



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	7648/1
Duration of Permit:	From 16 September 2017 to 19 July 2021
Permit Holder:	FQM Exploration (Australia) 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

Exploration Licence 69/3291
Exploration Licence 69/3292
Exploration Licence 69/3293

2. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purposes of mineral exploration.

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 186.45 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 7648/1.

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. 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.

6. Vegetation management – wetlands and watercourses

- (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 maintain the existing surface flow.

7. Flora Management

- (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 areas to be cleared for the presence of rare flora listed in the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice* and *priority flora*;
- (b) The Permit Holder shall provide the results of the *targeted flora survey* in a report to the *CEO*.
- (c) If rare or *priority flora* are identified within the Permit Area, the *targeted flora survey* report must include the following:
 - (i) the location of each rare or *priority flora*, either as the location of individual plants, or where this is not practical, the aerial 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
 - (ii) the species name of each rare or *priority flora*, identified; and
 - (iii) the methodology used to survey the Permit Area; and
 - (iv) a site description of the habitat of rare or *priority flora* found.
- (d) Where rare or *priority flora* are identified under Condition 7(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) no clearing within 10 metres of *priority flora* occurs, and no clearing of *priority flora* occurs, unless first approved by the *CEO*; and
 - (ii) no clearing within 50 metres of rare flora occurs, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

8. Fauna Management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to conduct a *targeted fauna survey* of the areas to be cleared to identify the following:
 - (i) *Macrotis lagotis* (Greater Bilby) burrows; and
 - (ii) *Liopholis kintorei* (Great Desert Skink) burrows.
- (b) The Permit Holder shall provide the results of the *targeted fauna survey* in a report to the *CEO*.
- (c) If *Macrotis lagotis* (Greater Bilby) burrows and/or *Liopholis kintorei* (Great Desert Skink) burrows are identified within the Permit Area, the *targeted fauna survey* report must include the following:
 - (i) the location of each *Macrotis lagotis* (Greater Bilby) burrow and *Liopholis kintorei* (Great Desert Skink) burrow, 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
 - (ii) the methodology used to survey the Permit Area; and
 - (iii) a site description of the habitat of each *Macrotis lagotis* (Greater Bilby) burrow and *Liopholis kintorei* (Great Desert Skink) burrow found.
- (d) Where *Macrotis lagotis* (Greater Bilby) burrows and/or *Liopholis kintorei* (Great Desert Skink) burrows are identified in relation to Condition 8(a) of this permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the identified *Macrotis lagotis* (Greater Bilby) burrows and *Liopholis kintorei* (Great Desert Skink) burrows, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

9. 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.

10. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the Director Operations, Environment, 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 9 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 July and 30 June of the previous financial year.
- (b) Prior to 19 July 2021, the Permit Holder must provide to the Director Operations, Environment, Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety a written report of records required under Condition 9 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 10(a) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

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

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 *CEO* as a suitable botanist for the bioregion;

CEO means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation or an officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

fauna specialist means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specializing 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;

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;

priority flora means those plant taxa described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3, or 4 in the *Department of Parks and Wildlife's Threatened and Priority Flora List for Western Australia* (as amended);

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

targeted fauna survey means a field-based investigation, including a review of established literature, of the biodiversity of fauna of the Permit Area, focusing on habitat suitable for fauna species that are being targeted;

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;

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

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

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.



Dan Machin | Acting Director Operations
Operations
24 August 2017

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