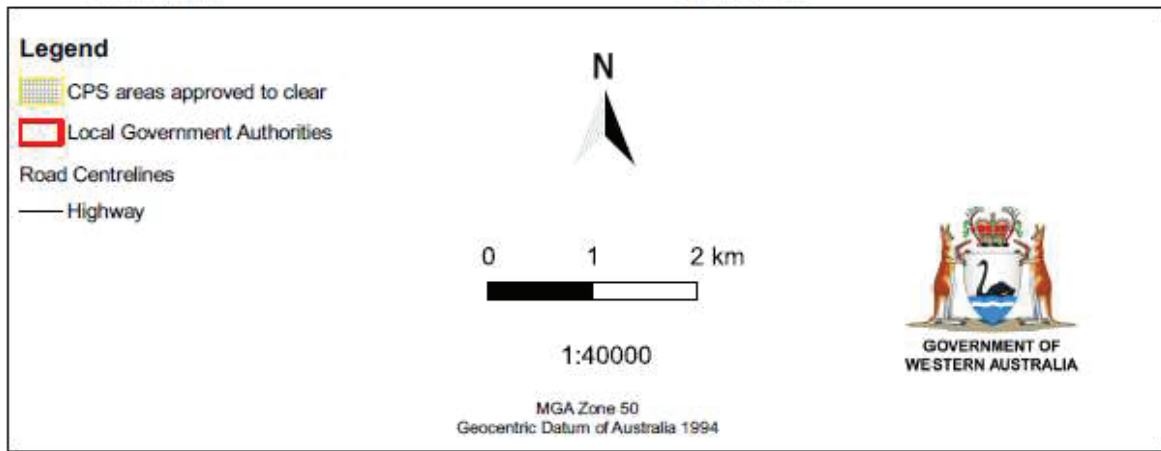


Figure 3: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

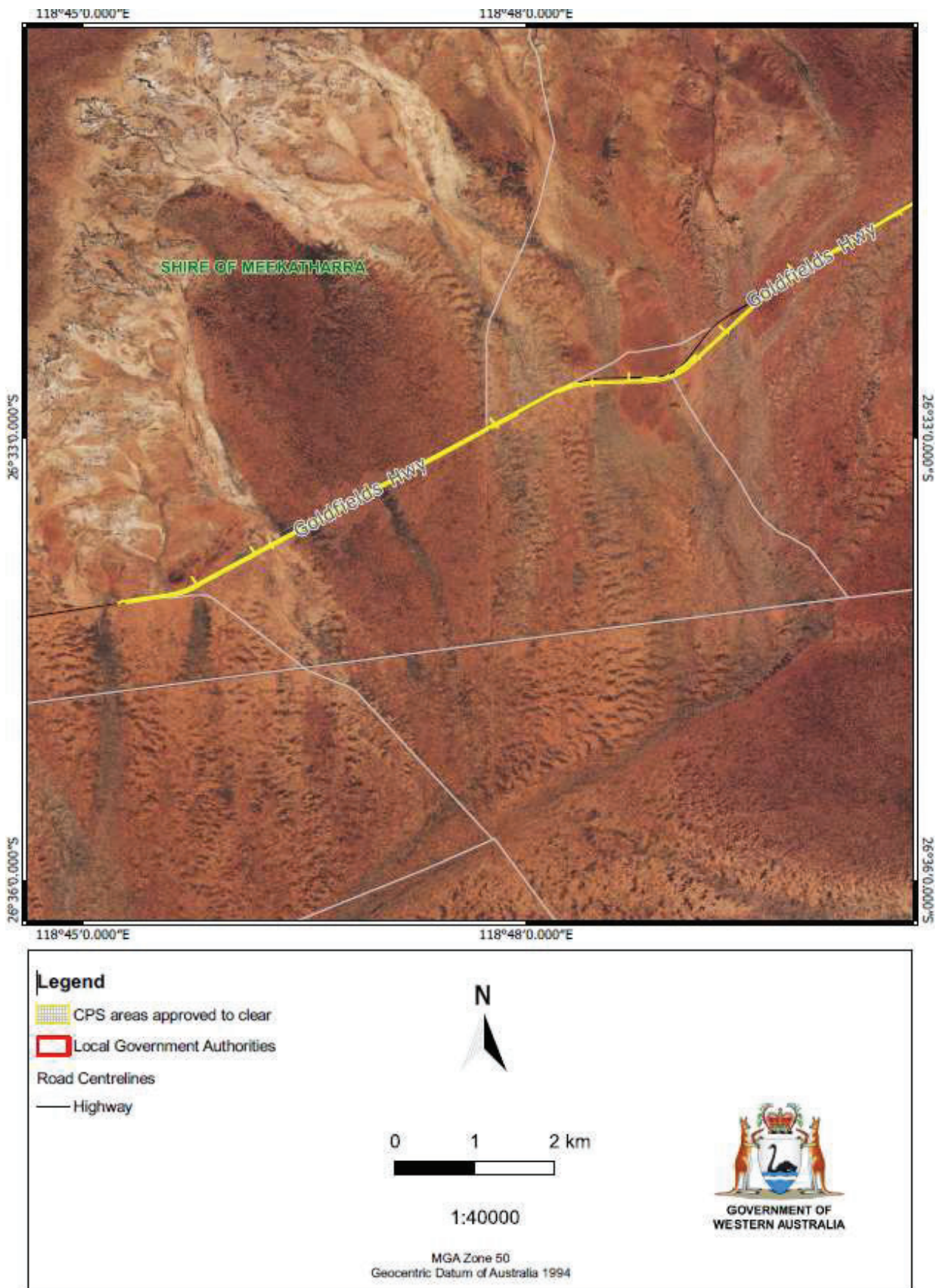


Figure 4: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

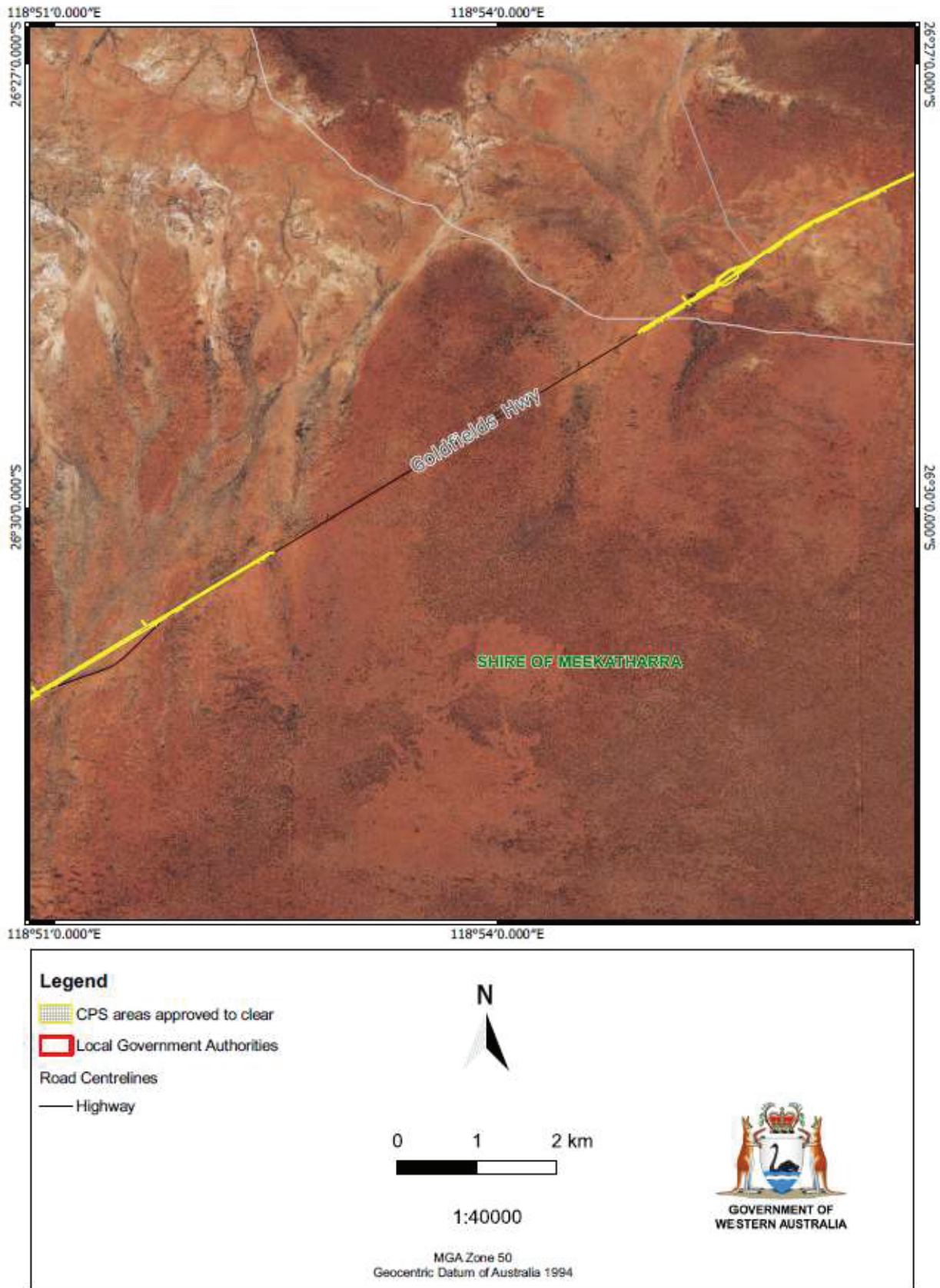


Figure 5: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

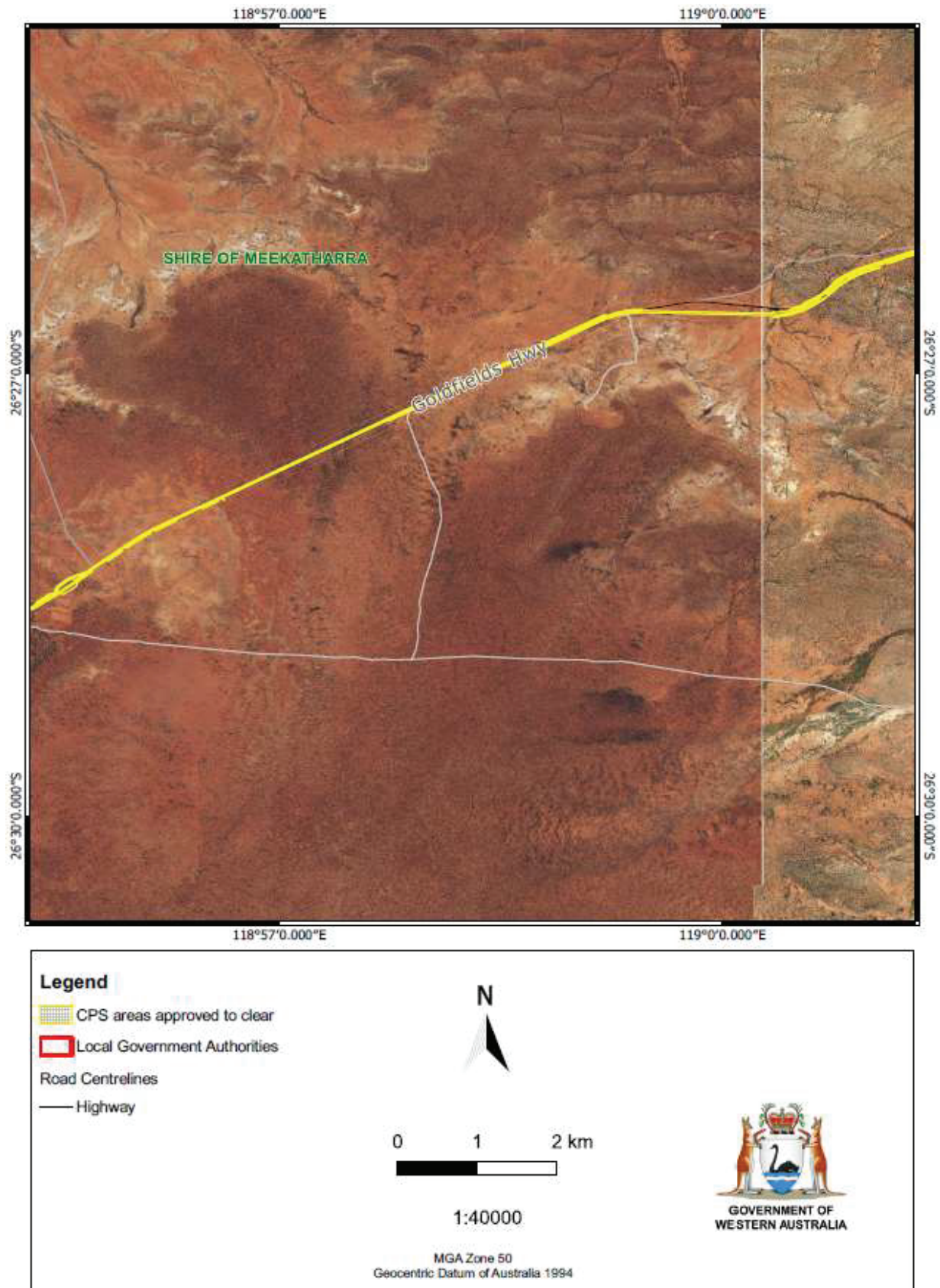


Figure 6: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

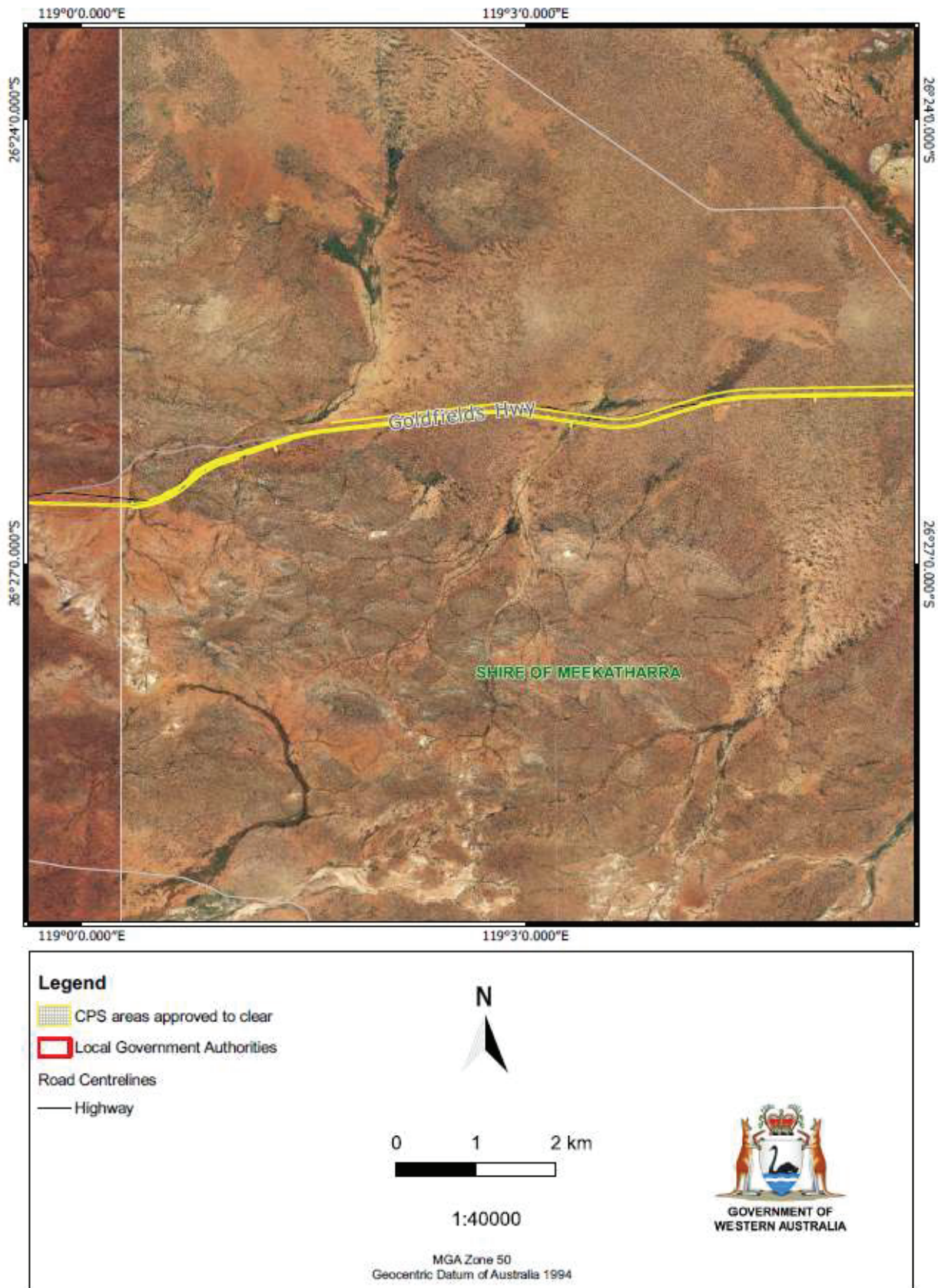


Figure 7: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

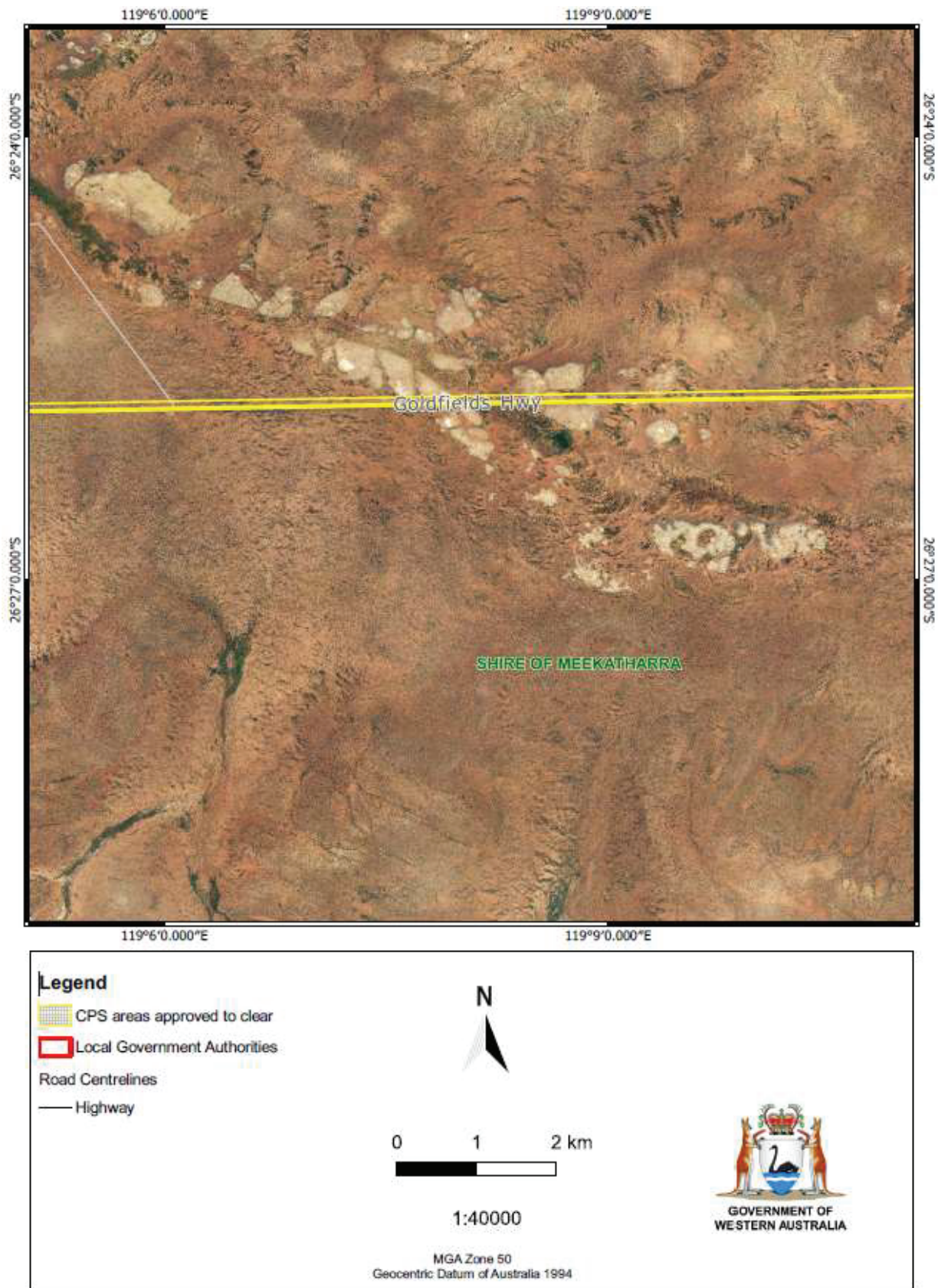


Figure 8: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

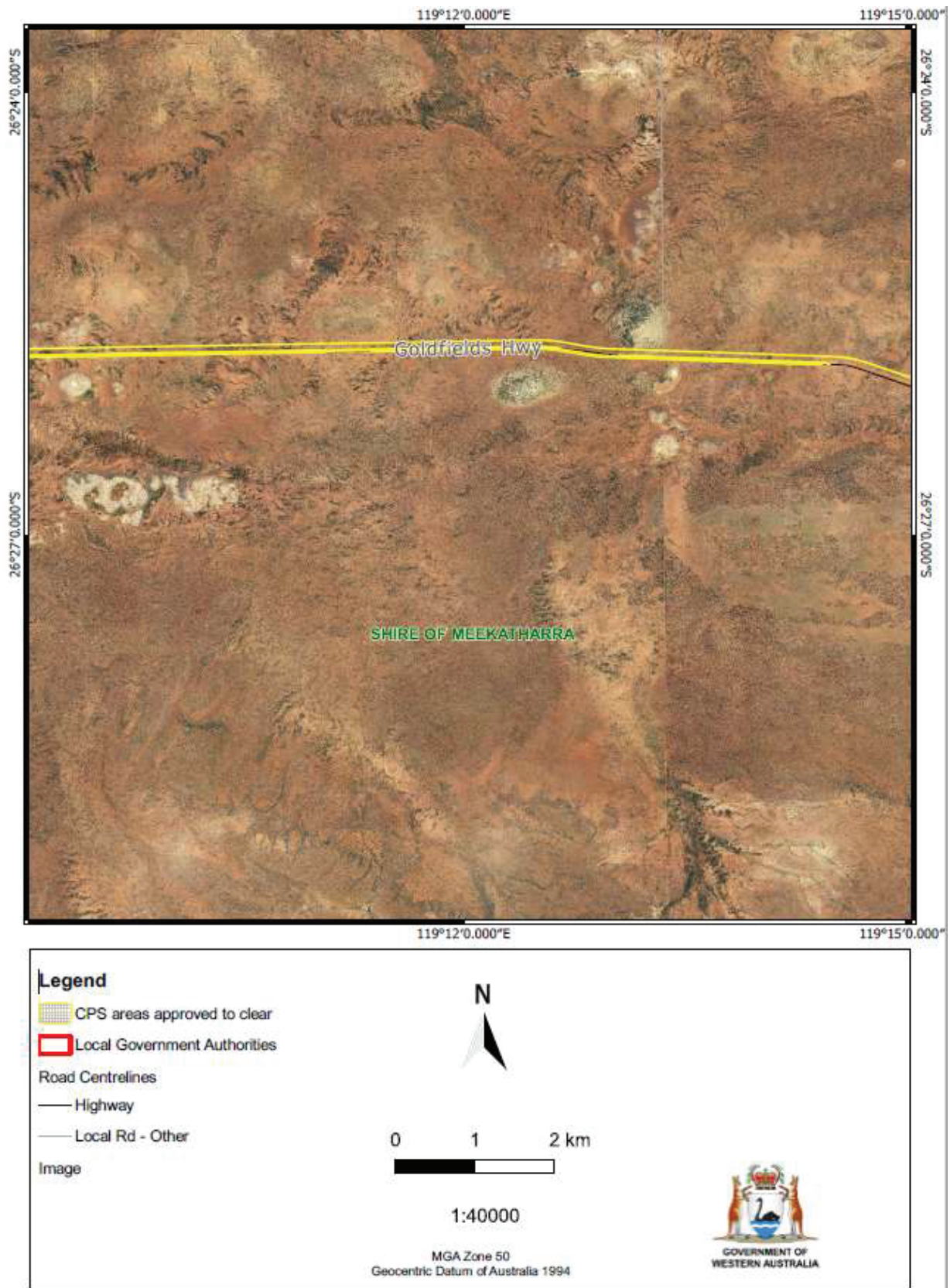


Figure 9: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

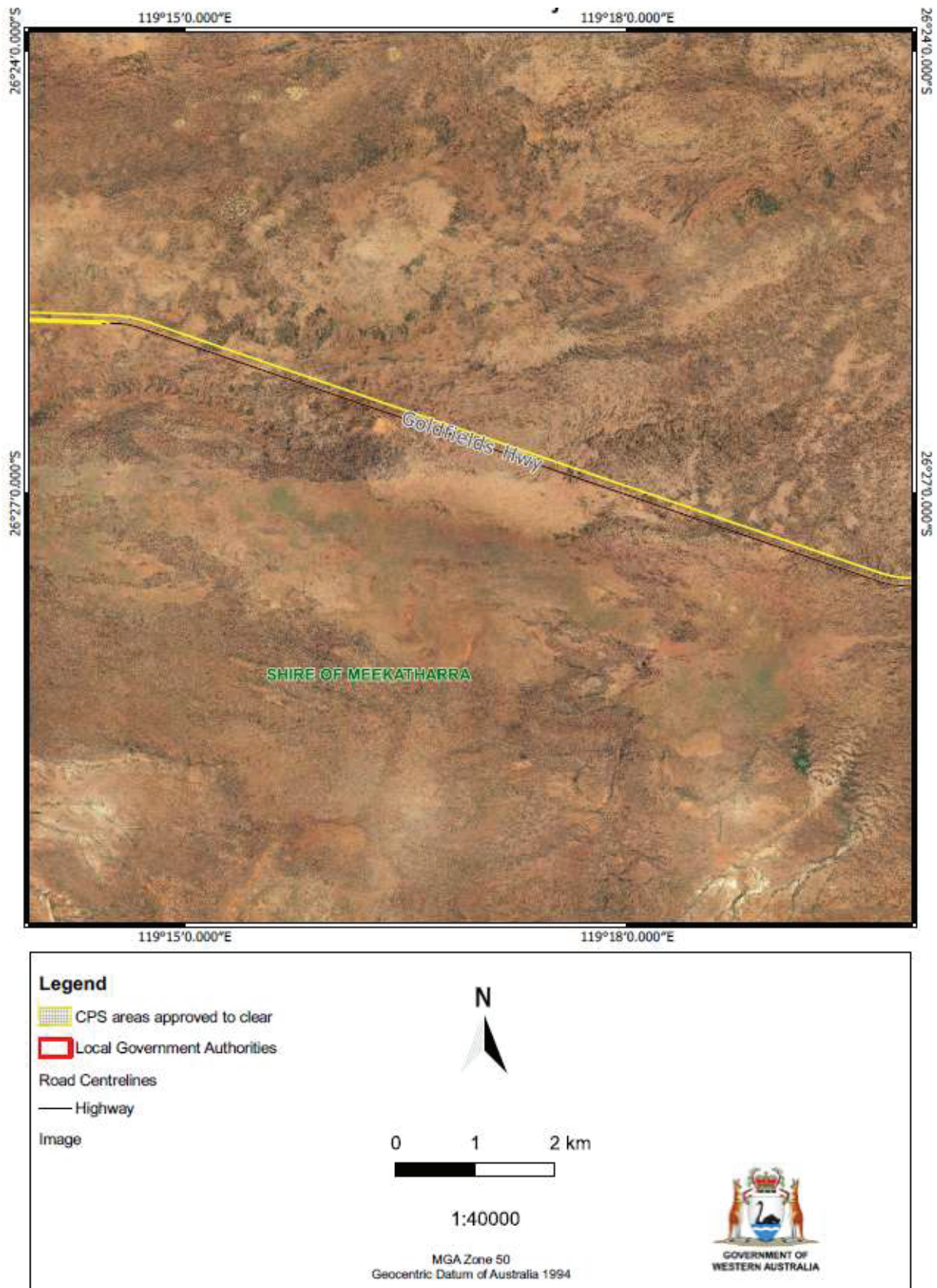


Figure 10: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

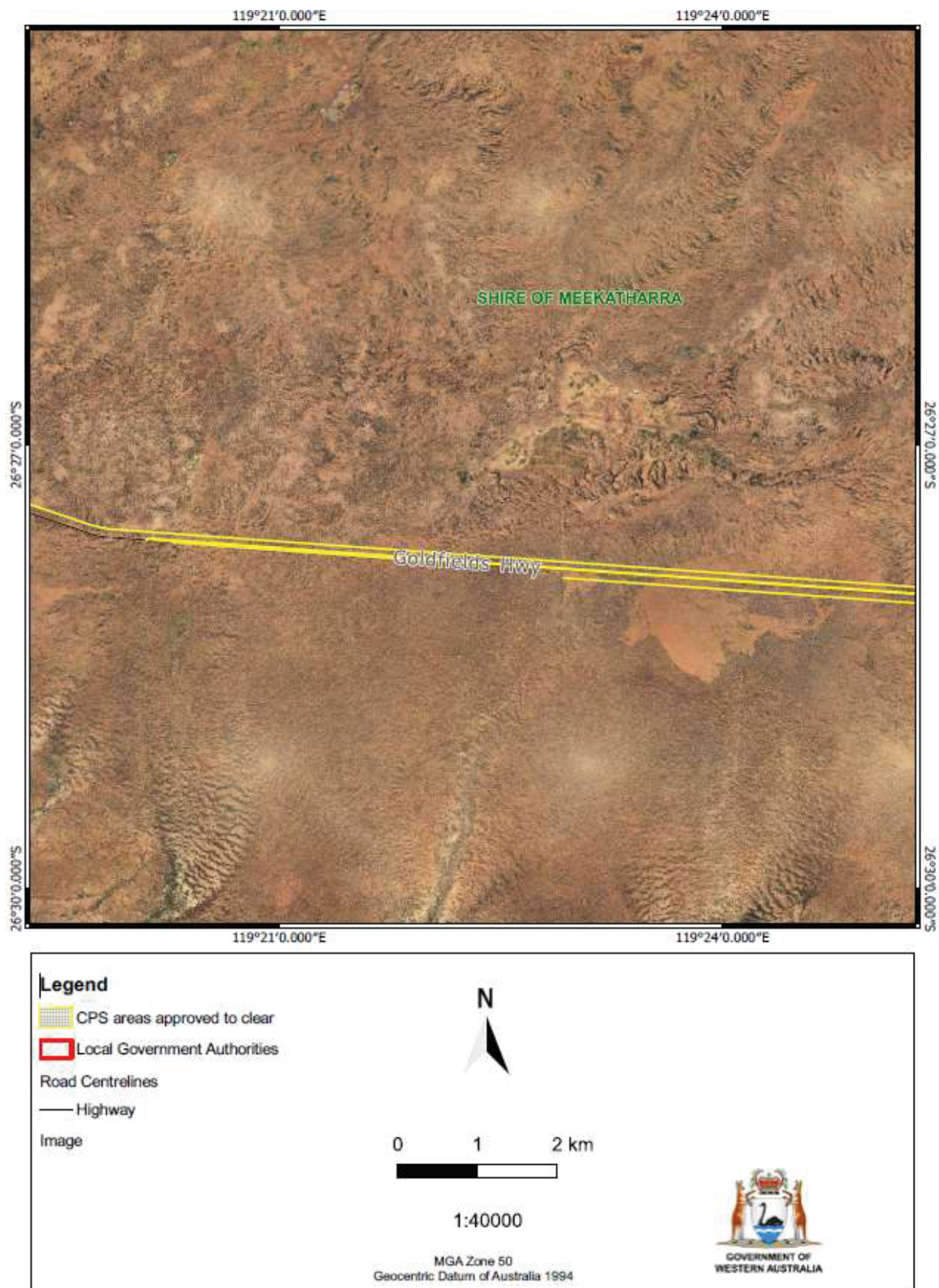


Figure 11: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

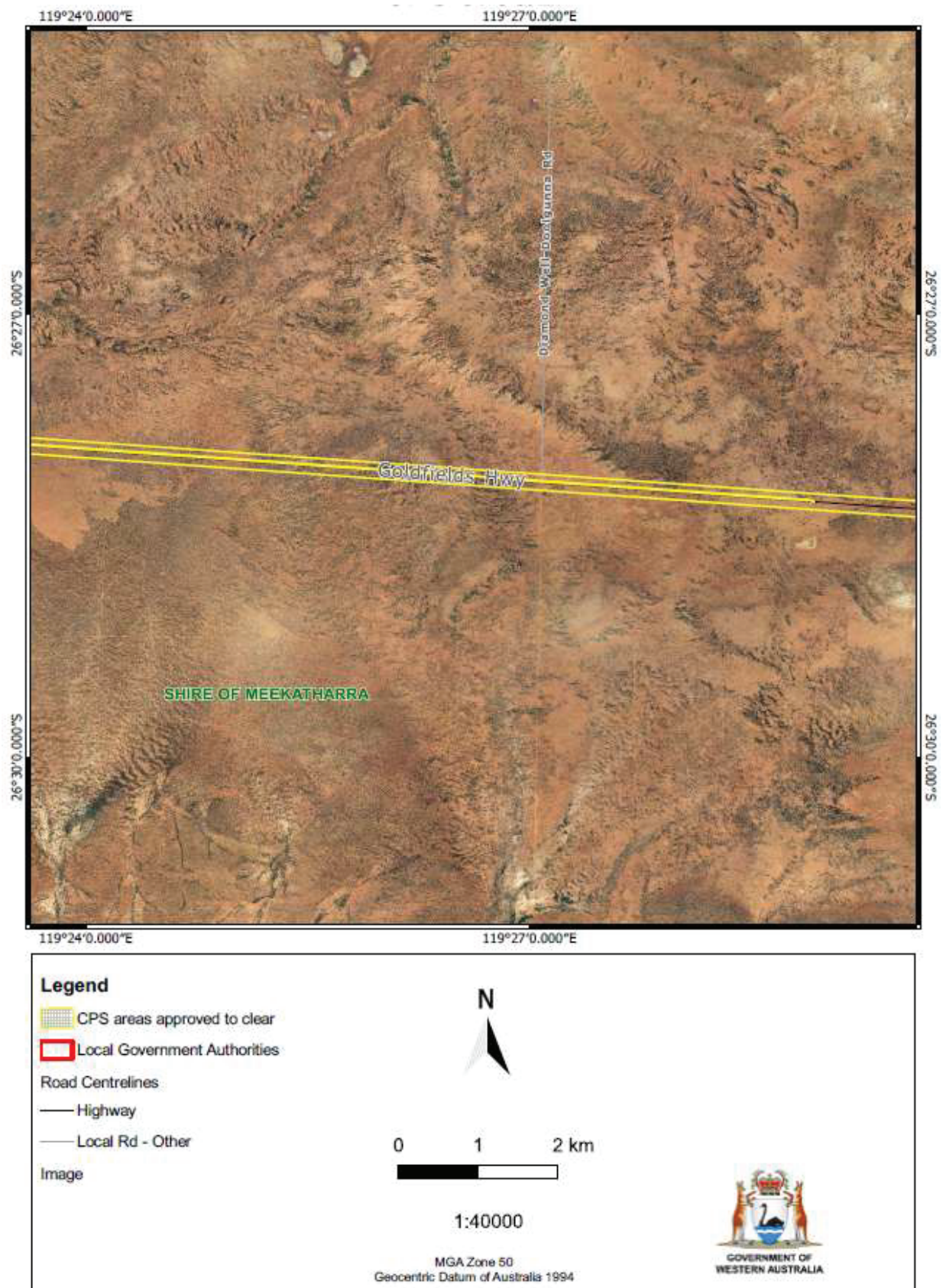


Figure 12: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

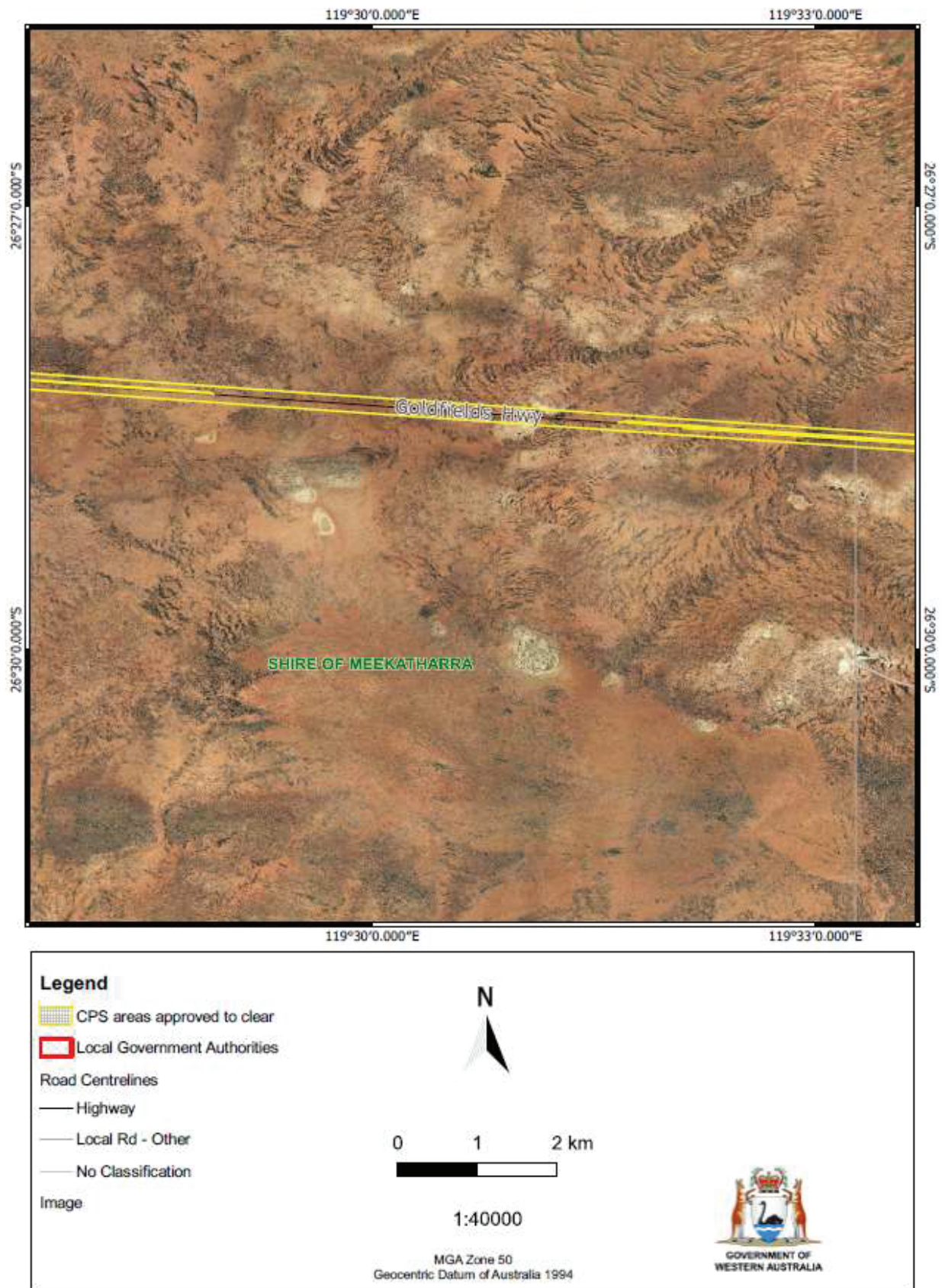


Figure 13: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

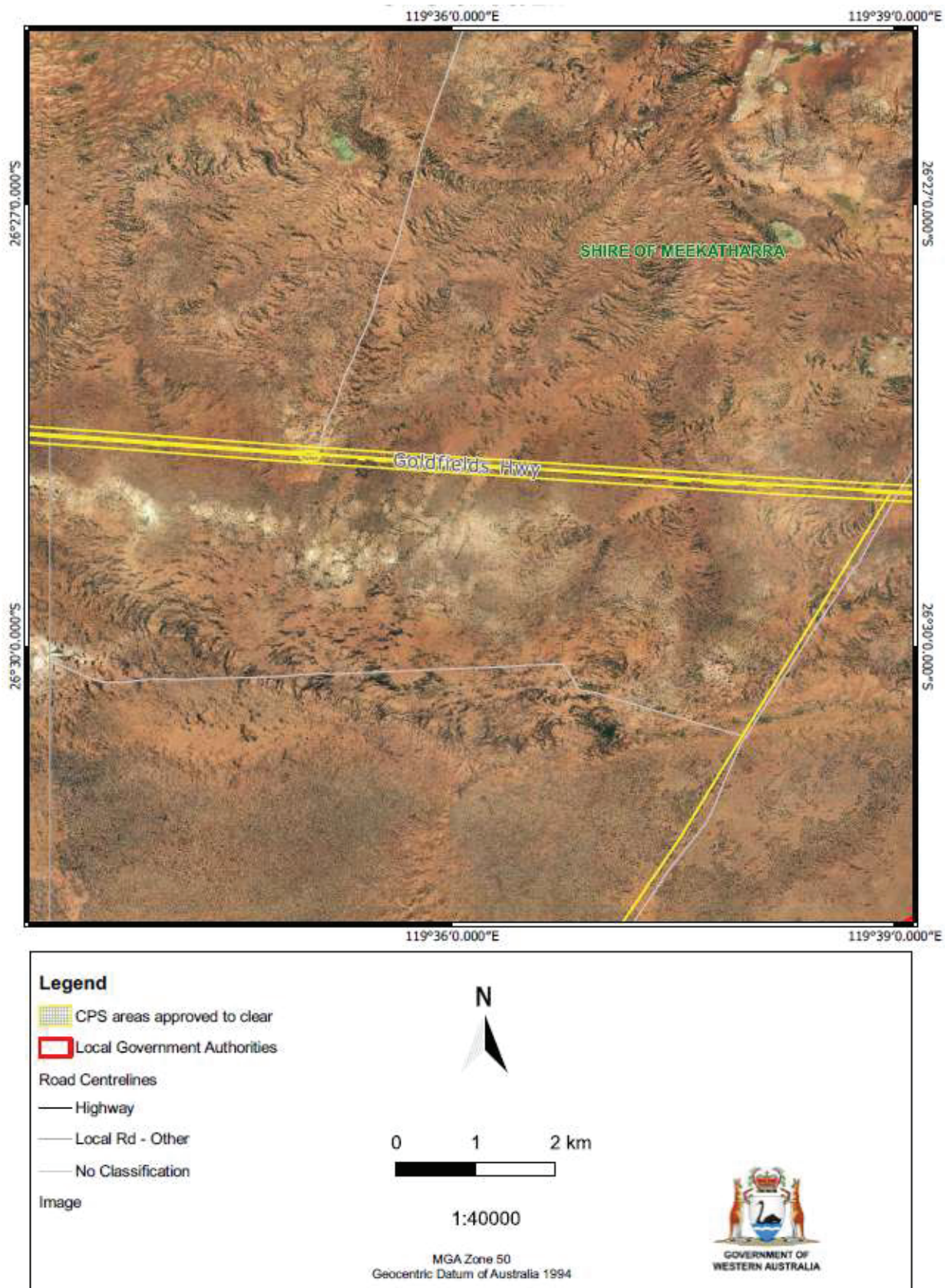


Figure 14: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

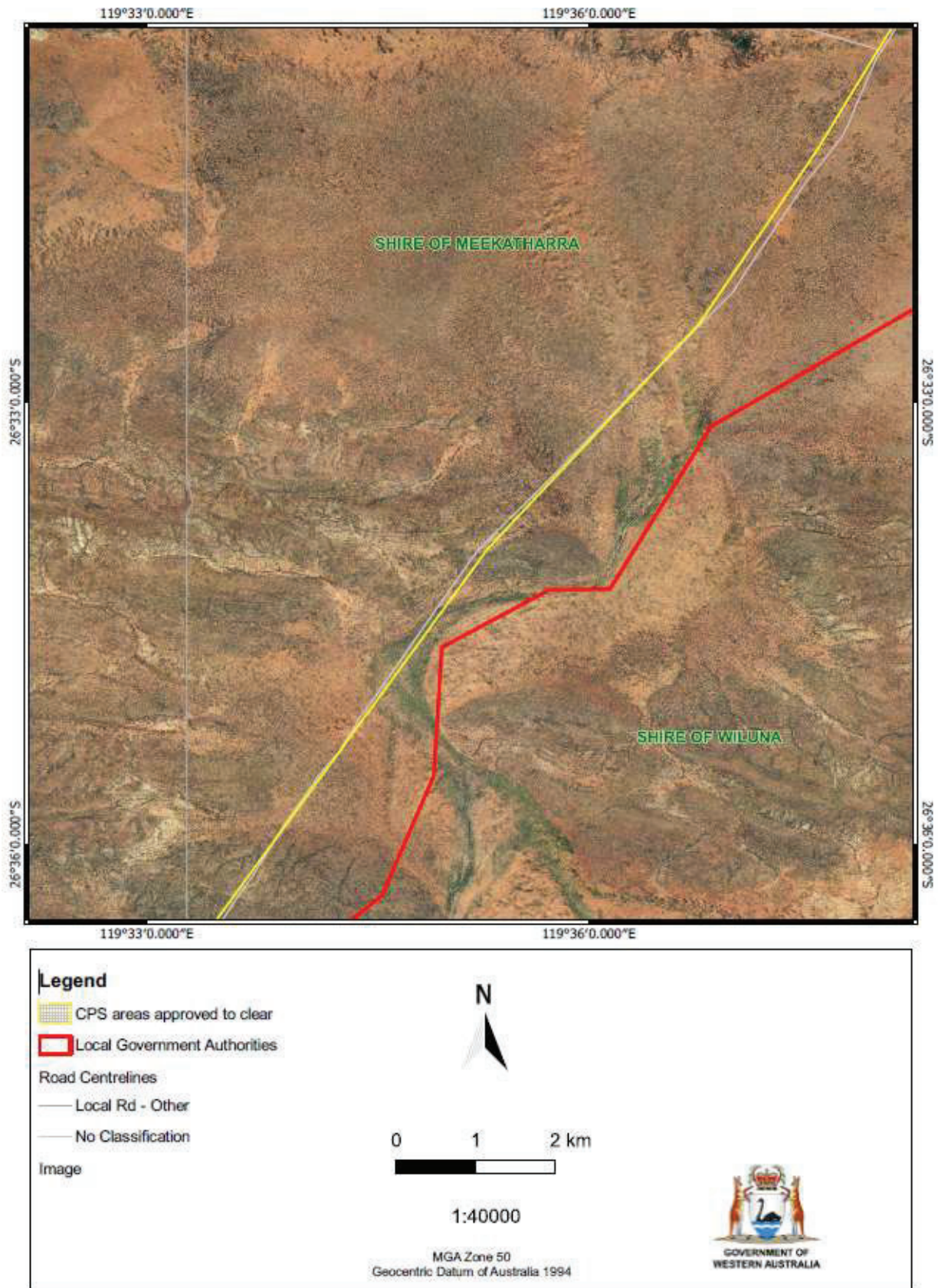


Figure 15: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

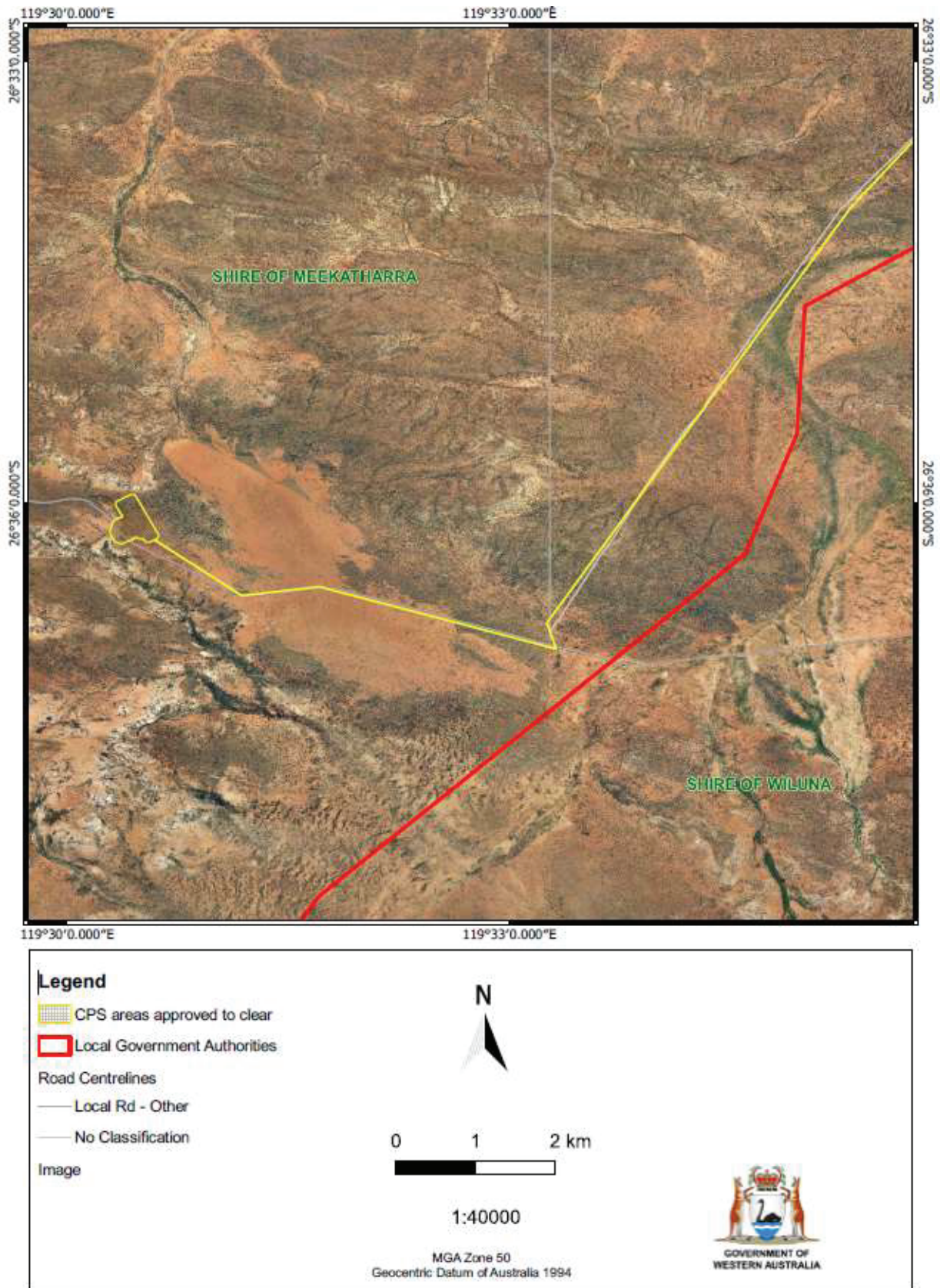


Figure 16: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

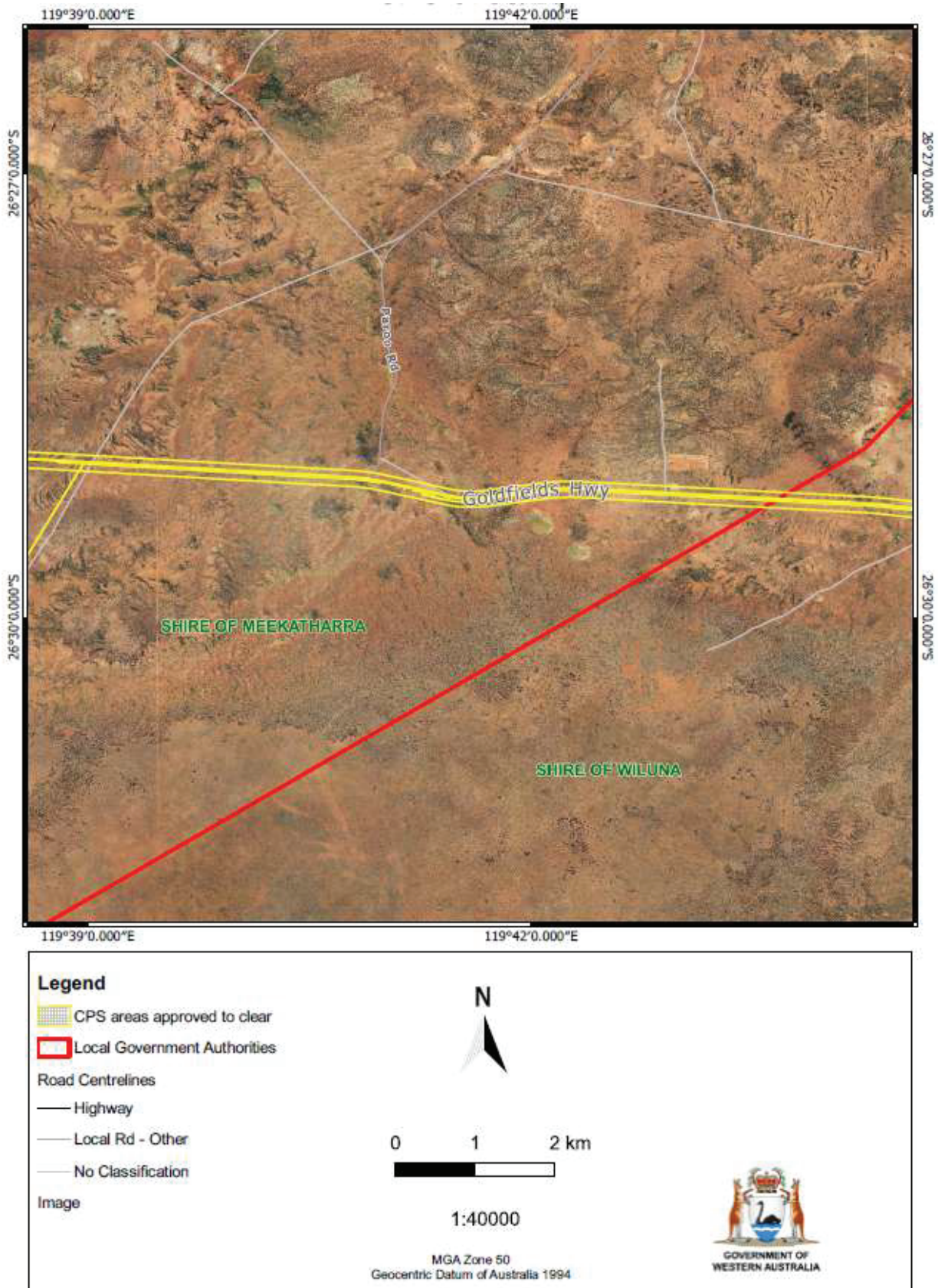


Figure 17: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

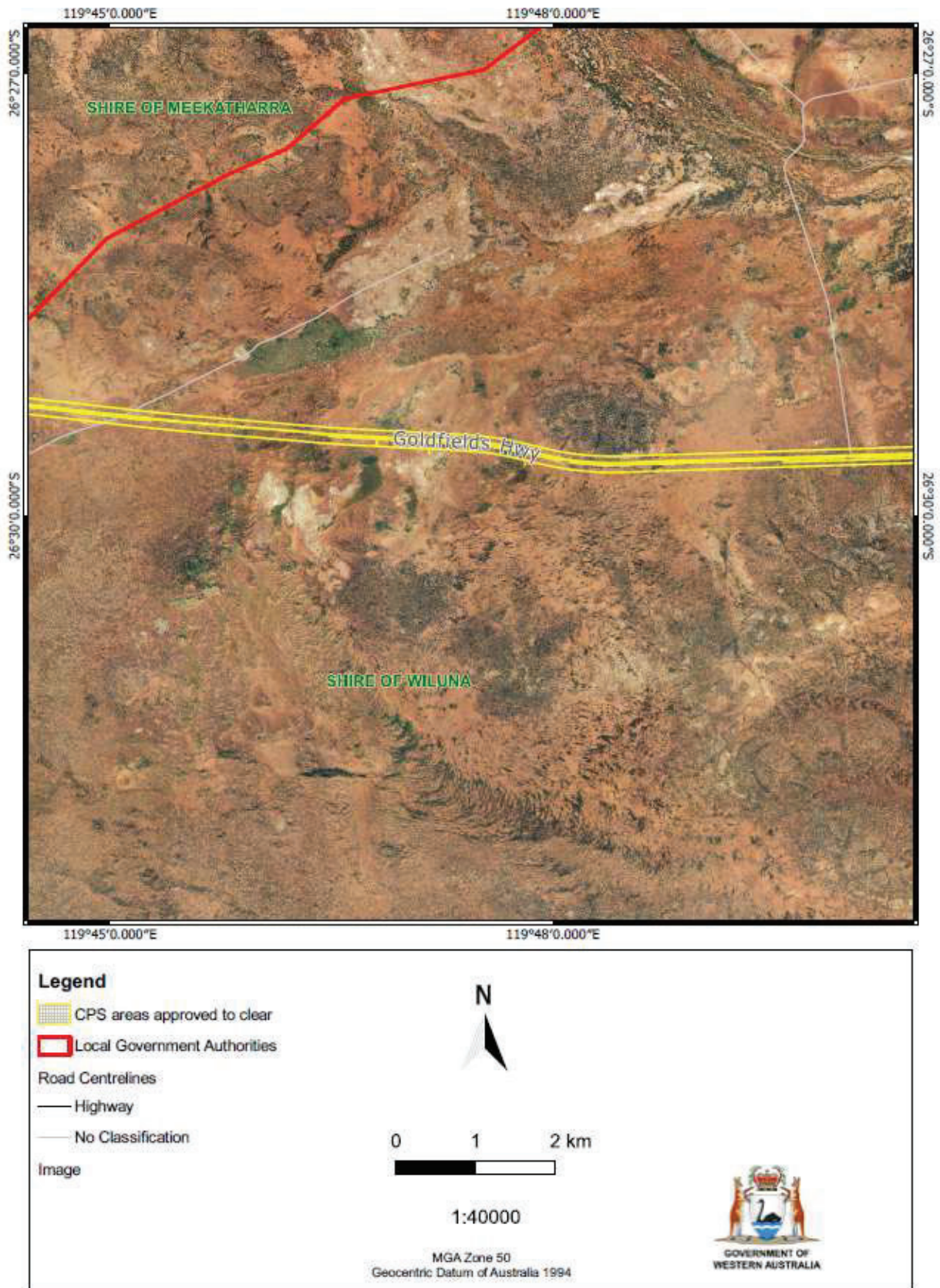


Figure 18: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

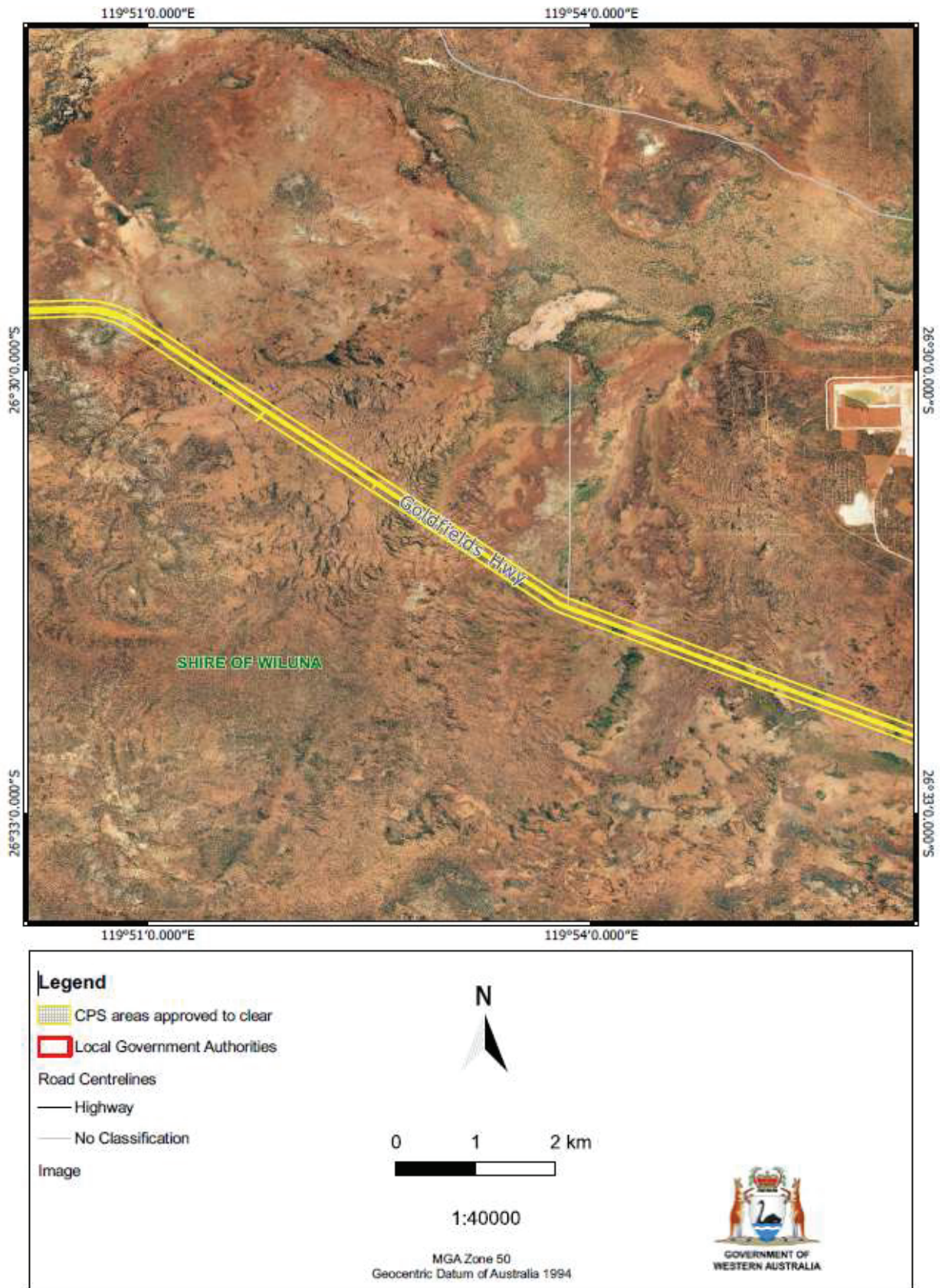


Figure 19: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

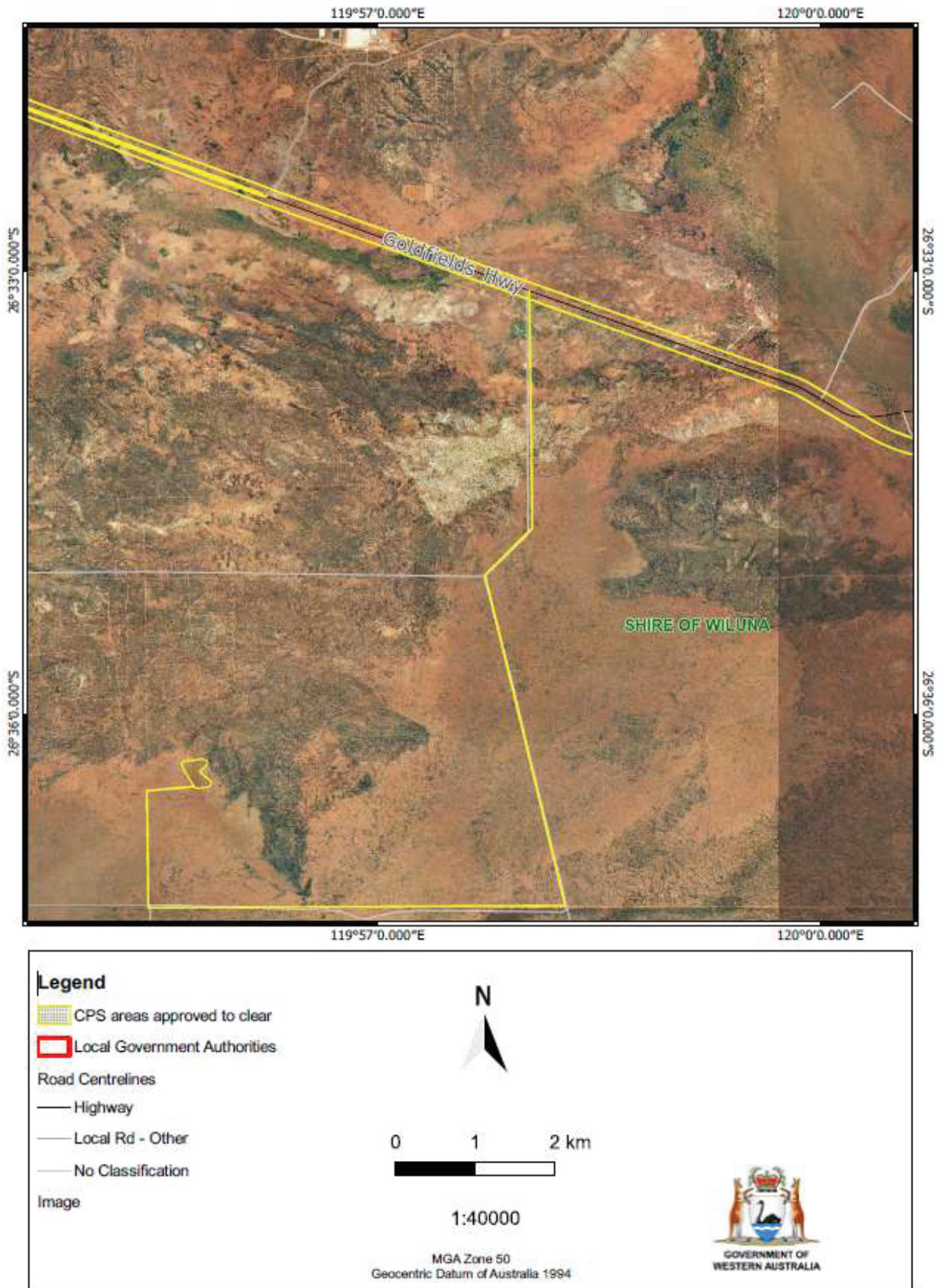


Figure 20: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

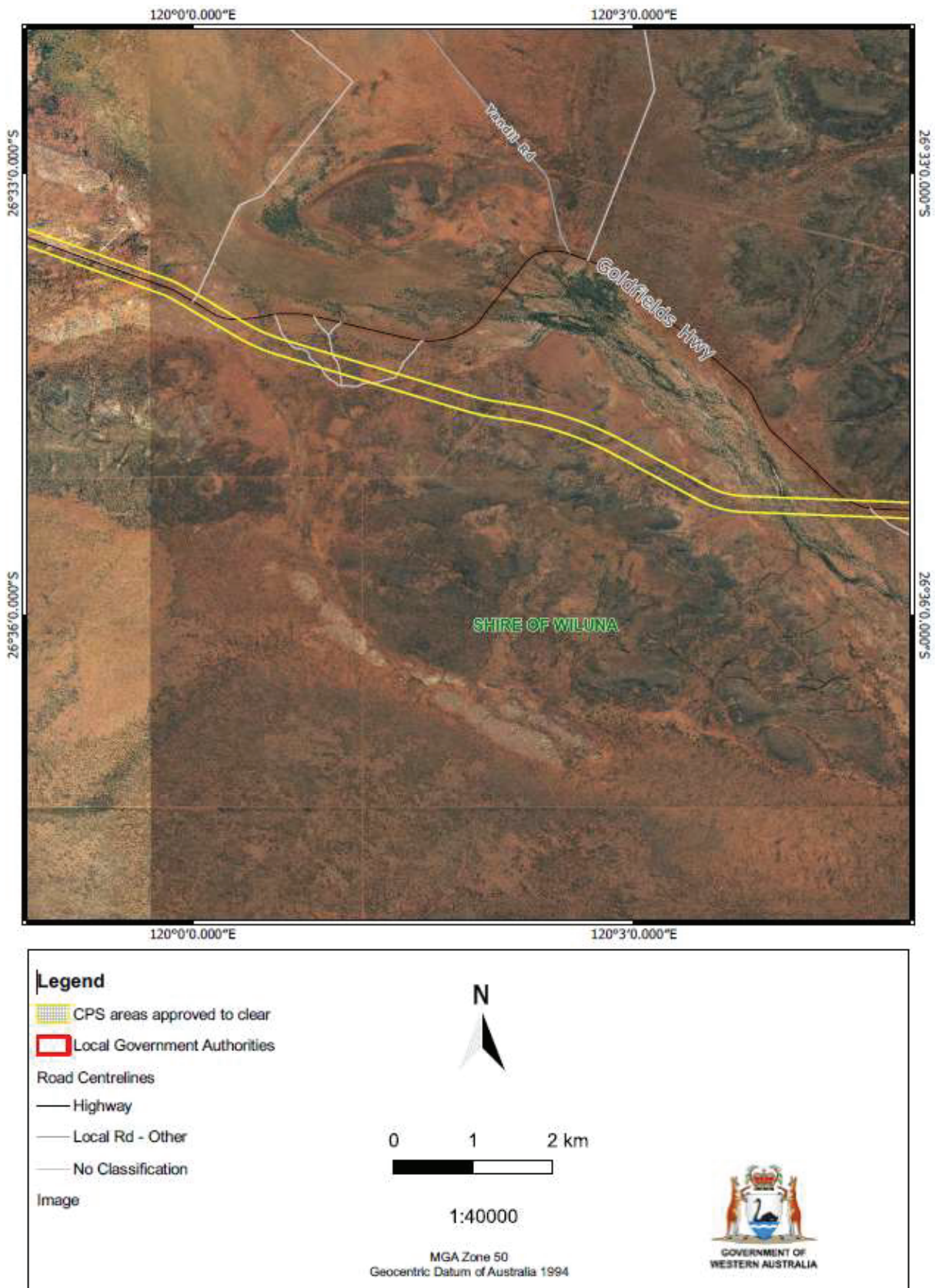


Figure 21: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

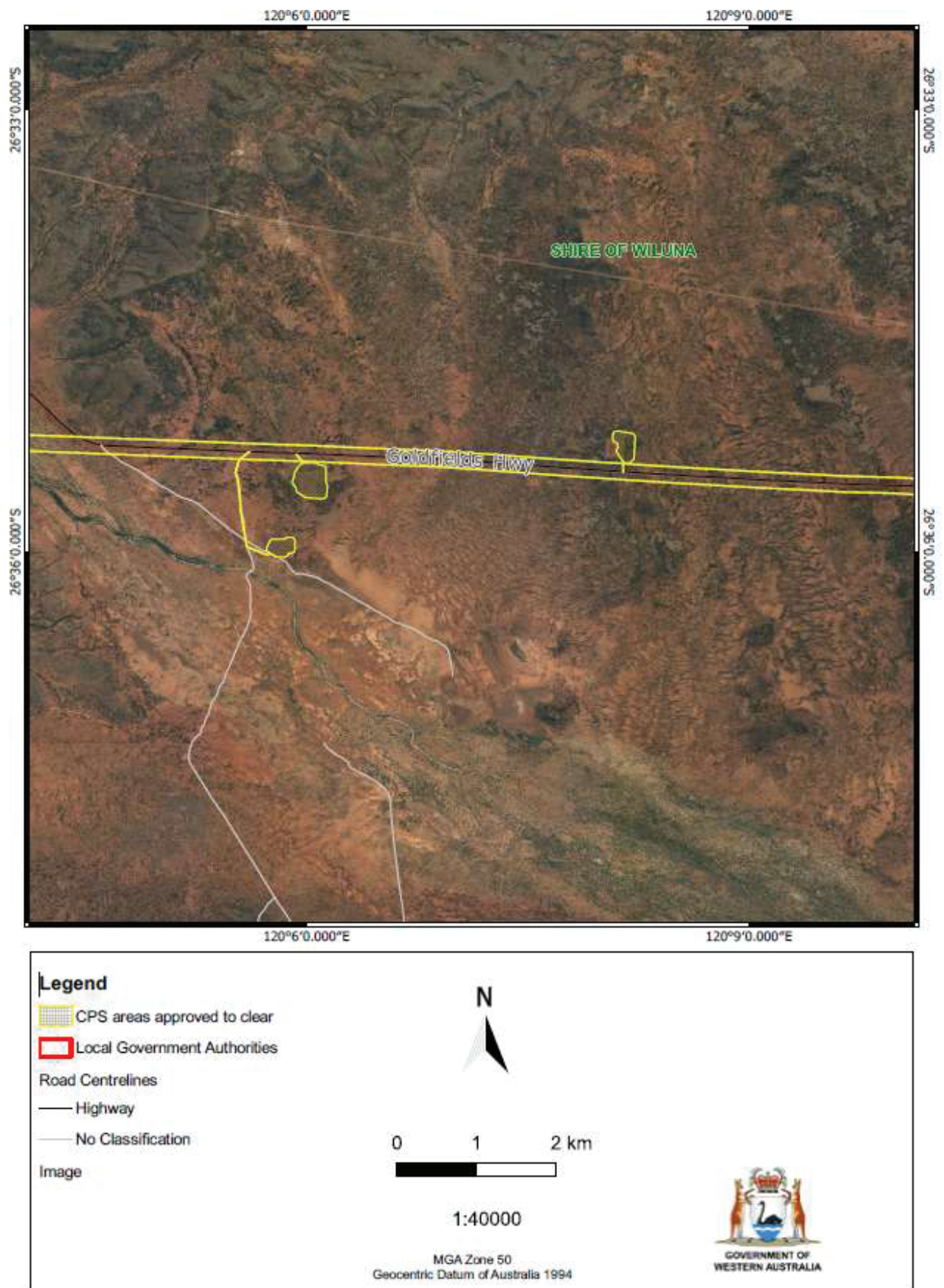


Figure 22: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

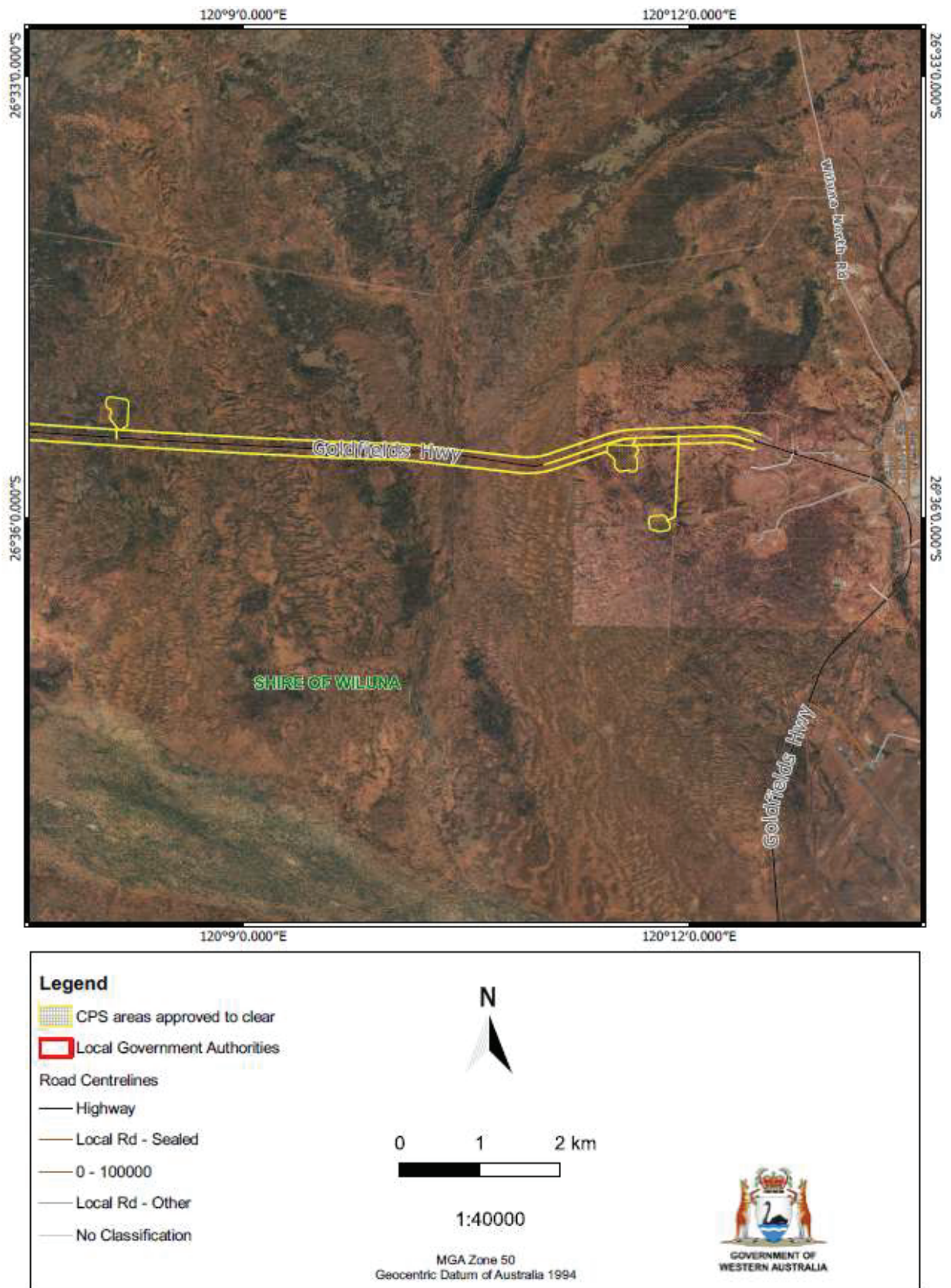


Figure 23: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1 Application details and outcome

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number: CPS 6753/3

Permit type: Purpose permit

Applicant name: Commissioner of Main Roads

Purpose of clearing: Road upgrades, drainage, fencing, material pits and camps

Method of clearing: Mechanical

Property:

PROPERTY	LOCALITY
Goldfields Highway Road Reserve (PINS 11725138, 11725139, 11725140, 11725141, 11725142, 11725548, 11726903, 11725904, 11725905, 11725906, 12052624)	Meekatharra
Unallocated Crown Land (PIN 1018559)	Meekatharra
Crown Reserve (R 29839)	Meekatharra
Lot 40 on Deposited Plan 209469	Meekatharra
Lot 105 on Deposited Plan 220383	Meekatharra
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Crown Reserve (R 9699)	Wiluna
Crown Reserve (R 13096)	Wiluna
Lot 33 on Deposited Plan 220705	Wiluna
Lot 38 on Deposited Plan 220383	Wiluna
Lot 46 on Deposited Plan 220406	Wiluna
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Lot 341 on Deposited Plan 402618	Wiluna
Lot 342 on Deposited Plan 402618	Wiluna
Lot 1555 on Deposited Plan 33762	Wiluna

Location (LGA area/s): Shire of Meekatharra
Shire of Wiluna

1.2. Description of clearing activities

The vegetation proposed cleared includes long linear sections along Goldfields Highway including some areas outside of the road reserve required for material pits.

1.3. Decision on application

Decision: Granted

Decision date: 6 February 2023

Decision area: 534 hectares of native vegetation

1.4. Reasons for decision

On 15 April 2021, the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) determined to grant Clearing Permit CPS 6753/2 to authorise Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA) to clear up to 534 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of road upgrades, drainage, fencing, material pits and camps. Amended Clearing Permit CPS 6753/2 extended the duration of Clearing Permit CPS 6753/1 by five years to 24 September 2026.

One appeal was lodged against the amendment of the clearing permit on 6 May 2021, covering three grounds of appeal.

This clearing permit amendment gives effect to the Minister for Environment (Minister) determination to allow the appeal in part (Appeal number: 019 of 2021). The Minister considered that DWER's characterisation of the environmental values within the application area was generally appropriate. However, the Minister determined that Priority 1 species *Euploca mitchellii* is 'likely' to occur within the application area and decided to uphold the appeal in part, to require targeted pre-clearance surveys for this species. The surveys are to be undertaken when the species is in flower, and if *E. mitchellii* presence is confirmed, clearing will not be authorised within 20 metres. If clearing is unavoidable, the permit holder requires authorisation from the DWER CEO.

The Delegated Officer has taken the above into consideration and decided to grant an amended clearing permit in accordance with the Minister's determination.

2 Assessment of application.

2.1. Assessment of impacts on environmental values

This amendment is the result of an appeal determination made by the Minister for Environment regarding the amendment of Clearing Permit CPS 6753/2. As a result of the appeal determination, the assessment against the clearing principles have not changed from the Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 6753/2.

The Minister found that Priority 1 flora species *Euploca mitchellii* is 'likely' to occur in the application area due to the presence of suitable habitat and records within the local area. The potential habitat appears to be restricted to approximately 4 km of the 180 km portion of the Goldfields Highway. Noting this, and given this species is listed as Priority 1, the Minister determined further consideration of the species is required prior to clearing.

The Minister therefore allowed the appeal to the extent that changes are made to conditions of the permit including:

- require targeted pre-clearance surveys for Priority 1 species *E. mitchellii* when the species is in flower;
- clearing not permitted within 20 metres of Priority 1 flora records; and
- where unavoidable, clearing of Priority 1 flora requires authorisation from the CEO of DWER

The assessment against the clearing principles and planning and other matters have not changed from Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 6753/2.

Appendix A. References

1. References

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) (2021) Purpose permit and decision report: CPS 6753/2. <https://ftp.dwer.wa.gov.au/permit/6753/Permit/>

Office of the Appeals Convenor (2022) Report to the Minister of Environment – Appeal objecting to amendment of clearing permit: CPS 6753/2 Goldfields Highway Upgrade, Shires of Meekatharra and Wiluna