



GOVERNMENT OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## CLEARING PERMIT

*Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	7374/3
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	From 11 February 2017 to 30 November 2031
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	BHP Iron Ore 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**

*Iron Ore (Mount Newman) Agreement Act 1964*, Mineral Lease 244SA (AML 70/244)  
*Iron Ore (McCamey's Monster) Agreement Act 1972*, Mining Lease 266SA (AM 70/266)  
Miscellaneous Licence 47/92

**2. Purpose for which clearing may be done**

Clearing for the purposes of geotechnical investigations, the construction of access tracks, drill pads, mineral exploration and hydrogeological drilling, pipelines, powerlines, water bores, safety bunds, potential flyrock damage, borrow pits and other associated activities.

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 700 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

**4. Type of clearing authorised**

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless the purpose for which the clearing is authorised begins within 3 months of the clearing being undertaken.

**5. Period in which clearing is authorised**

The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation after 30 November 2026.

### 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:

- 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.

## 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:

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

## 8. Retain and spread vegetative material and topsoil

The Permit Holder shall:

(a) *Revegetate* and *rehabilitate* 187.29 hectares of *temporary disturbance* previously cleared within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1 by:

- (i) laying the vegetative material and topsoil previously retained within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1 on the cleared areas;
- (ii) ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction; and
- (iii) re-shaping the surface of the land so that it is consistent with the surrounding 5 metres of uncleared land.

(b) within 4 years of laying the vegetative material and topsoil on the cleared area in accordance with Condition 8(a) of this Permit:

- (i) engage an *environmental specialist* to determine the species composition, structure and density of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*; and
- (ii) where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, the composition, structure and density determined under Condition 8(b)(i) of this Permit will not result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, *revegetate* the area by deliberately *planting* and/or *direct seeding* native vegetation that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area and ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used.

(c) Where additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation is undertaken in accordance with Condition 8(b)(ii) of this permit, the Permit Holder shall repeat condition 8(b)(i) and 8(b)(ii) within 24 months of undertaking the additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation.

(d) Where a determination by an *environmental specialist* that the composition, structure and density within areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* will result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, as determined in Condition 8(b)(i) and (ii) of this permit, that determination shall be submitted for the *CEO's* consideration. If the *CEO* does not agree with the determination made under Condition 8(b)(ii), the *CEO* may require the Permit Holder to undertake additional *planting* and *direct seeding* in accordance with the requirements under Condition 8(b)(ii).

## 9. Retain and spread vegetative material and topsoil

The Permit Holder shall:

(a) retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing authorised under this Permit and stockpile the vegetative material and topsoil in an area that has already been cleared;

(b) within 12 months following completion of clearing authorised under this Permit, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the areas that are no longer required for the purpose for which they were cleared under this Permit by:

- (i) ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction;
- (ii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under Condition 9(a) on the cleared area;
- (iii) re-shaping the surface of the land so that it is consistent with the surrounding 5 metres of uncleared land.

- (c) within 4 years of undertaking *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* in accordance with Condition 9(b) of this Permit:
- (i) engage an *environmental specialist* to determine the species composition, structure and density of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*; and
  - (ii) where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, the composition structure and density determined under Condition 9(c)(i) of this Permit will not result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of *pre-clearing* vegetation types in that area, *revegetate* the area by deliberately *planting* and/or *direct seeding* native vegetation that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to *pre-clearing* vegetation types in that area and ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used.

#### 10. Vegetation Management

- (a) Where practicable the Permit Holder shall avoid clearing riparian vegetation; and
- (b) Where a watercourse is to be impacted by clearing, the Permit Holder shall maintain the existing surface flow.

#### 11. Flora Management

Where *priority flora* have been identified and their written locations provided to the *CEO*, within the report ‘Eastern Ridge Exploration Strategic NVCP - Native Vegetation Clearing Permit Application Supporting Document for Exploration Drilling, November 2016’, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:

- (a) No clearing occurs within 10 metres of the following *priority flora*, unless first approved by the *CEO*:
  - (i) *Hibiscus campanulatus*;
  - (ii) *Aristida lazaridis*;
  - (iii) *Isotropis parviflora*;
  - (iv) *Goodenia nuda*;
  - (v) *Lepidium catapycnon*.
- (b) No clearing of *priority flora* species identified under Condition 11(a) occurs unless first approved by the *CEO*

### **PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING**

#### 12. 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"> <li>(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;</li> <li>(b) the date that the area was cleared;</li> <li>(c) the size of the area cleared (in hectares);</li> <li>(d) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with Condition 6;</li> <li>(e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> in accordance with Condition 7; and</li> <li>(f) actions taken in accordance with Condition 10.</li> </ul>
2.	In relation to <i>revegetation</i> and <i>rehabilitation</i> pursuant to Condition 8 and 9.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(g) the location of any areas <i>revegetated</i> and <i>rehabilitated</i>, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and</li> </ul>

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications
		Northings; (h) description of the <i>revegetation</i> and <i>rehabilitation</i> activities undertaken; and the size of the area <i>revegetated</i> and <i>rehabilitated</i> (in hectares).
3.	In relation to flora management pursuant to Condition 11	(i) actions taken to demarcate each <i>priority flora</i> species recorded and their relevant buffers; and actions taken to avoid the clearing of <i>priority flora</i> species.

### 13. 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 12 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 30 June of each year.
- (c) Prior to 30 November 2031, the Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under Condition 12 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 13(a) of this Permit.

## DEFINITIONS

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

**Table 2: Definitions**

Term	Definition
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.
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)
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.
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.
priority flora	<i>priority flora</i> means those plant taxa described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3, or 4 in the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions' Threatened and Priority Flora List for Western Australia (as amended);
regeneration	means <i>revegetation</i> that can be established from in situ seed banks contained either within the topsoil or seed-bearing <i>mulch</i> .
rehabilitate/ed/ion	means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area.
revegetate/ed/ion	means the re-establishment of a cover of <i>local provenance</i> native vegetation in an area using methods such as natural <i>regeneration</i> , <i>direct seeding</i> and/or <i>planting</i> , so that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area
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

Term	Definition
	(Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulation 2004.
watercourse	has the meaning given to it in section 3 of the <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i> .
weed/s	<p>means any plant –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the <i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007</i>; or</li> <li>(b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or</li> <li>(c) not indigenous to the area concerned.</li> </ul>

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**END OF CONDITIONS**




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Travis Inman  
General Manager Mine Closure and Environmental Services  
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division  
22 July 2022

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).

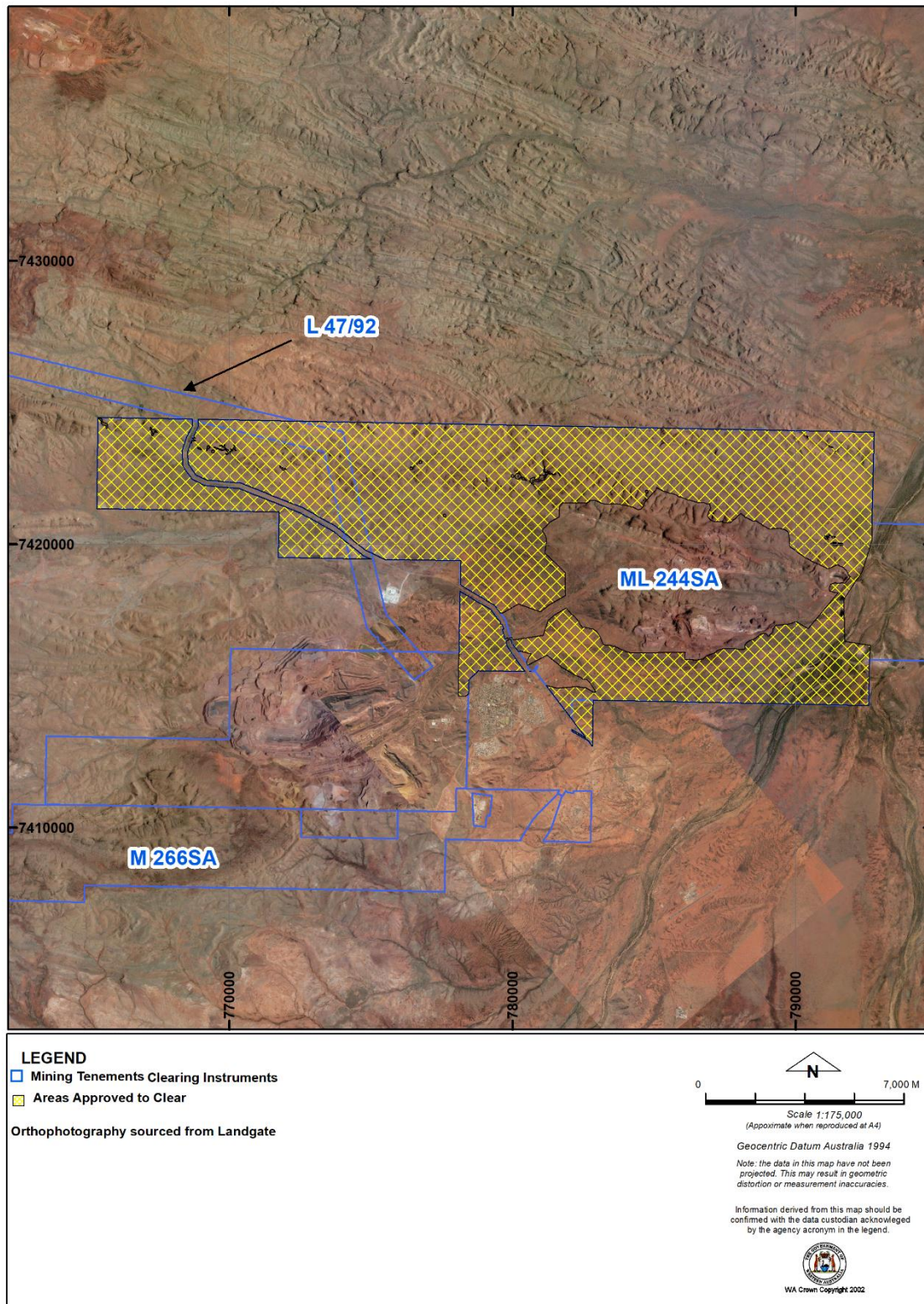


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur.