GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

Purpose Permit number:	CPS 11661/1
Permit Holder:	BHP Iron Ore Pty Ltd
Duration of Permit:	From 16 October 2026 to 16 October 2036

The permit holder is authorised to clear *native vegetation* subject to the following *conditions* of this permit.

PART I – CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Clearing authorised (purpose)

The permit holder is authorised to clear *native vegetation* for the purpose of environmental, ethnographic, heritage, hydrological, hydrogeological, topographical and geotechnical investigations; construction and maintenance of access tracks and any other associated activities.

2. Land on which clearing is to be done

Lot 1580 on Deposited Plan 72910 (Pastoral Lease N050368), Newman

Unallocated Crown Land (PIN 11455504), Newman

3. Clearing authorised

The permit holder must not clear more than 400 hectares of *native vegetation* within the area cross-hatched yellow in Figure 1 of Schedule 1.

4. Period during which clearing is authorised

The permit holder must not clear any native vegetation after 16 October 2031.

PART II – MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

5. Avoid, minimise, and reduce impacts and extent of clearing

In determining the *native vegetation* authorised to be cleared under this permit, the permit holder must apply the following principles, set out in descending order of preference:

(a) avoid the clearing of *native vegetation*;

(b) minimise the amount of *native vegetation* to be cleared; and

(c) reduce the impact of clearing on any environmental value.

6. Weed management

When undertaking any clearing authorised under this permit, the permit holder must take the following measures to minimise the risk of introduction and spread of *weeds*:

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

(b) ensure that no known *weed*-affected soil, *mulch, fill*, or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and

(c) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

7. Avoidance of gorge/gully and cliff/breakaway habitat

(a) The permit holder shall avoid clearing *native vegetation* within the area identified as gorge/gully and cliff/breakaway habitat and cross-hatched red in Figure 2 and Schedule 1, where practicable.

(b) Where avoidance is not practicable, clearing within the area identified as gorge/gully and cliff/breakaway habitat and cross-hatched red in Figure 2 of Schedule 1 shall:

(i) be for the purpose of access tracks and drill pads located immediately adjacent to an access track; and

(ii) not exceed five (5) hectares in total, unless otherwise approved by the *CEO*.

8. Fauna management – pre-clearance survey – western pebble-mound mouse

(a) Within 14 days prior to and for the duration of clearing activities, the permit holder must engage a fauna spotter to inspect the area to be cleared within the cross-hatched yellow on Figure 1 of Schedule 1 for the presence of western pebble-mound mouse *(Pseudomys chapmani),* including the identification and inspection of mounds;

(b) Where evidence of mounds are identified under *condition* 8(a), the permit holder shall:

(i) engage a fauna spotter to flag the location of the mounds; and

(ii) not clear within 10 metres of the flagged mounds, unless first approved by the *CEO.*

(c) Clearing activities must cease in any area where fauna referred to in *condition* 8(a) are identified until either:

(i) the fauna individual(s) has moved on from that area to adjoining *suitable habitat*; or

(ii) the fauna individual(s) has been removed by a *fauna specialist.*

(d) Where fauna and/or mounds are identified under *condition* 8(a), the permit holder must within 14 calendar days provide the following records to the *CEO:*

(i) the number of individuals and/or mounds identified;

(ii) the date each individual and/or mounds were identified;

(iii) the location where each individual and/or mounds were identified recorded using a GPS unit set to GDA2020, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;

(iv) the number of individuals removed and relocated;

(v) the date each individual was removed;

(vi) the method of removal;

(vii) the date each individual was relocated;

(viii) the location where each individual was relocated to, recorded using a GPS unit set to GDA2020, expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; and

(ix) details pertaining to the circumstances of any death of, or injury sustained by, an individual.

9. Fauna management – time of clearing

The permit holder must undertake all activities authorised under this permit during *daytime hours.*

10. Fauna management – backfilling

The Permit Holder must:

(a) backfill test pits upon completion;

(b) where test pits are not backfilled on the day of construction:

(i) have a fauna egress point established; and

(ii) be inspected prior to backfilling to ensure there is no fauna within the pit.

(c) cover all bore holes at the end of each day and backfill upon completion;

(d) cover all groundwater bores at the end of each day and seal them upon completion of works.

11. Vegetation management

(a) Where practicable the Permit Holder shall avoid clearing *riparian vegetation*; and

(b) (b) Where a *watercourse* or *drainage line* is to be impacted by clearing, the Permit Holder shall ensure that surface flow is maintained or is reinstated downstream into existing natural *drainage lines*.

12. Revegetation and rehabilitation – temporary works

(a) Retain the vegetative material and topsoil removed by clearing authorised under this permit and stockpile the vegetative material and topsoil in an area that has already been cleared.

(b) As soon as is practicable, and no later than 12 months following clearing authorised under this permit, *revegetate* and *rehabilitate* the areas that are no longer required for the purpose for which they were cleared under this permit by:

(i) re-shaping the surface of the land so that it is consistent with the surrounding five (5) metres of the uncleared land;

(ii) ripping the ground on the contour to remove soil compaction;

(iii) laying the vegetative material and topsoil retained under *condition* 12(a) on the cleared areas; and

(iv) undertake ongoing *weed* control over the *revegetated* and *rehabilitated areas.*

(c) Within 24 months following the laying of the vegetative material and topsoil on the cleared area in accordance with *condition* 12(b) of this permit, the permit holder must:

(i) engage an *environmental specialist* to determine the species composition, structure and density of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated;* and

(ii) where, in the opinion of an *environmental specialist*, the composition structure and density determined under *condition* 12(c)(i) of this Permit will not result in similar species composition, structure and density to that of pre-referral clearing vegetation types in that area, *revegetate* the area by deliberately *planting* and/or *direct seeding native vegetation* that will result in a similar species composition, structure and density of native vegetation to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area and ensuring only *local provenance* seeds and propagating material are used.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

13. Records that must be kept

The permit holder must maintain records relating to the listed relevant matters in accordance with the specifications detailed in Table 1.

Table 1: Records that must be kept

No.	Relevant matter	Specifications
1.	In relation to the authorised clearing activities generally	(a) the species composition, structure, and density of the cleared area; (b) the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 2020 (GDA2020), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings; (c) the date that the area was cleared; (d) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); (e) actions taken to avoid, minimise, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing in accordance with *condition* 5; (f) actions taken to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds* in accordance with *condition* 6; and (g) actions taken in accordance with *conditions* 7, 9, 10 and 11.
2.	In relation to fauna management pursuant to *condition* 8	(a) results of the pre-clearance surveys undertaken in accordance with *condition* 8 of this permit.
3.	In relation to *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* pursuant to *condition* 12	(a) the size of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated;* (b) the date(s) on which the *revegetation* and *rehabilitation* was undertaken; (c) the boundaries of the area *revegetated* and *rehabilitated* (recorded digitally as a shapefile); and (d) any remedial actions undertaken.

14. Reporting

The permit holder must provide to the *CEO* the records required under *condition* 13 of this permit when requested by the *CEO*.

DEFINITIONS

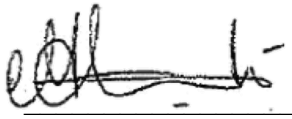
In this permit, the terms in Table 2 have the meanings defined.

Table 2: Definitions

Term	Definition
CEO	Chief Executive Officer of the department responsible for the administration of the clearing provisions under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.
clearing	has the meaning given under section 3(1) of the EP Act.
condition	a condition to which this clearing permit is subject under section 51H of the EP Act.
daytime hours	means the duration starting half an hour before sunrise and ending half an hour after sunset.
direct seeding	means a method of re-establishing vegetation through the establishment of a seed bed and the introduction of seeds of the desired plant species.
department	means the department established under section 35 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* (WA) and designated as responsible for the administration of the EP Act, which includes Part V Division 2.
drainage line	means a natural depression that carries surface water runoff.
environmental specialist	means a person who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science of equivalent and has a minimum of 2 years work experience relevant to the type of environmental advice that an environmental specialist is required to provide under this permit, or who is approved by the CEO as a suitable environmental specialist.
EP Act	*Environmental Protection Act 1986* (WA)
fill	means material used to increase the ground level, or to fill a depression.
fauna specialist	means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specialising in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in fauna identification and surveys of fauna native to the region being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the *CEO* as a suitable fauna specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.
mulch	means the use of organic matter, wood chips or rocks to slow the movement of water across the soil surface and to reduce evaporation.
native vegetation	has the meaning given under section 3(1) and section 51A of the EP Act.
optimal time	means the period from May to July for undertaking planting.
planted/planting	means the re-establishment of vegetation by creating soil conditions and planting seedlings of the desired species.
rehabilitate / rehabilitated / rehabilitation	means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area.

Term	Definition
revegetate/revegetation	means the re-establishment of a cover of local provenance native vegetation in an area using methods such as natural regeneration, direct seeding and/or planting, so that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area.
riparian vegetation	has the meaning given to it in Regulation 3 of the *Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004*;
suitable habitat for pebble-mound mouse *(Pseudomys chapmani)*	means habitat known to support pebble-mound mouse within the known current distribution of the species. This includes areas characterised by the presence of sharply incised drainage lines. Vegetation is generally dominated by "hard spinifex", typically *Triodia basedowii* or *T. wiseana. Eucalyptus leucophloea or E. gamophylla* are often present but other trees, mallees and a variety of shrubs, commonly Acacia and Senna spp., may be present.
watercourse	has the meaning given to it in section 3 of the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914.*
weeds	means any plant – (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or (b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions species-led ecological impact and invasiveness ranking summary, regardless of ranking; or (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.

END OF CONDITIONS



Meenu Vitarana
MANAGER
NATIVE VEGETATION REGULATION

Officer delegated under Section 20
of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

23 September 2026

Schedule 1

The boundary of the area authorised to be cleared is shown in the map below (Figure 1).

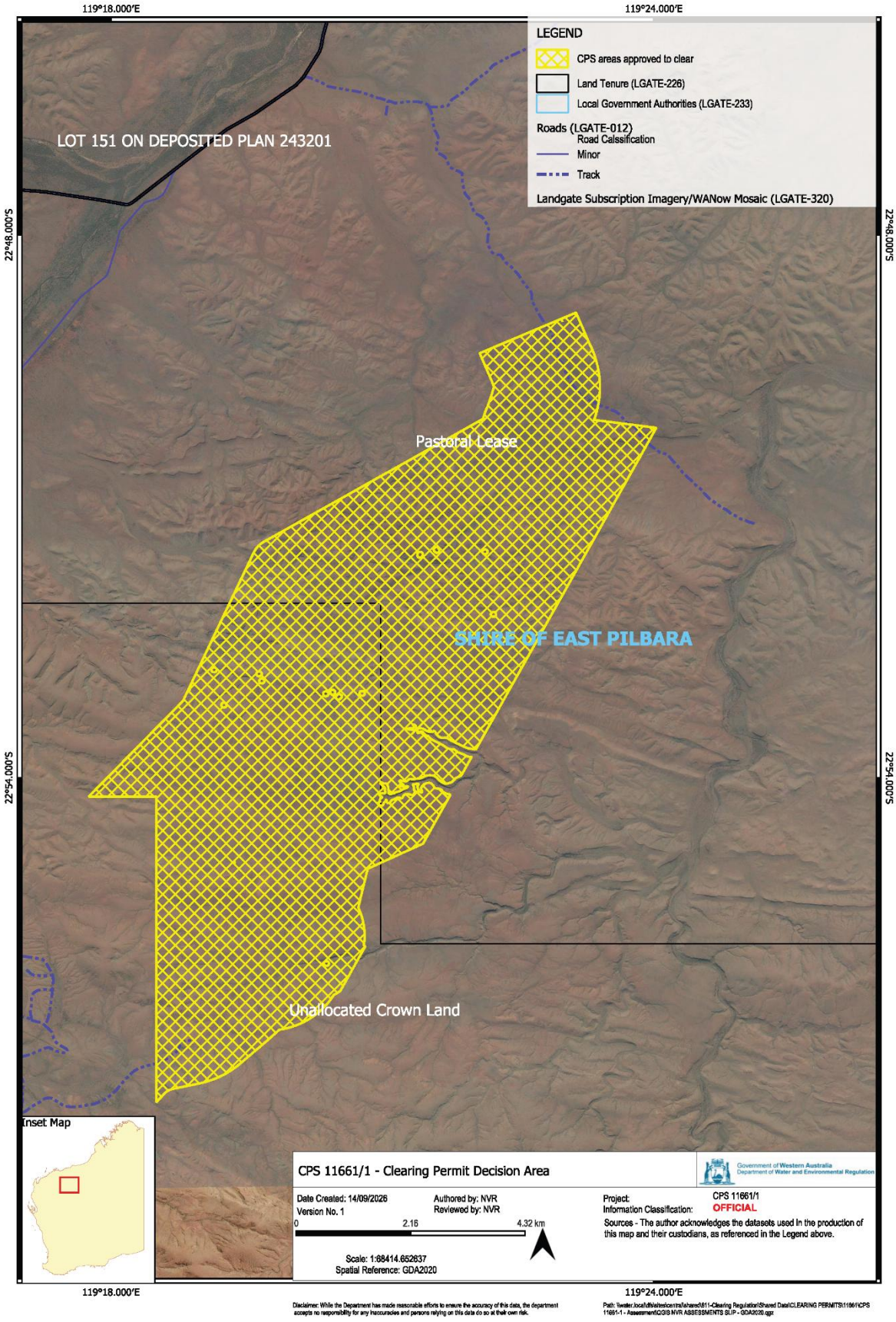


Figure 1: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur (cross-hatched yellow).

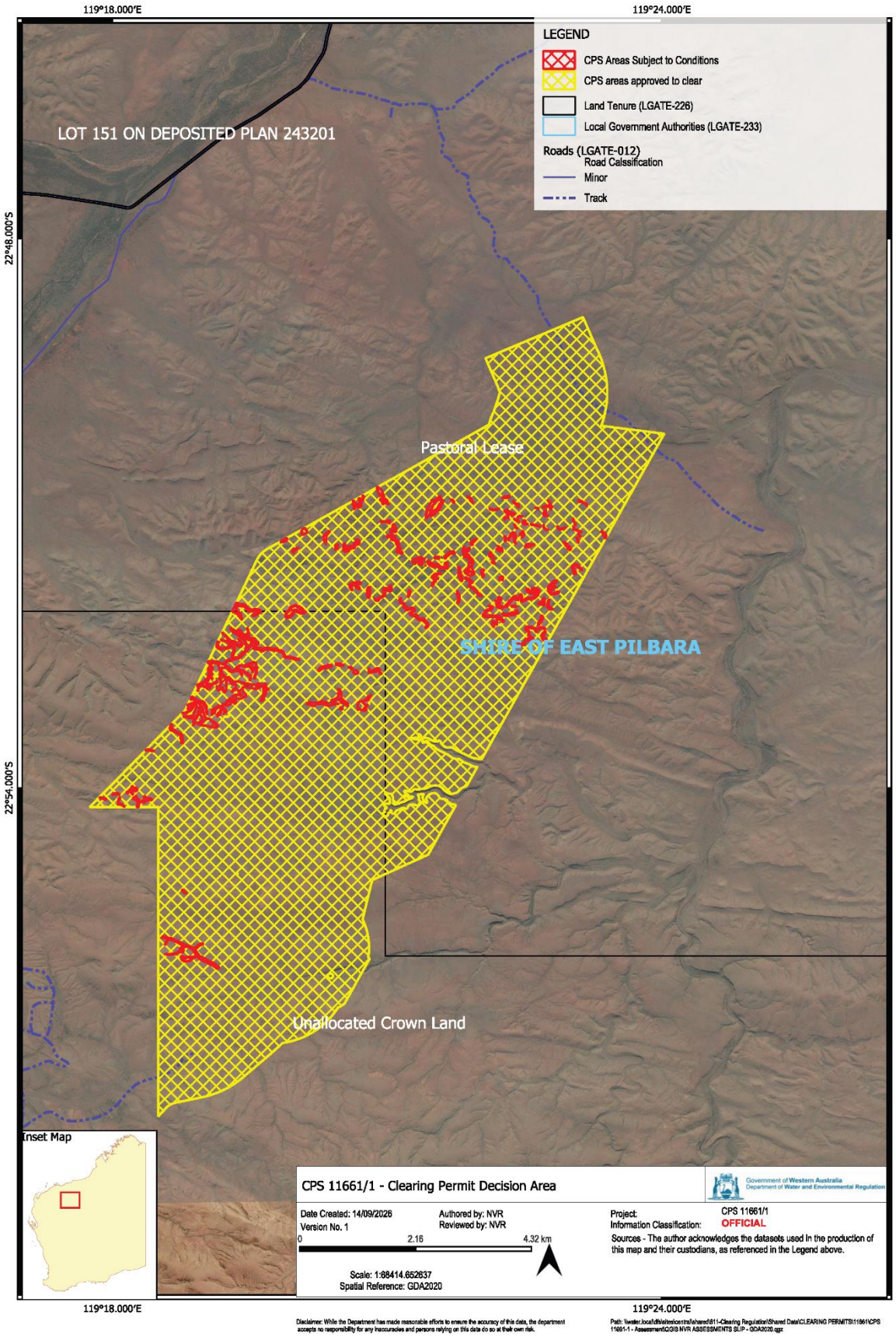


Figure 2: Map of the boundary of the area within which clearing may occur (cross-hatched yellow) and the areas subject to conditions (cross-hatched red).