

# **CLEARING PERMIT**

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

**Purpose Permit number:** 8915/2

**Duration of Permit:** From 8 August 2020 to 31 July 2028

**Permit Holder:** GWR Group Limited

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 53/1087 Miscellaneous Licence 53/147

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

Clearing for the purpose of a haul road and associated infrastructure.

## 3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 60 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

### **PART II - MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS**

### 4. 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:

- (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.

### 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. Fauna Management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to conduct a *fauna survey* of the Permit Area to identify *critical habitat* being utilised by the Brush-tailed Mulgara (*Dasycerus blythi*).
- (b) 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*.
- (c) The fauna survey report must include the following;
  - (i) the location of the *critical habitat* 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 location of any Brush-tailed Mulgara, as listed in condition 6(a) identified, 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;
  - (iii) the methodology, used to survey the Permit Area and to establish the *critical habitat*;
  - (iv) the extent of the critical habitat of the identified fauna shown on a map; and
  - (v) a description of the critical habitat.
- (d) Where Brush-tailed Mulgara are identified under condition 6(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:
  - (i) no clearing of *critical habitat*, unless first approved by the CEO; and
  - (ii) no taking of Brush-tailed Mulgara occurs, unless first approved by the CEO.

### PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

### 7. 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	Spec	cifications
1.	In relation to the authorised clearing activities generally	(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;
		(b)	the date that the area was cleared;
		(c)	the size of the area cleared (in hectares);
		(d)	actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with Condition 4;
		(e)	actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of <i>weed</i> in accordance with Condition 5; and
		(f)	actions taken in accordance with Condition 6.

# 8. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the *CEO* 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 7 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 31 July of each year
- (c) Prior to 31 July 2028, the Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under Condition 7 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 8(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.
critical habitat	means any part of the Permit Area comprising of the habitat of flora or fauna species and its population, that is critical for the health and long term survival of the flora or fauna species and its population.
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	Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)
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 <i>CEO</i> as a suitable fauna specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the <i>Biodiversity</i> and Conservation Act 2016.
fauna survey	means a field-based investigation, including a review of established literature, of the biodiversity of fauna and/or fauna habitat of the Permit Area. Where conservation significant fauna are identified in the Permit Area, the survey should also include sufficient surrounding areas to place the Permit Area into local context.
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.
native vegetation	has the meaning given under section 3(1) and section 51A of the EP Act.
weed/s	means any plant –  (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the <i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007</i> ; or

Term	Definition		
	(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**

TRAVIS INMAN

GENERAL MANAGER MINE CLOSURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
RESOURCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE DIVISION
30 May 2023

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).

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