



Project Horizon –
Clearing Permit
Referral

Plutonic – CEV Facility

Document Control

Project Horizon – Clearing Permit Referral

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1 Purpose of this Document

RFF Pty Ltd act on behalf of Vertiv with relation to the construction of a Controlled Environmental Vault ('CEV') associated with the broader Vocus Project Horizon fibre optic route.

This report relates to the construction of the Plutonic CEV facility.

RFF is seeking a determination from the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation ('DWER') Native Vegetation Branch regarding the need for a Part V Clearing Permit for this proposed telecommunications asset. As such, this document has been prepared to support a Referral of Proposed Clearing form.

As part of this assessment, the proposed works were assessed against the clearing exemptions under Regulation 5, which found that it not fit any category due to the nature of the structures being installed. The proposed works are small in scale that are unlikely to be environmentally significant. Further information to support this has been provided below.

The proposed development site is depicted in **Figure 1 – Site Plan**.



2 Project Scope

The proposed works will support and sustain the operation of a high-speed optic fibre cable constructed parallel to Great Northern Highway (See Figure 2 – Project Site Plan). This referral pertains to one of a total 13 CEV sites associated with Project Horizon, nine of which are being referred to DWER.

The proposed works include the earthworks (including access tracks), site preparation, installation, and commissioning of a Controlled Environment Vault (CEV) building, complete with, a battery hut and 5 kW solar array, supported by a self-contained, emergency diesel powered generator set on its own separate footing.

The site will be completed with a full-scale galvanised security fence surrounding the buildings and equipment.

Construction of the development includes the placement of temporary site huts, delivery via semi-trailer and on site craneage into position of the CEV and the Emergency Generator. All components will be contained within the clearing boundary, with no temporary clearing.

The total area of permanent clearing is 0.41 ha.

2.1 Construction Methodology

Project construction is scheduled to commence as soon as possible, no later than 12 November 2024 and be completed and demobilised from site by 21 December 2024. Works should take approximately six weeks from commencement, assuming no delays.

Construction sequencing and execution method has been detailed below:

- Contractor's surveyor to mark out site boundaries.
- Locate any existing services both above and below ground.
- Mark out access pathway, length and width.
- Mark out for temporary site security fence to define the 'work area', in accordance with Construction Site Plan.
- Clear the construction site of vegetation.
- Establish temporary access roadway, worker parking area, set-down area, truck turning area, crane manoeuvring area.
- Place temporary crib shed, amenities, first aid. Tie Down.
- Undertake bulk earthworks, cut / fill, grading, compaction, dust suppression.
- Equipment in use:
 - excavator / back-hoe.
 - dozer
 - compactor
 - 8t tipper truck
- Excavate trenches for electrical, communications. Install earth rods and connections.
- Excavate for CEV footings, generator slab with block outs, and solar power pole footing (if required).



- Install conduits for all in ground services.
- Form, reinforce and place concrete for footings, pads, slabs.
- Place crane in position for CEV lift.
- Receive CEV module on articulated semi-trailer.
- Crane CEV into position in accordance with crane study. Tie Down.
- Place crane in position for Emergency Generator lift.
- Receive Emergency Generator module on articulated semi-trailer.
- Crane Emergency Generator into position in accordance with crane study. Tie Down.
- Undertake surface treatment of flat level site in accordance bulk excavation and civil engineering design drawings.
- Articulated semi-trailer to enter and exit site in a forward direction.
- Connect electrical and fibre services.
- Excavate for Security Fence footings.
- Form, reinforce, place concrete for fence uprights.
- Construct fence infills and security screening in accordance with approved fence plan.
- Install fence signage.
- Undertake commissioning procedures.
- Complete all building works and site cleanup.
- Remove temporary construction fencing from site.
- Remove all traffic management items.



3 Environmental Context

A summary of the proposed site location and environmental attributes is provided in Table 1.

Table 1. Environmental Context

Reference/ Site Name	O6_PLUT
Address	167 km North of Meekatharra, on Great Northern Highway
Certificate of Title	Lot 30 on Plan 217094 contained within Certificate of Title Volume LR3122, Folio 959. Refer Attachment 1 – Certificate of Title.
Local Government Authority	Shire of Meekatharra
Coordinates	732577 E, 7192444 N -25.364420, 119.312736
Total Clearing Area	Total combined area of permanent clearing is 0.41 ha for construction of the CEV and associated infrastructure.
Final Development Footprint	0.41 ha of permanent clearing
Nearest DBCA Managed Lands	The nearest DBCA managed reserve is Collier Range National Park, which is approximately 55 km to the north.
Nearest Environmentally Sensitive Area	The nearest registered ESA is located approximately 55 km north-west of the proposed development. Refer to Figure 2 – Environmental Factors.
Topography	Elevation ranges from 539.4 mAGL in the west to 540 mAGL in the east.
Soil Landscape	The proposed site is mapped as 295Tr_406 red shallow sandy duplex, Three Rivers Land System, Hardpan plains and minor sandy banks supporting sparse mulga shrublands. Wash plains and sandy banks on hardpan; Mulga shrublands and wanderrie grasses or spinifex.
Contaminated Sites and Acid Sulphate Soils	No occurrences of PASS or AASS were identified on or near the site (DWER-047, DWER-048, DWER-049 and DWER-053). No contaminated sites were identified on or near the site (DWER-059). Refer to Attachment 2 – Geotechnical Investigation.
Surface Water	The proposed site is within the Gascoyne River and Tributaries sub-catchment (DWER-030). There are no surface water bodies or <i>RiWi Act 1914</i> rivers or waterbodies within 1 km of the proposed site.

	<p>The nearest is Gascoyne river, which is located approximately 13 km to the northwest. As such, the proposed works will not disturb the bed or banks or take surface water from any <i>RiWi Act 1914</i> rivers, or waterways identified by DWER (DWER-O31).</p>
<p>Groundwater</p>	<p>The proposed project is located within the East Murchison Proclaimed Groundwater Area.</p> <p>The proposed site is not within a PDWSA.</p> <p>The proposed site is within an area identified as ‘to be developed’ in the <i>RiWi Act 1914</i> Groundwater Areas. No groundwater was recorded during Geotechnical investigations.</p> <p>The proposed works will not interfere with or take groundwater.</p>
<p>Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities</p>	<p>A search of DBCA database records found occurrences of nine Priority Ecological Communities (PEC) within 50 km of the proposed site (Attachment 5). The closest record to the site is Blech Land System (Priority 3), located approximately 10 km southwest of the Site. The proposed site does not contain suitable habitat for any PECs.</p> <p>There are no records of any Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) within 50 km of the proposed site. Refer to Figure 3 – Environmental Factors.</p> <p>Given the absence of suitable habitat for PECs identified as occurring within 50 km, the absence of TECs from the surrounding area, and the scale of the proposed development, no impacts to TEC or PECs will result.</p>
<p>Flora</p>	<p>A search of DBCA database records found records of 18 Priority flora taxa within 50 km of the proposed site (Attachment 6). The nearest of these records was of <i>Eremophila demissa</i> (Priority 1) which was recorded 4 km to the south.</p> <p>Based on the distance of each record from the proposed site and the habitat values expected to be present based on broad vegetation associations and soil/landform types, seven Priority species were considered to have a ‘Medium’ likelihood of occurrence. The Site does not contain any suitable habitat for the remaining 11 species.</p> <p>There are no recorded of any Threatened flora within 50 km of the proposed Site.</p> <p>Given the degraded nature of the Site (see Section 3.1) and very small area of proposed clearing, no Priority taxa are expected to occur.</p> <p>Refer Figure 3 – Environmental Factors.</p>
<p>Vegetation</p>	<p>The proposed site is mapped within the Gascoyne Ranges (29) vegetation association, which is</p>

described as a sparse low woodland of mulga, discontinuous in scattered groups (Beard, 1990).

The estimated pre-European extent within the Murchison IBRA region is 2,956,382.06 ha and the current extent is estimated at 2,955,695.34 ha. The proposed clearing represents less than 0.00001% of the remaining extent of the vegetation association.

Currently, approximately 99.94% of this vegetation association remains within WA, 99.98% remains within the Murchison IBRA region, and 99.89% remains within the Shire of Meekatharra (GoWA, 2019).

As such, the proposed clearing is consistent with Criterion 1 of the *Native Vegetation Referrals Guideline* (DWER, 2021) whereby the area proposed to be cleared is small relative to the total remaining vegetation.

The vegetation to be cleared is adjacent to the existing fibre alignment, and the Great Northern Highway Road corridor, and has been disturbed over time. The vegetation present is described as scattered shrubs and large trees Poor condition, based on the representative site images provided in section 3.1. The reduced vegetation condition is predominantly a result of edge effects from the adjacent infrastructure corridor.

Given the state of the vegetation present, it is unlikely that the proposed site will support significant species or vegetation communities, and that the proposed clearing will cause significant environmental impacts.

Fauna

A search of DBCA database records and PMST found that there are records of three Threatened fauna taxa, two Marine aves, eight Migratory species, one Specially Protected fauna taxa, and three Priority fauna taxa within 50 km of the proposed site. The nearest record is of *Falco peregrinus* (peregrine falcon; Other Specially Protected fauna) is approximately 17 km from the site.

A likelihood of occurrence assessment was undertaken for the proposed site (Attachment 7). That assessment found the following taxa to have a medium likelihood of occurrence:

- *Falco hypoleucos* (grey falcon) – Vulnerable.
- *Chrysococcyx osculans* (black eared cuckoo) – Marine.
- *Falco peregrinus* (peregrine falcon) – Other specially Protected Fauna.

Grey falcon (Vulnerable) and peregrine falcon (Other Specially Protected Fauna) were assigned a 'Medium' likelihood of occurrence; however, are only expected to pass over the site on occasion. The site itself does not provide significant habitat for either species, and the proposed clearing will not have a material impact on

the availability or extend of suitable habitat for either species.

Black eared cuckoo (Marine) is widespread within Australia, typically in arid regions in habitats such as dry forests, scrublands, mallee, mulga, lignum, saltbush, and riverside thickets. The species prefers to fly directly between low trees and shrubs. The vegetation to be removed may provide suitable habitat for the species; however, given the broad range of the species and the small, degraded area proposed to be cleared, the vegetation to be cleared is not necessary for the maintenance of significant habitat for the species.

Figure 3 – Environmental factors

While more mobile species, like the quoll, may traverse the area. It is unlikely that the scale and extent of works would have long term impact on the distribution of these species. Best practice construction environmental management plans will be developed. Minium requirements are included in Table 5 of the attached Environmental Due Diligence Report.

Refer to Attachment 3 – Environmental Due Diligence Report.

As identified in Table 2, the site is considered to satisfy the four criteria identified in DWER (2021) *Guideline: Native vegetation clearing referrals* that determine whether clearing activities will have a very low environmental impact:

- Criterion 1: The area proposed to be cleared is small relative to the total remaining vegetation.
- Criterion 2: There are no known or likely significant environmental values within the area.
- Criterion 3: The state of scientific knowledge of native vegetation within the region is adequate.

Information to support criterion 4, that conditions will not be required to manage environmental impacts, is provided in section 7 where clear measures to avoid and minimise environmental impacts are identified.

3.1 Images of Representative Vegetation Units within the Proposed Site

Plates 1 and 2 illustrate the vegetation type and condition within the site. It can be seen that the site is comprised of scattered shrubs over bare ground adjacent to road infrastructure, in degraded to completely degraded condition.



Plate 1. Plutonic Site Image 1



Plate 2. Plutonic Site Image 2

4 Stakeholder Engagement

A cultural heritage survey was completed for the site with the Marputu Aboriginal Corporation, prepared by Central Desert Native Title Services (2023) for the installation of the Vocus cable. The entirety of the area to be developed was included in the Site.

The survey was conducted over two trips. Trip 1 was conducted from 26 to 31 of July 2022 by Consultant Archaeologist Ben Pentz, Consultant Anthropologist Leighton Dudenhoeffer, and nominated Gingirana Representatives. Trip 2 was conducted from 13 to 19 February 2023 by Consultant Archaeologists Jacob Lambert and Matthew Walsh, Consultant Anthropologist Leighton Dudenhoeffer, and nominated Gingirana Representatives.

The portion of the work area on the western side of the Great Northern Highway has been surveyed and 12 locations were deemed not cleared. The proposed development site is not located within a 'Not Cleared' area.

The report made the following statements and recommendations:

- There are no Aboriginal sites within the Vocus OFC survey areas.
- Activities can proceed within the additional Vocus OFC survey areas without impacting any Aboriginal sites.
- Vocus engage two Yugunga-Nya representatives to monitor earthworks at the Nallan Lake survey area.
- Vocus keep ground disturbance to a minimum to limit environmental impacts within the additional Vocus OFC survey areas.

Refer Attachment 4 – Aboriginal Heritage Survey.

5 Environmental Approvals Requirements

An environmental due diligence assessment was undertaken to determine environmental impacts and approvals that may be required for the works. The findings are summarised in Table 2.

Table 1: Environmental Approval Requirements.

Environmental Approvals	Requirement Assessment
Cwth <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>	Not required No Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) have been triggered or will be significantly impacted by the works. Refer to Attachment 3 – Environmental DD.
WA <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986 (EP Act), Part IV, S38</i>	Not required The proposed works are small in scale, ancillary infrastructure to the installation of the fibre optic cable. The proposed works will not have a significant impact on any environmental factors.
WA <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>	Not required There are no Threatened or Specially Protected species known to occur on the site, or likely to be impacted by the proposed works.
WA EP Act 1986, Part V – Licensed Premises	Not required The proposed infrastructure is not defined as a licensed premises under the EP Act 1986.
RiWi 1914, PDWSA, CAWS Catchment	Not required Proposed works are not disturbing a waterway and are not located within a PDWSA or CAWS Catchment.
Dewatering Licence	Not required Dewatering will not be required for the proposed works. Maximum excavation for cables is 700 mm bgl.
<i>Contaminated Sites Act 2003</i>	Not required There are no Registered contaminated sites located on or near the proposed development. A construction environmental management plan will be prepared that includes management of ‘Unexpected Finds.’
Disturbance of Acid Sulphate Soils	Not required There is no occurrence of PASS or AASS identified at the proposed development site.

6 Clearing Permit – Ten Clearing Principles

An assessment against the ten clearing principles has been undertaken based on the activities and environmental context information presented in Table 1. The assessment is provided in Table 3.

Table 3: Assessment Against the Ten Clearing Principles.

Clearing Principle	Assessment	Outcome
<p>Principle (a): Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.</p>	<p>The site does not support a high diversity of flora species. The vegetation present is comprised of scattered shrubs and trees over bare ground adjacent to an existing road. Based on recent aerial imagery and site photos (see section 3.1) the vegetation is considered to be in Poor condition.</p> <p>The site is mapped as the Gascoyne Ranges (29) vegetation association which is well-represented at the state, regional and local scales, with over 99% of the pre-European extent remaining at each scale.</p> <p>No records of Threatened or Priority flora, fauna, or communities exist within the site, based on a search of DBCA databases. Further, based on the size (0.41 ha), condition, and habitat present within the site, none are expected to occur.</p> <p>Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not at variance with this principle.</p>	<p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>
<p>Principle (b): Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.</p>	<p>The vegetation present within the site appears to be in Poor condition (as shown in section 3.1), comprised of scattered shrubs over bare ground. The poor condition is predominantly a result of edge effects from the adjacent infrastructure corridor.</p> <p>Based on a search of DBCA database records within a 50 km buffer of the site, three fauna species of conservation significance were identified as having a ‘medium’ likelihood of occurrence within the site: <i>Falco hypoleucos</i> (grey falcon; Vulnerable), <i>Falco peregrinus</i> (peregrine falcon; Other Specially Protected), and <i>Chrysococcyx osculans</i> (black eared cuckoo; Marine).</p> <p>Grey falcon (Vulnerable) and peregrine falcon (Other Specially Protected Fauna) were assigned a ‘Medium’ likelihood of occurrence; however, are only expected to pass over the site on occasion. The site itself does not provide significant habitat for either species, and the proposed clearing will not have a material impact on the availability or extend of suitable habitat for either species.</p>	<p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>



	<p>Black eared cuckoo (Marine) is widespread within Australia, typically in arid regions in habitats such as dry forests, scrublands, mallee, mulga, lignum, saltbush, and riverside thickets. The species prefers to fly directly between low trees and shrubs. The vegetation to be removed may provide suitable habitat for the species; however, given the broad range of the species and the small, degraded area proposed to be cleared, the vegetation to be cleared is not necessary for the maintenance of significant habitat for the species.</p> <p>Based on the above, the site does not constitute significant habitat for fauna species of conservation significance. As such, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.</p>	
<p>Principle (c): Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.</p>	<p>No rare flora taxa have been recorded within, or are expected to occur, within the site.</p> <p>Based on a search of DBCA database records, no declared rare flora taxa have been recorded within 50 km of the site.</p> <p>A total of 18 Priority flora, listed by DBCA, have been recorded within 50 km of the site. Of these, seven species were assigned a ‘medium’ likelihood of occurrence based on the location of the nearest record(s) and broad habitat characteristics of the site (regional vegetation association and soils/geology). These taxa are not declared rare pursuant to the BC Act.</p> <p>Given the degraded nature of the site, observable via aerial imagery and site photos provided in section 3.1, none of these species are expected to occur.</p> <p>Based on the above, the site is not expected to provide suitable habitat for rare flora, and the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.</p>	<p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>
<p>Principle (d): Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a threatened ecological community.</p>	<p>No TECs have been recorded within the site, and none are expected to occur.</p> <p>A search of DBCA database records did not identify any occurrences of any TEC within 50 km of the site. The nearest record of a PEC is the Blech Land System (Priority 3) which is situated 10 km southwest of the site (Attachment 5).</p>	<p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>



	<p>Based on the above, the site does not form part of a TEC and is not necessary to the maintenance of a TEC. As such, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.</p>											
<p>Principle (e): Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.</p>	<p>The site is within the Gascoyne Ranges 29 vegetation association (DBCA-006). The vegetation association is described as a sparse low woodland of mulga, discontinuous in scattered groups.</p> <p>The pre-European extent within the Murchison IBRA region is estimated at 2,956,382.06 ha, and the current estimated extent is 2,955,695.34 ha. The extent of the vegetation association remaining at the state, regional, and local scales is provided below (GoWA, 2019).</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="714 582 1724 957"> <thead> <tr> <th>Vegetation Association</th> <th>Description</th> <th>% Remaining Western Australia</th> <th>% Remaining Gascoyne IBRA Region</th> <th>% Remaining Shire of Meekatharra</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Gascoyne Ranges (29)</td> <td>Sparse low woodland of mulga, discontinuous in scattered groups.</td> <td>99.94</td> <td>99.93</td> <td>99.89</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001–2005 (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001) recognised the retention of 30% or more of the pre-clearing extent of each ecological community is necessary at a state level to protect Australia’s biodiversity.</p> <p>As shown in the statistics above, the vegetation association is well represented at the state, regional, and local scales. The proposed clearing is negligible in the context of the remaining extent of the Gascoyne Ranges (29) vegetation association.</p> <p>As such, the site is not within an area or representative of a vegetation unit that has been extensively cleared, and the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.</p>	Vegetation Association	Description	% Remaining Western Australia	% Remaining Gascoyne IBRA Region	% Remaining Shire of Meekatharra	Gascoyne Ranges (29)	Sparse low woodland of mulga, discontinuous in scattered groups.	99.94	99.93	99.89	<p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>
Vegetation Association	Description	% Remaining Western Australia	% Remaining Gascoyne IBRA Region	% Remaining Shire of Meekatharra								
Gascoyne Ranges (29)	Sparse low woodland of mulga, discontinuous in scattered groups.	99.94	99.93	99.89								



<p>Principle (f): Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.</p>	<p>There are no surface water features or vegetation associated with watercourses within or in the vicinity of the Site.</p> <p>The proposed clearing area does not intersect any surface wetlands or drainage lines. The nearest watercourse is located approximately 13 km northwest of the Site.</p> <p>As such, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.</p>	<p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>
<p>Principle (g): Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.</p>	<p>The site forms part of the Three Rivers Land System, described as hardpan plains and minor sandy banks supporting sparse mulga shrublands, wash plains and sandy banks on hardpan. The soils of the site are described as red shallow sandy duplex soils.</p> <p>Hardpans are subject to sheet-overland flow (van Vreeswyl <i>et al</i>, 2004), however the proposed development is unlikely to further exacerbate any erosion on or around the site given the scale of development.</p> <p>As such, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.</p>	<p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>
<p>Principle (h): Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.</p>	<p>The site is not located in close proximity to a conservation area.</p> <p>The nearest DBCA managed reserve is Collier Range National Park, which is approximately 55 km to the north.</p> <p>Given the large distance between the site and the nearest conservation reserve, the proposed clearing will not impact on the values of any conservation areas. As such, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.</p>	<p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>
<p>Principle (i): Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.</p>	<p>There are no surface water features or vegetation associated with watercourses identified within or in the vicinity of the site. The nearest watercourse is situated 13 km northwest of the site (DWER-O31).</p> <p>The proposed project is located within the East Murchison Proclaimed Groundwater Area, and is identified as ‘to be developed’ in the <i>RiWi Act 1914</i> Groundwater Areas.</p> <p>The proposed works will not interfere with or take groundwater. Therefore, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.</p>	<p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>



Principle (j): Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence of flooding.

The site is located within the Gascoyne River catchment (DWER-028). There are no surface water features or vegetation associated with watercourses noted on or in the vicinity of the site.
As such, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.

Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.



7 Avoidance and Mitigation

The proposed clearing footprint has been minimised as far as possible to provide adequate space for the necessary infrastructure. The resulting clearing footprint is approximately 0.41 ha in size.

The assessment against the ten clearing principles has identified the need for a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) to minimise the risk of environmental impacts during construction of the project. A CEMP will be developed by Vertiv for the entirety of the project to ensure that, where other impact sites require clearing permit approval with conditions, those conditions will be satisfied by the plan.

Table 4 provides a series of mitigation measures that will be incorporated into the CEMP for this site. The measures detailed are intended to act as a minimum, with additional measures required to address specific conditions relating to other impact sites to be implemented accordingly.

Vertiv will be responsible for implementing the CEMP, including the delegation of specific actions to appropriate personnel. A suitably qualified Environmental Supervisor must be present throughout clearing activities.

Implementation of the CEMP will provide assurance that the potential impacts of the proposed development will be avoided, minimised, and mitigated appropriately in the absence of conditions determined by DWER.

Table 2: Summary of Environmental Risks and Suggested Mitigation Actions.

Risk	Activity	Risk	Mitigation
Fauna death or injury	Direct interaction by mobile plant or vehicles	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If a distressed or injured animal is encountered the Site Supervisor will contact a suitably qualified fauna handler or the Wildcare helpline on (08) 9474 9055. - Trenches and excavations should be checked in the morning prior to commencing activities and trapped fauna extracted by a licenced fauna handler. - Where possible any stockpiled debris should be removed before night to prevent fauna from roosting in the debris.
Unauthorised Clearing	Clearing, rolling, pruning or damage to native vegetation not authorised by this clearing permit.	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clearing cannot commence at sites without required State approvals. - Where clearing is permitted under exemption, the contract should demarcate areas of vegetation to be retained using flagging tape. - No debris or cut/fill material will be stockpiled in the vicinity of native vegetation to be retained. - Clearing should be managed in accordance with any approval conditions and a CEMP.
Wind / Air dispersal (e.g. noise, dust)	Plant and vehicle movements, desilting of assets. Clearing activities Desilting/ excavation in drier periods	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Works will be carried out in accordance with environmental noise practices set out in Section 4 of AS 2436-2010 'Guide to Noise and Vibration control on construction, maintenance and demolition sites.' - All works will be undertaken in accordance with the Local Government Authority Noise ordinance. - Weather conditions at the nearest Bureau of Meteorology monitoring site will be monitored and standard dust suppression measures implemented as required.
Spills causing water and soil contamination	Plant equipment and vehicle storage and movements	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plant and equipment will be inspected daily for leaks and spills. - A spill kit will be available at all times onsite during works. - Plant and equipment will be stored on hardstand overnight.
Soil and water contamination	Disturbance of Potential or Actual acid sulphate soils	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Excavation depths are not more than 700mm bgl, and no occurrences of PASS or ASS were identified on or near the proposed site. - Geotechnical investigations will identify if ASS is encountered and a ASSMP is required.



Spread of soil pathogens and weeds	Introduction or spread of soil pathogens and declared weeds.	Low	- The site is highly modified and degraded to completely degraded. Standard management processes will be implemented. All plant and equipment will be inspected and cleaned prior to site entry.
Dewatering	Drawdown impacts on surrounding vegetation	Low	- Excavation depths will not be more than 700 mm bgl, therefore dewatering will not be required.
Inappropriate waste management	Incorrect storage and/or disposal of waste resulting in contamination or amenity impacts	Med	- Contractor will dispose of all waste and retain records of disposal. - The site will be tidied, waste removed, and the site reinstated at the completion of works.



8 Conclusion

Based on the assessment above, the proposed works are not at variance with any of the Ten Clearing Principles, and satisfies the four criteria identified in DWER (2021) *Guideline: Native vegetation clearing referrals* that determine whether clearing activities will have a very low environmental impact.

The proposed works can be managed through standard best practice through a Construction Environmental Management Plan, as detailed in Section 7 of this report.

9 References

9.1 Technical References

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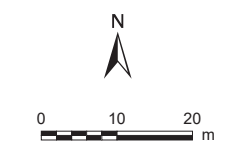


Figures





- LEGEND**
-  Design
 -  Clearing Permit Area (0.41 ha)
 -  DAF
 -  Cultural Heritage Survey Area

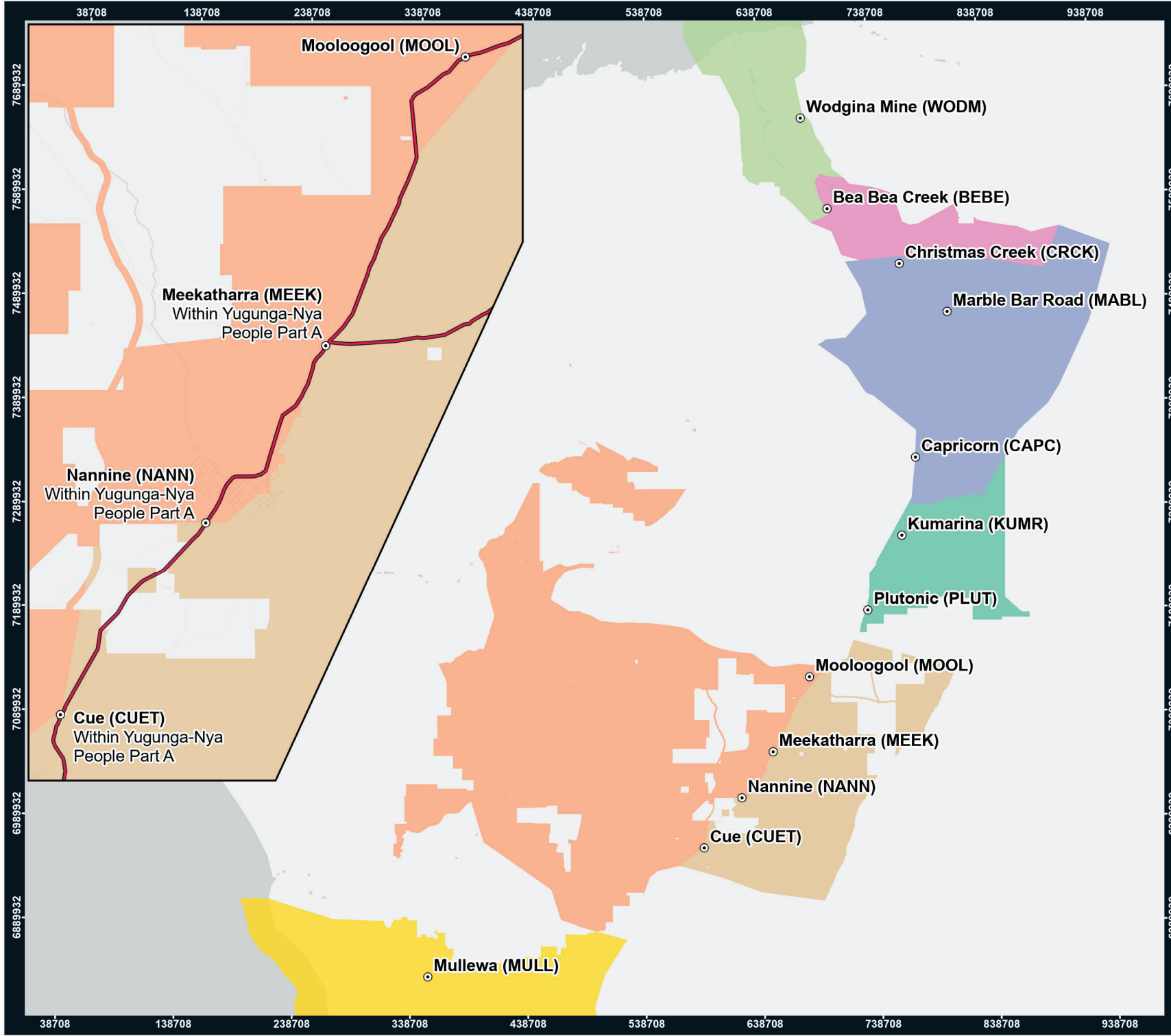


PLUTONIC
Project Horizon - Clearing Referral Sites

Scale: 1:1,000 Date: 18/06/2024
 Coordinate System: GDA2020 MGA Zone 50 Size: A4L
 Reference: 2024_035_plutonic_r2

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- LEGEND**
- Sites
 - Intersecting Native Title Determinations**
 - Gingirana
 - Kariyarra
 - Niyaparli and Niyaparli #3
 - Palyku Part A
 - Wajarri Yamatji Part A
 - Yamatji Nation
 - Yugunga-Nya People Part A

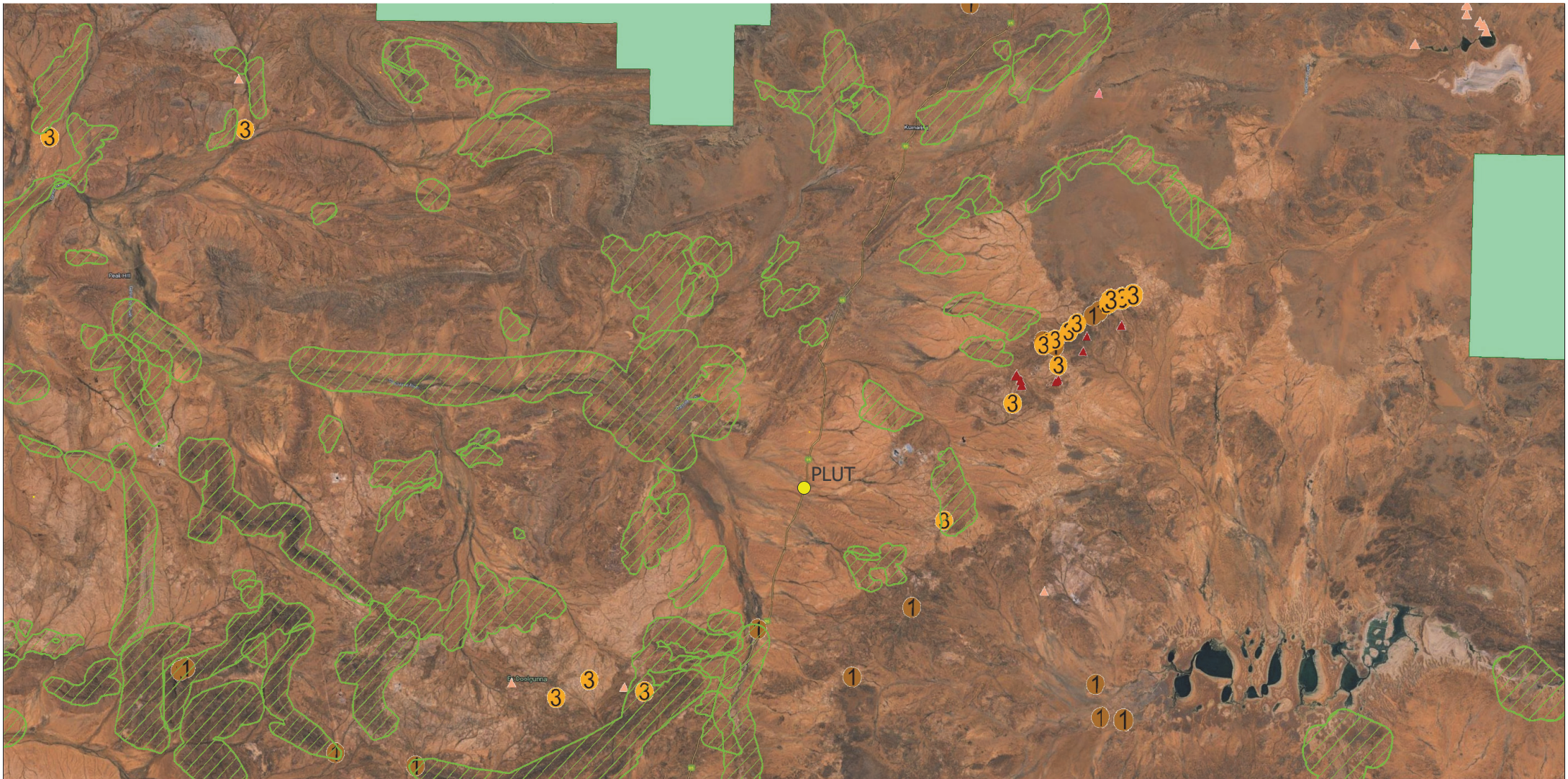


PROJECT SITE PLAN
 Project Horizon - Clearing Referral Sites

Scale: 1:5,000,000
 Date: 21/06/2024
 Coordinate System: GDA2020
 Size: A4L
 Reference: 2024_035_project_site_plan_r1

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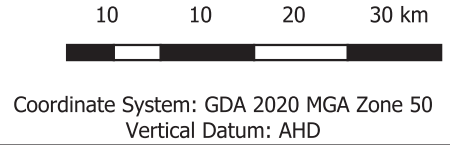




Legend	Threatened and Priority Fauna (DBCA-037)	Plutonic	Mooloogool	Google Maps Satellite Imagery
● DIT_AssetLocations_20240409		— PLUT_S5V_Design_20240430	— MOOL_S5V_Design_20240430	
Threatened Ecological Communities (DBCA-038)	Clearing Regulations - Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046)	— PLUT_DAF_20240523		
Threatened and Priority Flora (DBCA-036)		▲ PLUT_TempFootprint_20220522		

Project: Project Horizon
 Site Name: Plutonic
 Client: DecisiveIT
 Title: Environmental Factors

Date: 24/05/24
 Revision: A
 Author: KAA
 Figure: 2



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