



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Purpose Permit number: | 9297/1 |
| Duration of Permit: | From 15 March 2022 to 14 March 2027 |
| Permit Holder: | Image Resources NL |

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 70/2844
Exploration Licence 70/3298

2. Clearing authorised (purpose)

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the purposes of mineral exploration and environmental investigations.

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 1.59 hectares of native vegetation within the areas shaded yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

4. Authorised Activity

When undertaking any vegetation clearing for the purpose of mineral exploration in accordance with this permit, the Permit Holder shall only use the following methods:

- (a) driving an off-road vehicle or equipment over vegetation; and
- (b) raised blade clearing.

5. Directional Clearing

The Permit Holder must conduct clearing activities in a slow, progressive manner into one direction to allow fauna to move into adjacent native vegetation ahead of the clearing activity.

6. Clearing not authorised (tree diameter)

The Permit Holder must not clear standing trees that have a diameter (measured at 150 centimetres from the base of the tree) of 10 centimetres or greater, for all species.

PART II - MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

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

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:

- (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.

8. Weed and dieback control

- (a) 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* and *dieback*:
 - (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
 - (ii) ensure that no known *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared;
 - (iii) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared;
 - (iv) only move soils in *dry conditions*; and
 - (v) where *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is to be removed from the area to be cleared, ensure it is transferred to areas of comparable *soil disease status*.
- (b) At least once in each 12 month period for the term of this Permit, the Permit Holder must remove or kill any *weeds* growing within areas cleared under this Permit.

9. Vegetation Management

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

10. Fauna management

- (a) Within one week prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to undertake *pre-clearance surveys* for the western swamp tortoise (*Pseudemydura umbrina*).
- (b) At the time of clearing, the Permit Holder shall engage a fauna spotter to traverse the project area ahead of clearing machinery, to determine the presence of western swamp tortoise.
- (c) Where western swamp tortoise are identified under condition 10(b), the Permit Holder shall alert machinery operators to avoid western swamp tortoise injury or mortality.
- (d) Where western swamp tortoise are identified under condition 10(a) and 10(b), the Permit Holder shall engage Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attraction's Regional Leader Nature Conservation Swan Region to relocate any western swamp tortoise.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

11. 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 | Specifications |
|-----|---|---|
| 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), |

| No. | Relevant matter | Specifications |
|-----|--|--|
| | | <p>expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;</p> <p>(b) the date that the area was cleared;</p> <p>(c) the size of the area cleared (in hectares);</p> <p>(d) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 7; and</p> <p>(e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds and dieback in accordance with condition 8; and</p> <p>(f) actions taken in accordance with condition 9.</p> |
| 2. | In relation to fauna management pursuant to condition 10 | <p>Where any western swamp tortoise are identified and relocated under Condition 10(a), 10(b) and 10(c) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall include the following in a report submitted to the <i>CEO</i>:</p> <p>(a) the location of any evidence of western swamp tortoise 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>(b) the type of evidence recorded under condition 10(c) e.g. fauna individuals, burrows, scats, tracks;</p> <p>(c) the date where any western swamp tortoise were relocated; and</p> <p>(d) the name of the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attraction's Regional Leader Nature Conservation that relocated the western swamp tortoise under condition 10(d).</p> |

12. 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 11 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 14 March 2027, the Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under condition 11 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 12(a) or 12(b) 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. |
| drainage line/s | means a natural depression that carries surface water runoff. |
| dry conditions | means when soils (not dust) do not freely adhere to rubber tyres, tracks, vehicle chassis or wheel arches. |
| dieback | means the effect of <i>Phytophthora</i> species on native vegetation. |
| 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 | <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> (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 CEO 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. |
| 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. |
| pre-clearance survey/s | means a search of immediate impact areas prior to clearing to locate fauna. The clearance survey should focus on locating burrows, recent foraging signs, fresh tracks and scats. |
| riparian vegetation | has the meaning given to it in Regulation 3 of the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulation 2004. |
| soil disease status | means soil types either infested, not infested, uninterpretable or not interpreted with a pathogen. |
| watercourse | has the meaning given to it in section 3 of the <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i> . |
| weed/s | means any plant – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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. |
| western swamp tortoise handler | western swamp tortoise handler means the Regional Leader Nature Conservation Swan Region from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. |

| Term | Definition |
|-----------|---|
| 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. |

END OF CONDITIONS



Dan Endacott
General Manager Environmental Compliance
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division
18 February 2022

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).

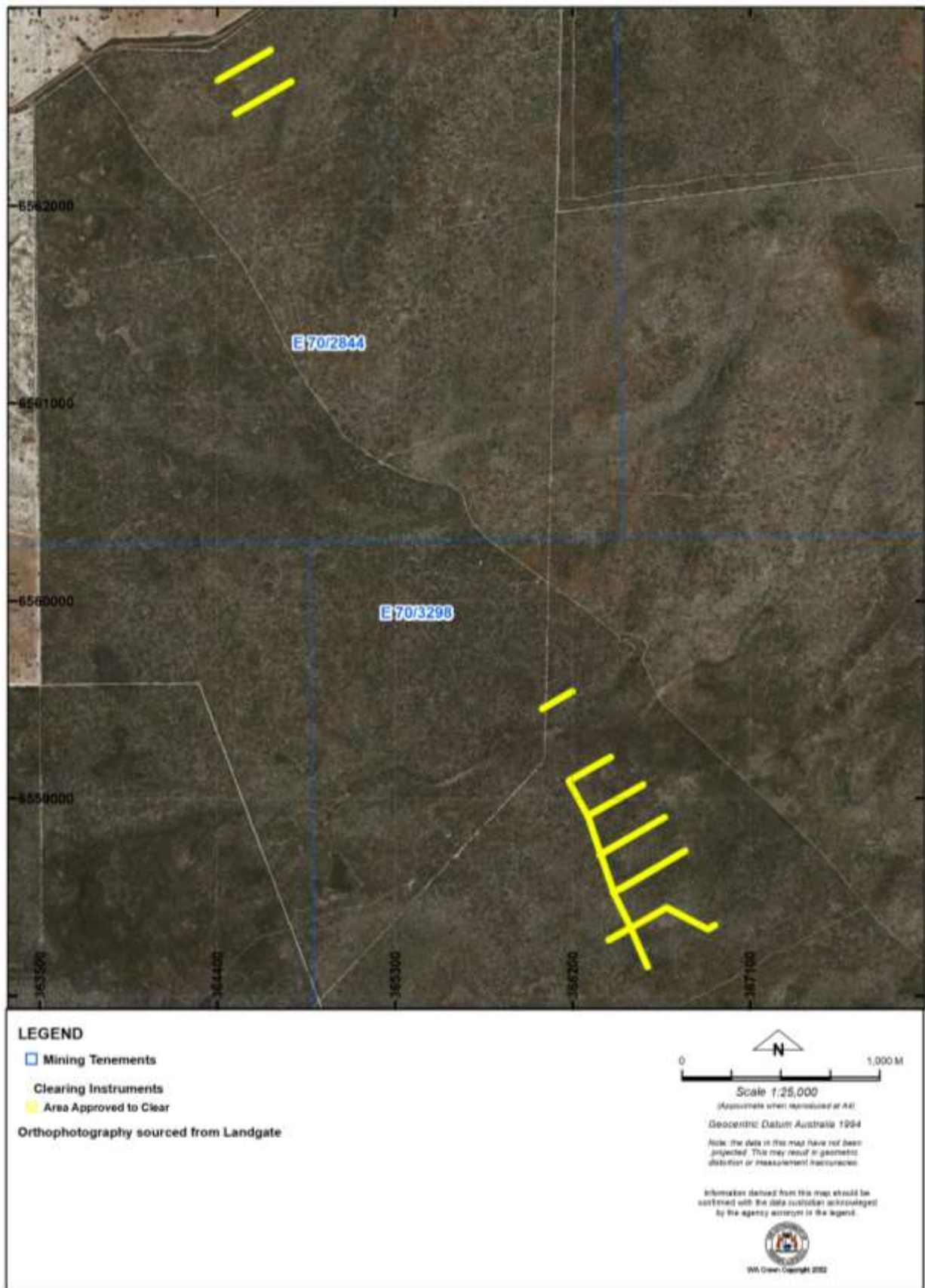


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur