



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 6940/2
Permit Holder:	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit:	21 May 2016 to 21 May 2026

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 constructing a turnoff into a mine haul road.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Coolgardie – Esperance Highway road reserve (PIN 11685593), Dundas

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 1.5 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 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, and reduce impacts and extent of 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 management

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.

7. Records 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	(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 5; and (e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds in accordance with condition 6.

8. Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* the records required under condition 7 of this Permit, when requested by the *CEO*.

DEFINITIONS

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

CEO means Chief Executive Officer of the Department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under *the Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

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.

Department means the department established under section 35 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* (WA) and designated as responsible for the administration of the EP Act, which includes Part V Division 3.

EP Act *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (WA)

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;

native vegetation has the meaning given under section 3(1) and section 51A of the EP Act.

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 Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

END OF CONDITIONS



Mathew Gannaway
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

20 May 2021

Schedule 1

The boundary of the area authorised to be cleared is shown in the map below (Figure 1).

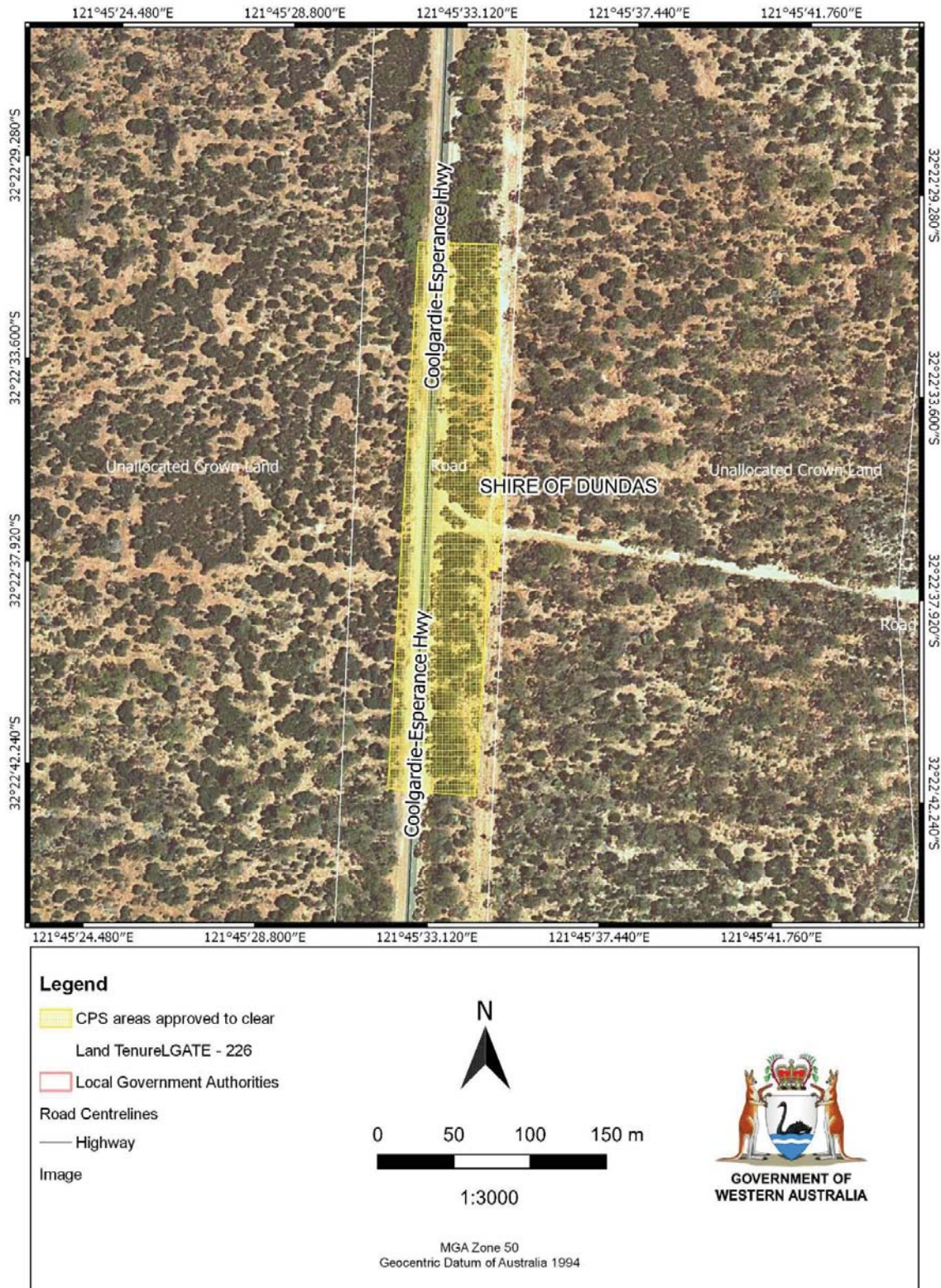


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur



1. Application details

Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6940/2
Permit type: Purpose Permit

Applicant details

Applicant's name: Avoca Mining Pty Ltd
Application received date: 20 January 2021

Property details

Property: Coolgardie – Esperance Highway road reserve (PIN 11685593), Dundas
Local Government Authority: Shire of Dundas
Localities: Dundas

Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
1.5	N/A	Mechanical Removal	Road construction and upgrades

Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted

Decision Date: 20 May 2021

Reasons for Decision:

This clearing permit amendment application was received on 20 January 2021 and has been made to extend the permit duration from 21 May 2021 to 21 May 2026.

The clearing permit application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments, and other matters in accordance with section 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). In making this decision, the Delegated Officer had regard for the site characteristics, relevant datasets, the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act, relevant planning instruments and any other matters considered relevant to the assessment.

The Delegated Officer also considered that the proposed amendments relate only to the extension of the permit duration from 21 May 2021 to 21 May 2026. It is noted that no modifications to the clearing footprint or approved clearing area have been proposed.

In considering the above, the Delegated Officer concluded that the assessment has not changed since the assessment for CPS 6940/1. The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed extension of time is not likely to lead to an unacceptable risk to the environment and that environmental impacts associated with clearing activities undertaken through the permit can be appropriately managed through the conditions imposed on the permit.

2. Site Information

Clearing Description

The proposed amendment to clearing permit CPS 6940/1 is for the purpose of extending the permit duration to 21 May 2026. CPS 6940/1 allowed for the clearing of 1.5 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of constructing a turnoff into a mine haul road. The entire clearing footprint sought under CPS 6940/2 remains unchanged and permits the clearing of 1.5 hectares of native vegetation (Figure 1).

Vegetation Description

The vegetation within the application area is mapped within Beard vegetation association 3106, described as medium woodland; salmon gum and Dundas blackbutt (Shepherd et al. 2001).

Vegetation Condition

The vegetation within the application area is likely to range from degraded to good (Keighery, 1994) condition, described as:

- Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994).
- Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery 1994).

Soil and Landform Type The soils over the application area are described as flat to undulating land with small valleys occasionally broken by low narrow rocky hills and ridges, or tors and bosses (map unit DD14).

Local area The local area referred to in the assessment of this application is defined as a 20 kilometre radius measured from the perimeter of the application area.

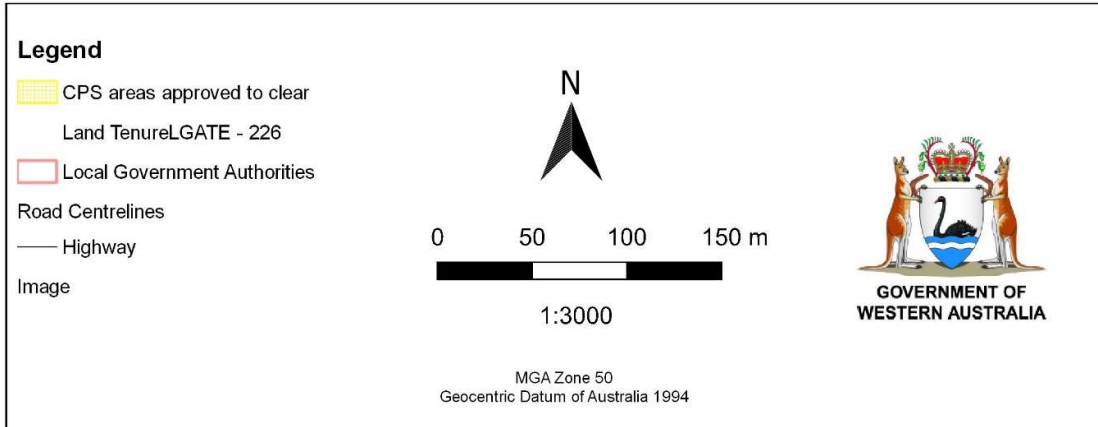
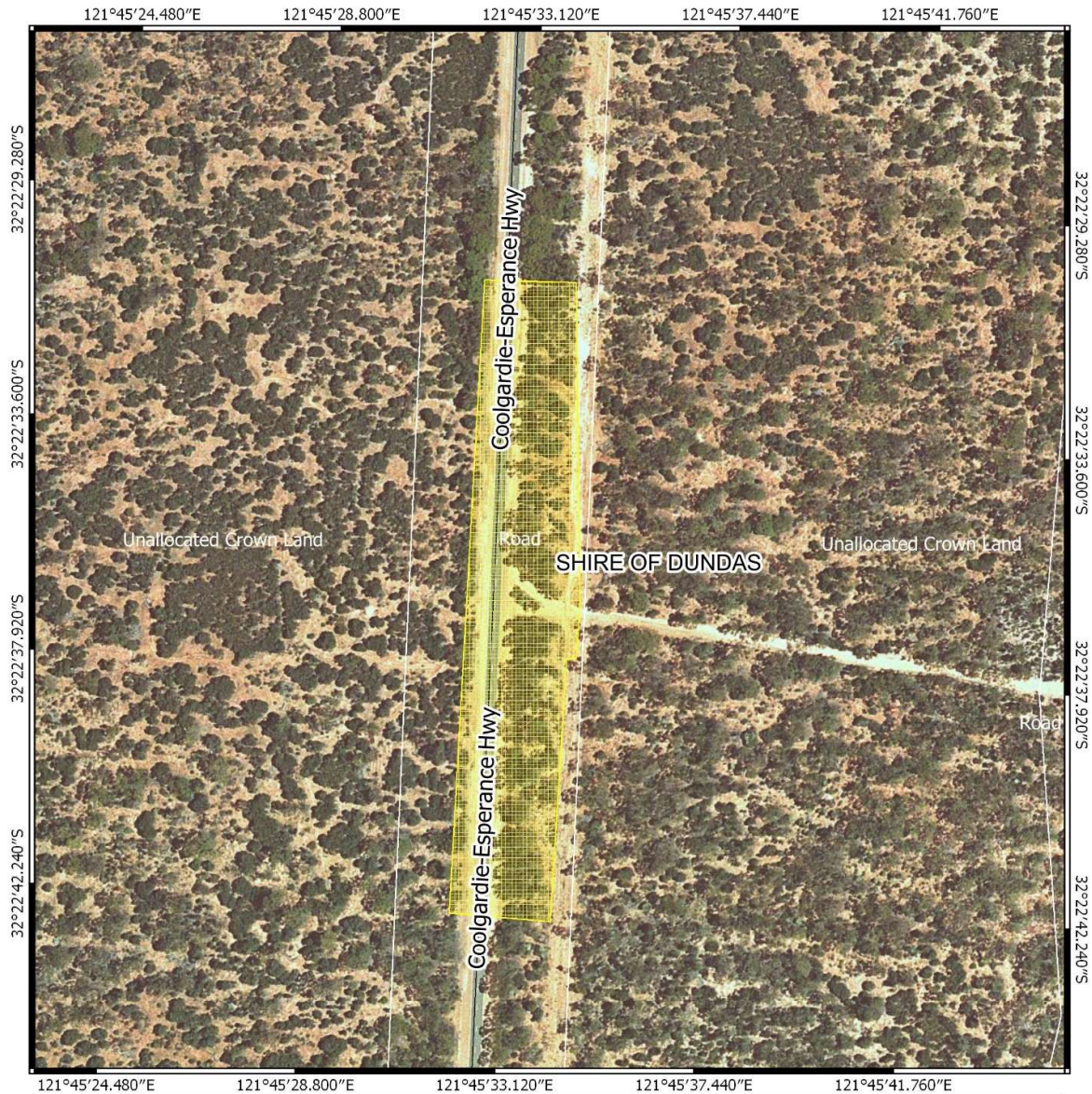


Figure 1: The area cross-hatched yellow indicates the area authorised to be cleared under the granted permit.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles and planning instruments and other matters

A review of current environmental information identified that the assessment against the clearing principles has not changed from Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 6940/1.

Given the above, the Delegated Officer considered that the extent to which the impacts of the proposed clearing present a risk to biological, conservation, or land and water resource values, also remains unchanged from the original assessment and can be found within Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 6940/1.

Planning instruments and other matters

The assessment against planning instruments and other relevant matters is unchanged and can be found in Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 6940/1.

The amendment application was advertised on DWER's website on 12 May 2021, inviting submissions from the public within a 7 day period. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

4. References

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, Extent, Type and Status*. Resource Management Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.

5. GIS Datasets

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- Clearing Regulations - Environmentally Sensitive Areas
- Carnaby's cockatoo: breeding, roosting, feeding
- Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions, Tenure
- Geomorphic Wetlands, Swan Coastal Plain
- Groundwater salinity, statewide
- South west forest vegetation complexes
- Hydrology, linear
- IBRA Australia
- Land for Wildlife
- PDWSA, CAWSA, RIWI Act Areas
- Remnant vegetation
- SAC Biodatasets (accessed January 2020)
- Soils, statewide
- South coast significant wetlands
- Town Planning Scheme Zones