



Project Horizon –  
Clearing Permit  
Referral

MABL – CEV Facility

## Document Control

### Project Horizon – Clearing Permit Referral

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#### Version Control

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# 1 Purpose of this Document

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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 Marble Bar Road (MABL) 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 is 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

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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, clearing for bushfire risk mitigation, and commissioning of a Controlled Environment Vault (CEV) building, complete with, a battery hut and a 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. The temporary site huts will be located within areas required to be cleared for bushfire mitigation, to avoid the need for additional clearing.

The total area of permanent clearing is 0.83 ha, which includes clearing for construction and the establishment of Asset Protection Zones (APZ) for bushfire risk mitigation.



## 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 (within area to be cleared for bushfire mitigation).
- Place temporary crib shed, amenities, first aid within area to be cleared for bushfire mitigation. Tie Down.
- Undertake bulk earthworks, cut / fill, grading, compaction, dust suppression.
- Equipment in use:
  - o excavator / back-hoe.
  - o dozer
  - o compactor
  - o 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**

<b>Reference/ Site Name</b>	MABL
<b>Address</b>	70 km north-east of Newman on Marble Bar Road
<b>Certificate of Title</b>	Lot on Plan LPL N050622 / P074347 1547 Land ID Number 4214884 / 4134541 <b>Refer Attachment 1 – Certificate of Title</b>
<b>Local Government Authority</b>	Shire of East Pilbara
<b>Coordinates</b>	807967 E, 7478609 N -22.771887, 119.999126
<b>Total Clearing Area</b>	Total combined area of permanent clearing is 0.83 ha for construction and the establishment of APZs for bushfire risk mitigation.
<b>Final Development Footprint</b>	0.15 ha for construction, and an additional 0.68 ha for an APZ.
<b>Nearest DBCA Managed Lands</b>	The nearest DBCA managed reserve is Karijini National Park (R 30082) which is approximately 146 km to the west.
<b>Nearest Environmentally Sensitive Area</b>	The nearest registered ESA is located approximately 20 km north-west of the site. <b>Refer to Figure 3 – Environmental Factors.</b>
<b>Landform</b>	Open spinifex complex sand plain
<b>Soil Landscape</b>	The proposed site is mapped as 284Dv_445_Red deep sand. It occurs on the Divide land system, with gently undulating sandplains with minor dunes, supporting hard spinifex hummock grasslands with numerous shrubs.
<b>Contaminated Sites and Acid Sulphate Soils (ASS)</b>	No occurrences of PASS or ASS were identified on or near the proposed site (DWER-047, DWER-048, DWER-049 and DWER-053). No contaminated sites were identified on or near the proposed site (DWER-059). <b>Refer Attachment 2 – Geotechnical Investigation.</b>
<b>Surface Water</b>	The proposed site is located within the Upper Fortescue sub catchment. The proposed site is within the RiWi Act 194 Pilbara Surface Water Area. The nearest watercourse is located approximately 8 km north east of the Site (DWER-031).

<b>Groundwater</b>	<p>The proposed site is within the Pilbara, East Pilbara Groundwater Area (DWER-084)</p> <p>The proposed site is not within a PDWSA drinking area.</p> <p>The proposed site is within the Pilbara Groundwater Area (RiWi Act 1914 Groundwater Areas, DWER-034).</p> <p>No groundwater was recorded during Geotechnical investigations.</p> <p>The proposed works will not interfere with or take groundwater.</p>
<b>Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities</b>	<p>Red Gum Consulting (2024) undertook a detailed vegetation survey within the proposed site, which comprised of a desktop assessment and single-day field survey in June 2024.</p> <p>The desktop assessment, via a search of DBCA database records, identified occurrences of five Priority Ecological Communities (PEC) within 50 km of the proposed site. One record of the Narbung Land System (Priority 3) occurs approximately 6.7 km to the north. The proposed site does not represent suitable habitat for the PEC, which is characterised by alluvial washplains with prominent internal drainage foci supporting snakewood and mulga shrublands with halophytic low shrubs.</p> <p>There are no records of any Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) within the study area or within 50km.</p> <p><b>Refer Figure 3 – Environmental Factors.</b></p>
<b>Flora</b>	<p>Red Gum Consulting (2024) undertook a detailed vegetation survey within the proposed site, which comprised of a desktop assessment and single-day field survey in June 2024.</p> <p>A search of DBCA database records found records of five (5) WA Priority Species within 10 km of the CEV site. The nearest of these records was of <i>Eucalyptus rowleyi</i> (P3), approximately 1.2 km south of the site.</p> <p>Based on distance of each record from the proposed site and habitat values present, none of the Priority flora species were identified as having a ‘Medium’ or ‘High’ likelihood of occurrence within the site.</p> <p>Subsequent assessment of photos taken within representative vegetation units (see section 3.1) and a site assessment identified that none of the taxa are expected to occur within the proposed site.</p> <p><b>Refer Figure 3 – Environmental Factors and Attachment 3 – Ecological Survey Report.</b></p>
<b>Vegetation</b>	<p>The proposed site is mapped within the Fortescue (29) vegetation association, which is described as low woodland, open low woodland or sparse woodland of mulga <i>Acacia aneura</i> and associated species.</p>

	<p>Currently, approximately 99.96% of this vegetation association remains within the Shire of East Pilbara. Within the Shire, the estimated pre-European extent is 906,243.49 ha, and with the current extent is estimated to be 905,848.35 ha. The proposed clearing is negligible in the context of the extent of the vegetation association within the Shire.</p> <p>As such, the proposed clearing is consistent with Criterion 1 of the <i>Native Vegetation Referrals Guideline</i> (DWER, 2021), whereby the area proposed to be cleared is small relative to the total remaining vegetation.</p> <p>The condition is identified as Very Good to Good based on the site assessment and representative site images provided in section 3.1. The main disturbances are closer to the road, with previous impacts from road and drainage construction.</p> <p><b>Refer to Attachment 3 – Ecological Survey Report</b></p>
Fauna	<p>Red Gum Consulting (2024) undertook a detailed vegetation survey within the proposed site, which comprised of a desktop assessment and single-day field survey in June 2024.</p> <p>A search of DBCA database records found that there are records of one (1) Threatened fauna taxa and one (1) Priority fauna taxa within 10 km of the proposed site. The nearest record is of <i>Macrotis lagotis</i> (Greater Bilby, VU) approximately 8.8 km north-west of the site.</p> <p>A likelihood of occurrence assessment was undertaken for the proposed site which found no species to have a 'Medium' or 'High' likelihood of occurrence.</p> <p><b>Figure 3 – Environmental Factors.</b></p> <p>Best practice construction environmental management plans will be developed and implemented by the contractor to minimise the risk of direct and indirect impacts to fauna species. Minimum requirements are included in section 7 of this report.</p>

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

Photos 1 and 2 illustrate the vegetation type and condition within the site. It can be seen that the site is comprised of small to medium shrubs and spinifex grasslands, with moderate to high shrub diversity, with diversity and cover higher within the ground layer in the better areas, further from the road.

There were low groundcover levels within the Spinifex areas, and within the shrubby areas a little more ground cover was persisting, but cover was still low overall. The site was generally in Very Good condition, with some areas deteriorating to Good condition closer to the road, where more obvious signs disturbance (road-building and maintenance related in the main) were prevalent.

Refer to **Attachment 3 – Ecological Survey Report**



**Photo 1: Image taken in the south-east of the site facing towards the north-west.**



**Photo 2: Image taken in the north-west of the site facing towards the south-east.**

## 4 Stakeholder Engagement

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The site has been subject to both Ethnographic and Archaeological surveys, with representatives of the Kaelka Niyaparli Aboriginal Corporation. The surveys covered the fibre optic cable alignment as well as three CEV locations: Capricorn, Marble Bar, and Christmas Creek. The surveys were undertaken over two site visits.

The Ethnographic survey concluded that the Marble Bar CEV location is “ethnographically clear” for the works to proceed (Beal, 2024).

The Archaeological report (Biggs, 2024) confirms that the survey was undertaken for the Marble Bar CEV location and was cleared for works to proceed.

**Refer Attachment 4 – Ethnographic Survey Report and Attachment 5 – Archaeological Survey Report**

## 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 2. 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. See <b>Attachment 3 – Ecological Survey Report.</b>
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

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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>A detailed vegetation survey was undertaken by Red Gum Consulting in June 2024 (Red Gum, 2024). The survey report is provided as Appendix 3. Vegetation in the study area was characterised as generally moderate to high diversity Woodland and Spinifex Grassland, Shrub Steppe.</p> <p>The site was generally in very good condition, deteriorating to good in the disturbed areas closer to the road. The vegetation in the study area is representative of vegetation types that are extensive throughout the Divide subregion.</p> <p>There are no TECs or PECs located within or in proximity to the study area based on DBCA database searches. Based on the size, condition, and habitat present within the site, none are expected to occur.</p> <p>The site is mapped as the Fortescue (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>Suitable habitat is considered present for threatened and WA Priority flora, however, there are no threatened flora or WA Priority flora known to be present within the study area.</p> <p>Native vegetation clearing is small (&lt;1 ha), and biological diversity is not likely to be permanently reduced as a result of the proposed clearing.</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>A detailed vegetation survey was undertaken by Red Gum Consulting in June 2024 (Red Gum, 2024). The majority of the study area was in Very Good condition, with some areas deteriorating to Good condition in places closer to the road, where more obvious signs of human disturbance persist.</p> <p>Based on a search of DBCA database records for a 10 km buffer of the site, no fauna species of conservation significance were identified as having a ‘medium’ or ‘high’ likelihood of occurrence within the site. The study area</p>	<p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>



Clearing Principle	Assessment	Outcome
	<p>contains suitable habitat for a variety of native fauna. There were no signs present of the targeted species, which have large home ranges and there is abundant adjoining habitat available for these species either side of the study area.</p> <p>Measures to minimise impacts to fauna and faunal habitats, including pre-construction surveys for fauna at the CEV location, will be implemented through a CEMP (see section 7).</p> <p>Based on the above, the proposed 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>There are no known rare flora present within the study area, and none are expected to occur within the site.</p> <p>Based on a search of DBCA database records for a 10 km buffer of the site, no declared rare flora taxa were identified as having a ‘medium’ or ‘high’ likelihood of occurrence (Attachment 3). This likelihood is based on the location of the nearest record(s), broad habitat characteristics of the site (regional vegetation association and soils/geology), and habitat recorded by Red Gum (2024).</p> <p>Further, there are no flora habitats within the study area which are not present immediately adjacent to the study area.</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>The vegetation in the study area is representative of vegetation types that are extensive throughout the Divide subregion, and no PECs or TECs were identified by Red Gum (2024).</p> <p>As such, the site does not form part of a TEC and is not necessary to the maintenance of a TEC. Therefore, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.</p>	<p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>



Clearing Principle	Assessment	Outcome										
<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 study area is not a significant and isolated remnant patch of native vegetation.</p> <p>The site is within the Fortescue (29) vegetation association, as mapped by Beard (1990). The vegetation association is described as a low woodland, open low woodland or sparse woodland of mulga <i>Acacia aneura</i> and associated species.</p> <p>Currently, approximately 99.96% remains within the Shire of East Pilbara. The pre-European extent is estimated at 906,243.49 ha, and the current estimated extent is 905,848.35 ha. The extent of the vegetation association remaining at the state, regional, and local scales is provided below.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">Vegetation Association</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Description</th> <th style="width: 15%;">% Remaining Western Australia</th> <th style="width: 15%;">% Remaining Pilbara IBRA Region</th> <th style="width: 25%;">% Remaining Shire of East Pilbara</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Fortescue (29)</td> <td>Low woodland, open low woodland or sparse woodland, mulga <i>Acacia aneura</i> and associated species.</td> <td>99.94</td> <td>99.87</td> <td>99.96</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</p>	Vegetation Association	Description	% Remaining Western Australia	% Remaining Pilbara IBRA Region	% Remaining Shire of East Pilbara	Fortescue (29)	Low woodland, open low woodland or sparse woodland, mulga <i>Acacia aneura</i> and associated species.	99.94	99.87	99.96	<p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>
Vegetation Association	Description	% Remaining Western Australia	% Remaining Pilbara IBRA Region	% Remaining Shire of East Pilbara								
Fortescue (29)	Low woodland, open low woodland or sparse woodland, mulga <i>Acacia aneura</i> and associated species.	99.94	99.87	99.96								





Clearing Principle	Assessment	Outcome
	<p>(0.83 ha) is negligible in the context of the remaining extent of Fortescue (29).</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>	
<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 noted on 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 8 km north-east 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 Divide Land System of gently undulating sandplains with minor dunes, supporting hard spinifex hummock grasslands with numerous shrubs.</p> <p>The impacts associated with the CEV are small and isolated within a much larger contiguous patch of native vegetation.</p> <p>Measures are to be put in place to ensure the development footprint is strictly adhered to during construction.</p> <p>The CEMP will include actions to ensure that works are not completed if high winds or significant rain events are expected during or a short time after construction takes place.</p> <p>As a result of the above factors, it is highly unlikely that the clearing of vegetation is likely to cause any appreciable land degradation.</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>

Clearing Principle	Assessment	Outcome
<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, with the nearest being Karijini National Park (R 30082) approximately 146 km to the west.</p> <p>There are measures to be put in place via the project CEMP to ensure weeds, erosion and other construction issues are adequately managed to ensure there are no direct or indirect impacts on adjoining areas</p> <p>Given the large distance between the site and the nearest conservation reserve, the proposed clearing will not impact on the environmental 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 noted within or in the vicinity of the Site. The nearest watercourse is located approximately 8 km north east of the Site (DWER-O31).</p> <p>The proposed site is within the RiWi Act 194 Pilbara Surface Water Area.</p> <p>The proposed site is within the Pilbara Groundwater Area (RiWi Act 1914 Groundwater Areas, DWER-O34). The proposed site is within the Pilbara, East Pilbara, Hamersley Groundwater Area (DWER-O84).</p> <p>There are measures to be put in place via the project CEMP to ensure sediment, erosion and other construction issues are adequately managed to ensure there are no direct or indirect impacts on the adjoining or nearby waterways. The works are shallow and are not expected to impact or affect groundwater storages within the study area.</p> <p>No groundwater was recorded during Geotechnical investigations. No dewatering or impacts to groundwater are proposed.</p> <p>Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.</p>	<p>Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.</p>



Clearing Principle	Assessment	Outcome
<p>Principle (j): Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence of flooding.</p>	<p>The Site is located within the Upper Fortescue sub catchment. There are no surface water features or vegetation associated with watercourses noted on or in the vicinity of the Site.</p> <p>The proposed works are not likely to contribute to or exacerbate flooding risks or associated flood damage from future rain events.</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>

## 7 Avoidance and Mitigation

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The proposed clearing footprint has been minimised as far as possible to provide adequate space for the necessary infrastructure as well as mitigation of bushfire risks. The resulting construction footprint is approximately 0.15 ha in size, and APZ to mitigate bushfire risks is 0.68 ha.

The assessment against the ten clearing principles has identified the need for a CEMP to minimise the risk of environmental impacts during construction of the project. A CEMP will be developed by the contractor engaged to construct the CEV, under the advice of an experienced environmental practitioner.

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 the minimum inclusions, and additional measures required to address specific conditions relating to other impact sites to be implemented accordingly.

The contractor shall 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 4. Summary of Environmental Risks and Proposed Mitigation.**

Risk	Activity	Risk	Mitigation
Fauna death or injury	Direct interaction by mobile plant or vehicles	Low	<p>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.</p> <p>Trenches and excavations should be checked in the morning prior to commencing activities and trapped fauna extracted by a licenced fauna handler.</p> <p>Where possible any stockpiled debris should be removed before night to prevent fauna from roosting in the debris.</p>
Unauthorised Clearing	Clearing, rolling, pruning or damage to native vegetation not authorised by this clearing permit.	Med	<p>Clearing cannot commence at sites without required State approvals.</p> <p>Where clearing is permitted under exemption, the contract should demarcate areas of vegetation to be retained using flagging tape.</p> <p>No debris or cut/fill material will be stockpiled in the vicinity of native vegetation to be retained.</p> <p>Clearing will be managed in accordance with the CEMP to be developed by the contractor.</p>
Wind / Air dispersal (e.g. noise, dust)	Plant and vehicle movements, desilting of assets. Clearing activities Desilting/ excavation in drier periods	Low	<p>Works will be carried out in accordance with environmental noise practices set out in Section 4 of AS 2436-2010 '<i>Guide to Noise and Vibration control on construction, maintenance and demolition sites.</i>'</p> <p>All works will be undertaken in accordance with the Local Government Authority Noise ordinance.</p> <p>Weather conditions at the nearest Bureau of Meteorology monitoring site will be monitored and standard dust suppression measures implemented as required.</p>
Spills causing water and soil contamination	Plant equipment and vehicle storage and movements	Med	<p>Plant and equipment will be inspected daily for leaks and spills.</p> <p>A spill kit will be available at all times onsite during works.</p> <p>Plant and equipment will be stored on hardstand overnight.</p>

Risk	Activity	Risk	Mitigation
Soil and water contamination	Disturbance of Potential or Actual acid sulphate soils	Low	Excavation depths are not more than 700mm bgl, and no occurrences of PASS or ASS were identified on or near the proposed site.
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 is not expected to be necessary.
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

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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 CEMP, as detailed in section 7 of this report.



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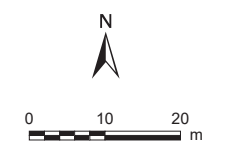
## Figures

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- LEGEND**
-  Design
  -  Clearing Permit Area (0.83ha)
  -  DAF
  -  Cultural Heritage Survey Area

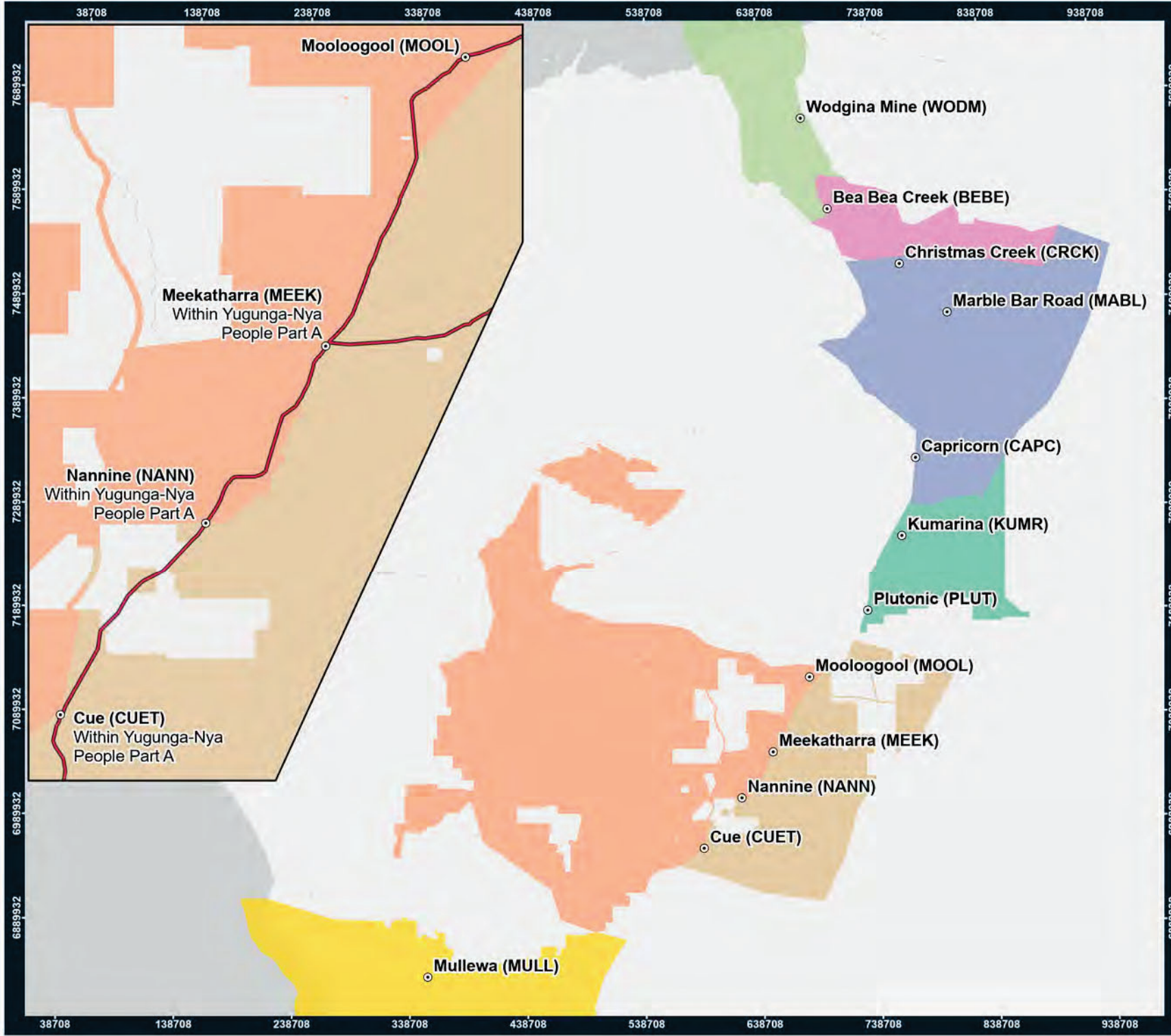


**MARBLE BAR**  
Project Horizon - Clearing Referral Sites

Scale: 1:1,000 Date: 8/07/2024  
 Coordinate System: GDA2020 MGA Zone 50 Size: A4L  
 Reference: 2024\_035\_marble\_bar\_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

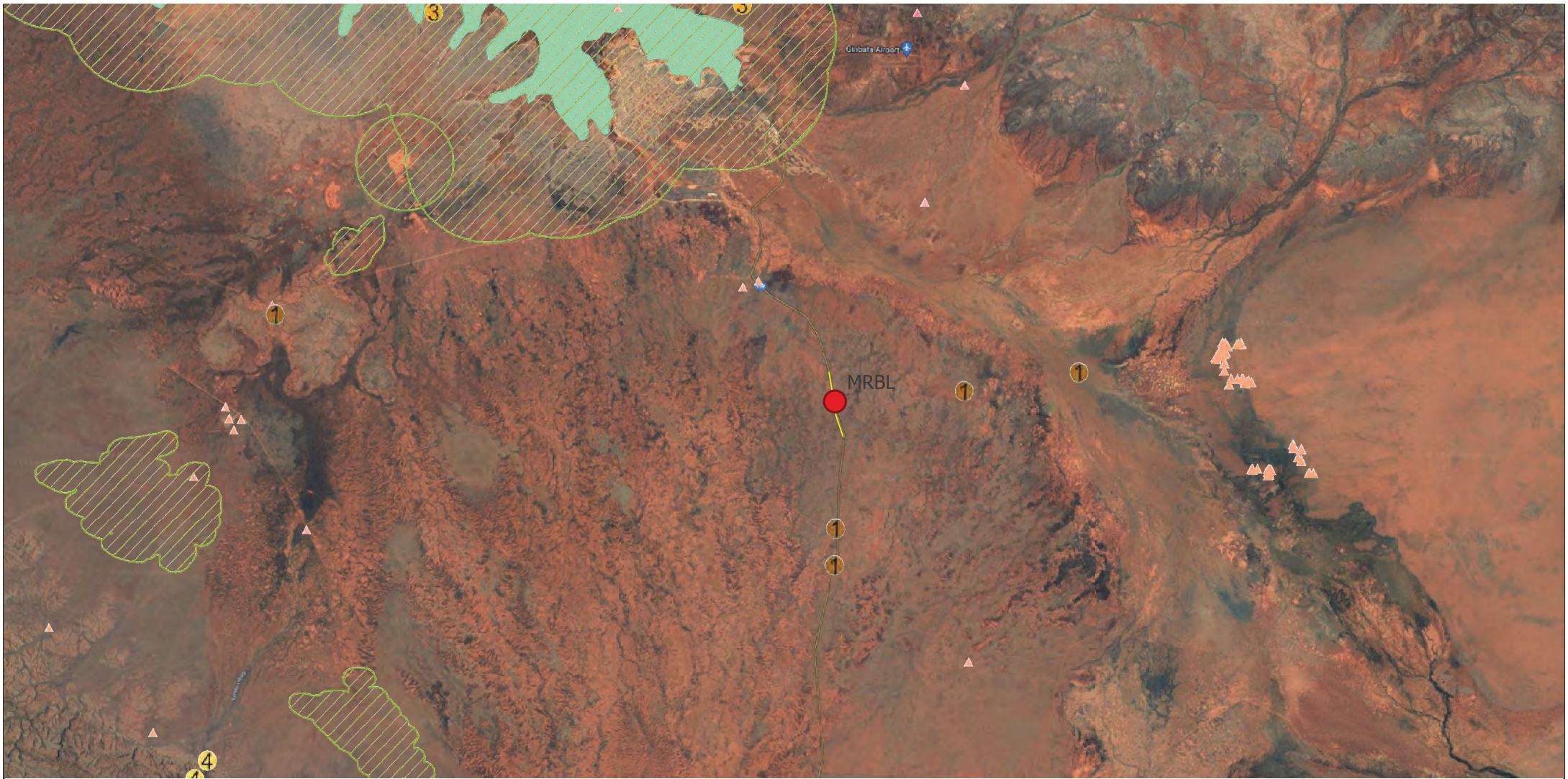


**PROJECT SITE PLAN**  
 Project Horizon - Clearing Referral Sites

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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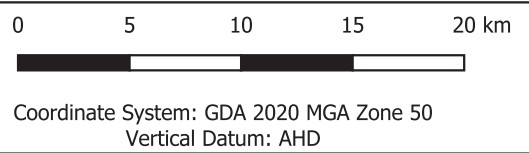




<b>Legend</b>	DIT_VertivSurveyLocations_2022	MarbleBar_DAF_20240527	Environment	Threatened and Priority Flora (DBCA-036)	Clearing Regulations - Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046)
Marble Bar	MarbleBar_TempFP_20240430	Threatened Ecological Communities (DBCA-038)	Threatened and Priority Fauna (DBCA-037)	Google Maps Satellite Imagery	
MARBLE_S5V_20240430					

Project: Project Horizon  
 Site Name: Marble Bar  
 Client: DecisiveIT  
 Title: Environmental Factors

Date: 27/05/24  
 Revision: A  
 Author: KAA  
 Figure:



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