



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose permit number:	9390/2
Duration of permit:	From 28 October 2021 to 27 October 2031
Permit holder:	Big Bell Gold Operations 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

Mining Leases 51/427, 51/445, 51/459, 51/491, 51/796, 51/823, 51/892
Miscellaneous Licences 51/35, 51/77, 51/104, 51/107

2. Clearing authorised (purpose)

The permit holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities.

3. Area of clearing

The permit holder must not clear more than 450 hectares of native vegetation within the areas cross-hatched yellow and shaded green in Figures 1-4 of Schedule 1.

4. Clearing restricted

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 1.2 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded green in Figures 1 and 2 of Schedule 1.

5. Clearing restricted

The permit holder shall not clear native vegetation within the areas shaded red in Figures 1 and 2 of Schedule 1.

6. Type of clearing authorised

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.

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 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.

8. 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*:

- (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.

9. Vegetation management

- (a) where practicable the permit holder shall avoid clearing *riparian vegetation*; and
- (b) where a *watercourse* or *drainage line* 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 – direction of clearing

The Permit Holder shall conduct clearing in a slow progressive manner towards surrounding remnant vegetation to allow fauna to escape the clearing activity.

11. 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) within 12 months following completion of clearing authorised under this permit, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the areas that are no longer required for the purpose for which they were cleared under this permit by:
 - i ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction; and
 - ii laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under condition 11(a) on the cleared area.

PART III – RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

12. 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 of Australia 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; (b) the date that the area was cleared;

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications
		(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 7; (e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> in accordance with condition 8; (f) actions taken to manage and mitigate impacts to <i>riparian vegetation</i> in accordance with condition 9; and (g) action taken in accordance with condition 10.
2.	In relation to the <i>revegetation</i> and <i>rehabilitation</i> management pursuant to condition 11	(a) The location of any areas <i>revegetated</i> and <i>rehabilitated</i> , recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum of Australia 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; (b) a description of the <i>revegetation</i> and <i>rehabilitation</i> activities undertaken; and (c) the size of the area <i>revegetated</i> and <i>rehabilitated</i> (in hectares).

13. Reporting

- (a) The permit holder must provide a written report to the *CEO* by 1 October each year for the life of this permit, demonstrating adherence to all conditions of this permit, and setting out the records required under condition 12 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 1 October of each year.
- (c) Prior to 27 October 2031, the permit holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under condition 12 of this permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 13(a) or 13(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.
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.
drainage line(s)	means a natural depression that carries surface water runoff.
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> (WA)
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.

Term	Definition
local provenance	means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 200 kilometres in 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.
planting	means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating favourable soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species.
regeneration	means <i>revegetation</i> that can be established from in situ seed banks contained either within the topsoil or seed-bearing <i>mulch</i> .
rehabilitate / rehabilitated / rehabilitation	means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area.
revegetate / revegetated / revegetation	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.
riparian vegetation	has the meaning given to it in Regulation 3 of the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004.
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 – (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

Danielle Risbey

Danielle Risbey | General Manager Mine Closure and Environmental Services
 Resource and Environmental Compliance Division
 30 June 2026

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 1-4).

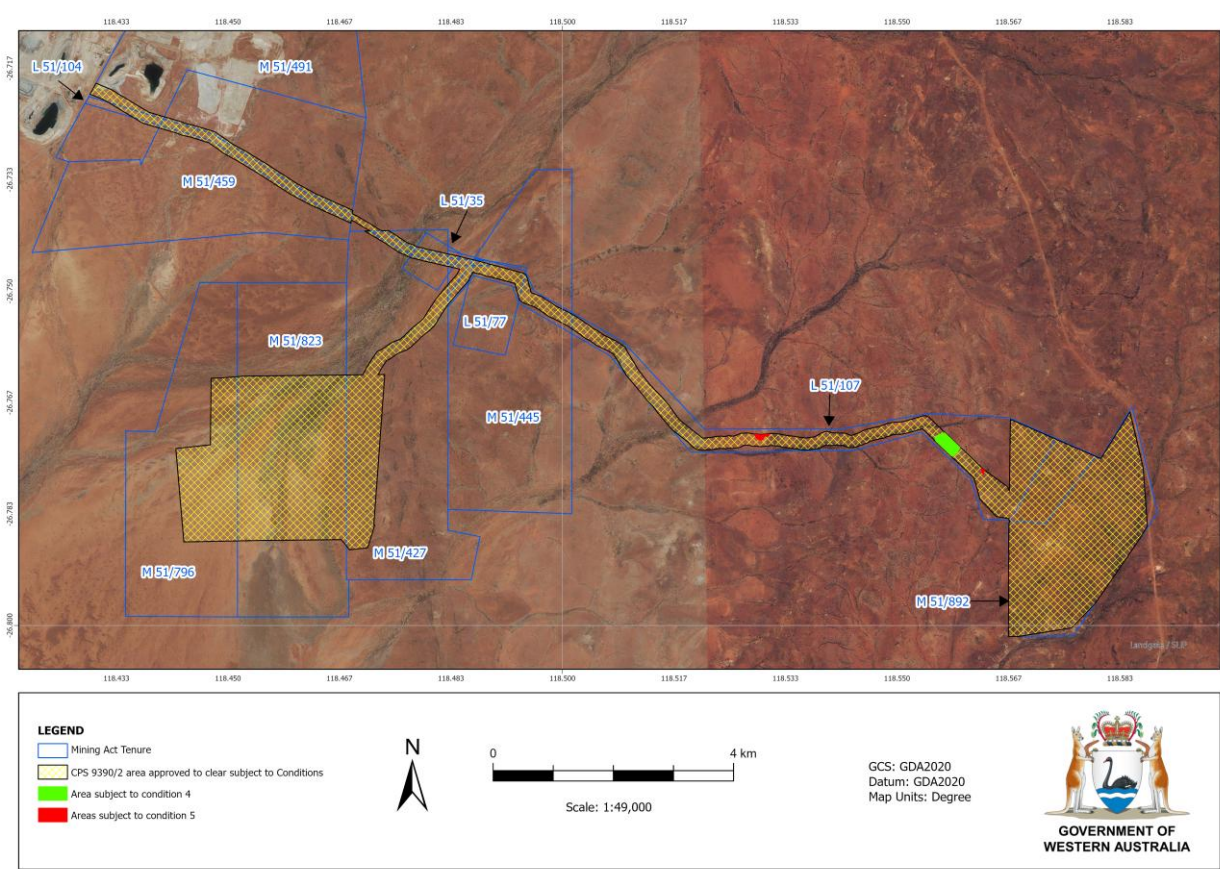


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur.

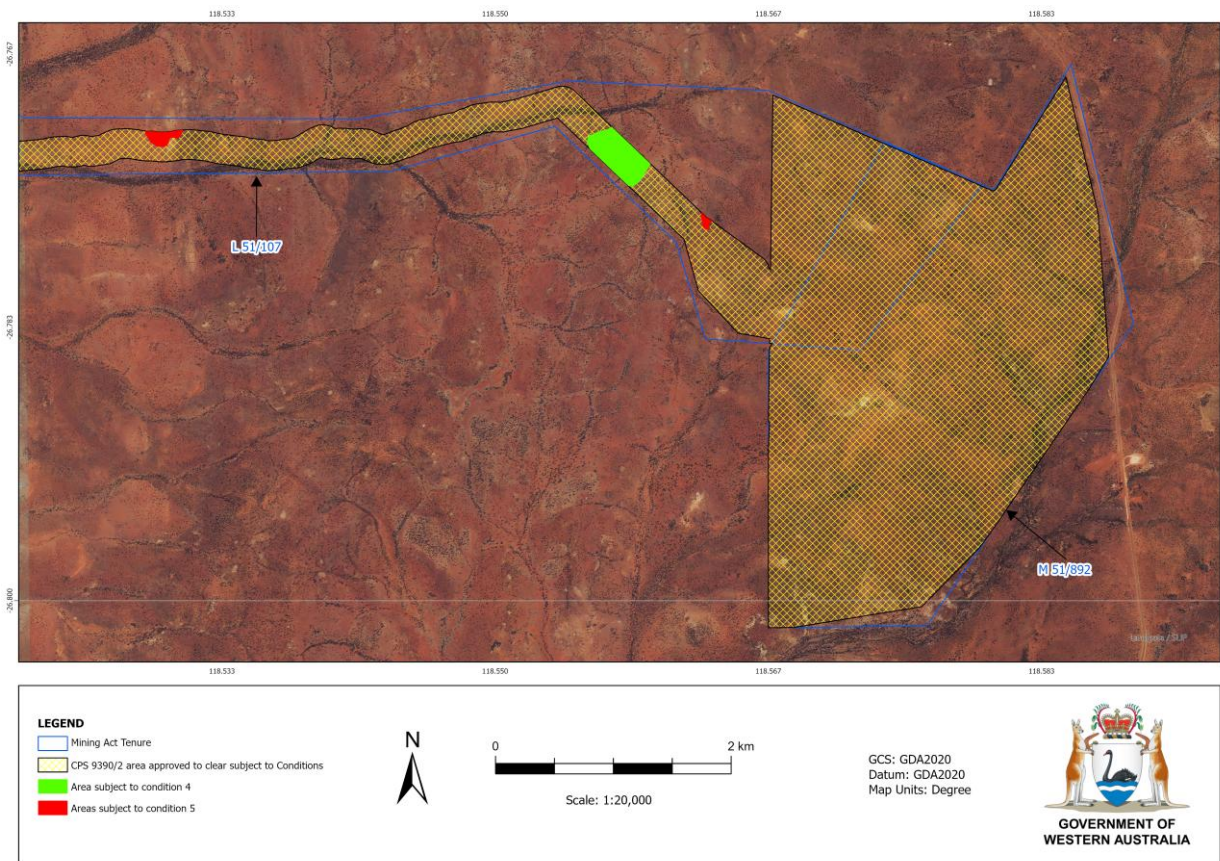


Figure 2: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur.

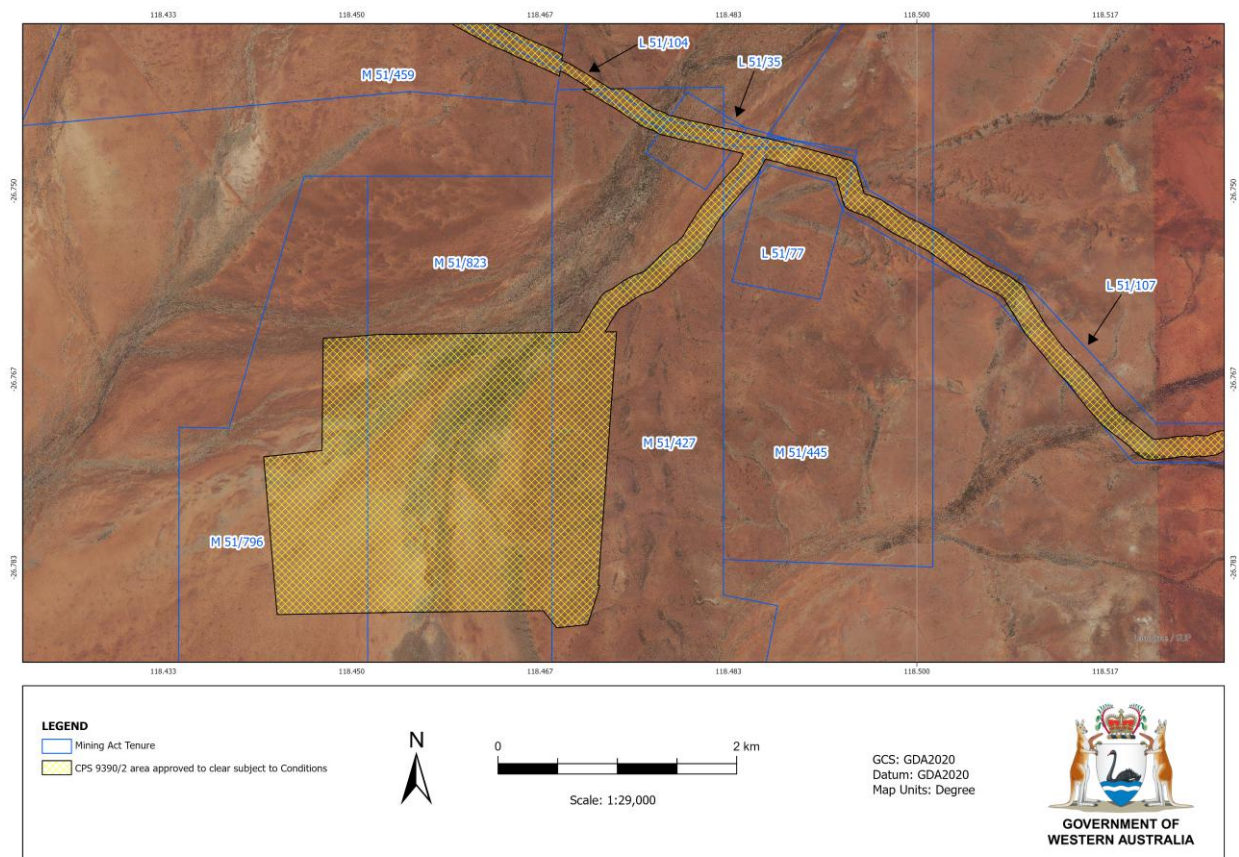


Figure 3: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur.

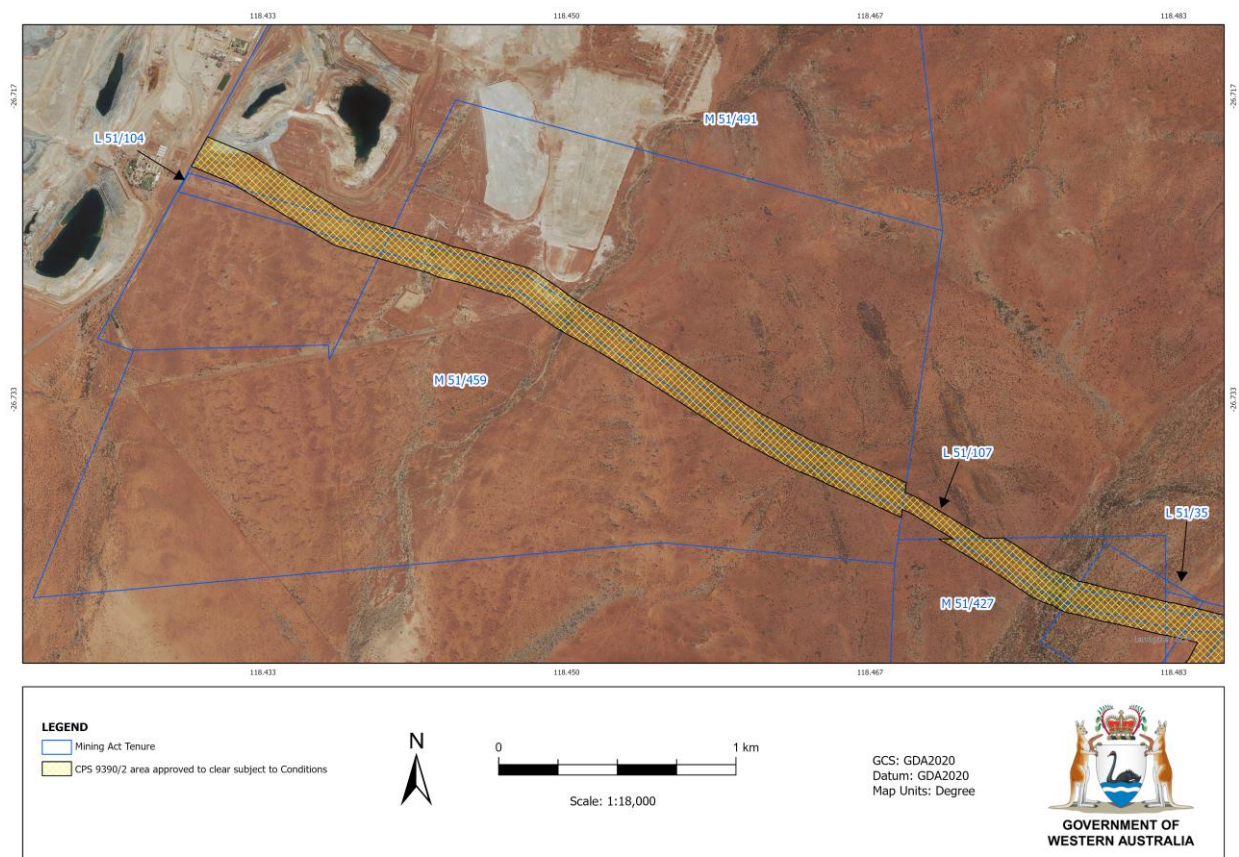


Figure 4: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur.