

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number: CPS 8235/2

Permit Holder: Northern Star (Hampton Gold Mining Areas) Ltd

Duration of Permit: From 26 September 2019 to 26 September 2034

The permit holder is authorised to clear *native vegetation* subject to the following conditions of this permit.

PART I - CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Clearing authorised (purpose)

The permit holder is authorised to clear *native vegetation* for the purpose of mineral exploration.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 105 on Deposited Plan 40396, Karramindie

3. Clearing authorised

The permit holder must not clear more than 200 hectares of *native vegetation* within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 and Figure 2 of Schedule 1.

4. Period during which clearing is authorised

The permit holder must not clear any *native vegetation* after 26 September 2029.

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. Avoid, minimise, and reduce impacts and extent of clearing

In determining the *native vegetation* authorised to be cleared under this permit, the permit holder must apply the following principles, set out in descending order of preference:

(a) avoid the clearing of *native vegetation*;

- (b) minimise the amount of *native vegetation* to be cleared; and
- (c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

7. Weed management

When undertaking any clearing activity authorised under this permit, the permit holder must take the following measures to minimise the risk of introduction and spread of weeds:

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

8. 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 by use of culverts.

9. Conservation areas management

The permit holder shall ensure no clearing occurs within the area cross-hatched red in Figure 1 of Schedule 1 of this Permit unless first approved by the *CEO*.

10. Flora management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit, the permit holder shall demarcate the clearing area authorised under this permit to avoid clearing of *Priority Flora* outside of the approved clearing area; and
- (b) Where possible and confirmed populations of *Calandrinia lefroyensis*, *Lepidium genistoides* and *Lepidosperma* sp. Kambalda (A.A. Mitchell 5156) have been identified and their written locations provided to the *CEO* within 'Mt Marion Hamptons Tenement Detailed Flora & Vegetation Assessment, Prepared For: Mineral Resources Limited' (Spectrum Ecology Pty Ltd 2024), the permit holder shall ensure:
 - (i) No clearing of individuals of these species occurs; and
 - (ii) No clearing occurs within 20 metres of individuals of these species.

11. Fauna management – Pre-clearance survey

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the permit holder shall engage a fauna specialist to undertake clearance surveys within the Permit Area to identify Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*), including *active mounds* and inactive mounds, and Shield-backed trapdoor spider species (*Idiosoma* sp.), including burrows;
- (b) The Shield-backed trapdoor spider and Malleefowl pre-clearance survey should also include searches for other conservation significant fauna.
- (c) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the permit holder shall provide the results of the *fauna survey* in a report to the CEO.

- (d) Where burrows and mounds are identified under condition 11(a) of this permit, the permit holder shall;
 - (i) flag the location of the burrow(s) and mound(s);
 - (ii) not clear within 50 metres of single Shield-backed trapdoor spider burrow(s);
 - (iii) not clear within 200 metres of matriarchal clusters of Shield-backed trapdoor spider burrow(s);
 - (iv) not clear within 50 metres of Malleefowl mound(s).

12. Fauna management – Malleefowl

The permit holder shall ensure no *clearing* occurs within the areas cross-hatched green in Figure 1 and Figure 2 of Schedule 1 of this Permit unless approved by the *CEO*.

13. Fauna management - habitat trees

The permit holder shall not clear *habitat trees* found within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 and Figure 2 of Schedule 1 unless approved by the *CEO*.

14. Directional clearing

The permit holder must:

- (a) conduct *clearing* activities in a slow, progressive manner towards adjacent native vegetation; and
- (b) allow a reasonable time for fauna present within the area being cleared to move into adjacent native vegetation ahead of the *clearing* activity.

15. Retain vegetative material and topsoil, revegetation and rehabilitation

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) at an *optimal time* following clearing authorised under this Permit, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area(s) that are no longer required for mineral exploration by:
 - (i) re-shaping the surface of the land so that it is consistent with the surrounding 5 metres of uncleared land;
 - (ii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under condition 15(a) on the cleared area(s):
 - (iii) 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
 - (iv) ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used to *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the area.
- (c) within 18 months of laying the vegetative material and topsoil on the cleared area in accordance with condition 15(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 15(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.

- (d) Where additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation is undertaken in accordance with condition 15(c)(ii) of this permit, the Permit Holder shall repeat condition 15(c)(i) and 15(c)(ii) within 18 months of undertaking the additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation.
- (e) 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 15(c)(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 15(c)(ii), the CEO may require the Permit Holder to undertake additional *planting* and *direct seeding* in accordance with the requirements under condition 15(c)(ii).

16. Erosion management

The permit holder shall not clear native vegetation unless the purpose for the clearing is authorised is enacted within three (3) months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

17. Records that 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	Spec	cifications
1.	In relation to the authorised clearing activities generally	(a) (b)	the species composition, structure, and density of the cleared area; the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to GDA2020,
			expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;
		(c)	the date that the area was cleared;
		(d)	the size of the area cleared (in hectares);
		(e)	actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 7;
		(f)	actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> in accordance with condition 8; and
		(g)	actions taken to manage erosion in

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications	
		accordance with condition 16.	
2.	In relation to flora management pursuant to condition 10	 (a) actions taken to avoid the clearing of or priority flora species; (b) the name and location of each priority flora species taken, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to GDA2020, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings. 	
3.	In relation to fauna management pursuant to condition 11	 (a) the time (s) and date(s) that the survey was undertaken (b) the name and qualification of the fauna specialist performing the survey (c) the methodology used to survey the Permit Area and to identify the mound/s; burrows (a) the location of each <i>Leipoa ocellata</i> (malleefowl) mound, delineated as either an active mound or an inactive mound, and <i>Idiosoma</i> sp. burrow, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings 	
4.	In relation to the revegetation and rehabilitation of areas pursuant to condition 15 of this Permit	 (a) the location of any areas revegetated and rehabilitated, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; (b) a description of the revegetation and rehabilitation activities undertaken; (c) the size of the area revegetated and rehabilitated (in hectares). (d) The date(s) on which the revegetation and rehabilitation was undertaken; and (e) Actions and timing of remedial actions undertaken within the area(s) that was revegetated and rehabilitated in accordance with conditions 17(c)(ii) and 17(e). 	

18. Reporting

The Permit Holder must provide to the CEO on or before 30 June of each year, a written report:

(a) of records required under condition 17 (records to be kept) of this Permit;

- (b) concerning activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding calendar year;
- (c) if no clearing authorised under this Permit was undertaken between 1 January to 31 December of the preceding calendar year, a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been carried out, must be provided to the CEO on or before 30 June of each year; and
- (d) prior to 26 June 2034, the Permit Holder must provide to the CEO a written report of records required under condition 16 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 18(a) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

In this permit, the terms in Table have the meanings defined.

Table 2: Definitions

Term	Definition
active mound/s	means malleefowl mounds which appear to exhibit characteristics associated with normal nesting/breeding activity. This may include a nest mounded up, litter trails leading to mound, extensive soil and litter disturbance, and/or birds seen actively digging.
CEO	Chief Executive Officer of the department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> .
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 <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.
direct seeding	means a method of re-establishing vegetation through the establishment of a seed bed and the introduction of seeds of the desired plant species.
environmental specialist	means a person who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this Permit, or who is approved by the CEO as a suitable environmental specialist.
EP Act	Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)
fauna specialist	means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specialising 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 <i>CEO</i> as a suitable fauna specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> .
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.
habitat tree/s	means trees that have a diameter of 30 centimetres or greater, when measured at 130 centimetres from the base of the tree.
local provenance	means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 50 kilometres and the same Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) subregion of the area cleared.
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.

Term	Definition		
optimal time	means the period from April to May for undertaking <i>direct seeding</i> .		
planting	means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating favourable soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species;		
Priority Flora	means those plant taxa described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions <i>Threatened and Priority Flora List for Western Australia</i> (as amended);		
riparian vegetation	has the meaning given to it in Regulation 3 of the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004		
regenerate/ed/ion	means re-establishment of vegetation from in situ seed banks and propagating material (such as lignotubers, bulbs, rhizomes) 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.		
watercourse	has the meaning given to it in section 3 of the Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914		
weeds	means any plant — (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the <i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007</i> ; or (b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.		

END OF CONDITIONS

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Caitlin Conway MANAGER

NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

2 October 2025

Schedule 1

The boundary of the area authorised to be cleared is shown in the maps below (Figure 1 and Figure 2).

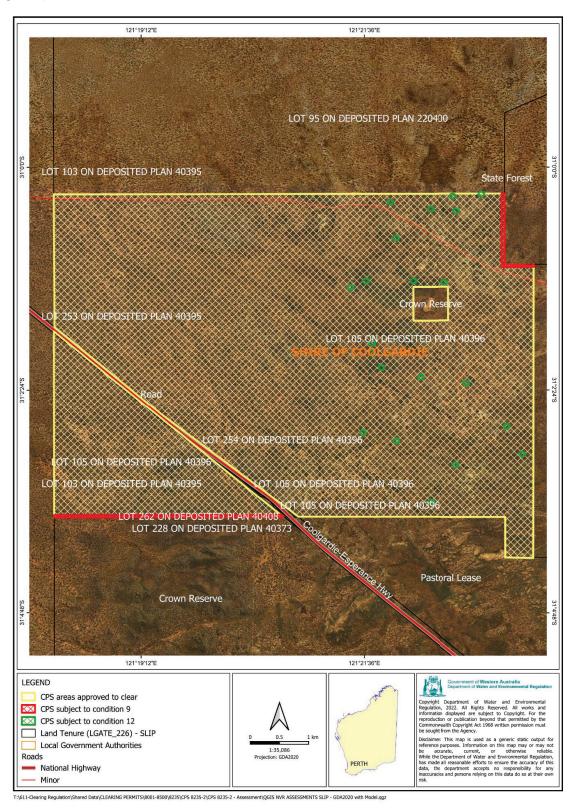


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur and the areas subject to condition 9 and condition 12.

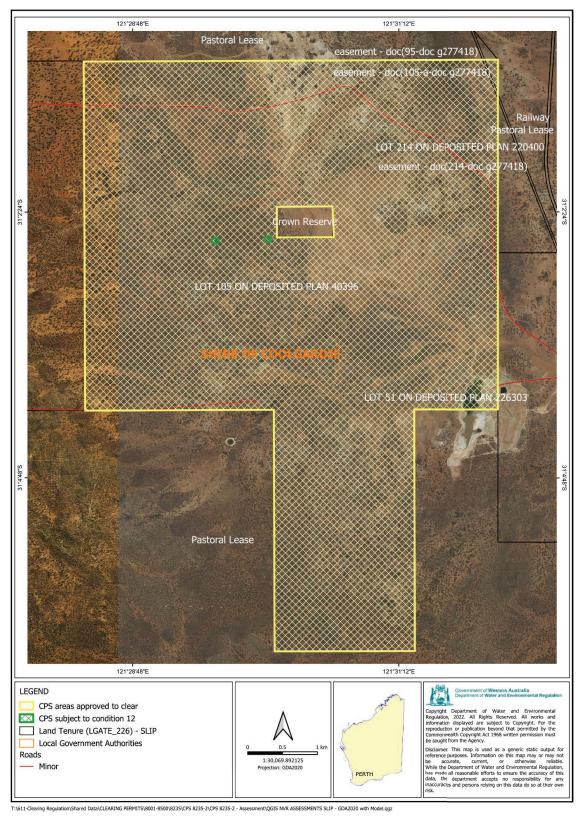


Figure 2: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur and the areas subject to condition 12.