



## CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

<b>Purpose Permit number:</b>	9888/1
<b>Duration of Permit:</b>	From 17 December 2022 to 16 December 2027
<b>Permit Holder:</b>	Golden Grove Operations 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 59/195

**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 10.82 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 3 months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

**5. Direction of clearing**

The Permit Holder must conduct clearing activities in a slow, progressive manner into one direction to allow fauna to move into adjacent native vegetation ahead of the clearing activity.

### PART II - MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

**6. 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.

**7. 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*:

- clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- 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.

#### **8. 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 6(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*.

#### **9. Fauna Management – Western Spiny-tailed Skink**

When undertaking any clearing or other activity authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must take the following steps to reduce the impacts on fauna:

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the area(s) shall be inspected by a fauna specialist who shall identify *habitat/habitat tree(s)* suitable to be utilised by Western Spiny-tailed Skink (*Egernia stokesii badia*).
- (b) Within two weeks prior to clearing, any *habitat/habitat tree(s)* identified by Condition 9(a) shall be inspected by a fauna specialist for the presence of Western Spiny-tailed Skink.
- (c) Within two weeks prior to clearing, engage a *fauna specialist* to relocate any Western Spiny-tailed Skink identified in Condition 9(a).
- (d) retain any *habitat tree(s)* identified under Condition 9(a) and relocate them to adjacent vegetation.
- (e) Where any Western Spiny-tailed Skink are identified and relocated under Condition 9(c) of this Permit, include the following in a report submitted to the *CEO*:
  - (i) The location of any suitable *habitat/habitat tree(s)* recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
  - (ii) The type of evidence recorded under 9(b) e.g. fauna individuals, scats, tracks;
  - (iii) The location and date where any Western Spiny-tailed Skink was relocated using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
  - (iv) The location of any *habitat tree(s)* relocated under Condition 9(d) using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
  - (v) The name of the fauna specialist that relocated the Western Spiny-tailed Skink under Condition 9(d); and
  - (vi) A copy of the fauna licence authorising the relocation of the Western Spiny-tailed Skink under Condition 9(c).

#### **10. Fauna Management – fauna spotter**

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.

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

#### **11. 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 in accordance with Condition 4.</li> <li>(e) Actions taken in accordance with Condition 5;</li> <li>(f) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with Condition 6;</li> <li>(g) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds and dieback in accordance with Condition 7;</li> <li>(h) actions taken to identify and avoid clearing around <i>active (in use) Malleefowl mounds</i> in accordance with Condition 8;</li> <li>(i) actions taken in accordance with Condition 9; and</li> <li>(j) actions taken in accordance with Condition 10.</li> </ul>

## 12. 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 11 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 16 December 2027, the Permit Holder must provide to the *CEO* a written report of records required under Condition 11 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 12(a) or 12(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 (WA)</i> and designated as responsible for the administration

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
	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.
fauna specialist	means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specialising in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in fauna identification and surveys of fauna native to the region being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the <i>CEO</i> as a suitable fauna specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> .
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)</i>
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.
habitat tree(s)	means any tree that has hollows suitable for the Western spiny-tailed skink, including dead or fallen trees.
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.
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>

**END OF CONDITIONS**



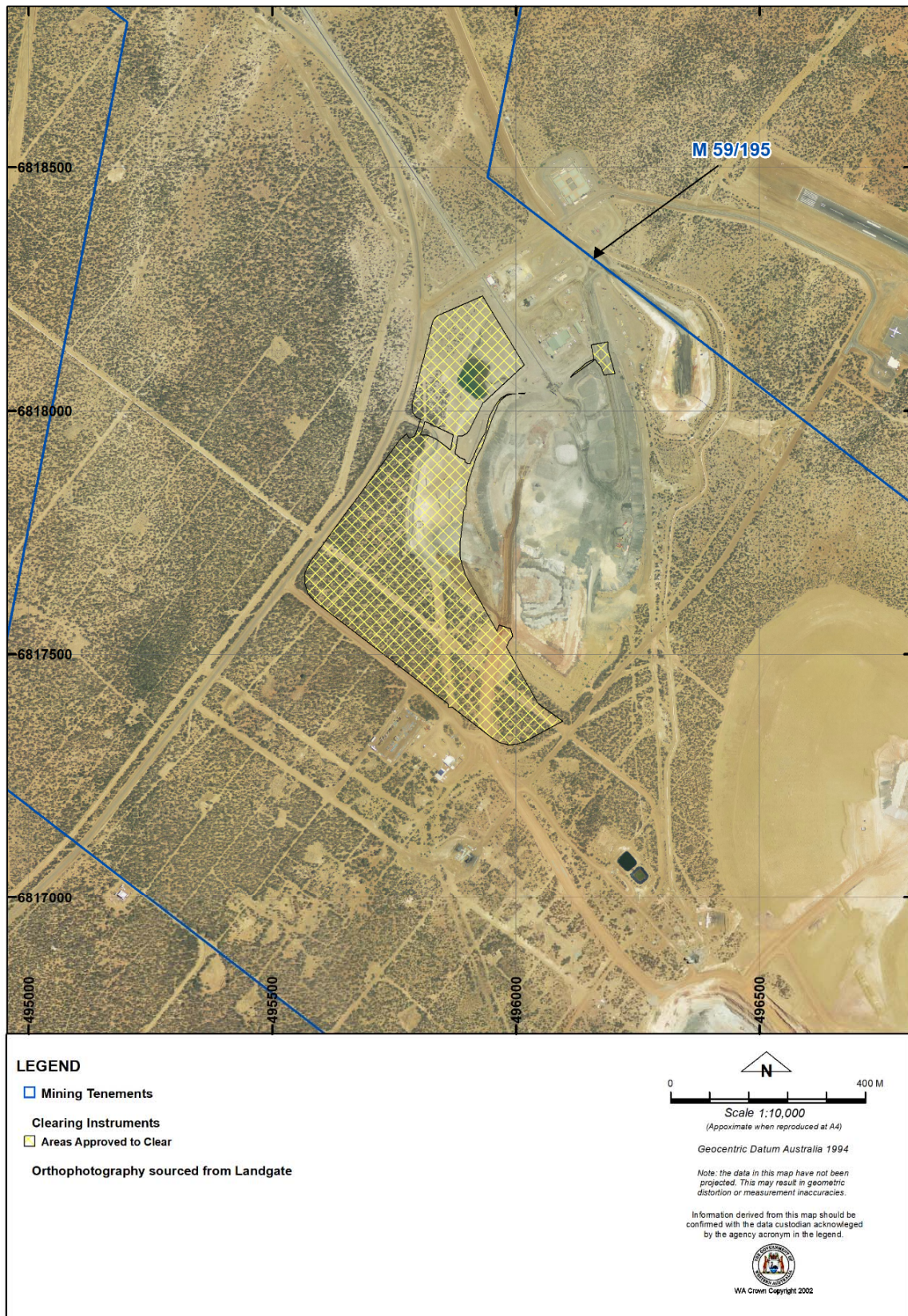

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Tyler Sujdovic  
Acting Executive Director Resource and Environmental Compliance  
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division  
24 November 2022

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**