



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose permit number:	6802/3
Duration of permit:	26 December 2015 to 31 December 2030
Permit holder:	Karora (Higginsville) 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

Mining Lease 15/1792

2. Clearing authorised (purpose)

The permit holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the purposes of mineral exploration and mineral production.

3. Area of clearing

The permit holder must not clear more than 545 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow and shaded green 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.

5. Clearing restricted

The permit holder shall not clear native vegetation within the areas shaded green in Figure 1 of Schedule 1, unless for the purpose of a pipeline corridor.

6. Type of clearing authorised

The permit holder shall not clear native vegetation unless the purpose for which the clearing is authorised is enacted within three months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

7. Directional clearing

The permit holder shall:

- (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

8. 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.

9. 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.

10. Vegetation management

- (a) Where practicable the permit holder shall avoid clearing *riparian vegetation*; and
- (b) where a *watercourse* or *drainage line* or *wetland* 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*.

11. Flora management – *Eutaxia rubricarina*

Where *priority flora* species *Eutaxia rubricarina* has been identified and their written location(s), provided to the CEO, within the report 'Native Vegetation Solutions (2015) Level 1 Flora and Vegetation Survey of the Proposed Wills Project Tenement M15/1792. Prepared for Metals X Limited, Avoca Resources Pty Ltd, Higginsville Gold Operation. September, 2015', as retained on the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration file number A2017/201501, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:

- (a) no clearing of identified priority flora *Eutaxia rubricarina* occurs; and
- (b) no clearing occurs within 10 metres of identified priority flora *Eutaxia rubricarina*.

12. Flora management – targeted flora survey

- (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 *Biodiversity Conservation (Listing of Native Species) (Flora) Order* and *priority flora* in accordance with *EPA Technical Guidance*.
- (b) Where *threatened flora* or *priority flora* are identified in relation to Condition 12(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*; and
 - (iii) no clearing of *priority flora* occurs and no clearing occurs within 10 metres of identified *priority flora*.

13. Fauna management – malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*)

Where clearing authorised under this Permit within areas cross-hatched yellow and shaded green in Figure 1 of Schedule 1 is to occur between 1 September and 31 January, the Permit Holder shall:

- (a) within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing, engage an *environmental specialist* to conduct an inspection of the area to be cleared to identify *active (in use) Malleefowl (Leipoa ocellata) mounds*.
- (b) where an *active (in use) Malleefowl mound* is identified under Condition 13(a) of this Permit, the

Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 200 metres of the mound, during the months of September through to January.

14. Fauna management – arid bronze azure butterfly (*Ogyris petrina*)

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit, the permit holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to identify potential *critical habitat* utilised by arid bronze azure butterfly (*Ogyris petrina*).
- (b) Where potential *critical habitat* has been identified under condition 14(a), the permit holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to conduct a *fauna survey* within the areas to be cleared, to identify the fauna species listed below:
 - (i) sugar ant (*Camponotus* sp. nr. *terebrans*) colonies; and
 - (ii) arid bronze azure butterfly (*Ogyris petrina*).
- (c) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit, the permit holder shall provide the results of the *fauna survey* in a report to the CEO.
- (d) Where sugar ant (*Camponotus* sp. nr. *terebrans*) colonies are identified under this permit, the permit holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) no clearing occurs within 100 metres of sugar ant (*Camponotus* sp. nr. *terebrans*) colonies, unless approved by the CEO.

15. Fauna management – inland hairstreak butterfly (*Jalmenus aridus*)

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to identify potential *critical habitat* utilised by inland hairstreak (*Jalmenus aridus*).
- (b) Where potential *critical habitat* has been identified under Condition 15(a), the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to conduct a *fauna survey* within the areas to be cleared, to identify the fauna species listed below:
 - (i) inland hairstreak (*Jalmenus aridus*)
- (c) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit holder shall provide the results of the *fauna survey* in a report to the CEO.
- (d) Where inland hairstreak (*Jalmenus aridus*) are identified under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) no clearing occurs within 50 metres of inland hairstreak *host plant/s*.

PART III – RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

16. 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 of 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 5; (e) actions taken in accordance with condition 6; (f) actions taken in accordance with condition 7; (g) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 8;

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (h) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> in accordance with condition 9; (i) actions taken to manage and mitigate impacts to <i>riparian vegetation</i> in accordance with condition 10; and (j) actions taken in accordance with condition 11.
2.	In relation to flora management pursuant to condition 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) 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 of Australia 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; (a) actions taken to demarcate each <i>threatened flora</i> and/or <i>priority flora</i> species recorded and their relevant buffers; and (b) 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 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the location of each <i>active (in use) Malleefowl (Leipoa ocellata) mound</i> recorded using a global positioning system (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographic coordinates in Eastings and Northings; and (b) actions taken in accordance with Condition 13.
4.	In relation to fauna management pursuant to Condition 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the location of potential <i>critical habitat</i> for arid bronze azure butterfly (<i>Ogyris petrina</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; (b) the location of sugar ant (<i>Camponotus</i> sp. nr. <i>terebrans</i>) colonies, 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; (c) the location of arid bronze azure butterfly, 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; (d) the extent of the potential <i>critical habitat</i> of the identified fauna shown on a map; (e) a description of the potential <i>critical habitat</i>; (f) the methodology, used to survey the Permit Area for sugar ant (<i>Camponotus</i> sp. nr. <i>terebrans</i>) colonies; (g) the methodology, used to survey the Permit Area for arid bronze azure butterfly (<i>Ogyris petrina</i>); and (h) actions taken in accordance with Condition 14.
5.	In relation to fauna management pursuant to Condition 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the location of potential <i>critical habitat</i> for species identified under condition 15(a), 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 inland hairstreak butterfly (<i>Jalmenus aridus</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; (c) the location of inland hairstreak <i>host plant/s</i> recorded

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications
		<p>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;</p> <p>(d) the methodology used to survey the Permit Area and to establish the potential <i>critical habitat</i>;</p> <p>(e) the extent of the potential <i>critical habitat</i> of the identified fauna shown on a map;</p> <p>(f) a description of the potential <i>critical habitat</i>;</p> <p>(g) the methodology used to survey the Permit Area for inland hairstreak (<i>Jalmenus aridus</i>); and</p> <p>(h) actions taken in accordance with Condition 15.</p>

17. Reporting

- The permit holder must provide a written 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 16 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- 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.
- Prior to 31 December 2030, the permit holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under condition 16 of this permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 17(a) or 17(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.
Biodiversity Conservation (Listing of Native Species) (Flora) Order	means those plant taxa gazetted as a threatened flora pursuant to section 19(1) of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (as amended).
botanist	means 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 <i>CEO</i> as a suitable <i>botanist</i> 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> .
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.

Term	Definition
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)
EPA Technical Guidance	means Environmental Protection Authority (2016), <i>Technical Guidance - Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment</i> , EPA, Western Australia.
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> .
fauna survey	means a field-based investigation, including a review of established literature, of the biodiversity of fauna and/or fauna habitat of the Permit Area. Where conservation significant fauna are identified in the Permit Area, the survey should also include sufficient surrounding areas to place the Permit Area into local context. The survey must be conducted during the season and conditions most suitable for detection and identification of fauna species.
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.
host plant/s	means the following plant taxa; <i>Acacia tetragonophylla</i> and <i>Senna artemisioides</i> ssp. <i>filifolia</i> , but not limited to.
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) Regulations 2004.
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 should also include sufficient surrounding areas to place the Permit Area into local context.
threatened flora	means those plant taxa listed as threatened flora under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> .
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.

Term	Definition
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

Demelza Dravnieks

Demelza Dravnieks | Acting General Manager Mine Closure and Environmental Services

Resource and Environmental Compliance Division

23 December 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).

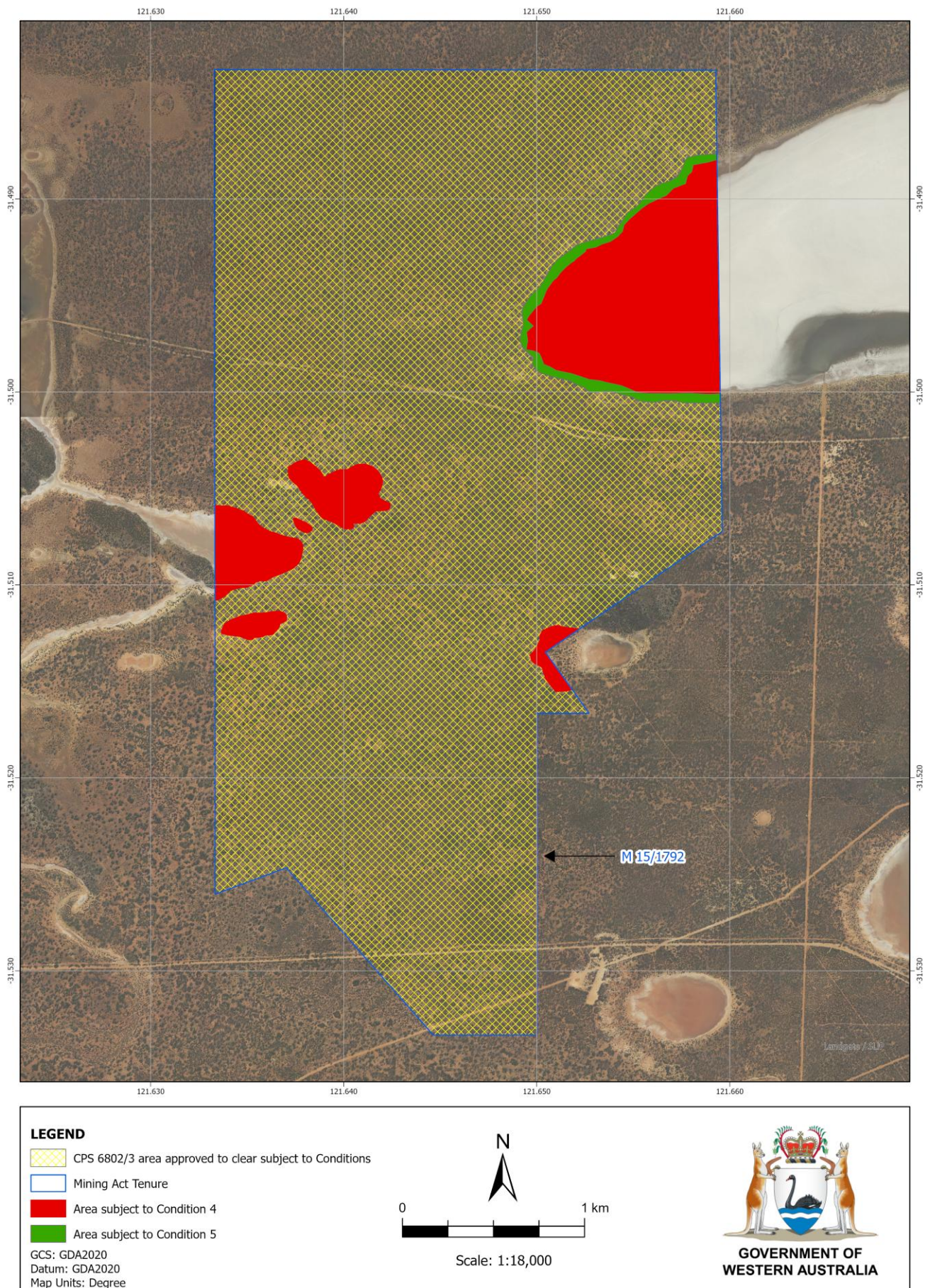


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur.