GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	9596/1
Duration of Permit:	From 7 February 2023 to 6 February 2028
Permit Holder:	Rio Tinto Exploration 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
Miscellaneous License 45/476
Miscellaneous License 45/491
Miscellaneous License 45/494
Miscellaneous License 45/548
Miscellaneous License 45/549
Miscellaneous License 45/551
Miscellaneous License 45/552

2. Clearing authorised (purpose)
The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the purpose of an access road.

3. Area of Clearing
The Permit Holder must not clear more than 125 hectares of native vegetation within the area shaded yellow in Figure 1 and areas cross-hatched yellow in Figures 2 to 13 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
The Permit Holder must implement and adhere to the weed management measures detailed in the document "Paterson Project Exploration Environmental Management Plan" (RIO-WIN-EMP-01_Rev2, 28 July 2020), as retained on Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety File No. J05463 as Doc ID 7636096.

6. Flora management
Where the *priority flora* species *Goodenia hartiana, Bonamia oblongifolia, Indigofera ammobia, Tribulopis marliesiae* and *Dasymalla chorisepala* have been identified and their written locations provided to the *CEO*,

within report 'Biota (2020) Winu Project Detailed Flora and Vegetation Survey. Report prepared for Rio Tinto Winu Pty Limited by Biota Environmental Sciences, May 2021' as retained on DMIRS file A0269/202201 as Doc ID 9780769, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:

(i) no clearing of the identified *Bonamia oblongifolia, Indigofera ammobia, Tribulopis marliesiae* and *Dasymalla chorisepala* occurs, unless first approved by the *CEO*;
(ii) no clearing occurs within 10 metres of identified *Bonamia oblongifolia, Indigofera ammobia, Tribulopis marliesiae* and *Dasymalla chorisepala* unless first approved by the *CEO*; and
(iii) no greater than 7,495 individuals of *Goodenia hartiana* are impacted, unless first approved by the *CEO.*

7. Fauna management

The Permit Holder shall engage a fauna spotter to traverse the project area ahead of clearing machinery, at the time of clearing and alert machinery operators to avoid fauna injury or mortality.

8. Fauna management

(a) Within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to undertake *clearance surveys* for greater bilby (*Macrotis lagotis*), mulgara (*Dasycercus blythi*) and great desert skink (*Liopholis kintorei*) .

(b) Where greater bilby, mulgara and/or great desert skink burrows are identified under Condition 8(a), the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to determine if the burrow is occupied.

(c) Within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to relocate any greater bilby, mulgara and/or great desert skink found under Condition 8(a) and 8(b) of this permit.

(d) Where any greater bilby, mulgara and/or great desert skink are identified and relocated under Condition 8(a), 8(b) and 8(c) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall include the following in a report submitted to the *CEO*:

(i) the location of any evidence of greater bilby, mulgara and/or great desert skink 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 type of evidence recorded under Condition 8(d)(i) e.g. fauna individuals, burrows, scats, tracks;
(iii) the location and date where any greater bilby, mulgara and/or great desert skink were relocated 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;
(iv) the name of the *fauna specialist* that relocated the greater bilby, mulgara and/or great desert skink under Condition 8(c); and
(v) a copy of the fauna licence authorising the relocation of the greater bilby, mulgara and/or great desert skink under Condition 8(c).

9. Fauna management

Where the invertebrate fauna species *Aname* sp. N138, *Aname* sp.139 and *Aname* sp. N140 have been identified and their written locations provided to the *CEO*, within report 'Winu Project Fauna Assessment. Prepared for Rio Tinto Winu Pty Limited by Biota Environmental Sciences, January 2020' as retained on Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety File A0269/202201 as DOC ID 9780830, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:

(i) no clearing occurs within 10 metres of identified *Aname* sp. N138, *Aname* sp.139 and *Aname* sp. N140 unless first approved by the *CEO*.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

10. 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), 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 *weeds* in accordance with Condition 5; and (f) actions taken in accordance with Conditions 7, 8 and 9.
2.	In relation to flora management pursuant to Condition 6	(a) actions taken to demarcate each *priority flora* species recorded and their relevant buffers; and (b) actions taken to avoid the clearing of *priority flora* species.

11. 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 10 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 6 February 2028, the Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under Condition 10 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 11(a) or 11(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 *Environmental Protection Act 1986* or an Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986.*
clearing	has the meaning given under section 3(1) of the EP Act.
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.
condition/s	a condition to which this clearing permit is subject under section 51H of the EP

Term	Definition
	Act.
department	means the department established under section 35 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* (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 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 *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.
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.
priority flora	means those plant taxa described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3, or 4 in the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions' Threatened and Priority Flora List for Western Australia (as amended).
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 *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; 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

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20
of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Karen Caple
Executive Director Resource and Environmental Compliance
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division
13 January 2023

SCHEDULE 1

The boundary of the area authorised to be cleared is shown in the map below (Figure 1 - 13).

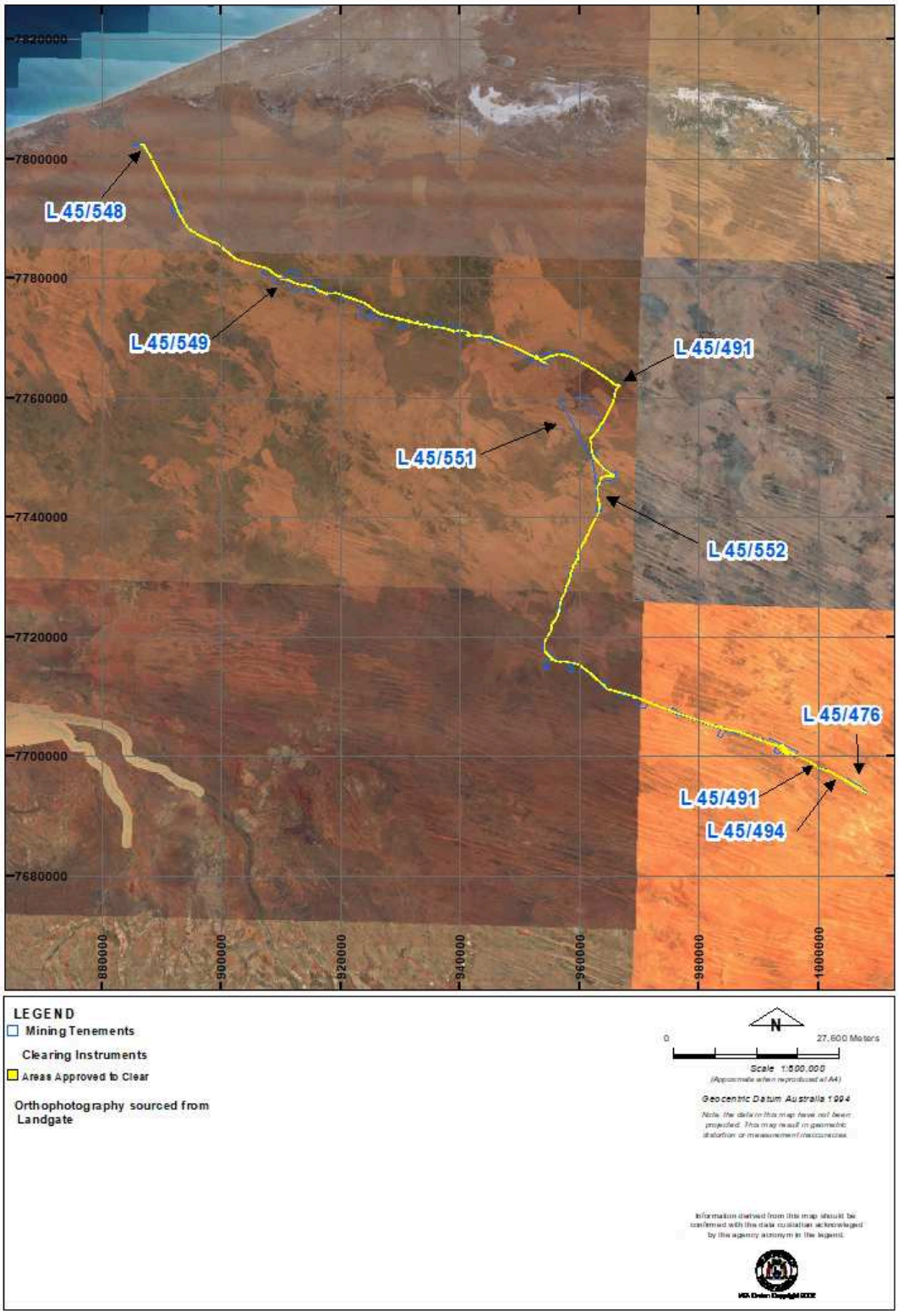

Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

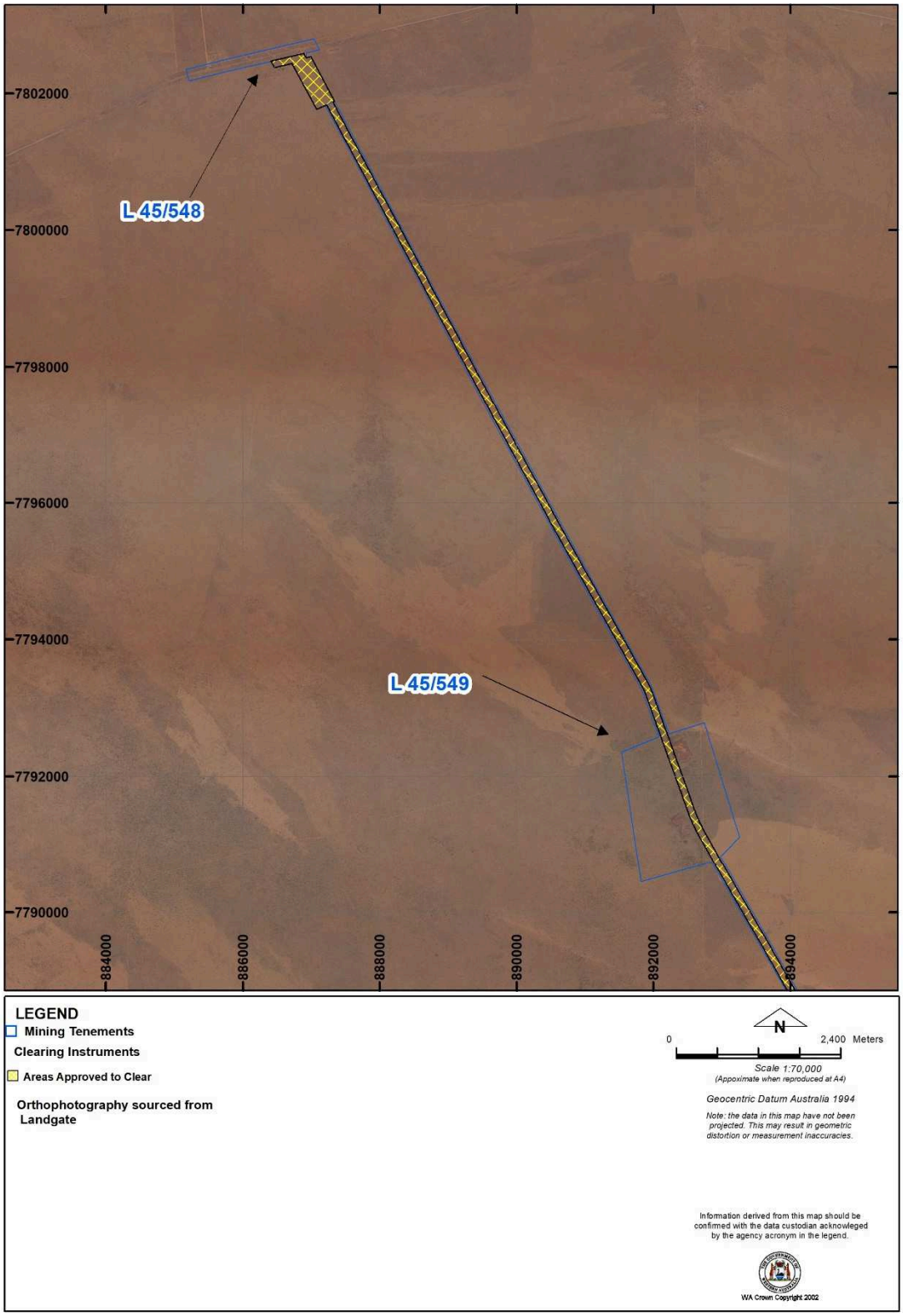

Figure 2: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

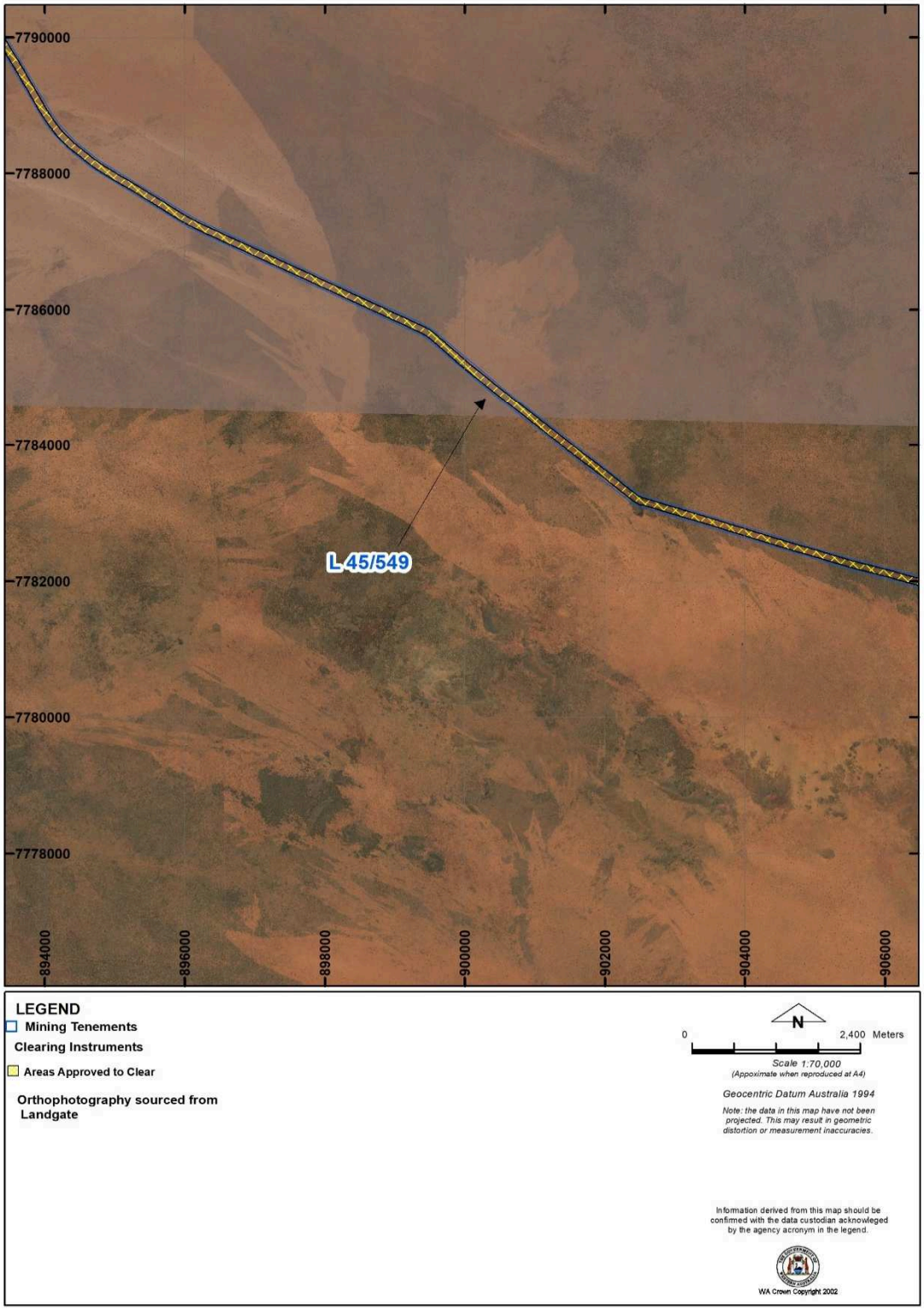

Figure 3: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

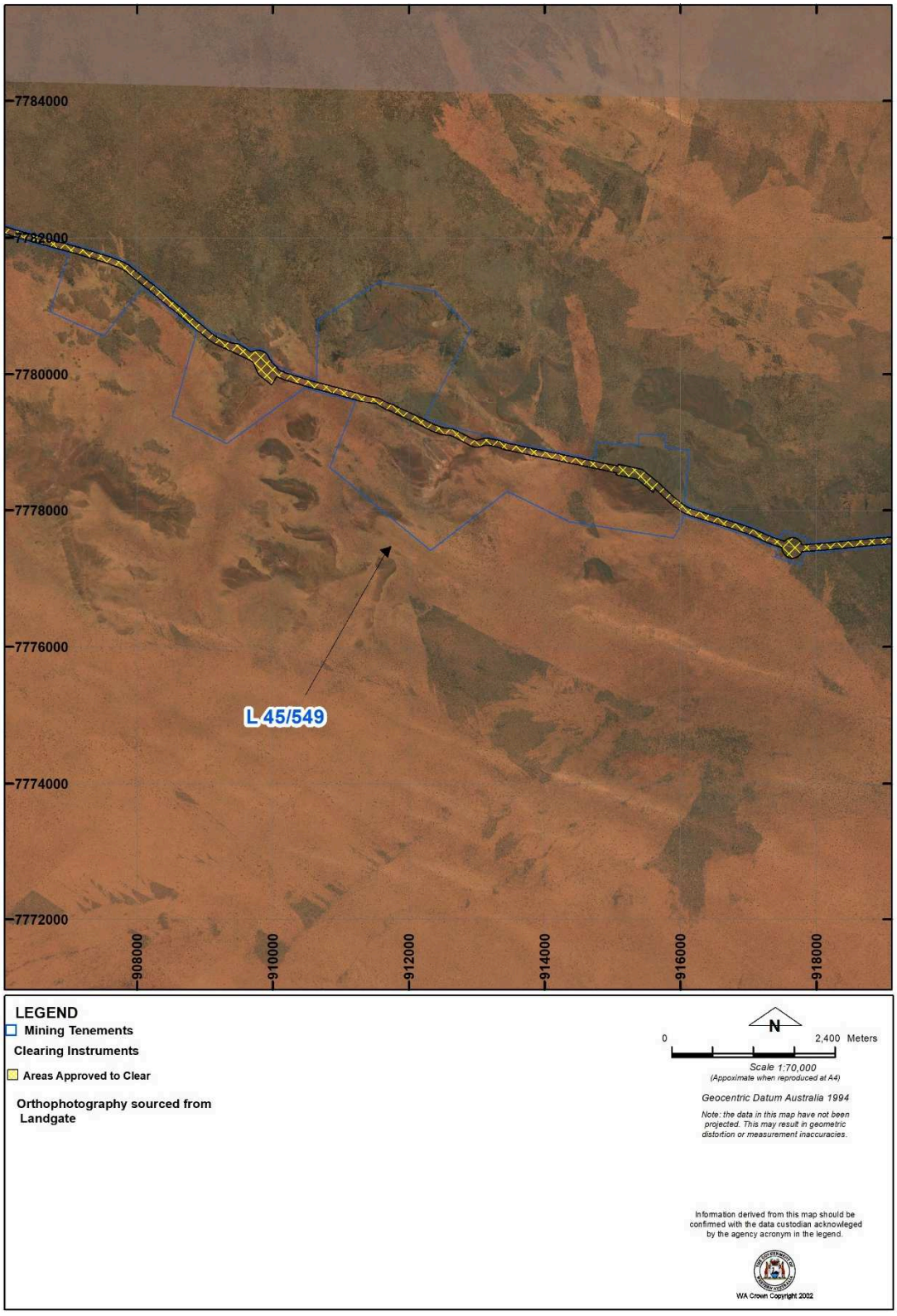

Figure 4: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

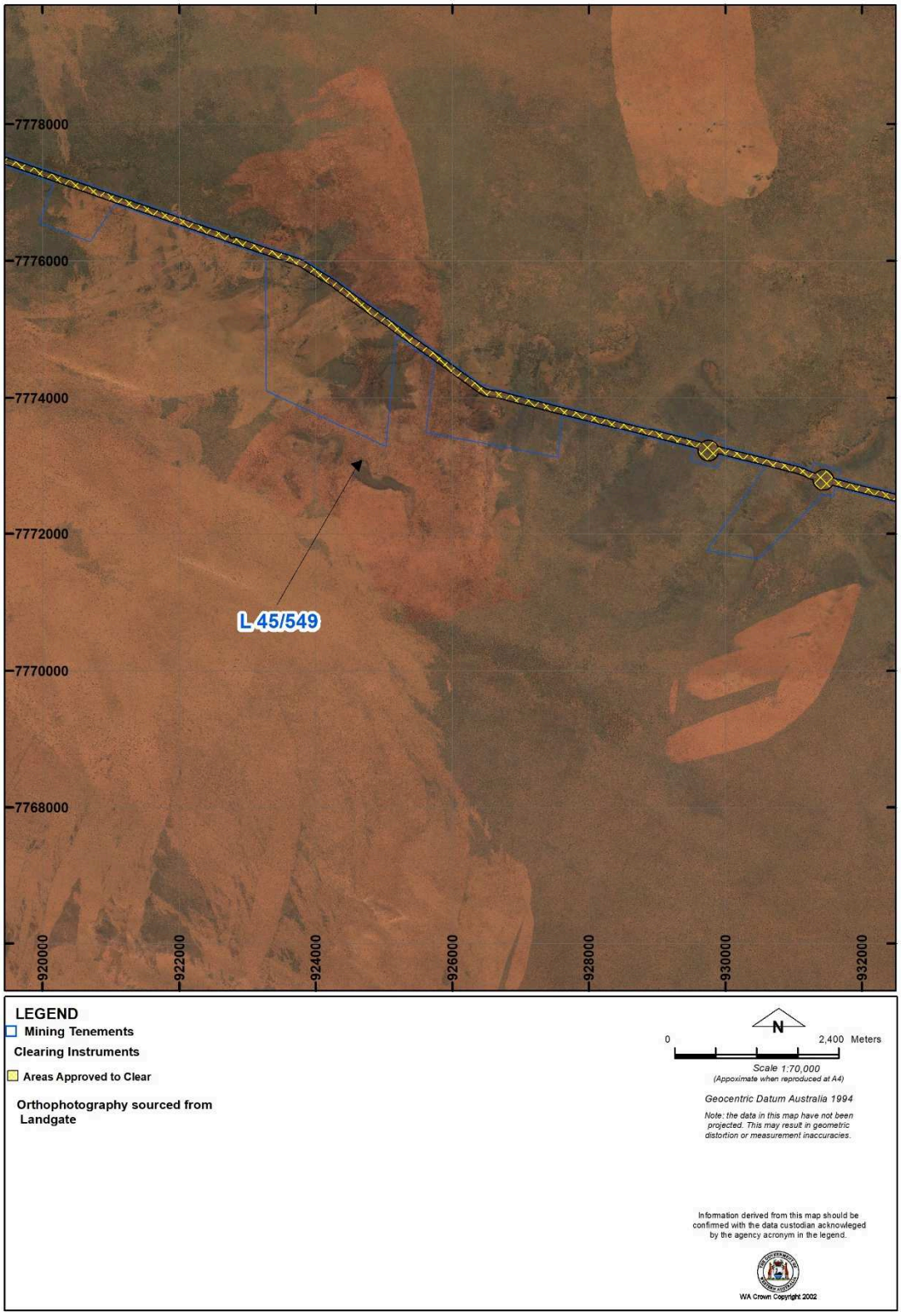

Figure 5: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

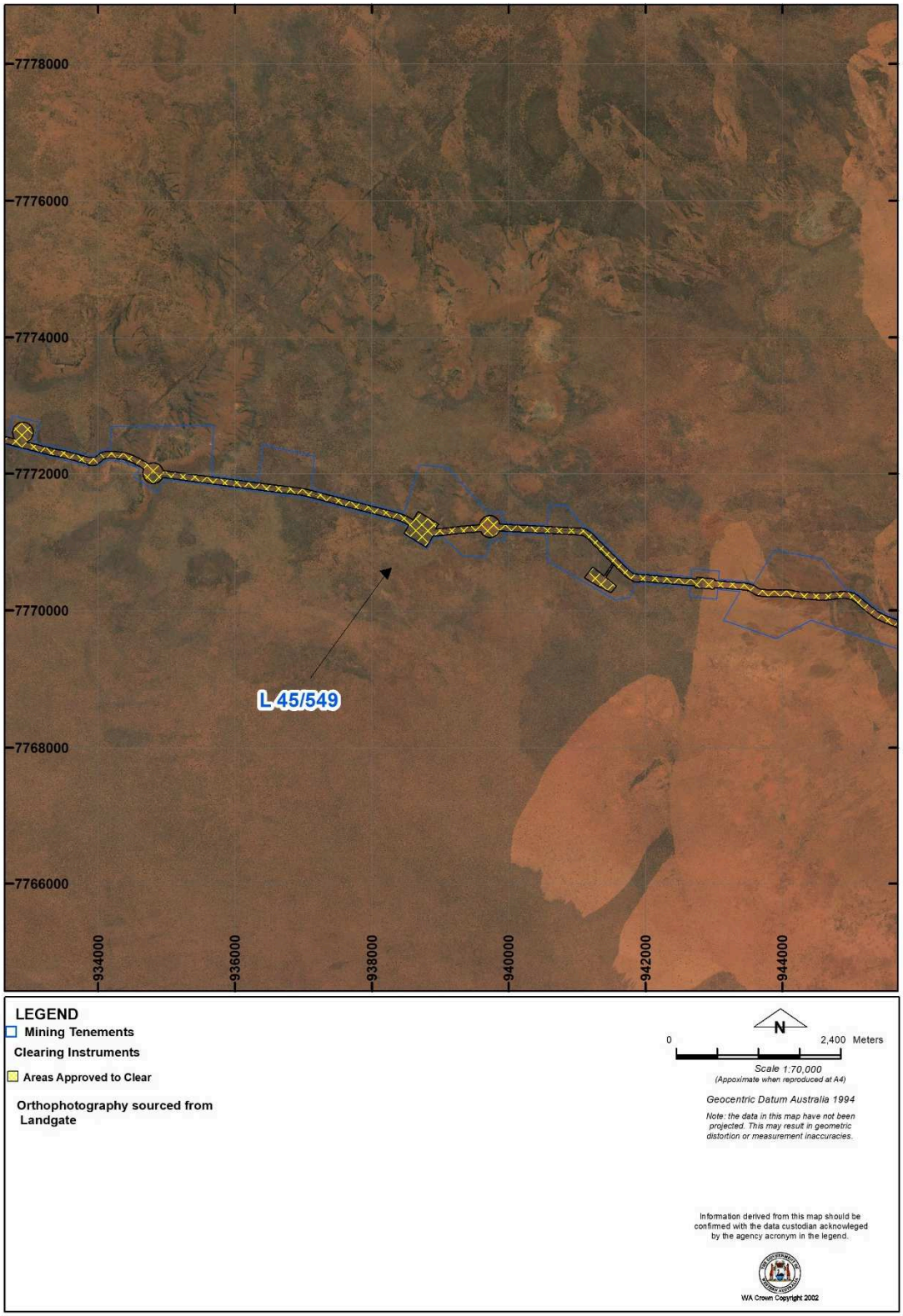

Figure 6: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

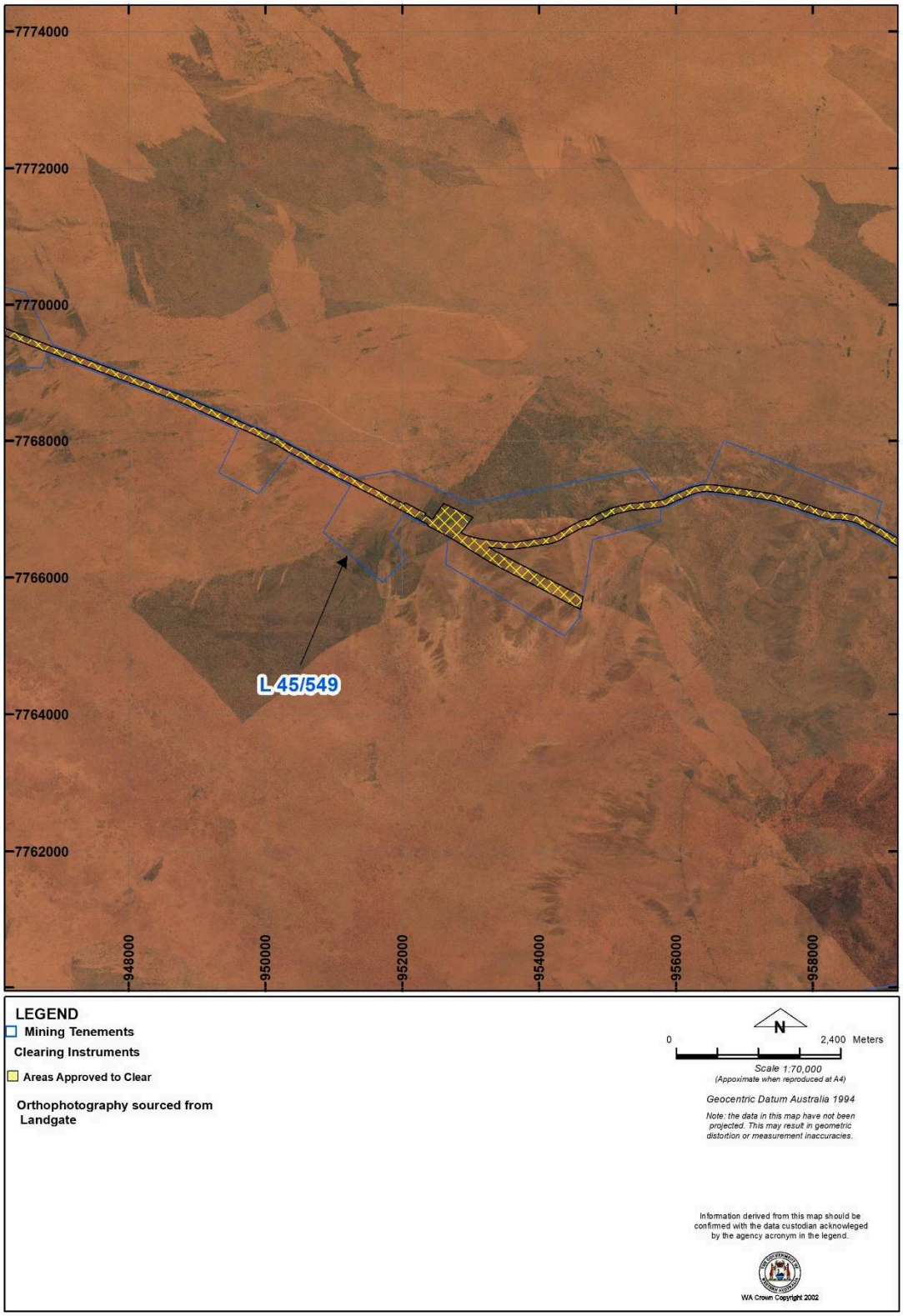

Figure 7: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

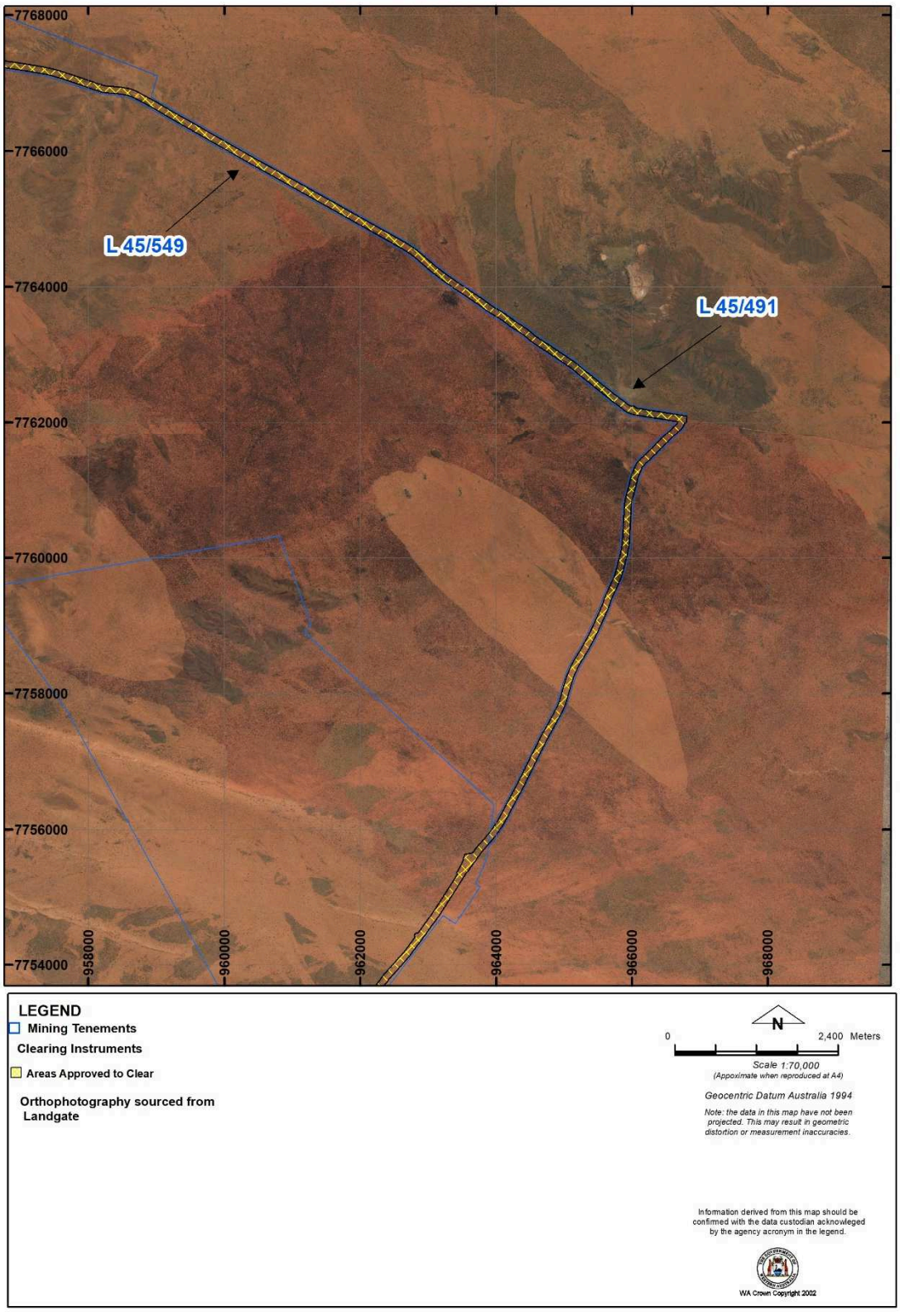

Figure 8: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

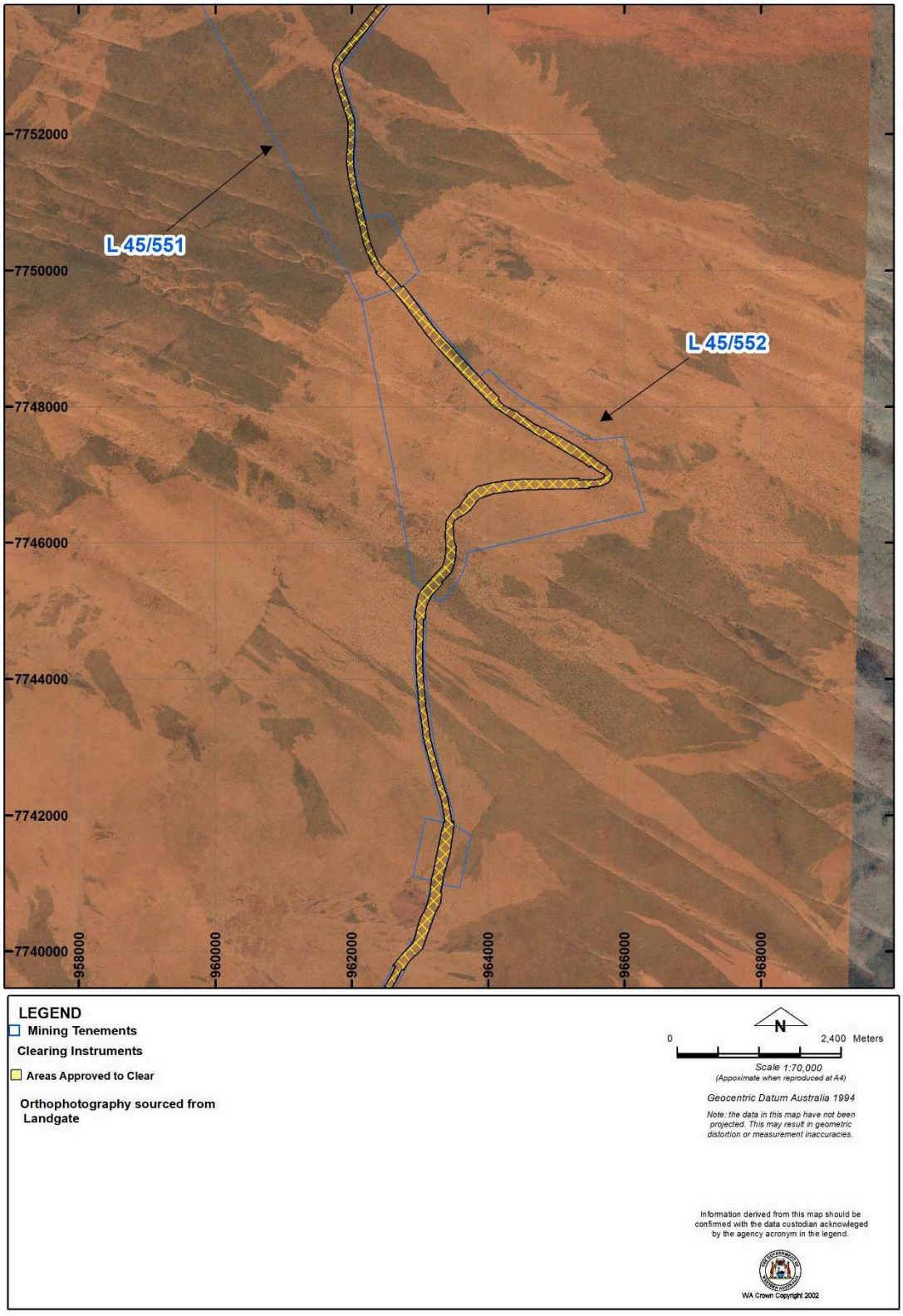

Figure 9: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

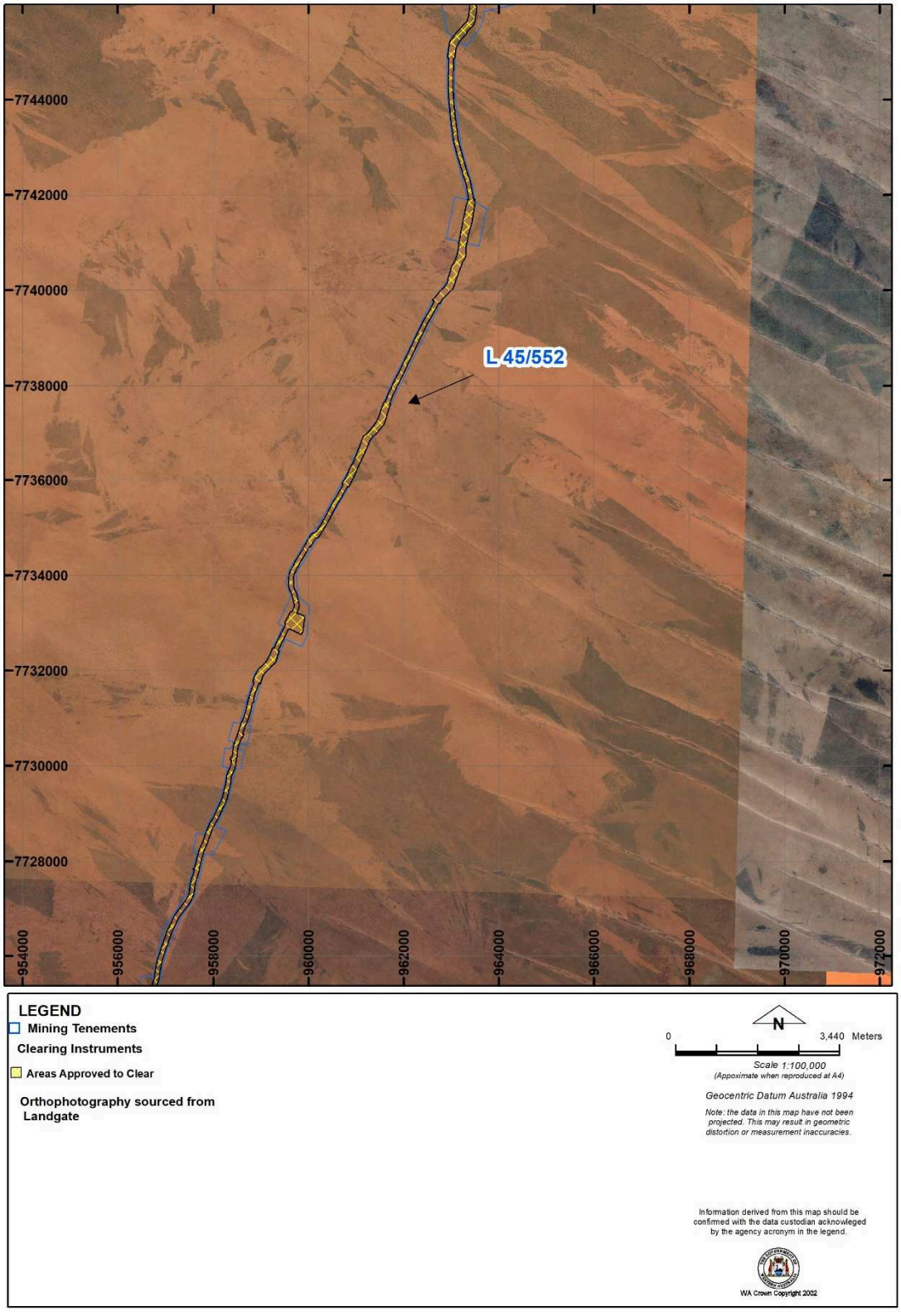

Figure 10: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

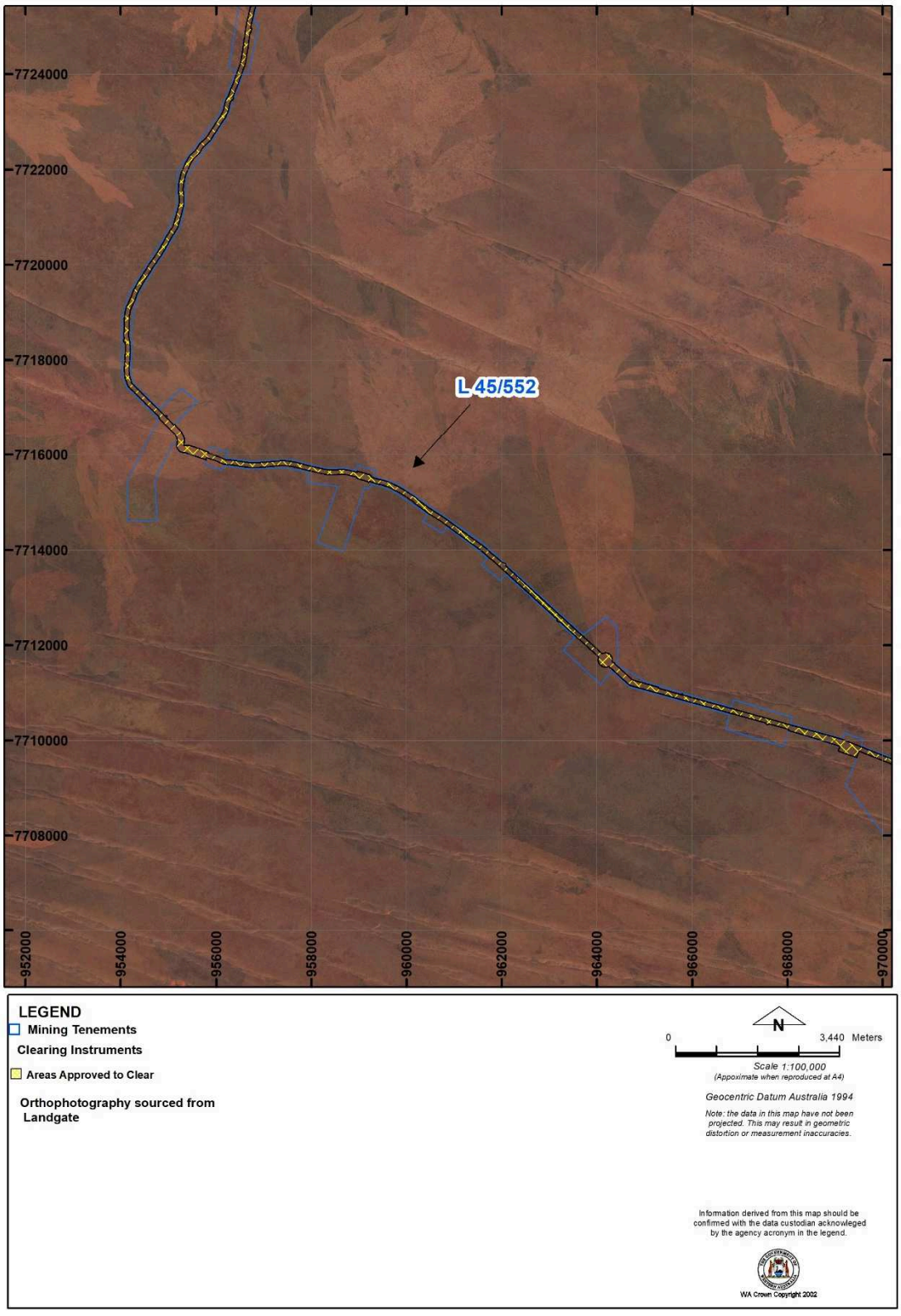

Figure 11: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

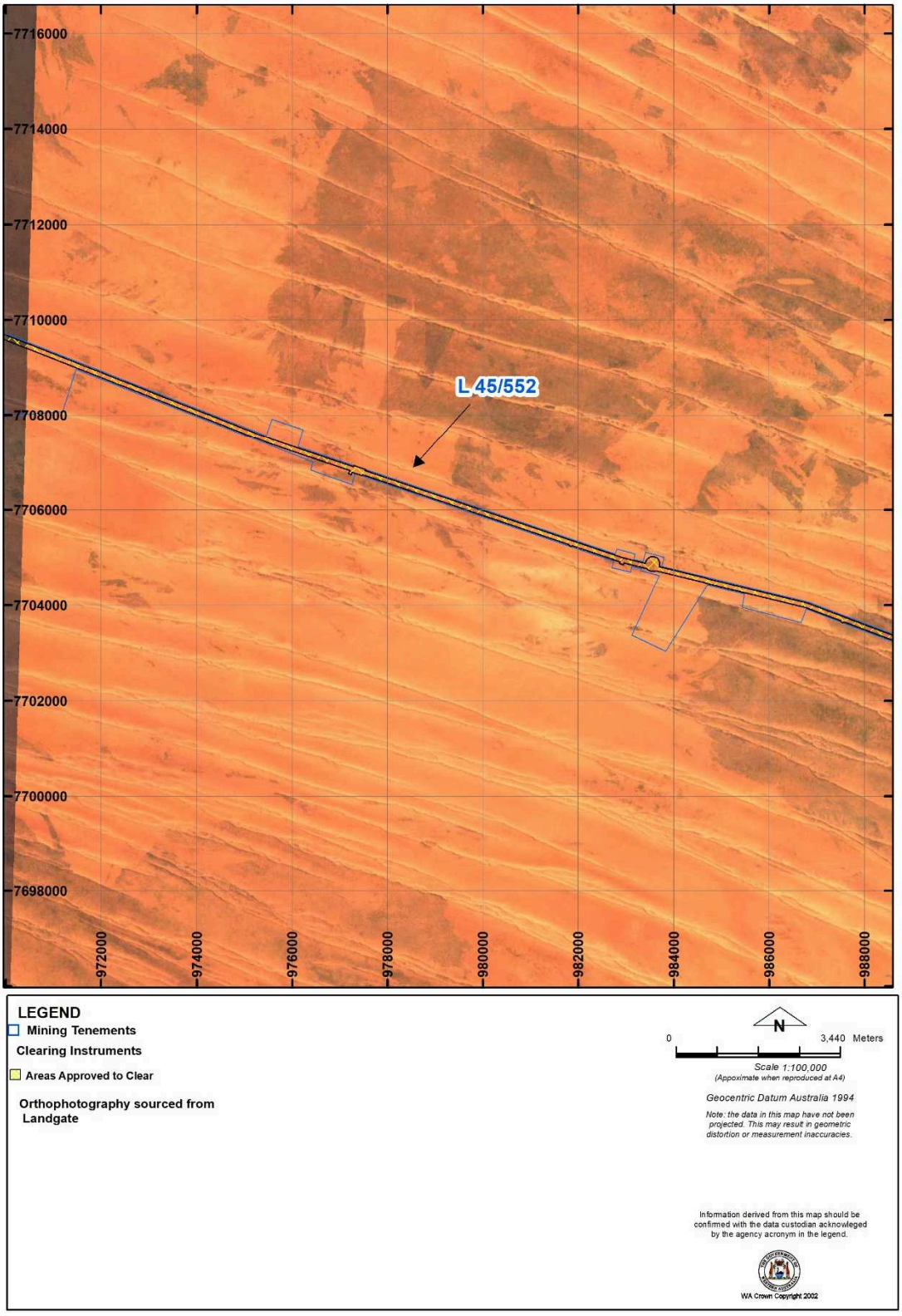

Figure 12: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

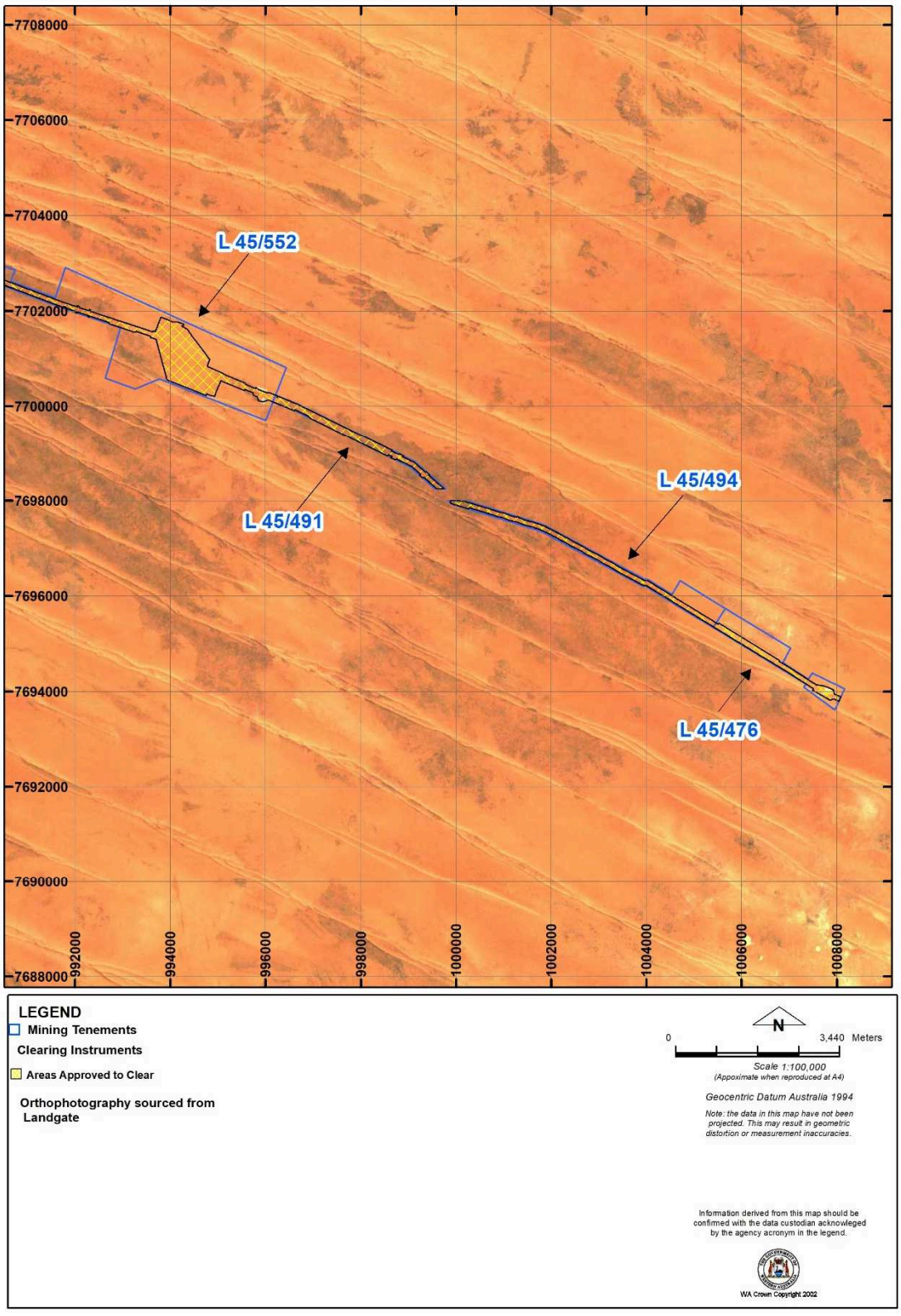

Figure 13: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur