



Project Horizon – Clearing

Permit Referral

Nannine – CEV Facility

Document Control

Project Horizon – Clearing Permit Referral

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1 Purpose of this Document

RFF Pty Ltd acts on behalf of Vocus to coordinate approvals associated with the Project Horizon fibre optic route.

This report relates to the construction of the Nannine 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

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 Government acknowledges the state significance of Project Horizon in driving the strategic growth of the telecommunications industry, as well as supporting existing and emerging industries that rely on improved data access.

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 0.88 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:
 - excavator / back-hoe.
 - 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.

| | |
|---|--|
| Reference/ Site Name | 03_NANN |
| Address | 52 km south-east of Meekatharra on Great Northern Highway |
| Certificate of Title | <p>Lot 239 On Deposited Plan 218692, contained within Certificate of Title Volume LR1321, Folio 394.</p> <p>Refer Attachment 5 – Lot 239 Certificate of Title.</p> <p>Lot 302 on Deposited Plan 43061.</p> <p>Refer Attachment 6 – Lot 302 Certificate of Title.</p> <p>Great Northern Highway Road Reserve.</p> |
| Native Title Determination | <p>In 2019, Native Title was determined not to exist over the site (WAD 29/2019).</p> <p>Refer Figure 3 – Native Title Determinations.</p> |
| Local Government Authority | Shire of Cue |
| Coordinates | 621313 E, 7014061 N -26.990470, 118.222634 |
| Total Clearing Area | Total combined area of permanent clearing is 0.88 ha for construction and the establishment of APZs for bushfire risk mitigation. |
| Final Development Footprint | 0.2 ha for construction, and an additional 0.68 ha for an APZ. |
| Nearest DBCA Managed Lands | The nearest DBCA managed reserve is Lakeside Conservation Park (R53840) which is approximately 84 km to the south-west. |
| Nearest Environmentally Sensitive Area | <p>The nearest registered ESA is located approximately 3.9 km north of the site.</p> <p>Refer to Figure 4 – Environmental Factors.</p> |
| Topography | Elevation ranges from 454.6 mAGL in the northwest to 455 mAGL in the south east. |
| Soil Landscape | <p>The proposed site is mapped as 272Yg_523_red-brown hardpan, shallow loam. Yanganoo Land System of almost flat hardpan wash plains, with or without small wanderrie banks supporting mulga shrublands and wanderrie grasses on banks.</p> <p>Hardpans are subject to sheet-overland flow (van Vreeswyl <i>et al</i>, 2004) but the proposed development is unlikely to further exacerbate any erosion on or around the proposed development.</p> |
| Contaminated Sites and Acid Sulphate Soils (ASS) | <p>No occurrences of PASS or ASS were identified on or near the proposed site (DWER-047, DWER-048, DWER-049 and DWER-053).</p> <p>No contaminated sites were identified on or near the proposed site (DWER-059).</p> <p>Refer Attachment 7 – Geotechnical Investigation.</p> |
| Surface Water | <p>The proposed site is located within the Murchison River sub catchment.</p> <p>There are no surface water bodies, or <i>RiWi Act 1914</i> rivers within 1 km of the proposed site.</p> <p>The nearest watercourse is located approximately 4.8 km north of the Site (DWER-031).</p> |

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Groundwater</p> | <p>The proposed site is within the East Murchison Proclaimed Groundwater Area.</p> <p>The proposed site is not within a PDWSA drinking area.</p> <p>The proposed site is within an area marked 'To be Developed' within the <i>RiWi Act 1914</i> Groundwater Areas.</p> <p>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 8). One record of the Yagahong Land System (Priority 3) occurs approximately 3 km to the west. The proposed site does not represent suitable habitat for the PEC, which is characterised by rough greenstone ridges, hills and cobble-strewn footslopes supporting mulga shrublands.</p> <p>There are no records of any Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) within 50 km of the proposed site.</p> <p>Refer Figure 4 – Environmental Factors.</p> <p>The scale and extent of this development is unlikely to impact any TEC or PEC.</p> |
| <p>Flora</p> | <p>A search of DBCA database records found records of one Threatened flora taxa and 29 Priority flora taxa within 50 km of the proposed site (Attachment 9). The nearest of these records was of <i>Hemigenia virescens</i> (Priority 3) which was recorded 10 km to the north.</p> <p>Based on the distance of each record from the proposed site and the habitat values present, nine Priority species were considered to have a 'Medium' likelihood of occurrence. None of the Threatened 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) identified that none of the taxa are expected to occur within the proposed site.</p> <p>Refer Figure 4 – Environmental Factors.</p> |
| <p>Vegetation</p> | <p>The proposed site is mapped within the Wiluna (18) Beard vegetation association, which 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 99.7% of this vegetation association remains within the Shire of Cue. Within the Shire, the estimated pre-European extent is 881,735.81 ha, and with the current extent is estimated to be 878,817.46 ha. The proposed clearing represents 0.0001% of the remaining 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 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 condition is identified as Degraded to Completely Degraded condition based on the representative site</p> |

Fauna

images provided in section 3.1. The reduced condition is predominantly a result of 'edge effects from infrastructure corridors. Vegetation is limited to scattered shrubs.

A search of DBCA database records found that there are records of four Threatened fauna taxa, 15 Specially Protected fauna taxa, and six Priority fauna taxa within 50 km of the proposed site. The nearest record is of *Falco hypoleucos* (grey falcon) approximately 3 km to the south-west.

A likelihood of occurrence assessment was undertaken for the proposed site (Attachment 10). That assessment found the following to have a medium likelihood of occurrence:

- *Pezoporus occidentalis* (night parrot) – Critically Endangered.
- *Falco hypoleucos* (grey falcon) – Vulnerable.
- *Falco peregrinus* (peregrine falcon) – Other Specially Protected Fauna.
- *Idiosoma clypeatum* (northern shield-backed trapdoor spider) – Priority 3.

Grey falcon and peregrine falcon are likely to fly over the proposed site on occasion. The site itself does not constitute important habitat for the species.

Based on the representative site photos provided in section 3.1, suitable habitat for night parrot is absent from the proposed site given the absence of triodia species.

Northern shield-backed trapdoor spider has a widespread distribution in the inland arid zone of WA, predominantly throughout the Yalgoo and Murchison bioregions (Rix et al., 2018). Their distribution is strongly correlated with annual rainfall of less than 250 mm (Rix et al., 2018). The species has a known extent of occurrence of over 120,000 km², and is listed as Priority 3 given the species occurs in areas commonly used for mining and mineral resources (Rix et al., 2018). The species uses vegetation including *Acacia* sp. and *Eucalyptus* sp. for habitat (Invertebrate Solutions, 2020).

Based on the species' range and habitat requirements, it is possible that the site provides some limited habitat for the species. However, given the species is widespread and the vegetation is highly degraded with only scattered shrubs (which the species requires for burrow materials and protection from predators) it is highly unlikely that the site constitutes significant habitat for the species.

Figure 4 – 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 to minimise the risk of direct and indirect impacts to fauna species. Minimum requirements are included in section 8 of this report and in Table 5 of the attached Environmental Due Diligence.

Attachment 11 – Due Diligence Assessment.

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.



3.3 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. Image taken in the east of the site facing towards the southeast.



Plate 2. Image taken in the east of the site facing towards the west.

4 Stakeholder Engagement

A cultural heritage survey was completed for the site with the Yugunga-Nya Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (YN PBC). The report made the following recommendations:

- There are no Aboriginal sites within the Vocus optic fibre survey areas.
- Activities can proceed within the additional 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 optic fibre cable survey areas.

Whilst the site inspection covers the majority of the facility location and APZ, there is approximately 0.12 ha was not specifically the subject of any formal survey. Consistent with the recommendations of the cultural heritage survey, the contractor will engage and appoint YN PBC cultural heritage monitors to supervise all construction and ground disturbing works.

Refer Attachment 12 – 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 2: Environmental Approval Requirements.

| Environmental Approvals | Requirement Assessment |
|--|---|
| Cwth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 | Not required No Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) have been triggered or will be significantly impacted by the works. See Attachment 8 to Attachment 12. |
| WA Environmental Protection Act 1986 (EP Act), Part IV, S38 | 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 Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 | 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 |
| Contaminated Sites Act 2003 | 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 |
|--|---|---|
| Principle (a): Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity. | <p>The site does not support a high diversity of flora species. The vegetation present is comprised of scattered shrubs over bare ground, adjacent to an existing road, and in a degraded to completely degraded state.</p> <p>The site is mapped as the Wiluna (18) 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 (0.88 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> | Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle. |
| 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>The vegetation present within the site appears to be in a degraded to completely degraded state (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 for 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 (see Attachment 10).</p> <p>Two aerial species, 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>Suitable habitat for the Northern shield-backed trapdoor spider (Priority 3) may occur within the site. The nearest record is 30 km away. The presence of the species, or suitable habitat, within the site cannot be ruled out. 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 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> | Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle. |

| Clearing Principle | Assessment | Outcome | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| Principle (c): Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora. | <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 for a 50 km buffer of the site, no declared rare flora taxa were identified as having a 'medium' likelihood of occurrence (Attachment 9). This likelihood is based on the location of the nearest record(s) and broad habitat characteristics of the site (regional vegetation association and soils/geology). Nine Priority flora, listed by DBCA, were assigned a 'medium' likelihood of occurrence, however 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> | Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle. | | | | | | | | | | |
| 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>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. A registered occurrence of Yagahong Land System, which is a Priority 3 PEC listed by DBCA, occurs approximately 3 km to the east of the site (Attachment 8).</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> | Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle. | | | | | | | | | | |
| 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>The site is within the Wiluna 18 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 99.7% remains within the Shire of Cue. The pre-European extent is estimated at 881,735.81 ha, and the current estimated extent is 878,817.46 ha. The extent of the vegetation association remaining at the state, regional, and local scales is provided below.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Vegetation Association</th> <th>Description</th> <th>% Remaining Western Australia</th> <th>% Remaining Murchison IBRA Region</th> <th>% Remaining Shire of Cue</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | Vegetation Association | Description | % Remaining Western Australia | % Remaining Murchison IBRA Region | % Remaining Shire of Cue | | | | | | Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle. |
| Vegetation Association | Description | % Remaining Western Australia | % Remaining Murchison IBRA Region | % Remaining Shire of Cue | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Clearing Principle | Assessment | | | | | Outcome |
|---|---|--|-------|-------|-------|---|
| | Wiluna (18) | Low woodland, open low woodland or sparse woodland, mulga <i>Acacia aneura</i> and associated species. | 99.75 | 99.68 | 99.67 | |
| 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>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 equates to approximately 0.0001% of the remaining extent of Wiluna 18.</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> | | | | | Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle. |
| Principle (g): Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation. | <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 4.8 km north of the Site.</p> <p>As such, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.</p> | | | | | Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle. |
| 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>The site forms part of the Yanganoo Land System of almost flat hardpan wash plains, with or without small wanderrie banks supporting mulga shrublands and wanderrie grasses on banks. 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> | | | | | Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle. |
| | <p>The Site is not located in close proximity to a conservation area.</p> <p>The nearest conservation reserve is Lakeside Conservation Park (R53840) which is situated 84 km southwest of the site.</p> | | | | | Proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle. |

| Clearing Principle | Assessment | Outcome |
|--|--|--|
| | <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>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 situated 4.8 km north of the site (DWER-031).</p> <p>The site is within an area marked 'To be Developed' within the <i>RiWi Act 1914</i> Groundwater Areas, and 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> |
| <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 Murchison River sub catchment (DWER-028). There are no surface water features or vegetation associated with watercourses noted on or in the vicinity 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> |

7 Avoidance and Mitigation

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 0.2 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 Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) to minimise the risk of environmental impacts during construction of the project. A CEMP will be developed by the contractor 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, will additional measures required to address specific conditions relating to other impact sites to be implemented accordingly.

The contractor 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 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 should be managed in accordance with any approval conditions and a CEMP.</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> |
| Soil and water contamination | Disturbance of Potential or Actual acid sulphate soils | Low | <p>Excavation depths are not more than 700mm bgl, and no occurrences of PASS or ASS were identified on or near the proposed site.</p> <p>Geotechnical investigations will identify if ASS is encountered and a ASSMP is required.</p> |

| Risk | Activity | Risk | Mitigation |
|------------------------------------|--|------|--|
| 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

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.



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Figure 1:
Site Plan



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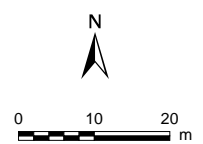
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LEGEND

- Design
- Clearing Permit Area (0.37 ha)
- DAF
- Cultural Heritage Survey Area
- APZ (33m buffer)



NANNINE
 Project Horizon - Clearing Referral Sites

Scale: 1:1,000
 Coordinate System: GDA2020/MGA Zone 50
 Reference: 2024_035_nannine_r1

Date: 18/06/2024
 Size: A4L

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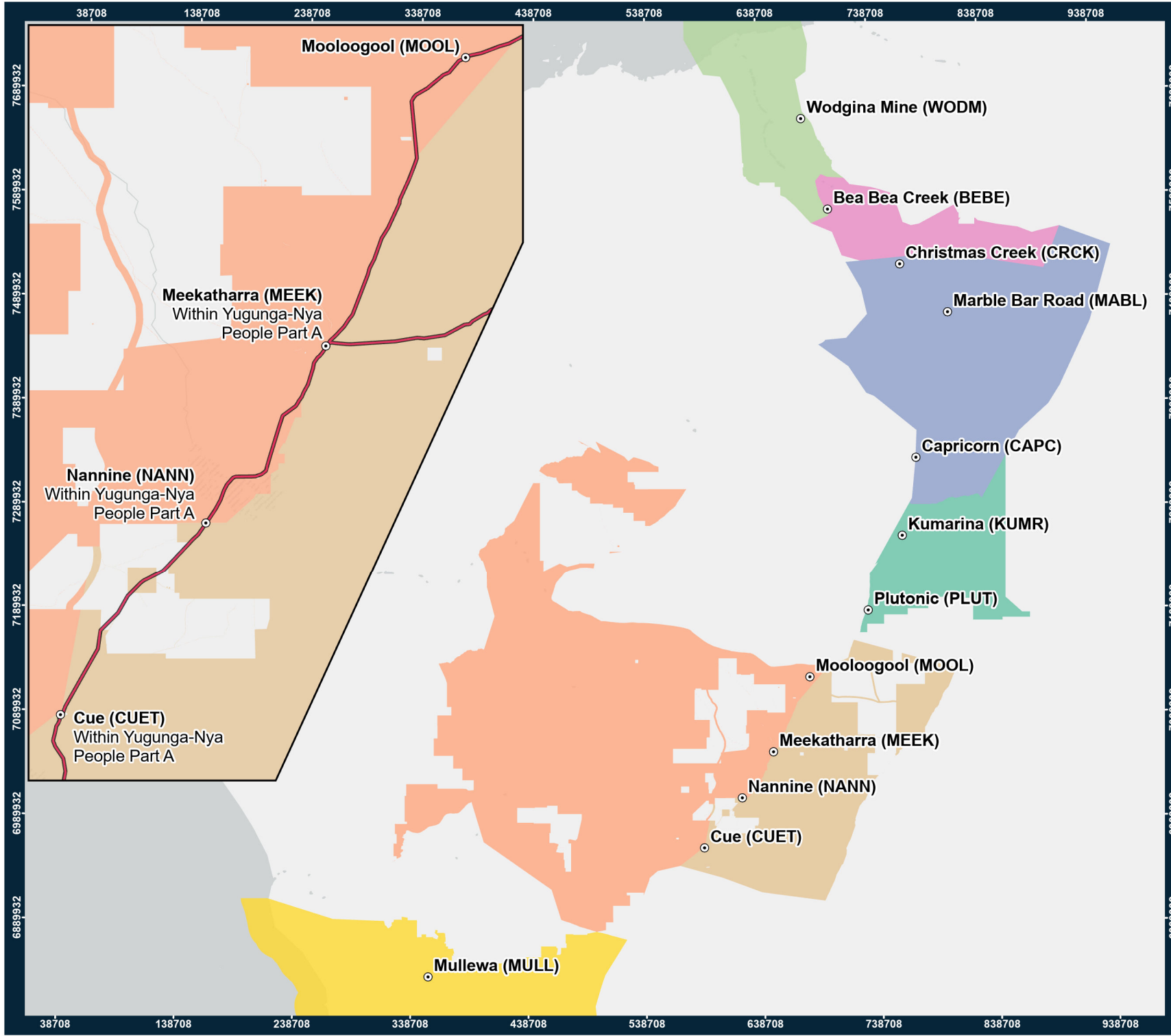
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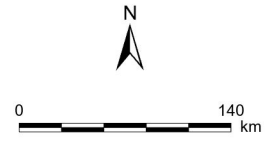
Figure 2:

Project Site Plan





- 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
 Coordinate System: GDA2020
 Reference: 2024_035_project_site_plan_r1

Date: 21/06/2024
 Size: A4L

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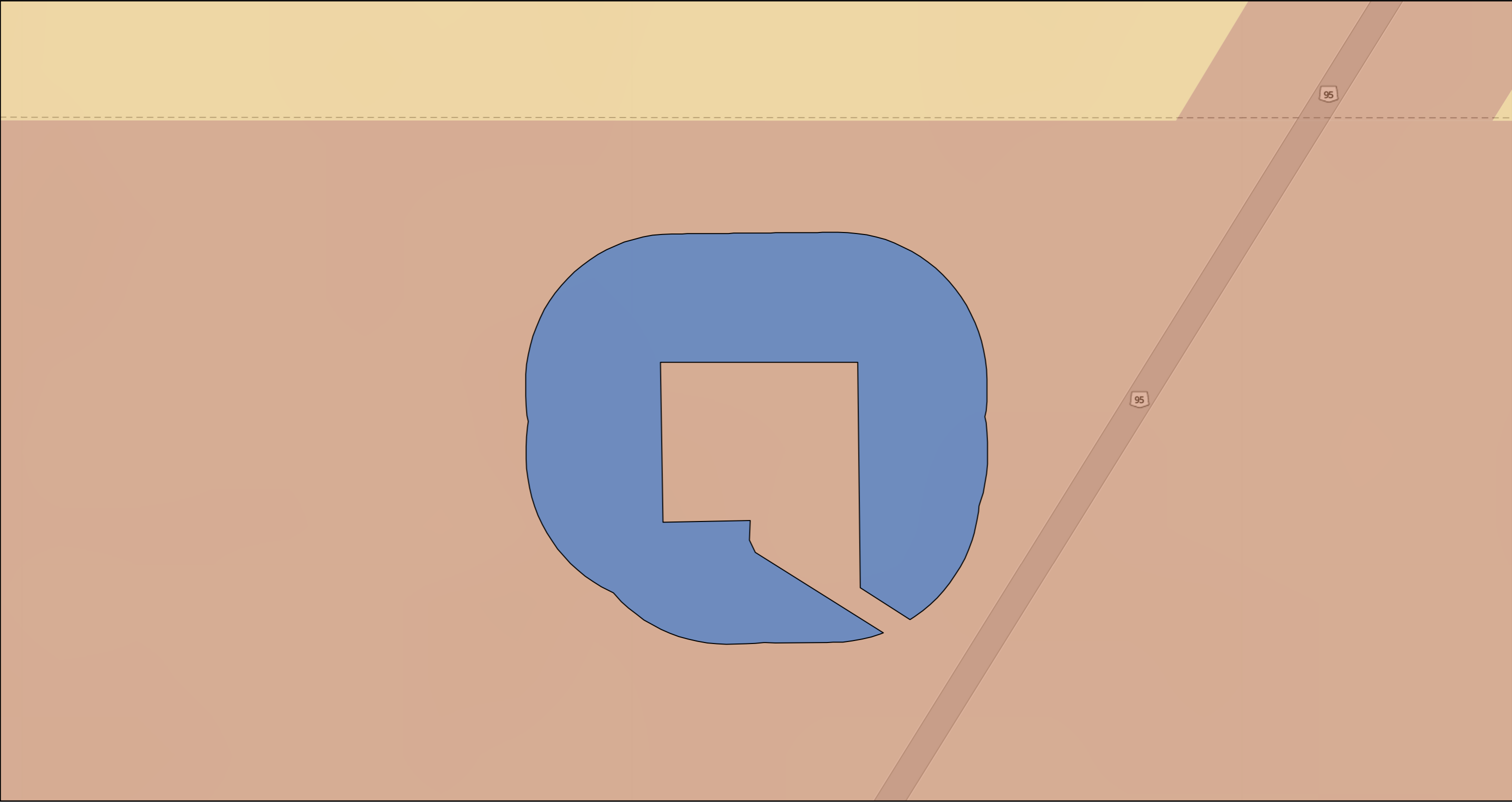
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Figure 3:

Native Title Determinations



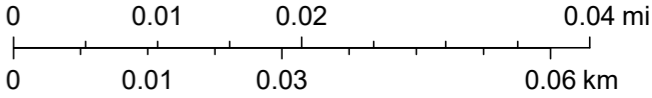
Nannine Clearing Permit



1/29/2025

1:947

- Asset Protection Zone Nannine
- Native title exists (non-exclusive)
- Native title exists (non-exclusive)
- Native title does not exist
- Native title does not exist
- World Hillshade



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Figure 4:

Environmental Factors





Legend

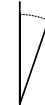
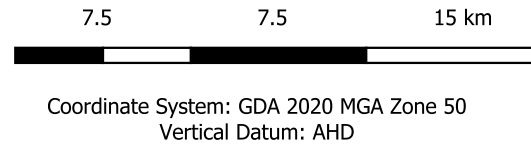
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 Threatened Ecological Communities (DBCAs-038)

Threatened and Priority Flora (DBCAs-036)
 Threatened and Priority Fauna (DBCAs-037)

Clearing Regulations - Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046) Google Maps Satellite Imagery

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

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



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