



## **CLEARING PERMIT**

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

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	9815/1
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	From 27 October 2022 to 26 October 2027
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Mount Ridley Mines 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**

Exploration Licence 63/1547  
Exploration Licence 63/1564  
Exploration Licence 63/2111  
Exploration Licence 63/2112  
Exploration Licence 63/2113  
Exploration Licence 63/2125

**2. Clearing authorised (purpose)**

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation for the purpose of mineral exploration and associated activities.

**3. Area of Clearing**

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 100 hectares of native vegetation within the areas cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

**4. Type of Clearing Authorised**

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless the purpose for which the clearing is authorised is enacted within three months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

### **PART II - MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS**

**5. 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:

- 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.

## 6. 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.

## 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*.

## 8. Flora Management

Where priority flora and threatened flora species have been identified and their written locations provided to the CEO, within 'Give the excel spreadsheet a title i.e. "CPS 9815/1 Priority Flora locations" and retained on the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety file No. A1250/202201 as Doc ID 9604187, the Permit Holder shall ensure that:

- (i) no more than 300 individual plants of identified *Eucalyptus merrickiae* are cleared;
- (ii) no more than 29 individual plants of identified *Acacia euthyphylla* are cleared;
- (iii) no more than 18 individual plants of identified *Acacia glaucissima* are cleared;
- (iv) no more than 18 individual plants of identified *Adenanthos ileticos* are cleared;
- (v) no more than 30 individual plants of identified *Darwinia polycephala* are cleared; and
- (vi) no more than 11 individual plants of identified *Persoonia cymbifolia* are cleared.

## 9. Fauna Management – Malleefowl

Where clearing authorised under this Permit is to occur between 1 September and 31 January, the Permit Holder shall:

- (a) Within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing, engage an *environmental specialist* to conduct an inspection of the area to be cleared to identify *active (in use) Malleefowl (Leipoa ocellata) mounds*.
- (b) Where an *active (in use) Malleefowl mound* is identified under Condition 9(a) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall ensure that no clearing occurs within 50 metres of the mound, during the months of September through to January, 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	<ol 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 5; and</li><li>(e) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds in accordance with Condition 6;</li><li>(f) actions taken in accordance with Condition 7;</li></ol>

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications
		(g) actions taken to identify and avoid clearing around <i>active (in use) Malleefowl mounds</i> in accordance with Condition 9.
2.	In relation to flora management pursuant to Condition 8	<p>(a) the name and location of each <i>threatened flora</i> and/or <i>priority flora</i> species cleared, 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) actions taken to demarcate each <i>threatened flora</i> and/or <i>priority flora</i> species recorded and their relevant buffers; and</p> <p>(c) actions taken to avoid the clearing of <i>threatened flora</i> and/or <i>priority flora</i> species.</p>

## 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 1 July of each year.
- (c) Prior to 26 October 2027, 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
active (in use) Malleefowl mound	means a mound with evidence of current Malleefowl ( <i>Leipoa ocellata</i> ) activity, such as: working of the mound; scratching; litter trails leading to the mound; or loose uncompacted surfaces. The form and structure of the mound will show that it is currently being prepared for egg laying or it already contains eggs.
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.
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

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
	approved by the <i>CEO</i> as a suitable environmental specialist.
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)</i>
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.
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 – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the <i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007</i>; or</li> <li>(b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or</li> <li>(c) not indigenous to the area concerned.</li> </ul>

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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  
04 October 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 (Figure 1).

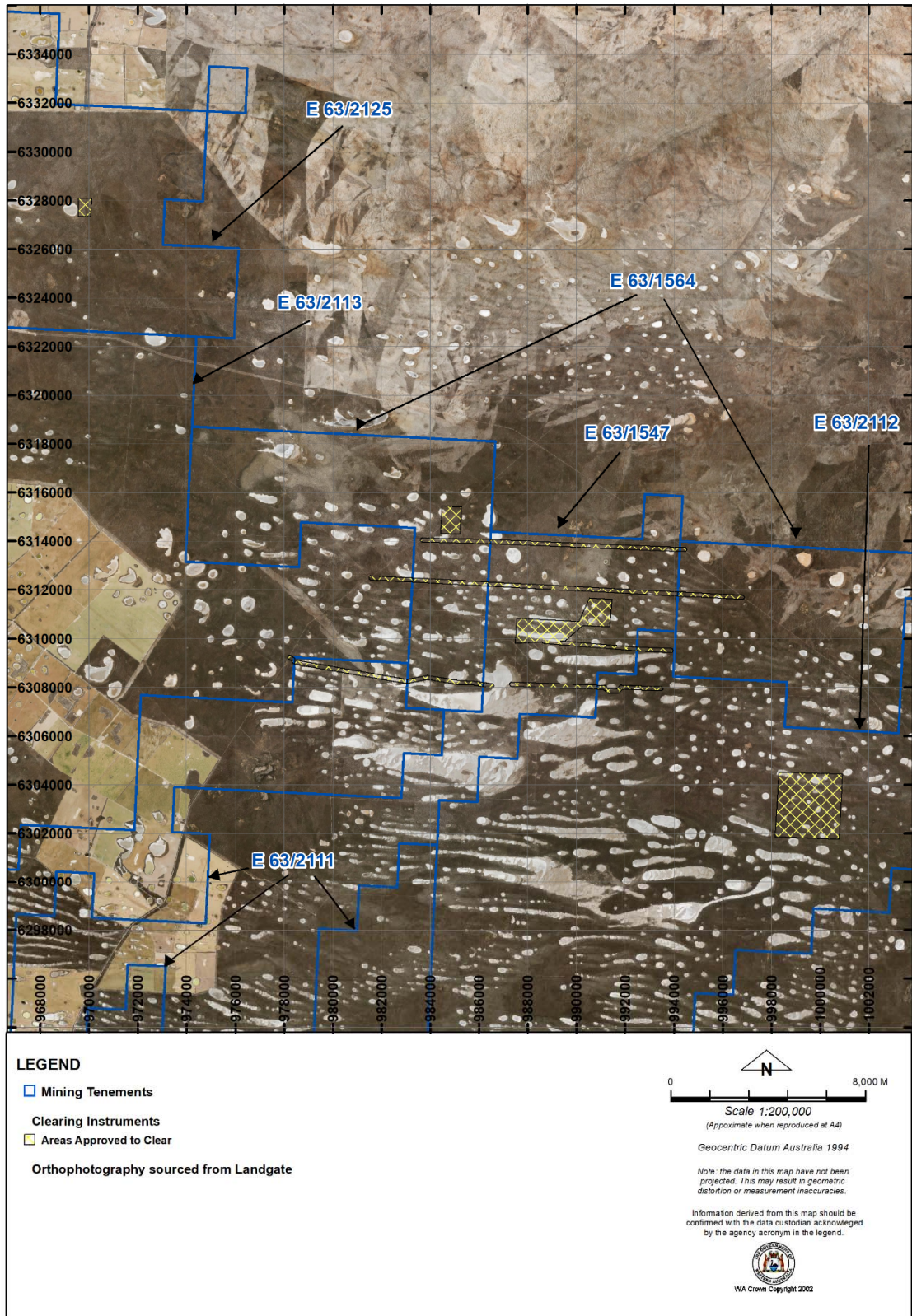


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur