



## CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	9613/1
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	From 14 January 2023 to 13 January 2028
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Billabong Gold 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 52/1049  
Miscellaneous Licence 52/208  
Miscellaneous Licence 52/231  
Miscellaneous Licence 52/235

**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 278 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figures 1 and 2 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*:

- (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.

## 6. Flora management

Where the *priority flora* species *Eremophila prolata*, and *Maireana prosthochaeta* have been identified and their written locations provided to the *CEO*, within report 'Targeted Threatened Flora Search of the Hermes South Project – September 2022' as retained on DMIRS file A0344/202201 as Doc ID 9808996, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:

- (i) no more than 1,572 individuals of *Eremophila prolata* are impacted; and
- (ii) no more than 17 individuals of *Maireana prosthochaeta* are impacted.

## 7. 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*.

## **PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING**

### 8. 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"><li>(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;</li><li>(b) the date that the area was cleared;</li><li>(c) the size of the area cleared (in hectares);</li><li>(d) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with Condition 4; and</li><li>(e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds in accordance with Condition 5; and</li><li>(f) actions taken in accordance with Condition 7.</li></ul>
2.	In relation to flora management pursuant to Condition 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) the name and location of each <i>priority flora</i> species, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;</li><li>(b) the number of <i>priority flora</i> plants impacted by the clearing.</li></ul>

### 9. 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 8 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 13 January 2028, the Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under Condition 8 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 9(a) or 9(b) of this Permit.

## DEFINITIONS

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

**Table 2: Definitions**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
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.
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.
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.
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).
riparian vegetation	has the meaning given to it in Regulation 3 of the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulation 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.

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## END OF CONDITIONS

*Danielle Risbey*

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Danielle Risbey  
Acting General Manager Mine Closure and Environmental Services  
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division  
22 December 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 (Figures 1 - 2).

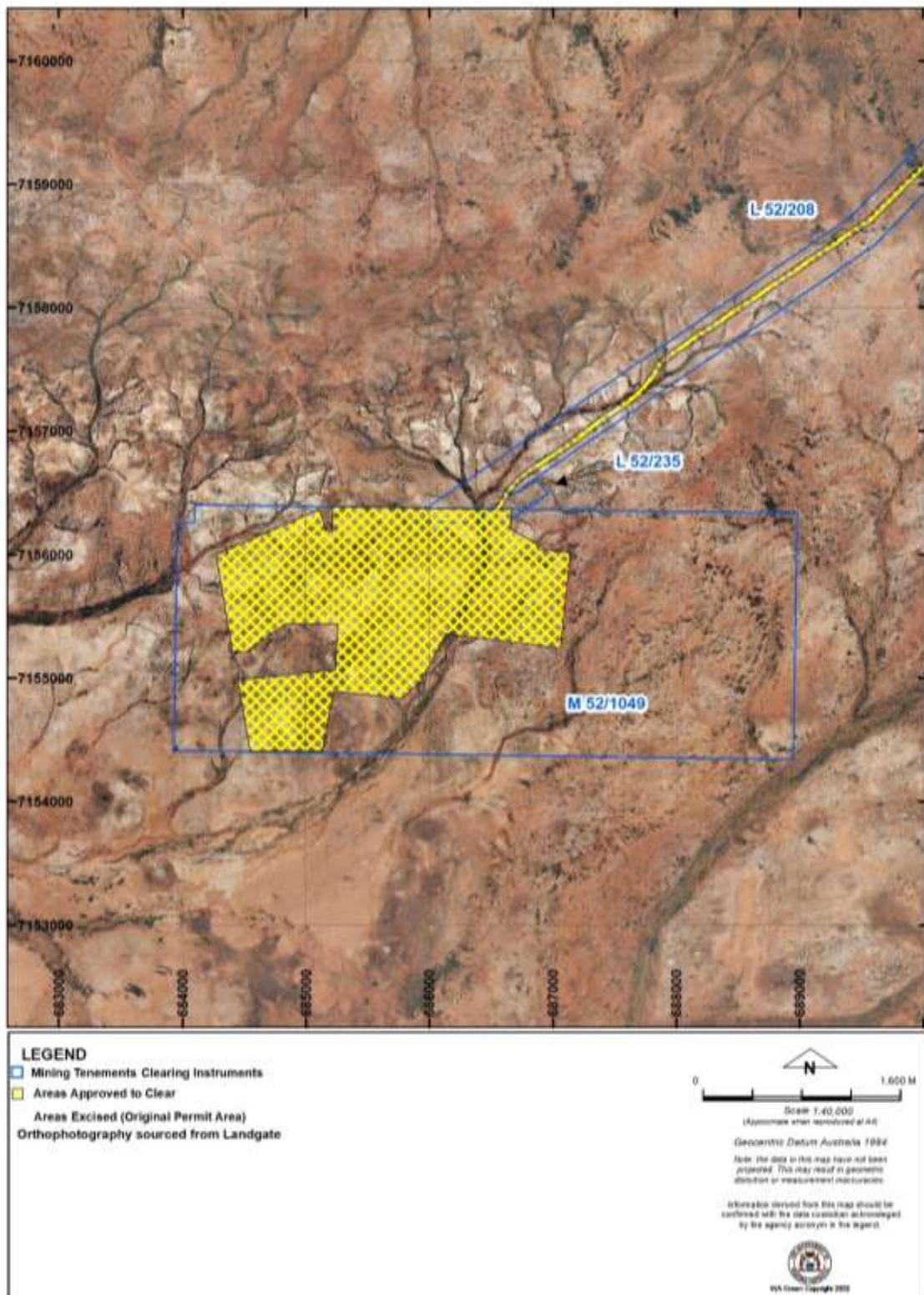


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur

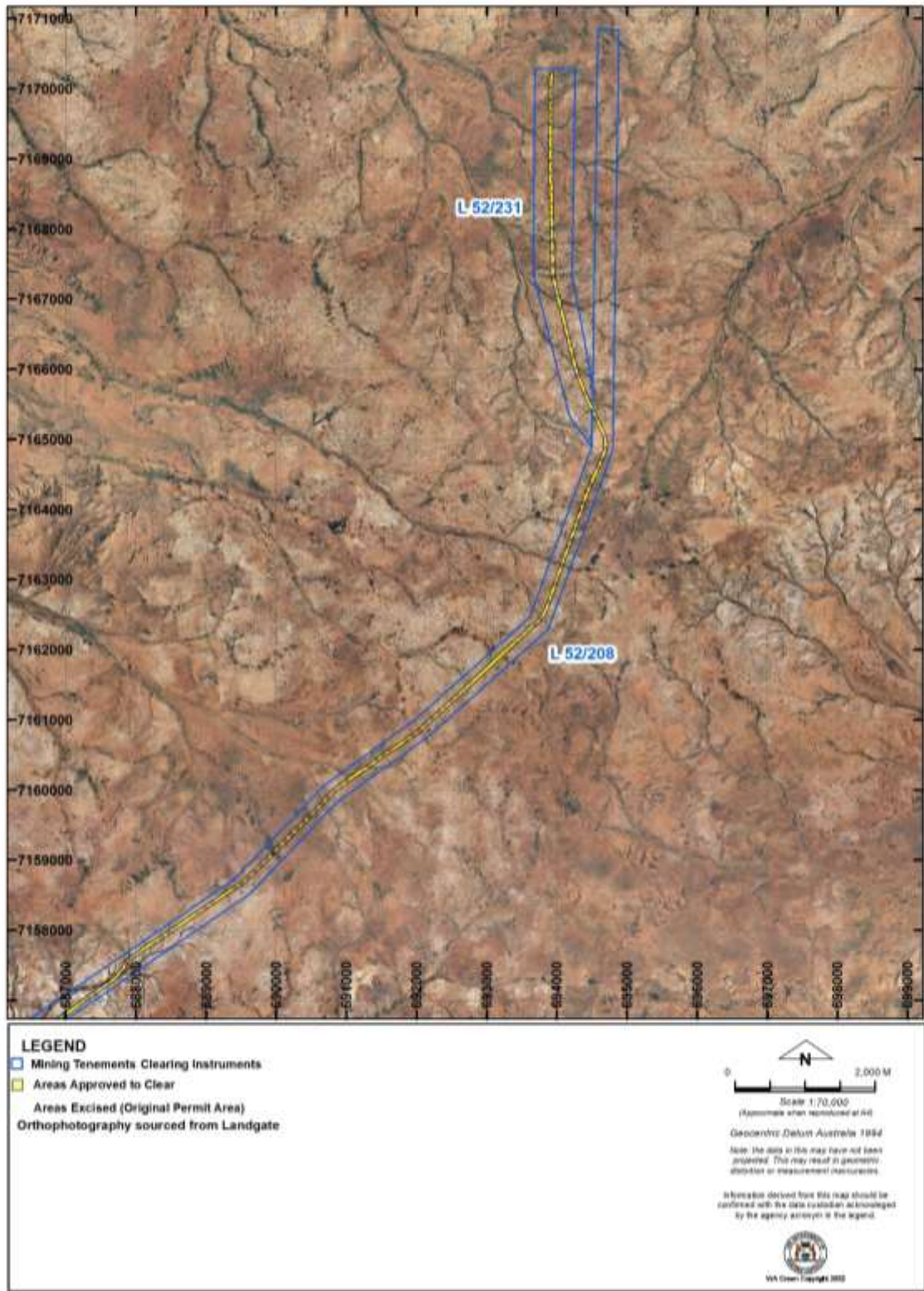


Figure 2: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur