



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	7555/2
Duration of Permit:	From 1 July 2017 to 1 July 2022
Permit Holder:	Billabong Gold 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 52/149
Mining Lease 52/150
Mining Lease 52/309
Mining Lease 52/685
Mining Lease 52/797
Miscellaneous Licence 52/116
Miscellaneous Licence 52/164
Miscellaneous Licence 52/165
Miscellaneous Licence 52/166

2. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purposes of mineral production and associated activities.

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 525.21 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the areas shaded yellow on attached Plans 7555/2A, 7555/2B, 7555/2C, 7555/2D, 7555/2E and 7555/2F.

4. Type of clearing authorised

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

5. 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

6. 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.

7. Vegetation Management

- (a) Where practicable the Permit Holder shall avoid clearing *riparian vegetation*; and
- (b) Where a *watercourse* or *wetland* is to be impacted by clearing, the Permit Holder shall ensure that surface flow is maintained, or is reinstated downstream into existing natural drainage lines.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

8. Records to be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit:

In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:

- (i) 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 or decimal degrees;
- (ii) the date that the area was cleared;
- (iii) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); and
- (iv) purpose for which clearing was undertaken.

9. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the General Manager Environmental Compliance, Resource and Environmental Compliance Division, Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety 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 8 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (b) Prior to 1 July 2022, the Permit Holder must provide to the General Manager Environmental Compliance, Resource and Environmental Compliance Division, Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety a written report of records required under Condition 8 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 9(a) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

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

drainage line means a natural depression that carries surface water runoff;

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;

riparian vegetation has the meaning given to it in Regulation 3 of the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004;

watercourse has the meaning given to it in section 3 of the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*;

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;

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 Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.



Melissa Harrison
Acting General Manager Environmental Compliance
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division
18 April 2019

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