



## CLEARING PERMIT

*Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986*

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	9751/1
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	From 26 September 2023 to 25 September 2038
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Hamersley Resources Limited

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**

*Iron Ore (Rhodes Ridge) Agreement Authorisation Act 1972, Temporary Reserve 70/4192*  
*Iron Ore (Rhodes Ridge) Agreement Authorisation Act 1972, Temporary Reserve 70/4266*  
*Iron Ore (Rhodes Ridge) Agreement Authorisation Act 1972, Temporary Reserve 70/4267*  
*Iron Ore (Rhodes Ridge) Agreement Authorisation Act 1972, Temporary Reserve 70/4737*  
*Iron Ore (Rhodes Ridge) Agreement Authorisation Act 1972, Temporary Reserve 70/4881*  
*Iron Ore (Rhodes Ridge) Agreement Authorisation Act 1972, Temporary Reserve 70/4882*  
*Iron Ore (Rhodes Ridge) Agreement Authorisation Act 1972, Temporary Reserve 70/4883*  
*Iron Ore (Rhodes Ridge) Agreement Authorisation Act 1972, Temporary Reserve 70/4884*

**2. Purpose for which clearing may be done**

Clearing for the purposes of mineral exploration, resource definition drilling, hydrogeological and geotechnical investigations, camp and associated activities.

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 1,500 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the areas cross-hatched yellow and shaded green in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

**4. Clearing not authorised**

The Permit Holder shall only clear native vegetation within the areas shaded red in Figure 1 of Schedule 1 for the purpose of *maintenance clearing* of existing access tracks.

**5. Clearing not authorised**

The Permit Holder shall only clear native vegetation within the areas shaded green in Figure 1 of Schedule 1 for the purpose of access tracks.

**6. Period in which clearing is authorised**

The Permit Holder shall not clear any native vegetation after 25 September 2033.

## **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*:

- (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (ii) ensure that no *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (iii) 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 *wetland* is to be impacted by clearing, the Permit Holder shall ensure that surface flow is maintained, or is reinstated downstream into existing natural drainage lines.

### **10. Flora management**

- (a) Where priority 1 and 2 flora and threatened flora listed under the *Biodiversity and Conservation Act 2016* have been identified within the area cross-hatched orange in Figure 2 of Schedule 1, the Permit Holder shall not cause or allow:
  - (i) clearing within 50 metres of identified threatened flora, unless first approved by the *CEO*;
  - (ii) clearing within 10 metres of the identified priority 1 and 2 flora, unless first approved by the *CEO*;
  - (iii) clearing of identified priority 1 and 2 flora, unless first approved by the *CEO*.
- (b) Where priority 3 and 4 flora have been identified within the cross-hatched orange in Figure 2 of Schedule 1, the Permit Holder shall:
  - (i) not cause or allow clearing of more than 15 percent of the *local population* of the identified priority 3 or 4 flora;
  - (ii) not cause or allow the clearing within 10 metres of the identified priority 3 or 4 flora not to be cleared under condition 10(b)(i), unless first approved by the *CEO*; and
  - (iii) prior to clearing, map the population of the identified priority 3 and 4 flora that is not to be cleared under condition 10(b)(i).
- (c) Conditions 10(a)(i), 10(a)(ii) and 10(b)(ii) do not apply to clearing undertaken for the purpose of *maintenance clearing* of existing access tracks.

### **11. 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.

### **12. 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 12(a) on the cleared area.

- (c) within 4 years of undertaking *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* in accordance with Condition 12(b) of this Permit:
- (i) engage an *environmental specialist* to determine the species composition, structure and density of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated*; and
  - (ii) where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, the composition structure and density determined under Condition 12(c)(i) of this Permit will not result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, *revegetate* the area by deliberately *planting* and/or *direct seeding* native vegetation that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area and ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used.
- (d) where additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation is undertaken in accordance with Condition 12(c)(ii) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall repeat Condition 12(c)(i) and 12(c)(ii) within 24 months of undertaking the additional *planting* or *direct seeding* of native vegetation.
- (e) where a determination by an *environmental specialist* that the composition, structure and density within areas *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* will result in a similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-clearing vegetation types in that area, as determined in Condition 12(c)(i) and (ii) of this Permit, that determination shall be submitted for the *CEO*'s consideration. If the *CEO* does not agree with the determination made under Condition 12(c)(ii), the *CEO* may require the Permit Holder to undertake additional *planting* and *direct seeding* in accordance with the requirements under Condition 12(c)(ii).

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

#### **13. 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**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Relevant matter</b>	<b>Specifications</b>
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 7; and</li> <li>(e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> and <i>dieback</i> in accordance with Condition 8; and</li> <li>(f) actions taken in accordance with Condition 9.</li> </ul>
2.	In relation to flora management pursuant to Condition 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the name, location and number of each threatened flora and/or <i>priority flora</i> species, recorded within area cross-hatched orange in Figure 2 of Schedule 1 the 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 name, location and number of each priority 3 and 4 flora species cleared;</li> <li>(c) The percentage of the <i>local population</i> of each priority 3 and 4 flora species that has been cleared;</li> </ul>

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications
		(d) actions taken to avoid the clearing of <i>threatened flora</i> and/or <i>priority flora</i> species.
3.	In relation to the <i>revegetation</i> and <i>rehabilitation</i> management pursuant to Condition 12	<p>(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 Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings;</p> <p>(b) a description of the <i>revegetation</i> and <i>rehabilitation</i> activities undertaken; and</p> <p>(c) the size of the area <i>revegetated</i> and <i>rehabilitated</i> (in hectares).</p>

#### 14. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the *CEO* by 30 June each year for the life of this Permit, demonstrating adherence to all conditions of this Permit, and setting out the records required under Condition 13 of this Permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 January and 31 December of the previous calendar year.
- (b) If no clearing authorised under this Permit was undertaken between 1 January and 31 December of the previous calendar year, a written report confirming that no clearing under this permit has been carried out, must be provided to the *CEO* by 30 June of each year.
- (c) Prior to 25 September 2038, the Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under Condition 13 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 14(a) or 14(b) of this Permit.

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.
drainage line	Means a natural depression that carries surface water runoff.
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.
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 <i>CEO</i> as a suitable environmental specialist.
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> (WA)
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.
local population	local population means the records of threatened and <i>priority flora</i> within area cross-hatched orange in Figure 2 of Schedule 1 including records discovered after the grant of this Permit.
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.
maintenance clearing	means the clearing of existing access tracks to the extent which has already been

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
	cleared (disregarding any regrowth).
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.
priority flora	means those plant taxa described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3 and 4 in the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions' <i>Threatened and Priority Flora List for Western Australia</i> (as amended).
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) 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.
wetland/s	means an area of seasonally, intermittently or permanently waterlogged or inundated land, whether natural or otherwise, and includes a lake, swamp, marsh, spring, dampland, tidal flat or estuary.
<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>	means those plant taxa gazetted as a threatened flora pursuant to section 19(1) of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (as amended).

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## END OF CONDITIONS




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**Travis Inman** | General Manager Mine Closure and Environmental Services  
 Resource and Environmental Compliance Division  
 01 September 2023

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).

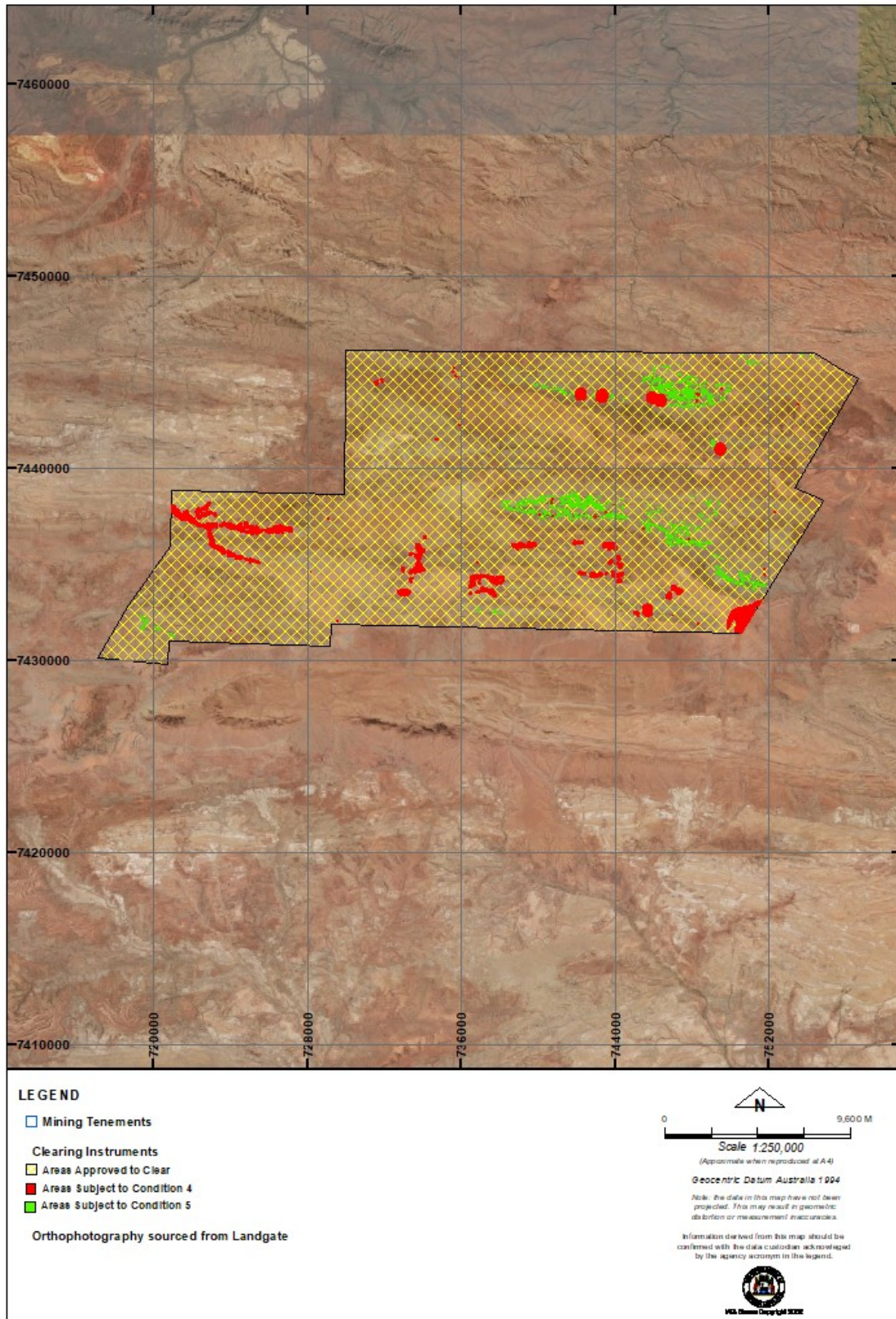
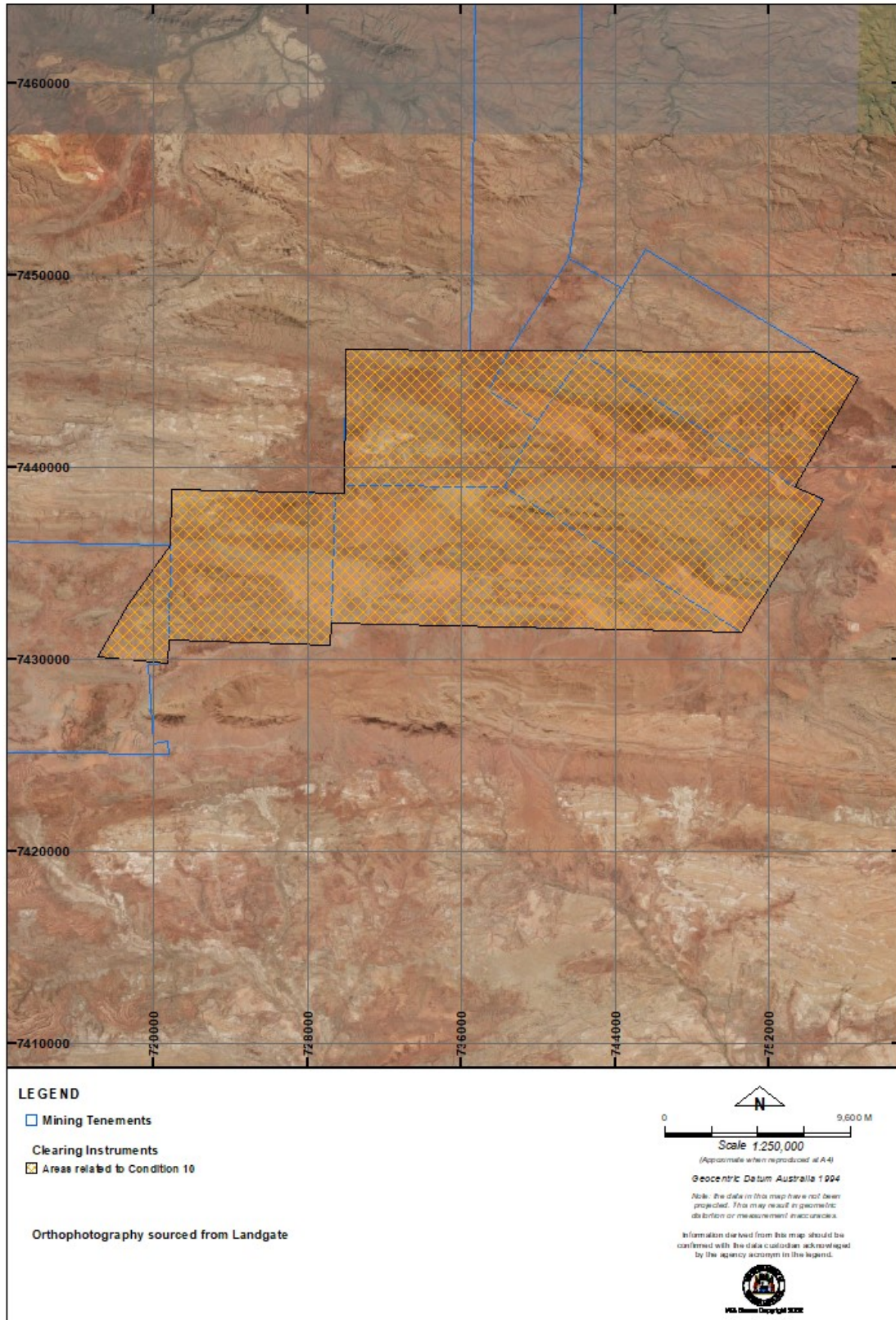


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur



**Figure 2: Map of the boundary of the area relating to Condition 10.**