



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

ADVICE NOTE

Allocation of offset site

In relation to conditions 7 and 8 of this Permit, it is noted that 38.9 hectares of Lot 2 on Deposited Plan 8964, Mimegarra Road, Mimegarra, will be attributed to the offset for this project. The nominated 38.9 hectare area contains suitable foraging habitat for Carnaby's cockatoo (*Zanda latirostris*).

PERMIT DETAILS

Area Permit Number: 9804/1
File Number: A1219/202201
Duration of Permit: From 19 October 2024 to 19 October 2041

PERMIT HOLDER

Meteor Stone Pty Ltd

LAND ON WHICH CLEARING IS TO BE DONE

Mining Lease M70/138

AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

Clearing of up to 6.495 hectares of native vegetation within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

CONDITIONS

1. Period in which clearing is authorised

The Permit Holder must not clear any vegetation after 19 October 2034.

2. 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.

3. Weed and dieback control

When undertaking any clearing or other activity authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must take the following measures to minimise the risk of introduction and spread of *weeds* and *dieback*:

- (a) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (b) ensure that no known *dieback* or *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared;
- (c) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared; and
- (d) only move soils in *dry conditions*.

4. Type of Clearing Authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless limestone extraction commences within three months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

5. Directional clearing

The Permit Holder must:

- (a) conduct all clearing authorised under this permit in one direction towards adjacent *native vegetation*; and
- (b) allow a reasonable time for fauna present within the area being cleared to move into that adjacent *native vegetation* ahead of the clearing activity.

6. 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 within M70/138;
- (b) Within 12 months following completion of clearing authorised under this Permit, unless the *CEO*, in writing, advises the permit holder to the contrary, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* an equivalent area within the area cross-hatched green in attached Figure 2 of Schedule 1 by:
 - (i) ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction; and
 - (ii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under Condition 6(a) on the cleared area.
- (c) Within 4 years of undertaking *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* in accordance with Condition 6(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 6(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* and/or *direct seeding* of native vegetation is undertaken in accordance with Condition 6(c)(ii) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall repeat Condition 6(c)(i) and 6(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 6(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 6(c)(ii), the *CEO* may require the Permit Holder to undertake additional *planting* and *direct seeding* in accordance with the requirements under Condition 6(c)(ii).

7. Revegetation offset

- (a) Within 12 months of commencement of clearing and no later than 19 October 2025 the Permit Holder must implement and adhere to the *Offset Management Plan*. This includes, but is not limited to the following actions:
- (i) undertake deliberate planting of *tubestock* of flora species known to provide foraging value for Carnaby's cockatoo (*Zanda latirostris*), including but not limited to *Banksia attenuata*, *Banksia grandis*, *Banksia menziesii* and *Banksia prionotes* within the area cross-hatched red on Figure 3 of Schedule 1;
 - (ii) ensure that planting is undertaken to achieve the plant densities in accordance with section 4.1.4 of the *Offset Management Plan* and as outlined in Table 1 of this Permit;
 - (iii) ensure only *local provenance* species and propagating material are used to *revegetate* the area;
 - (iv) ensure planting is undertaken at the *optimal time*;
 - (v) undertake weed control in accordance with section 4.2 of the *Offset Management Plan*; and
 - (vi) achieve and maintain the following completion criteria listed in Table 1 of this Permit, after the initial three-year monitoring period for areas *revegetated* under Condition 7 of this Permit.

Table 1: completion criteria

Aspect	Completion targets	Completion Criteria	Monitoring
1) Planting density/composition	Minimum density of 1-2 native plants per 1 m ²	- 1 – 2 tree species (overstorey) per 10 m ² - 2 shrub species (middle storey) per 5 m ² - 1 herb species (understorey) per 2 m ²	To be assessed bi-annually for three years then once yearly thereafter for the remaining term of the Permit.
2) Survival rate	Overall 70 per cent survival of plantings	- 75 per cent for trees species planted (overstorey) - 55 per cent for shrub species planted (middle storey) - 75 per cent of herbs planted (understorey)	To be assessed bi-annually for three years then once yearly thereafter for the remaining term of the Permit.
3) Foliage cover	More than 60 percent native plant foliage cover	More than 60 per cent native plant foliage cover	To be assessed bi-annually for three years then once yearly thereafter for the remaining term of the Permit.
4) Floristic communities	Vegetation identifiable as Banksia woodland	Vegetation identifiable as Banksia woodland	To be assessed bi-annually for three years then once yearly thereafter for the remaining term of the Permit.
5) Bare ground	Maximum patch size of bare ground no more than 30 m ²	Maximum patch size of bare ground no more than 30 m ²	To be assessed bi-annually for three years then once yearly thereafter for the remaining term of the Permit.

6) Weeds	Reduction in weed cover by 70 per cent.	Reduction in weed cover by 70 per cent.	To be assessed bi-annually for three years then once yearly thereafter for the remaining term of the Permit.
7) Vegetation condition (Bamford Habitat Scoring System)	Improvement in vegetation condition.	To achieve an overall improvement of black cockatoo habitat to a score exceeding an 8.	To be assessed bi-annually for three years then once yearly thereafter for the remaining term of the Permit.

- (b) The Permit Holder must engage an environmental specialist to monitor the survival of the trees established under Condition 7(a) of this Permit at least twice every 12 months for the three (3) years following *planting* and then at least once every three (3) years for the remaining term of this Permit.
- (c) The Permit Holder must engage an *environmental specialist* to undertake remedial actions for areas *revegetated* where monitoring indicates that *revegetation* has not met the completion criteria, outlined in Table 1, including:
 - (i) *revegetate* the area by deliberately *planting* native vegetation that will result in the minimum completion criteria in Table 1 being met and ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used; and
 - (ii) undertake further weed control activities.

8. Offset – Conservation Covenant

Within 24 months of commencement of clearing and no later than 19 October 2026, the Permit Holder shall:

- (a) give a conservation covenant under section 30B of the *Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945* or under section 21A of the *National Trust of Australia (W.A) Act 1964*, setting aside the areas cross-hatched red in Figure 3 of Schedule 1 for the protection and management of vegetation in perpetuity; and
- (b) within one (1) month of executing the conservation covenant, provide to the *CEO* a copy of the executed conservation covenant.

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 2: 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 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; (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 2; (e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications
		<p>introduction and spread of <i>weeds</i> and <i>dieback</i> in accordance with Condition 3;</p> <p>(f) actions taken in accordance with Condition 4; and</p> <p>(g) actions taken in accordance with Condition 5.</p>
2.	In relation to the <i>revegetation</i> and <i>rehabilitation</i> pursuant to Condition 6	<p>(a) The date the <i>revegetation</i> activities commenced;</p> <p>(b) <i>Revegetation</i> activities undertaken;</p> <p>(c) a copy of the <i>environmental specialist's</i> monitoring report and determination, pursuant to condition 6; and</p> <p>(d) the date(s) and description of any remedial actions undertaken where additional <i>planting</i> was required.</p>
3.	In relation to the revegetation offset pursuant to Condition 7	<p>(a) the boundaries of the area where the planting was undertaken, recorded using a GPS unit set to GDA20, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; the size in area (in hectares) where the planting was undertaken;</p> <p>(b) the date the <i>planting</i> was undertaken;</p> <p>(c) the species of the plants used in the planting;</p> <p>(d) a description of any other activities undertaken to implement the <i>Offset Management Plan</i>;</p> <p>(e) a description of weed control activities undertaken; a copy of the <i>environmental specialist's</i> yearly monitoring report; and</p> <p>(f) a description of any remedial actions undertaken</p>
4.	In relation to the Conservation Covenant pursuant to Condition 8.	<p>(a) actions taken in accordance with Condition 8 of this Permit; and</p> <p>(b) a copy of the relevant conservation covenant under section 30B of the <i>Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945</i> or under section 21A of the <i>National Trust of Australia (W.A) Act 1964</i>, in accordance with condition 8.</p>

10. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide to the *CEO* on or before 31 July each year, a written report:
- (i) of records required under condition 9 of this permit;
 - (ii) concerning activities done by the Permit Holder under this Permit between 1 July and 30 June of the preceding 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 31 July 2041, 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 3 have the meanings defined.

Table 3: Definitions

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.
dieback	means the effect of <i>Phytophthora</i> species on native vegetation.
dry conditions	means when soils (not dust) do not freely adhere to rubber tyres, tracks, vehicle chassis or wheel arches.
condition/s	a condition to which this clearing permit is subject under section 51H of the EP Act.
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.
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)
local provenance	means native vegetation seeds and propagating material from natural sources within 100 kilometres in the same Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) subregion of the area cleared.
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.
Offset Management Plan	means the document titled 'Mimegarra Road Offset Site Management Plan' (dated June 2024), as retained on Department of Energy, Mines and Industry Regulation file A1219/202201, or future versions as approved by the CEO.
optimal time	means the period from May to June for undertaking planting.
planting	means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating favourable soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species.
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 /	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</i>

Term	Definition
revegetation	<i>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.
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.

END OF CONDITIONS



Chris Shaw
 DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL APPROVALS
 DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

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

26 September 2024

SCHEDULE 1

The boundary of the area authorized 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

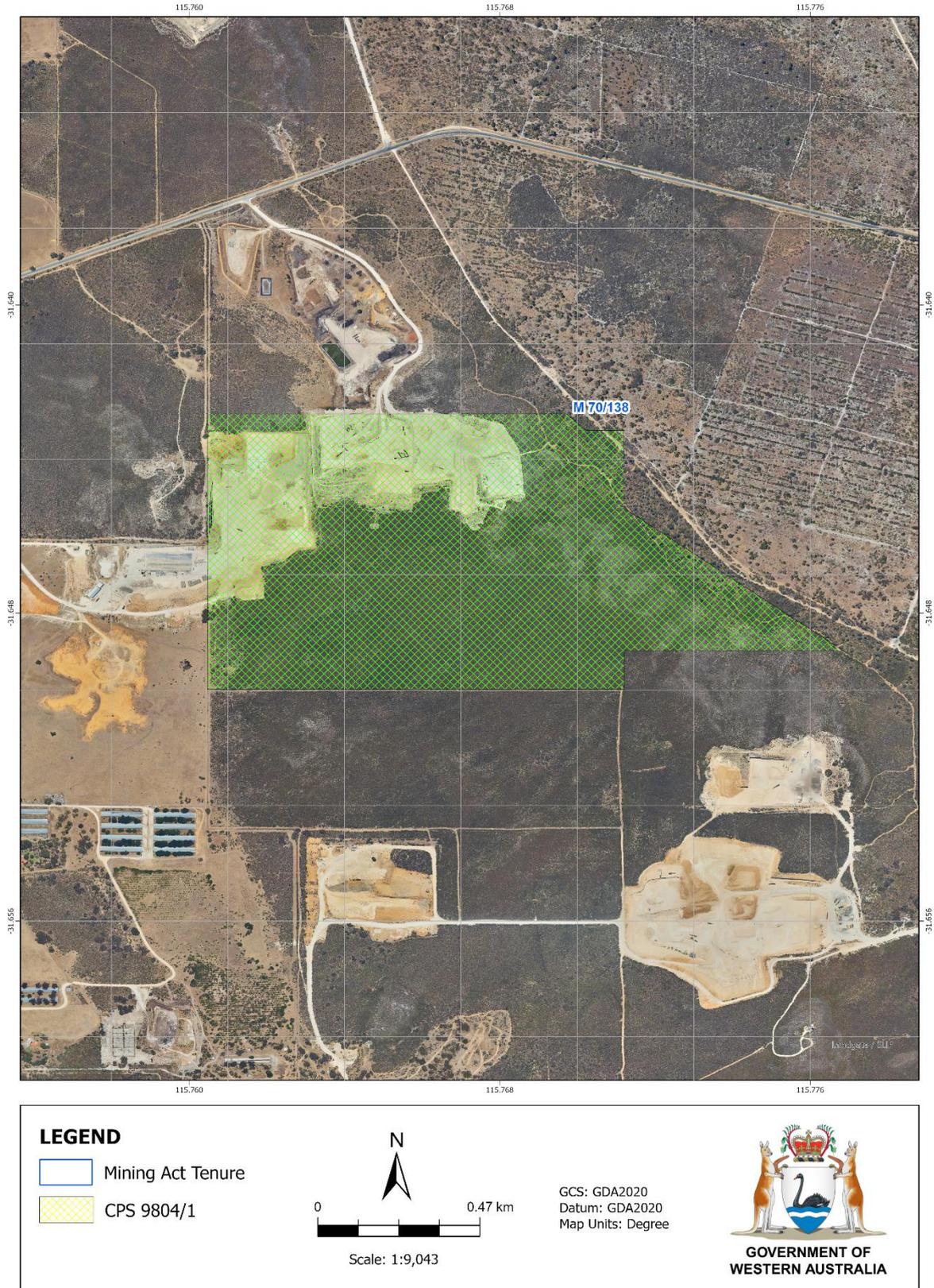


Figure 2: Map of the area subject to Condition 6



Figure 3: Map of the offset area subject to Conditions 7 and 8