

3 August 2021

Damien Montague
Operations, Environment
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety
Mineral House, 100 Plain Street
East Perth, WA 6004

Via email: nvab@dmirs.wa.gov.au

Dear Damien

Annual Clearing Permit Reports for the Higginsville Gold Operation – 01 July 2020 – 30 June 2021

Please see attached tables detailing clearing activities undertaken during the reporting period for the following clearing permits held by Karora Resources at the Higginsville Gold Operations (HGO):

- CPS 6337/3
- CPS 6644/1
- CPS 6802/2
- CPS 6803/2
- CPS 6823/4
- CPS 6824/3
- CPS 6825/2
- CPS 6940/2
- CPS 7673/1
- CPS 7674/1
- CPS 8062/1
- CPS 8152/3
- CPS 9198/1

All clearing undertaken during the reporting period was calculated using ArcGIS and georeferenced aerial images taken by the survey department. Karora also engaged Arvista to undertake an aerial photogrammetry service to provide an updated LiDAR image for all disturbance at Higginsville. The updated image was used to review all historic disturbance at HGO. During the reporting period, Karora cleared a total of 84.2 ha against CPS 8152/3. Information for each clearing permit is presented in Table 1. A list of all clearing areas, their purpose and date cleared are provided in Appendix 1.

During the reporting year, DMIRS approved the amendment to amalgamate the five NVCPs in the immediate HGO locality (CPS 6644/1, CPS 7673/1, CPS 7674/2, CPS 8062/1 and CPS 8152/2) into a single permit (CPS 8152/3). DMIRS also approved the NVCP for Spargos Reward CPS 9198/1.

Internal clearing permits were issued at HGO for all clearing activities undertaken during the reporting year. No clearing outside of approved mining operations or disturbance envelopes occurred during the reporting year. Compliance with permit conditions is presented in Appendix 2 for any clearing activities that were undertaken during the reporting year.

DMIRS issued a request for information in June 2021 regarding an exceedance in the total clearing undertaken for clearing permit CPS 6337/3. Westgold reported on 1 August 2018 that a total of 33.02 ha had been cleared against the approved total of 23.64 ha. However, no clearing had been undertaken during that reporting period and no explanation was provided for the exceedance. Karora has not been able to locate any records that may explain why the total clearing for CPS 6337/3 was exceeded.

Please contact me if you require any further information or wish to discuss any content provided.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Ruschmann".

Alex Ruschmann
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Table 1: Annual Clearing Permit Report Information

Clearing Permit Number	Duration		Tenement(s)	Clearing Conducted in 2020-2021 (Ha)	Total Area Cleared to Date (Ha)	Area Approved to Clear (Ha)	Project Location	Comments
	From	To						
CPS 6337/3	10/01/2015	09/01/2023	M15/1132	0.00	33.02	23.64	Napoleon Pit (Lake Cowan Project)	No clearing during reporting period.
CPS 6644/1	12/09/2015	20/08/2020	M15/31, M15/231, M15/348, M15/352, M15/375, M15/610, M15/748	0.00	48.03	177.66	Fairplay and Two Boys Projects	CPS amalgamated with 8152/3. No clearing when permit was active during the reporting period.
CPS 6802/2	26/12/2015	31/12/2025	M15/1792	0.00	0.00	545.00	Wills Project	Clearing permit activities not yet commenced.
CPS 6803/2	26/12/2015	31/12/2025	L63/73, M63/647	0.00	0.00	739.00	Musket Project	Clearing permit activities not yet commenced.
CPS 6823/4	16/01/2016	31/01/2026	G63/7, M63/515-1	0.00	113.27	546.35	Mt Henry Project	No clearing during reporting period.
CPS 6824/3	16/01/2016	31/01/2026	M 63/366, M63/516, G63/6	0.00	0.00	630.00	Selene, North Scotia (Mt Henry Project - South)	Clearing permit activities not yet commenced.
CPS 6825/2	06/02/2016	30/04/2021	L63/64	0.00	0.00	4.50	Mt Henry Project	Clearing permit activities not yet commenced.
CPS 6940/2	21/05/2016	21/05/2026	Coolgardie - Esperance Highway road reserve	0.00	0.00	1.50	Mt Henry Project	Clearing permit activities not yet commenced.

Clearing Permit Number	Duration		Tenement(s)	Clearing Conducted in 2020-2021 (Ha)	Total Area Cleared to Date (Ha)	Area Approved to Clear (Ha)	Project Location	Comments
	From	To						
CPS 7673/1	23/09/2017	20/08/2020	M15/338, M15/639, M15/640, M15/1790, G15/29	0.00	7.26	433.00	Mitchell Project	CPS amalgamated with 8152/3. No clearing when permit was active during the reporting period.
CPS 7674/2	23/09/2017	20/08/2020	M15/348, M15/352, M15/375, M15/512, M15/528, M15/610, M15/642	0.00	3.59	210	Fairplay, Two Boys and Redross Powerline	CPS amalgamated with 8152/3. No clearing when permit was active during the reporting period.
CPS 8062/2	28/07/2018	20/08/2020	G15/19, G15/27, M15/348, M15/375	0.00	0.00	100	HGO TSF	CPS amalgamated with 8152/3. No clearing when permit was active during the reporting period.
CPS 8152/3	27/10/2018	31/07/2025	G15/19, G15/26, G15/27, G15/29, M15/31, M15/231, M15/338, M15/348, M15/352, M15/375, M15/506, M15/507, M15/512, M15/528, M15/580, M15/581, M15/597, M15/610, M15/639, M15/640, M15/642, M15/681,	84.20	192.41	1000	Higginsville operations: Baloo, Eundynie, Fairplay, Two Boys, Aquarius, Redross Powerline, Mitchell, TSF and Pioneer Projects	Clearing calculated as difference between 2019 and 2020 MRF areas.

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	From	To						
			M15/748, M15/817, M15/1790, M15/1814, L15/347, L15/368, L15/382, L15/386 and L15/389					
CPS 9198/1	15/05/2021	14/05/2026	M15/1828	0.00	0.00	150	Spargos Reward	Clearing permit activities not yet commenced.

Appendix 1 – List of Cleared Areas

SITE	HOLDER	SITE NAME	MRF NAME	TENEMENT	CLEAR DATE	AREA (HA)
Baloo	Polar Metals	Baloo Haul Road	Baloo Haul Road	L15/382	1/07/2020	2.664
Eundynie	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Hidden Secret Roads	Transport or service infrastructure corridor	M15/507	1/07/2020	8.711
Eundynie	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Hidden Secret Waste Dump	Waste Dump Class 1	M15/507	5/07/2020	25.404
Eundynie	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Hidden Secret Laydown	Laydown or Hardstand Area	M15/507	13/07/2020	1.383
Eundynie	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	F. ore Stockpile	Low-grade stockpile (Class 2)	M15/597	13/07/2020	0.551
Eundynie	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Low-grade Stockpile	Low-grade stockpile (Class 2)	M15/507	13/07/2020	1.370
Eundynie	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	MinWaste Stockpile	Low-grade stockpile (Class 2)	M15/507	13/07/2020	2.435
Eundynie	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Hidden Secret Pit	Mining Void bgwl	M15/507	13/07/2020	1.508
Eundynie	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Hidden Secret Sth Pit	Mining Void bgwl	M15/507	13/07/2020	0.691
Eundynie	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	ROM	Run-of-mine Pad	M15/507	13/07/2020	1.350
Eundynie	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Topsoil Stockpile	Topsoil Stockpile	M15/507	13/07/2020	6.494
Eundynie	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Hidden Secret Roads	Transport or service infrastructure corridor	M15/597	13/07/2020	0.055
Higginsville	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Access Track	Transport or service infrastructure corridor	G15/26	30/08/2020	0.435
Baloo	Polar Metals	Baloo Workshop	Workshop	M15/1814	1/10/2020	0.163
Higginsville	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Access Tracks Higginsville Plus TSF	Transport or service infrastructure corridor	M15/348	1/10/2020	6.071
Higginsville	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Seepage Recovery Network	Borefield	M15/348	16/11/2020	0.264
Higginsville	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	TSF Decant Trench Higginsville	Diversion Drain	G15/19	16/11/2020	0.085
Higginsville	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Access Tracks TSF	Transport or service infrastructure corridor	G15/19	16/11/2020	1.309
Eundynie	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Mousehollow pit	Mining Void bgwl	M15/507	17/11/2020	1.067
Eundynie	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Mousehollow pit	Mining Void bgwl	M15/597	17/11/2020	1.181
Eundynie	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	F. ore Stockpile	Low-grade stockpile (Class 2)	M15/507	14/12/2020	1.272
Higginsville	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Seepage Recovery Network	Borefield	G15/26	18/01/2021	0.635
Aquarius	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Aquarius Laydown	Laydown or Hardstand Area	M15/375	1/03/2021	1.946
Aquarius	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Aquarius boxcut	Mining Void bgwl	M15/610	1/03/2021	2.322
Aquarius	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Aquarius Boxcut	Mining Void bgwl	M15/375	1/03/2021	1.346
Aquarius	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Aquarius Topsoil Stk	Topsoil Stockpile	M15/375	1/03/2021	1.968
Fairplay	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Wastedump Fairplay East	Waste Dump Class 1	M15/375	1/03/2021	4.529
Vine	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Access Tracks	Transport or service infrastructure corridor	M15/375	1/03/2021	4.472
Vine	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Access Tracks	Transport or service infrastructure corridor	M15/610	1/03/2021	1.797
Higginsville	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Topsoil Stockpile Two Boys	Topsoil Stockpile	M15/348	8/03/2021	0.082
Two Boys	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Laydown Two Boys	Laydown or Hardstand Area	M15/231	8/03/2021	0.022
Two Boys	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Haul Road Two Boys	Transport or service infrastructure corridor	M15/231	8/03/2021	0.561
Higginsville	Avoca Mining Pty Ltd	Laydown HigginsvilleACM, Expl. Hut, Concete	Laydown or Hardstand Area	M15/348	1/06/2021	0.052

Appendix 2 – Adherence to Permit Conditions

CPS 8152/3		
Condition	Adherence to conditions (Y/N)	Comments
<p>1. Land on which clearing is to be done</p> <p>General purpose leases: 15/19, 15/26, 15/27 and 15/29</p> <p>Mining Leases: 15/31, 15/231, 15/338, 15/348, 15/352, 15/375, 15/506, 15/507, 15/512, 15/528, 15/580, 15//581, 15/597, 15/610, 15/639, 15/640, 15/642, 15/681, 15/748, 15/817, 15/1790 and 15/1814</p> <p>Miscellaneous Licences: 15/368, 15/382, 15/386 and 15/389</p>	Y	All clearing is confined to the mining tenements listed in Condition 1.
<p>2. Purpose for which clearing may be done</p> <p>Clearing for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities</p>	Y	All clearing has been conducted for the purposes of mineral production and associated activities.
<p>3. Area of clearing</p> <p>The Permit Holder must not clear more than 1000 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the area cross-hatched yellow on attached Plan 8152/3</p>	Y	A total of 192.41 ha of native vegetation have been cleared to date. All clearing has occurred within the approved clearing permit boundary.
<p>4. Type of clearing authorised</p> <p>The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless the purpose for which the clearing is authorised is enacted within six months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.</p>	Y	Cleared areas are used for the purpose for which they are authorised within the six months timeframe or earlier.
<p>5. Application</p> <p>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.</p>	Y	All clearing was conducted by Karora employees or authorised contractors.
<p>6. Avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing</p> <p>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:</p> <p>(a) avoid the clearing of native vegetation;</p>	Y	Karora conducts clearing by designing site works to avoid or minimise clearing of native vegetation whenever possible. Designs are modified to maximise the use of areas previously disturbed to reduce the impact of clearing on environmental values. Karora endeavors to undertake progressive rehabilitation to reduce the total amount of open areas at the mine.

Condition	Adherence to conditions (Y/N)	Comments
(b) minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and (c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.		
<p>7. Weed control</p> <p>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:</p> <p>(i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;</p> <p>(ii) ensure that no weed-affected soil, mulch, fill or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and</p> <p>(iii) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.</p>	Y	Karora implements internal weed management and hygiene procedures to address clearing permit conditions. Karora engaged a botanist to undertake an annual weed survey around current operational areas. Vehicle movements are restricted to designated roads and within work areas.
<p>8. Watercourse management</p> <p>(a) Where practicable the Permit Holder shall avoid clearing riparian vegetation.</p> <p>(b) Where a watercourse or wetland is to be impacted by clearing, the Permit Holder shall maintain the existing surface flow.</p>	Y	All known watercourses are avoided where practicable. No watercourses were impacted by clearing during the reporting period.
<p>9. Records to be kept</p> <p>The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit:</p> <p>(a) In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:</p> <p>(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;</p> <p>(ii) the date that the area was cleared;</p> <p>(iii) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); and</p> <p>(iv) purpose for which clearing was undertaken.</p> <p>(b) actions taken to avoid, minimise and reduce the impacts and the extent</p>	Y	Records of clearing are kept within a geospatial database. All internal clearing permits are assessed for compliance with approvals. These records include the location, date, size and purpose for which the clearing was undertaken, as updated regularly in the HGO GIS system.

CPS 8152/3

Condition	Adherence to conditions (Y/N)	Comments
of clearing in accordance with Condition 6 of this Permit; and actions taken to minimise the introduction and spread of weeds in accordance with Condition 7 of this Permit.		
<p>10. Reporting</p> <p>(a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the General Manager, Environmental Compliance, Resource and Environmental Compliance Directorate, 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.</p> <p>(b) Prior to 31 July 2023, the Permit Holder must provide to the General Manager, Environmental Compliance, Resource and Environmental Compliance Directorate, 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.</p>	Y	<p>Reports have been provided to DMIRS in accordance with Condition 10. This annual clearing permit report was submitted late on 3 August 2021 but considered to be compliant with the general requirements of the condition. Karora will provide DMIRS with a final report prior to the expiry of the permit.</p>