



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	9409/1
Duration of Permit:	From 8 January 2022 to 7 January 2027
Permit Holder:	Barto Gold Mining 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 Lease 77/31
Mining Lease 77/775
Mining Lease 77/790

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 75 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

4. 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

5. 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:

- avoid the clearing of native vegetation;
- minimise the amount of native vegetation to be cleared; and
- reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

6. 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.

7. Fauna management - Malleefowl

Where clearing authorised under this Permit is to occur between 1 September and 31 January, the Permit Holder shall:

- (a) Within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing, engage an *environmental specialist* to conduct an inspection of the area to be cleared to identify *active (in use) Malleefowl (Leipoa ocellata) mounds*.
- (b) Where an *active (in use) Malleefowl mound* is identified under condition 7(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the mound, during the months of September through to January, unless first approved by the *CEO*.

8. Fauna management - Chuditch

- (a) Up to one week prior to undertaking clearing of any of the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1, that area shall be inspected by a *fauna specialist* to identify chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroi*) dens and individuals.
- (b) Where a chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroi*) individual(s) is identified in accordance with condition 8(a) of this Permit, clearing shall only occur within that area after the individual has either:
 - (i) moved on to adjacent suitable habitat of its own accord; or
 - (ii) has been relocated to adjacent suitable habitat by a *fauna specialist*.
- (c) Where a chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroi*) den(s) is identified in accordance with condition 8(a) of this Permit, clearing shall only occur within that area after an equivalent replacement chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroi*) den(s) has been installed in adjacent suitable habitat.
- (d) The Permit Holder is not required to comply with conditions 8(a), (b) and (c) of this Permit if the clearing of that area is undertaken during the period 1 January to 31 August.
- (e) The Permit Holder shall conduct clearing in a slow progressive manner towards adjacent remnant vegetation to allow fauna to escape the clearing activity.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

9. 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(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 5;

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications
		(e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds in accordance with condition 6; and (f) actions taken in accordance with condition 7.
2.	In relation to fauna management pursuant to condition 8 of this Permit:	(a) the date(s) of inspection(s) by the <i>fauna specialist</i> ; (b) a description of the <i>fauna specialist</i> inspection methodology employed; the location of each chuditch (<i>Dasyurus geoffroii</i>) individual identified, recorded using a GPS unit set to GDA94, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; (c) the date each chuditch (<i>Dasyurus geoffroii</i>) individual was identified; (d) the date(s) each identified chuditch (<i>Dasyurus geoffroii</i>) individual moved on to adjacent suitable habitat or was relocated to adjacent suitable habitat and a description of the adjacent suitable habitat; (e) the location of each chuditch (<i>Dasyurus geoffroii</i>) den identified, recorded using a GPS unit set to GDA94, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; (f) the date each chuditch (<i>Dasyurus geoffroii</i>) den was identified; (g) a photo and description of each chuditch (<i>Dasyurus geoffroii</i>) den identified; the location of each replacement chuditch (<i>Dasyurus geoffroii</i>) den installed, recorded using a GPS unit set to GDA94, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; (h) the date each replacement chuditch (<i>Dasyurus geoffroii</i>) den was installed; and (i) a photo and description of each replacement chuditch (<i>Dasyurus geoffroii</i>) den installed and the surrounding suitable habitat.

10. 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 9 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 7 January 2027, the Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under condition 9 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under condition 10(a) or 10(b) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

In this Permit, the terms in Table 2 have the meanings defined.

Table 2: Definitions

Term	Definition
active (in use) Malleefowl mound	means a mound with evidence of current Malleefowl (<i>Leipoa ocellata</i>) activity, such as: working of the mound; scratching; litter trails leading to the mound; or loose uncompacted surfaces. The form and structure of the mound will show that it is currently being prepared for egg laying or it already contains eggs.
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.
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.
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.
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).
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 (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.
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END OF CONDITIONS



Dan Endacott
General Manager Environmental Compliance
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division
16 December 2021

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).

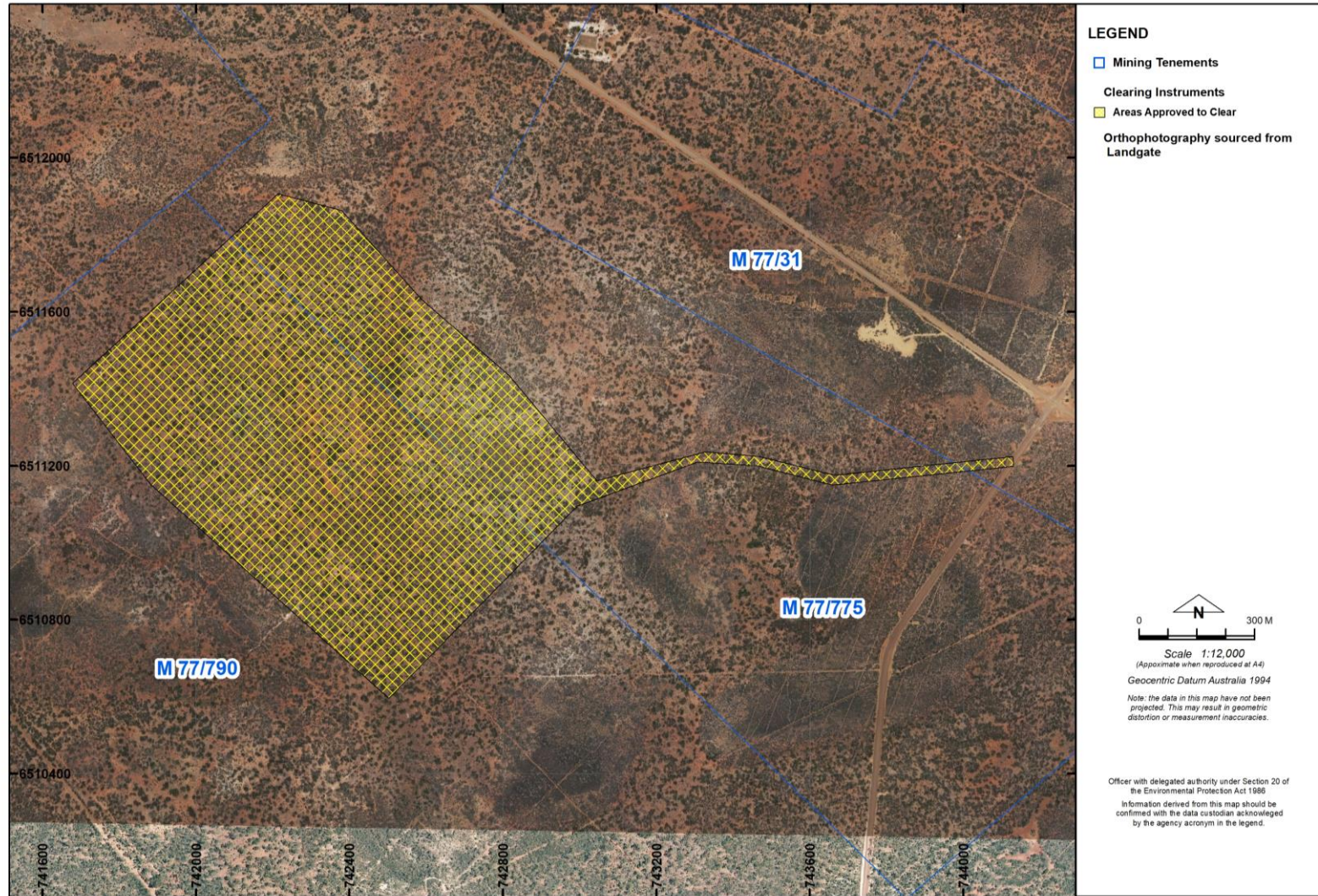


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur