



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 9687/2
Permit Holder:	Phosphate Resources Limited trading as Christmas Island Phosphates
Duration of Permit:	From 15 September 2022 to 15 September 2034

The permit holder is authorised to clear *native vegetation* subject to the following conditions of this permit.

PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Clearing authorised (purpose)

The permit holder is authorised to clear *native vegetation* for the purpose of phosphate mining.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Mining Tenement MCA 70/1A, Christmas Island

Unallocated Crown Land (PINs 3642932, 3125797, 3125793, 3724524, 3125778), Christmas Island

3. Clearing authorised

The permit holder must not clear more than 18.1 hectares of *native vegetation* within the combined areas cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1, Figure 2, Figure 3, Figure 4, Figure 5 and Figure 6 of Schedule 1.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

4. Avoid, minimise, and reduce impacts and extent of clearing

In determining the *native vegetation* authorised 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.

5. Weed management

(a) When undertaking any clearing, or other activity pursuant to this permit, the permit holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds*:

- clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- ensure that no *weed*-affected mulch, fill or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

(b) Weed management activities will be undertaken by the permit holder in accordance with commitments in the Environmental Management Plan as approved by the Minister for Territories Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities.

6. Directional clearing
The permit holder must conduct clearing activities in a slow, progressive manner from one side of the clearing area to the other, towards adjacent *native vegetation*, to allow fauna to move into adjacent *native vegetation* ahead of the clearing activity.

7. Fauna management
Clearing of *native vegetation* within the area cross-hatched yellow on Figure 1 of Schedule 1 must be undertaken in accordance with the document ‘A Management Plan for the Christmas Island Pipistrelle in relation to Vegetation Clearing on Mining Leases, May 2015’.

8. Buffers to national park
The permit holder must ensure a minimum buffer distance of five metres is provided between the boundary of the Christmas Island National Park and the areas cross-hatched yellow on Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

9. Rehabilitation
The permit holder must notify the General Manager having responsibility for the Indian Ocean Territories, Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development, Australian Government within one month after the completion of phosphate mining activities within each lease area.

10. Drainage Management
The permit holder must not cause or allow the discharge of sediments, from within the areas cross-hatched yellow on Figure 1 of Schedule 1, into The Dales RAMSAR listed wetlands.

11. Flora management
The permit holder must ensure a minimum buffer distance of 50 metres is provided between recorded occurrences of the flora species, *Tectaria devexa* var. *minor* and the areas cross-hatched yellow on Figure 3 of Schedule 1.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

12. Records that must 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) the direction of clearing; (e) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with condition 4; (f) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> and in accordance with condition 5; (g) actions taken to manage and mitigate impacts to Christmas Island Pipistrelle in accordance with condition 7; (h) The date mining activities ceased and the General Manager was notified in accordance with condition 9; and

		(i) actions taken to manage and prevent drainage into The Dales RAMSAR wetland in accordance with condition 10.
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13. Reporting

The permit holder must provide to the *CEO* the records required under condition 12 of this permit when requested by the *CEO*.

DEFINITIONS

In this permit, the terms in Table have the meanings defined.

Table 2: Definitions

Term	Definition
CEO	Chief Executive Officer of the department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> .
clearing	has the meaning given under section 3(1) of the EP Act.
condition	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.
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> (WA)
rehabilitation	rehabilitation also known as site rectification, means that the land is left in a condition that is compliant with any other regulatory obligations, including but not limited to the <i>Mining Act 1978</i> (WA)(Cl), and in a condition appropriate to the likely future use of the land;
native vegetation	has the meaning given under section 3(1) and section 51A of the EP Act.
weeds	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

2026.01.23

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Josephine Heffernan
MANAGER
 NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

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

23 January 2026

Schedule 1

The boundary of the combined areas authorised to be cleared is shown in the maps below (Figure 1, Figure 2, Figure 3, Figure 4, Figure 5 and Figure 6).

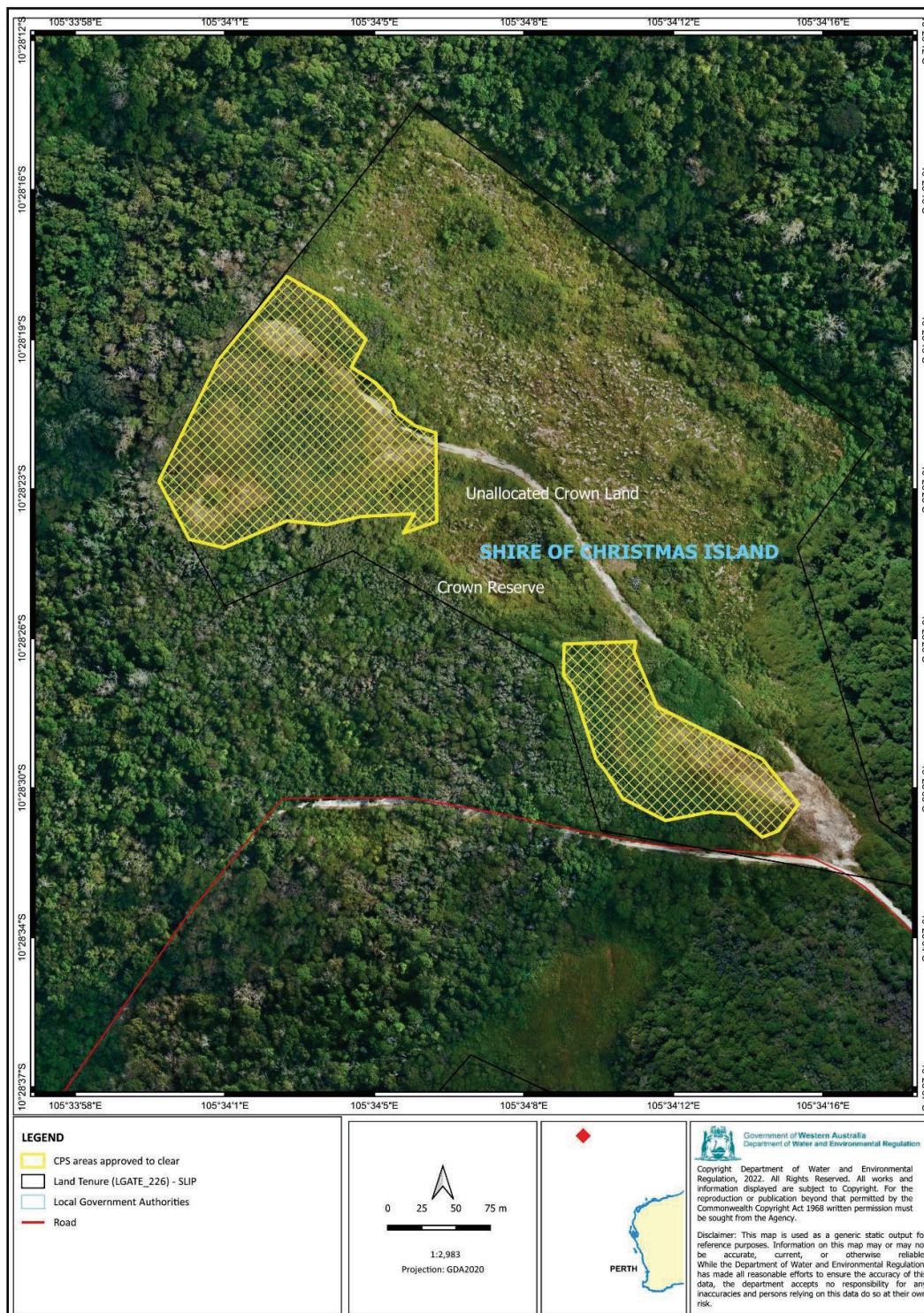


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur (cross-hatched yellow)

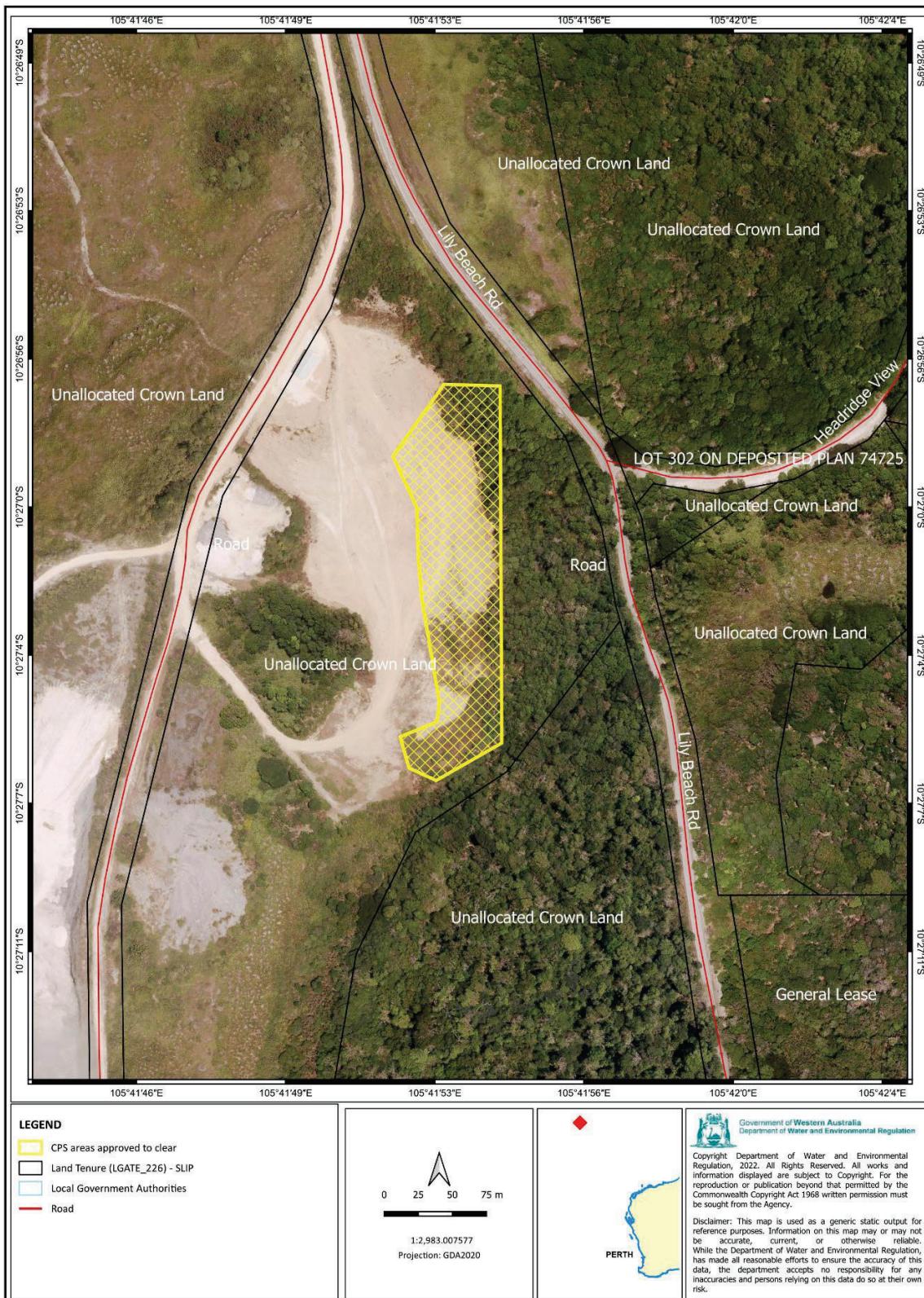


Figure 2: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur (cross-hatched yellow)

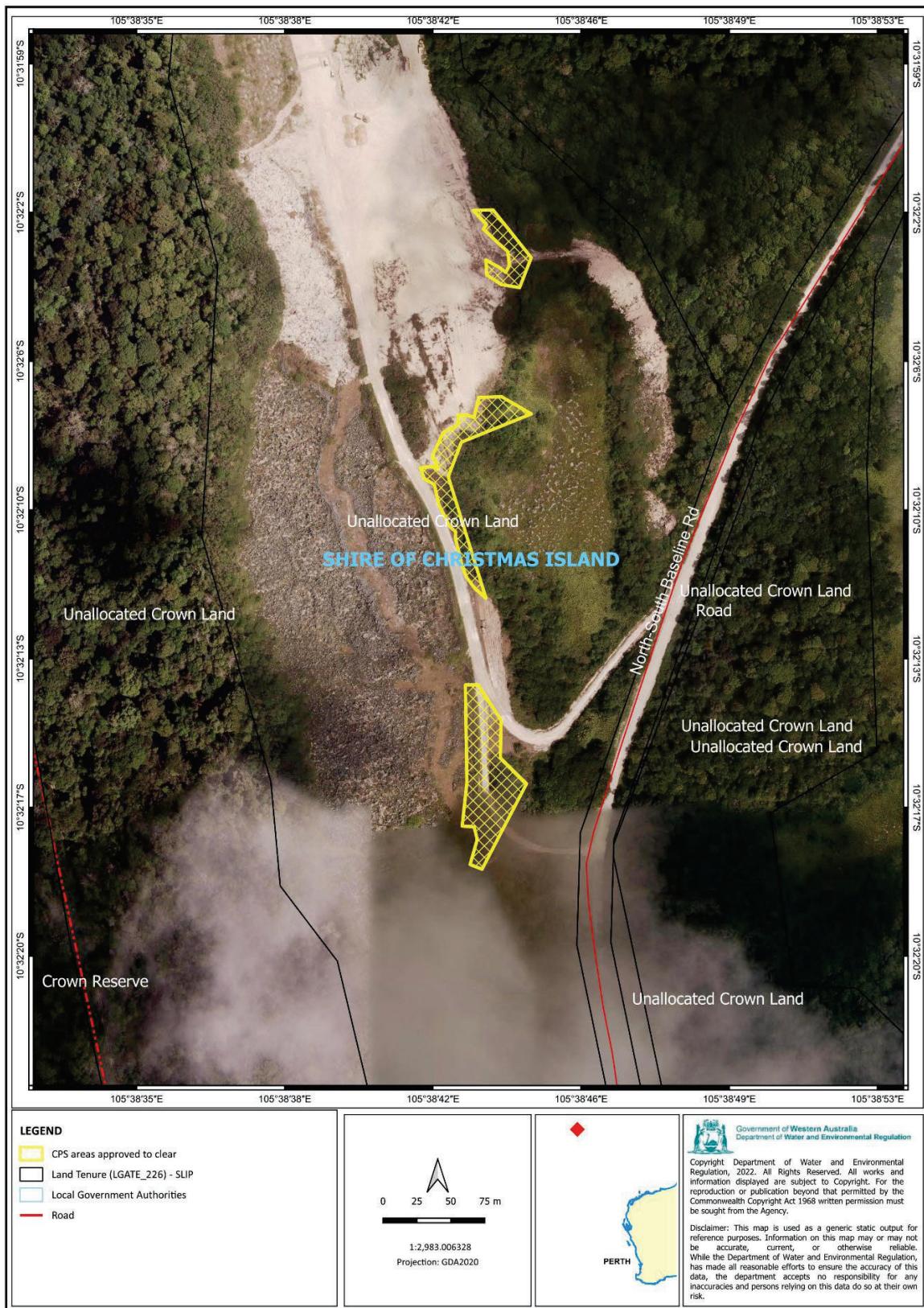


Figure 3: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur (cross-hatched yellow)

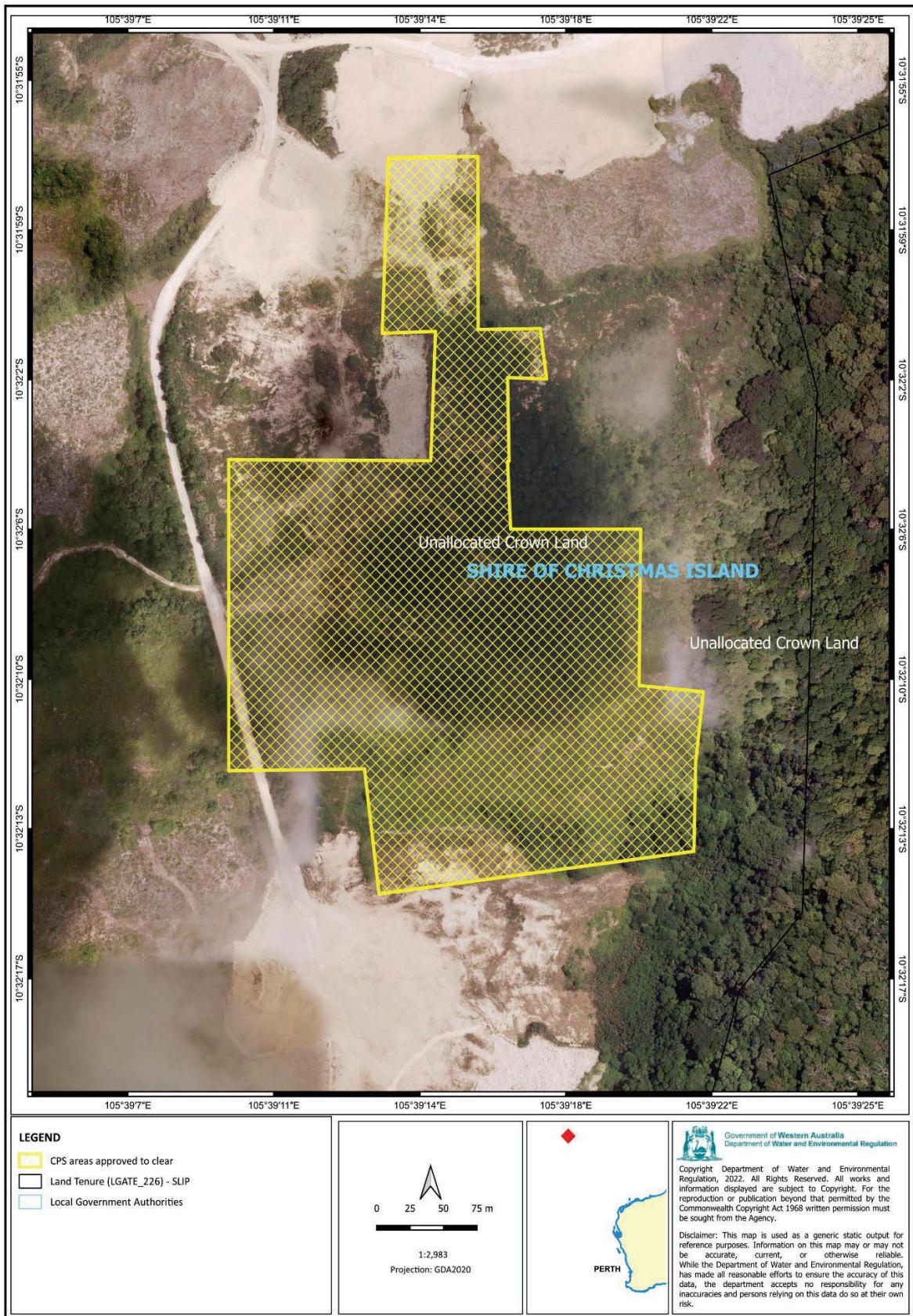


Figure 4: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur (cross-hatched yellow)



Figure 5: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur (cross-hatched yellow)

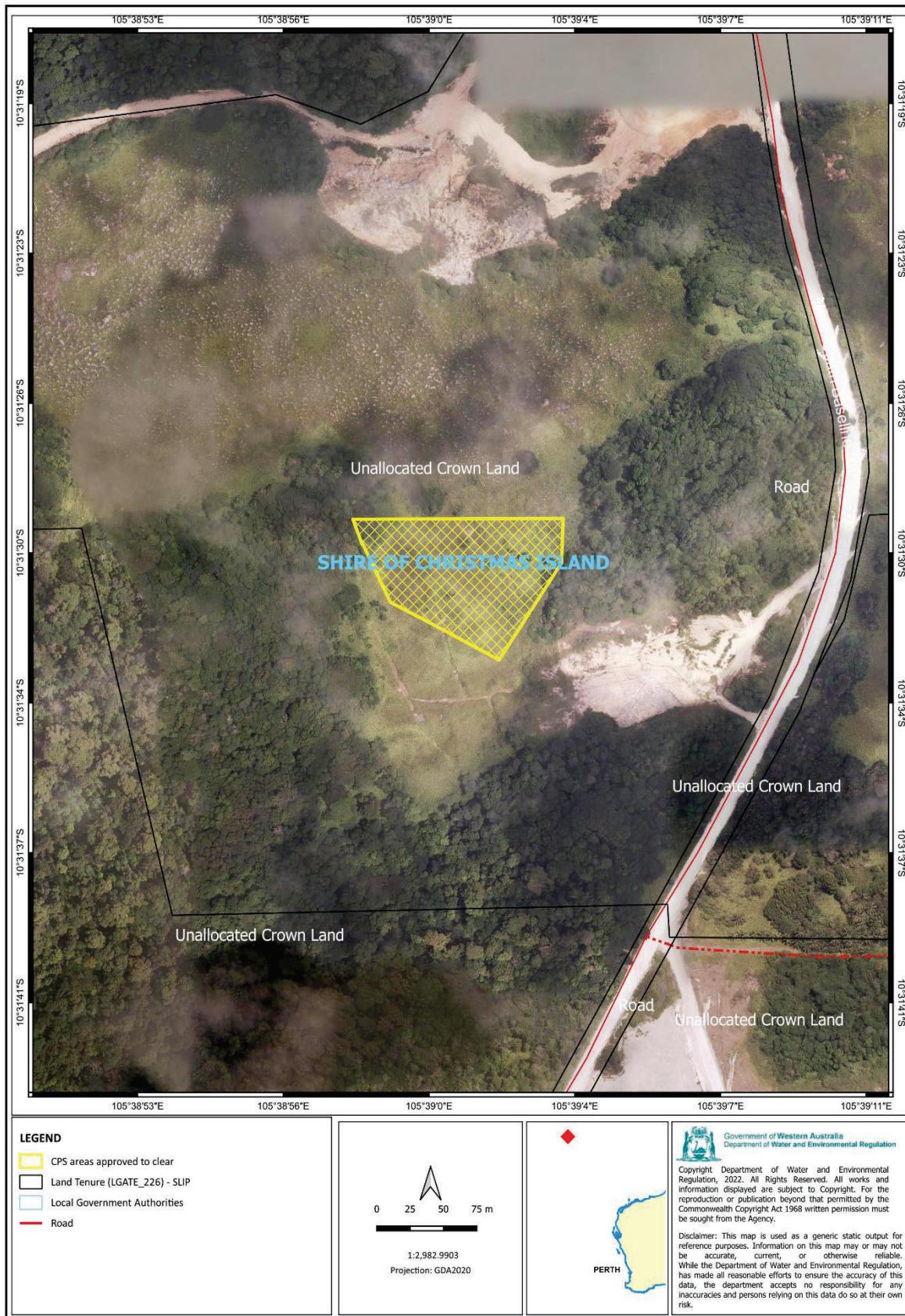


Figure 6: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur (cross-hatched yellow)



1 Application details and outcome

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	CPS 9687/2
Permit type:	Purpose permit
Applicant name:	Phosphate Resources Limited
Application received:	10 December 2025
Application area:	18.1 hectares of native vegetation
Purpose of clearing:	Phosphate mining
Method of clearing:	Mechanical
Property:	Unallocated Crown Land (PINs 3642932, 3125797, 3125793, 3724524, 3125778)
Location (LGA area/s):	Shire of Christmas Island
Localities (suburb/s):	Christmas Island

1.2. Description of clearing activities

The administrative amendment to CPS 9687/1 is to correct an administrative error in Figure 4, Schedule 1 of the permit. The application area within Figure 4 has been revised to one polygon to ensure the entire application area is accurately digitised.

The vegetation proposed to be cleared under 9687/2 is unchanged from the previous version of the permit. The vegetation to be cleared is distributed across eleven separate areas throughout Christmas Island (see Figure 1 to 6, Section 1.5).

1.3. Decision on application

Decision:	Granted
Decision date:	23 January 2026
Decision area:	18.1 hectares of native vegetation, as depicted in Section 1.5, below

1.4. Reasons for decision

This administrative amendment was determined in accordance with sections 51K and 51M of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The amendment relates only to correcting an error in Figure 4, Schedule 1 of the permit.

In considering the above, the Delegated Officer considered that the extent to which the impacts of the proposed clearing present a risk to biological, conservation, or land and water resource values remains unchanged from the previous assessment of the permit and can be found in the Decision Report for Clearing Permit CPS 9687/1.

The Delegated Officer considered that, given the administrative nature of the proposed amendment, the conditions under Clearing Permit CPS 9687/1 are unchanged and are sufficient to limit the impacts of the proposed clearing.

The Delegated Officer decided to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions to:

- avoid, minimise to reduce the impacts and extent of clearing
- take hygiene steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds

- Christmas Island Pipistrelle management condition
- a minimum buffer distance of five metres to Christmas Island National Park to be maintained
- drainage management to prevent discharge of sediments into The Dales RAMSAR listed wetlands
- rehabilitation post mining.

1.5. Site maps

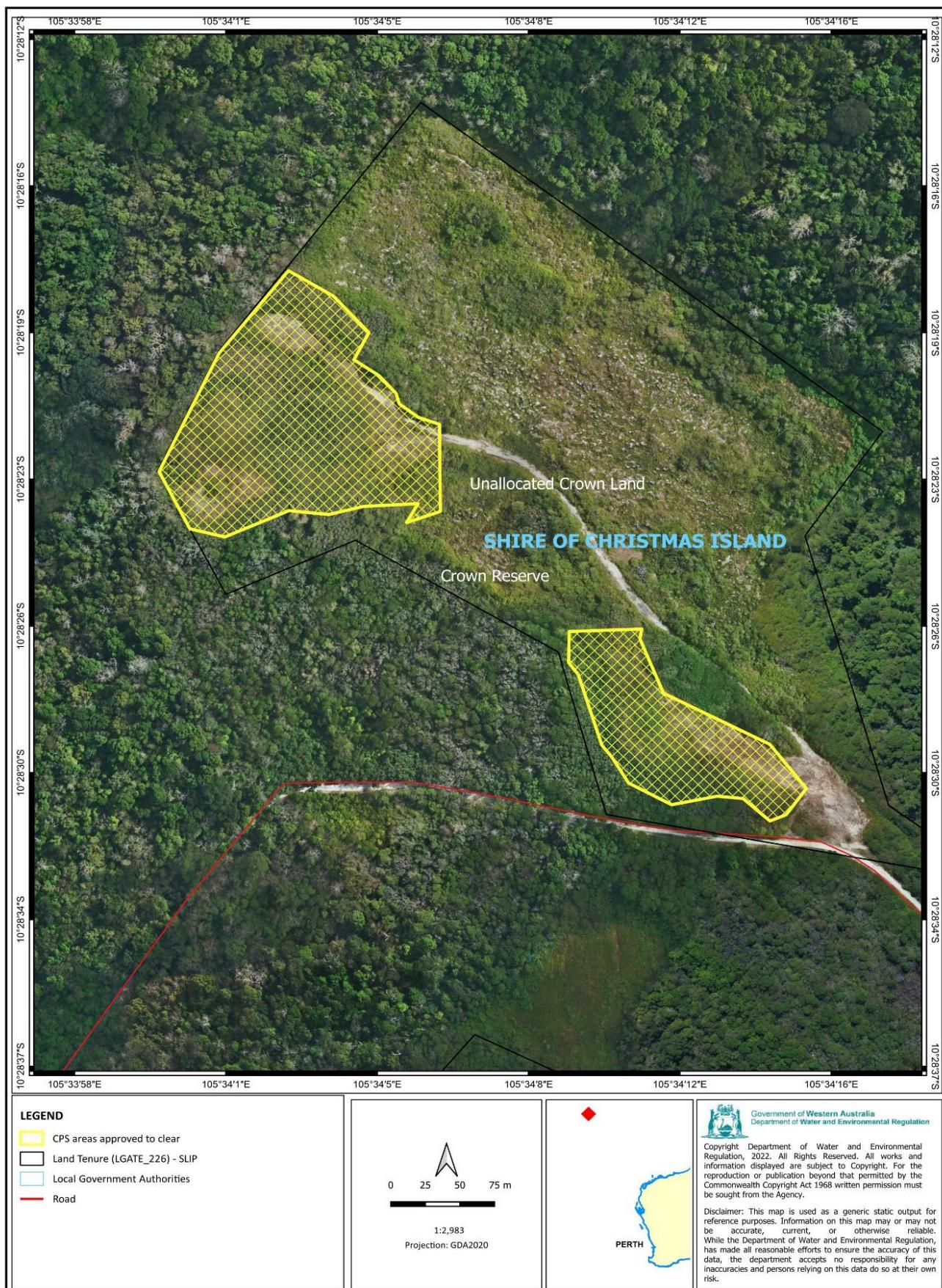


Figure 1 Map of the application area within ML140 MB1/STP26B. The areas cross-hatched yellow indicate the areas authorised to be cleared under the granted clearing permit.

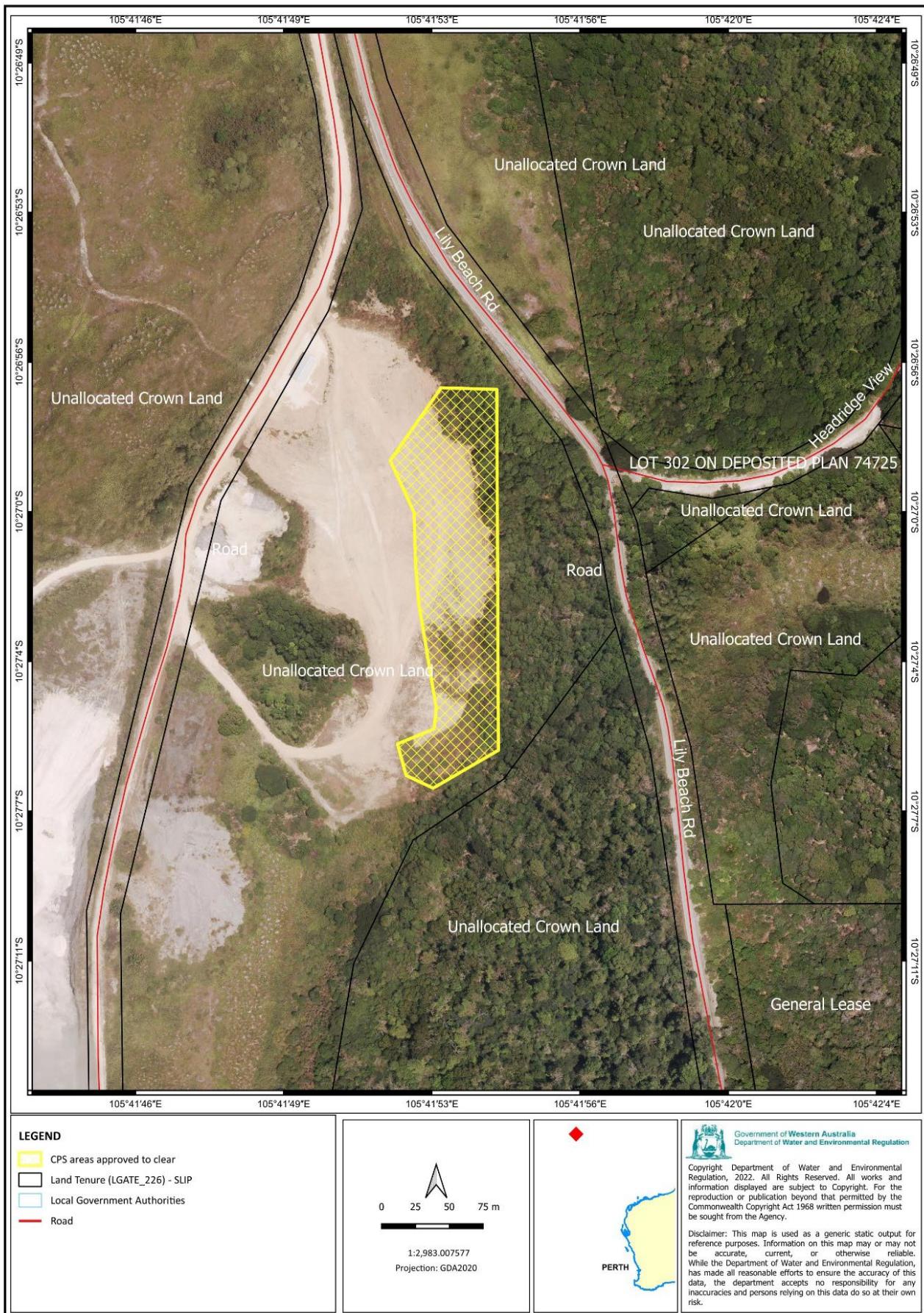


Figure 2 Map of the application area within ML133 MB11/MB12. The areas cross-hatched yellow indicate the areas authorised to be cleared under the granted clearing permit.

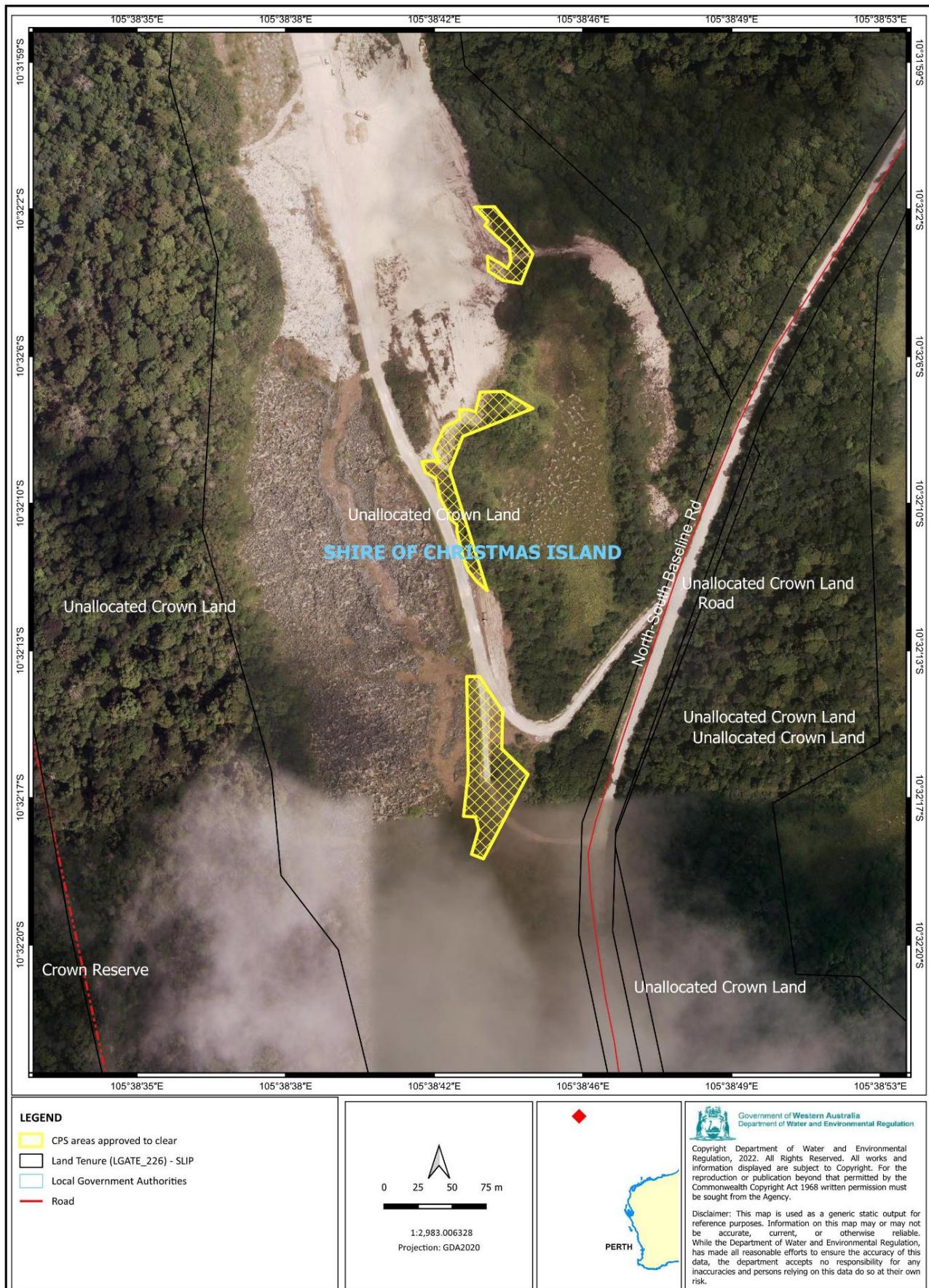


Figure 3 Map of the application area within ML100 SPW MB15 and ML100 SPW MB18. The areas cross-hatched yellow indicate the areas authorised to be cleared under the granted clearing permit.

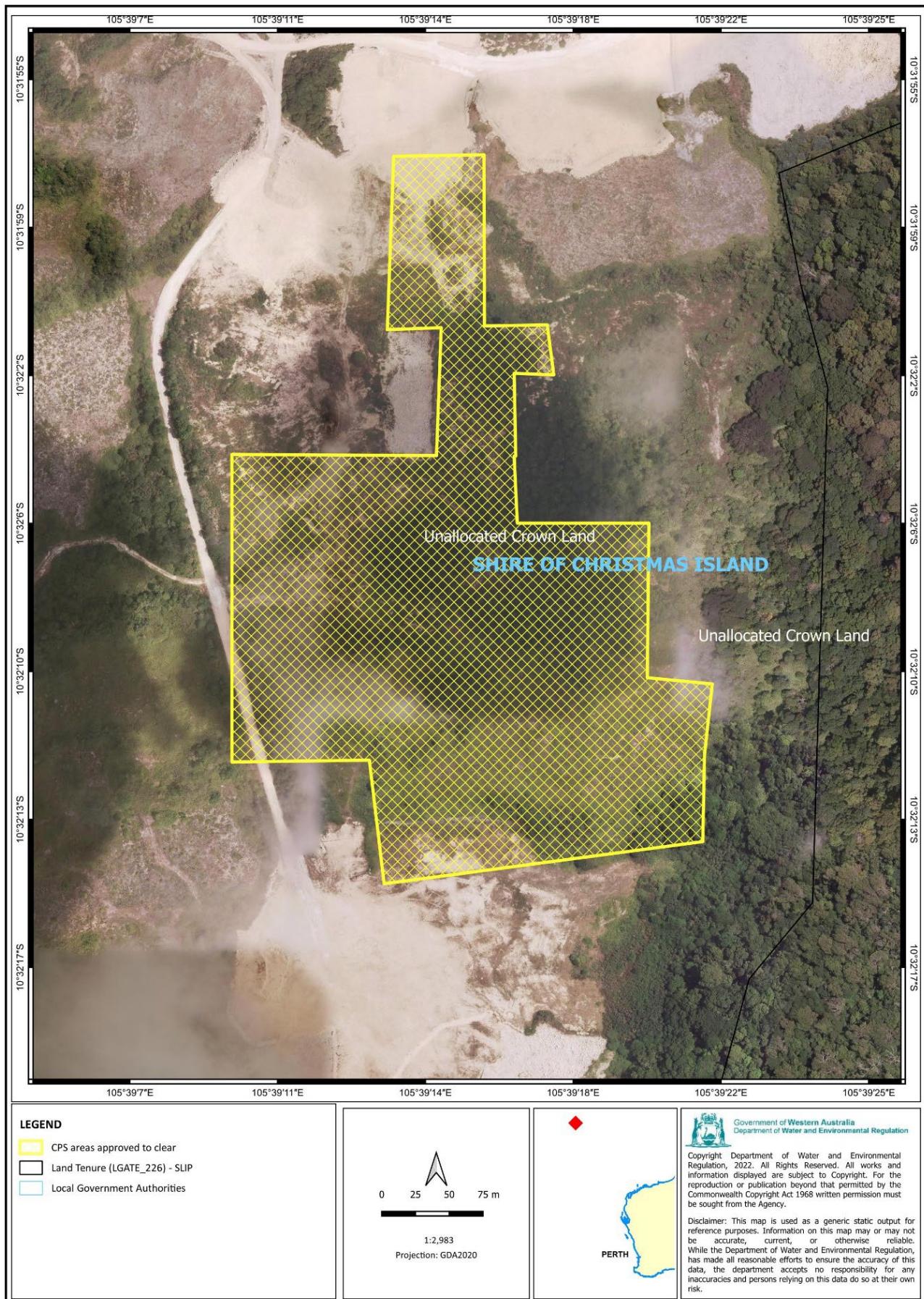


Figure 4 Map of the application area within ML101 F17 MB4, ML101 F17 MB12, ML101 F17 MB14 and ML101 F17 MB15. The areas cross-hatched yellow indicate the areas authorised to be cleared under the granted clearing permit.



Figure 5 Map of the application area within ML101 F17 MB22. The areas cross-hatched yellow indicate the areas authorised to be cleared under the granted clearing permit.



Figure 6 Map of the application area within ML101 F17D MB49. The areas cross-hatched yellow indicate the areas authorised to be cleared under the granted clearing permit.

2 Legislative context

The clearing of native vegetation in Western Australia is regulated under the EP Act and the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004 (Clearing Regulations).

In addition to the matters considered in accordance with section 51O of the EP Act (see Section 1.4), the Delegated Officer has also had regard to the objects and principles under section 4A of the EP Act, particularly:

- the precautionary principle
- the principle of intergenerational equity
- the principle of the conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity.

Other legislation of relevance for this assessment include:

- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act)

Relevant policies considered during the assessment include:

- The key guidance documents which inform this assessment are:
- A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation (DER, December 2013)
- Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits (DWER, October 2019)

3 Detailed assessment of application

3.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

As this amendment is administrative in nature, the avoidance and mitigation measures implemented by the Permit Holder are unchanged and can be found in the decision report for CPS 9687/1. The Delegated Officer was satisfied that the applicant has made a reasonable effort to avoid and minimise potential impacts of the proposed clearing on environmental values.

3.2. Assessment of impacts on environmental values

As this amendment is administrative in nature, the Delegated Officer determined that the extent to which the impacts of the proposed clearing present a risk to biological, conservation, or land and water resource values remain unchanged from the previous assessment of the permit and can be found in the Decision Report for Clearing Permit CPS 9687/1.

3.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

As this amendment is administrative in nature, the assessment against planning instruments and other matters is unchanged and can be found in the Decision Report for Clearing Permit CPS 9687/1

End