







REACH RESOURCES

MURCHISON SOUTH GOLD PROJECT

SUPPORTING DOCUMENT FOR CLEARING PERMIT APPLICATION

M59/769 & M59/789

[redacted]

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

Reach Resources Limited (Reach) is proposing to develop the Murchison South Gold Project (Project), located immediately east of Paynes Find within the Murchison region of Western Australia.

Gold was first discovered at Paynes Find in 1911 and the town and State Battery were established at this time. Since that time the area has been sporadically mined by way of the underground mining of rich gold bearing shoots. Subsequent mining of surface gold-bearing alluvial and near-surface laterite with alluvial treatment has been undertaken. As a result the Project area has been significantly modified by historic mining activities, with numerous shafts, costeans and old workings existing on the tenements.

The Project will initially involve development of two open pits (Blue Heaven and Pansy) and establishment of associated mine infrastructure, with ore to be transported offsite for processing. Blue Heaven is intended to be the first gold pit developed.

1.2 PURPOSE

This document is to complement the application relating to the clearing of up to 105 ha of native vegetation at the Project for establishment mine infrastructure.

To assist in the DMPE's assessment of this clearing permit application, a summary of the relevant environmental information for the Project area has been included in this document with the biological survey reports and an assessment of the proposed clearing against the ten clearing principles.

For the purpose of this document, reference to 'overall clearing area' refers specifically to the larger footprint within which clearing of 105 ha will occur, i.e. NVCP application area.

1.3 LOCATION

The Project is located immediately east of the Paynes Find roadhouse, approximately 132 km south of Mount Magnet and 340 km north-east of Perth (Figure 1).

1.4 OWNERSHIP AND LAND TENURE

The proposed clearing area is located on M59/769. M59/769 is held by Cervantes Gold Pty Ltd (CGP) which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Reach.

A copy of the M59/769 tenement extract confirming ownership, and, CGP's ASIC extract confirming Reach's position, are attached separately with the submission.

The Project occurs on Crown Reserve within the Shire of Yalgoo. Road Reserves for the Great Northern Highway and the old Northern Highway cross M59/769. Figure 2 shows the tenure of the Project area and surrounds.

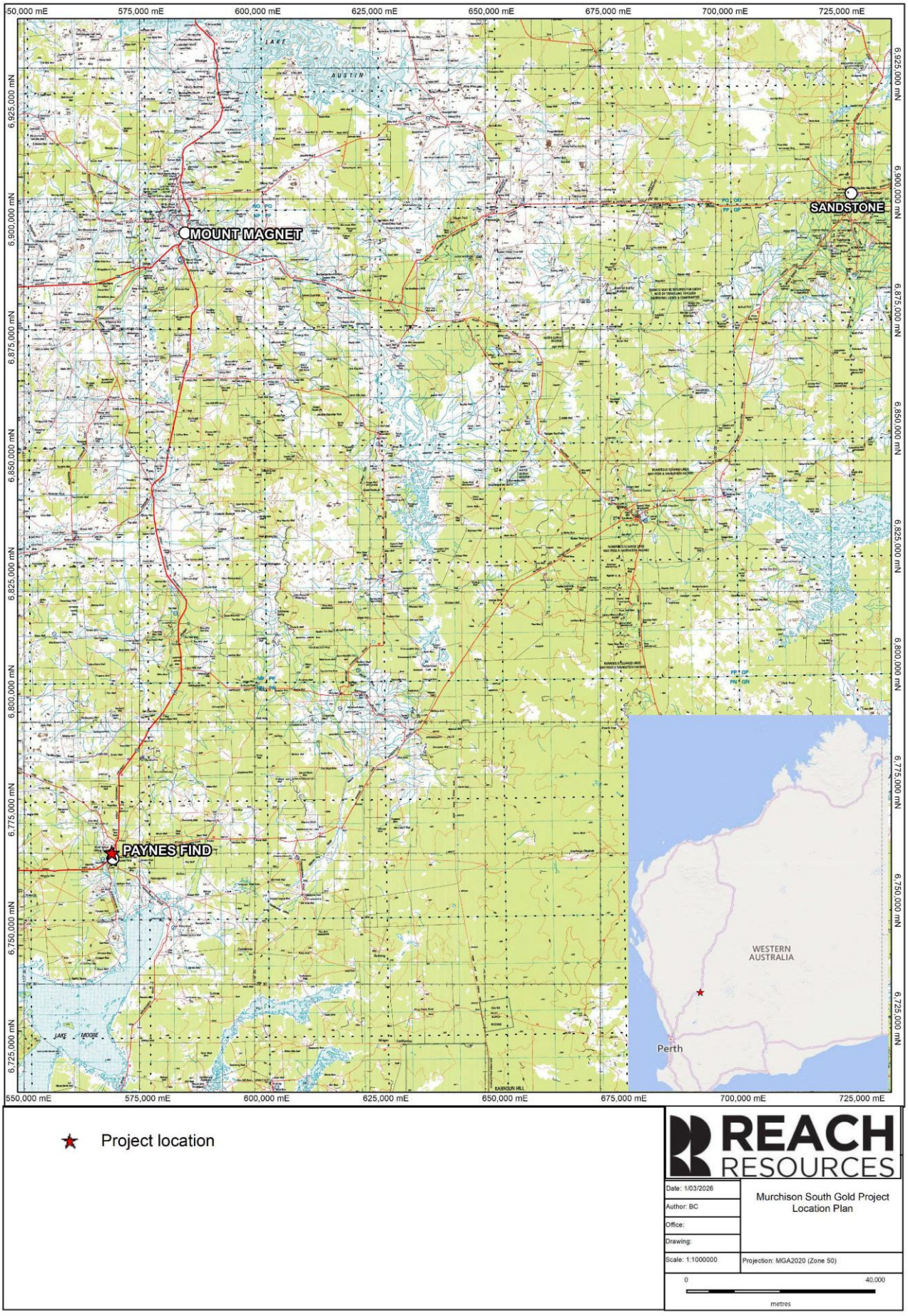


Figure 1: Project location

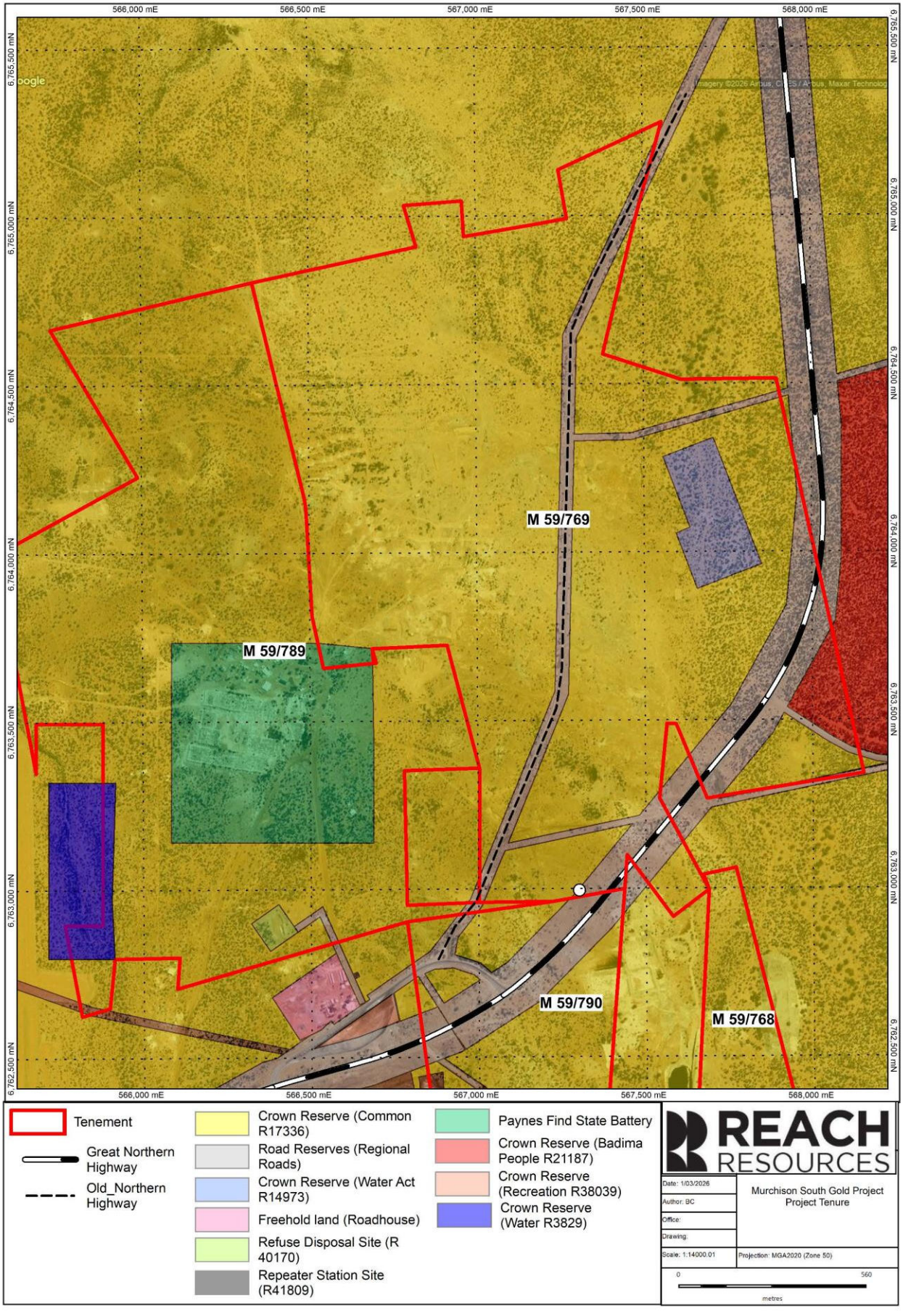


Figure 2: Project tenure

2 PROPOSED CLEARING

Reach intends to clear a maximum of 105 ha of native vegetation within an overall clearing area of 195.2 ha (Figure 3). This clearing is considered conservative given the high level of old mine workings and former mine disturbance that has occurred over the area.

This clearing is to allow for development of the Blue Heaven gold deposit and construction of associated mine infrastructure including:

- Open pit.
- Waste dump.
- ROM.
- Office/workshop/fuel storage
- Laydown/hardstand
- Haul/access roads.

All ore will be transported to an offsite gold processing facility.

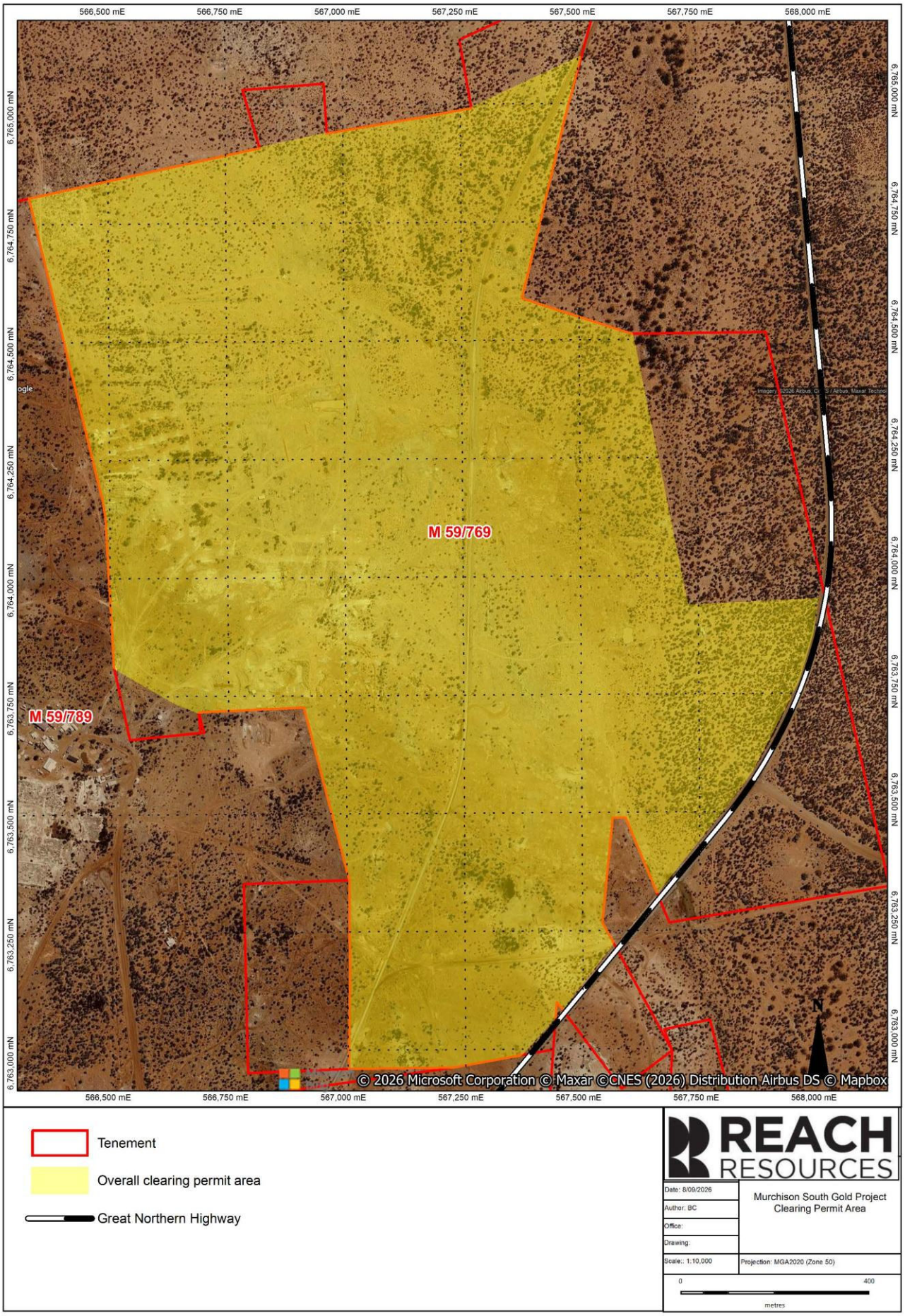


Figure 3: Proposed clearing area

3 BASELINE ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

3.1 CLIMATE

The Project area is located within the Mid West region of Western Australia, which exhibits a semi-arid climate characterised by hot, dry summers and mild, dry winters (Cowan, 2001). The nearest official meteorological station is at Paynes Find, which has long-term climate data summarised in Table 1 and Figure 4 (BOM, 2026).

Mean annual maximum temperature at Paynes Find is around 28 °C and the mean annual minimum is about 13 °C. Daily maxima above 30 °C are typical from late spring through early autumn (around October–March), with the hottest months (December–February) often experiencing days exceeding 35 °C. Diurnal temperature variations are high throughout the year due to generally clear, dry conditions.

The area is semi-arid and has an average annual rainfall of 283 mm. Rainfall is slightly higher in the late autumn and winter months (e.g. May–July), but amounts vary greatly both seasonally and annually. The region can occasionally receive intense rainfall from decaying tropical cyclones or thunderstorms, although widespread heavy falls are infrequent.

Long-term average potential evaporation in the area is very high, on the order of 2,500–2,600 mm per year (mean evaporation 6.9 mm/day), meaning evaporation greatly exceeds rainfall in every month of the year. This extreme evaporation rate underlines the aridity of the climate, as even the wettest months experience substantially more evaporative loss than precipitation.

Table 1: Meteorological data for Paynes Find (Station Number 007139) (BOM 2026)

Statistic Element	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Mean maximum temperature (°C)	37.4	36.5	33.2	28.3	23.5	19.3	18.6	20.2	24	28.1	32	35.4	28
Mean minimum temperature (°C)	21	21.1	18.5	14.2	9.4	6.6	5.4	6.1	8.2	11.5	15.6	18.7	13
Mean rainfall (mm)	20.3	24.1	27.7	24.2	34.4	40.4	34.7	28.3	13.9	10.6	13.8	12.1	283.3
Highest rainfall (mm)	114	147.4	142	128.8	252.3	111.2	96.8	113	54.2	73.2	86.8	86.2	581.6
Mean daily evaporation (mm)	12.1	11	8.8	5.6	3.7	2.5	2.4	3.2	5	7	9.6	11.3	6.9

3.2 LANDSCAPE

3.2.1 IBRA Region

The Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) divides the Australian continent into 89 bioregions and 419 subregions (DCCEEW 2024). The Project area lies across the Yalgoo and Murchison IBRA bioregions.

The western portion occurs within the Yalgoo bioregion (Tallering subregion), characterised by sand and alluvial plains, low ranges and lakes with mulga or bowgada shrublands dominant in the east and sandplain/heath elements in the west.

The eastern portion occurs within the Murchison bioregion (Eastern Murchison subregion), characterised by low hills and mesas separated by colluvial and alluvial plains, with mulga low woodlands and chenopod shrublands common.

Tenure within both bioregions is predominantly pastoral and mining.

3.2.2 Land Systems

As part of the Rangeland resource surveys, the Department of Agriculture (now DPIRD) mapped the Land Systems of Western Australia (DPIRD, 2017) which include the result.

The proposed clearing area is located entirely within two land systems as described by Payne *et al.* (1998) (Figure 4):

- Violet - Gently undulating gravelly plains on greenstone, laterite and hardpan, with low stony rises and minor saline plains; supporting groved mulga and bowgada shrublands and occasionally chenopod shrublands.
- Yowie - Sandy plains supporting tall shrublands of mulga and bowgada with patchy wanderrie grasses.

3.2.3 Topography

The overall clearing area within M59/769 is situated on a gently undulating upland plain characterised by low relief and broad topographic surfaces. Elevations range from approximately 352 m to 362 m AHD, with the site occupying mid-slope positions between local rises and adjacent drainage depressions (Figure 5).

Slopes are predominantly very gentle to gentle (<5%) with the area sloping overall to the southeast (Figure 5).

3.3 GEOLOGY

The Archean greenstone rocks at Payne's Find comprise interlayered basaltic and dacitic metavolcanic sequences, with subordinate banded iron formations and ultramafic schists. These units have been intruded by strongly deformed granitoids, and the metamorphic grade ranges from upper greenschist to lower amphibolite facies. While the rocks are generally foliated, relic primary textures are commonly preserved.

Gold mineralisation at the Project stretches from surface to currently drilled depths of approximately 180m, mainly associated with quartz veins along the contact of the Payne's Find gneiss and granites, and within the localised mafic and ultramafic package in association with the regionally significant Primrose Shear.

3.4 SOILS

Northcote *et al* (1967) mapped the regional and local soils by the Atlas of Australian Soils system. The clearing area is located within one soil unit My50 described as: "Broad plains with a scatter of surface gravels: chief soils are shallow neutral red earths (Gn2.12) and shallow earthy loams (Um5.3) in intimate microassociation. They are underlain by a red-brown hardpan at depths of 6-30in".

Given the former mine disturbance which has involved alluvial mining of the surface material, there is limited surface soils in much of the clearing area (Plates 1 & 2).

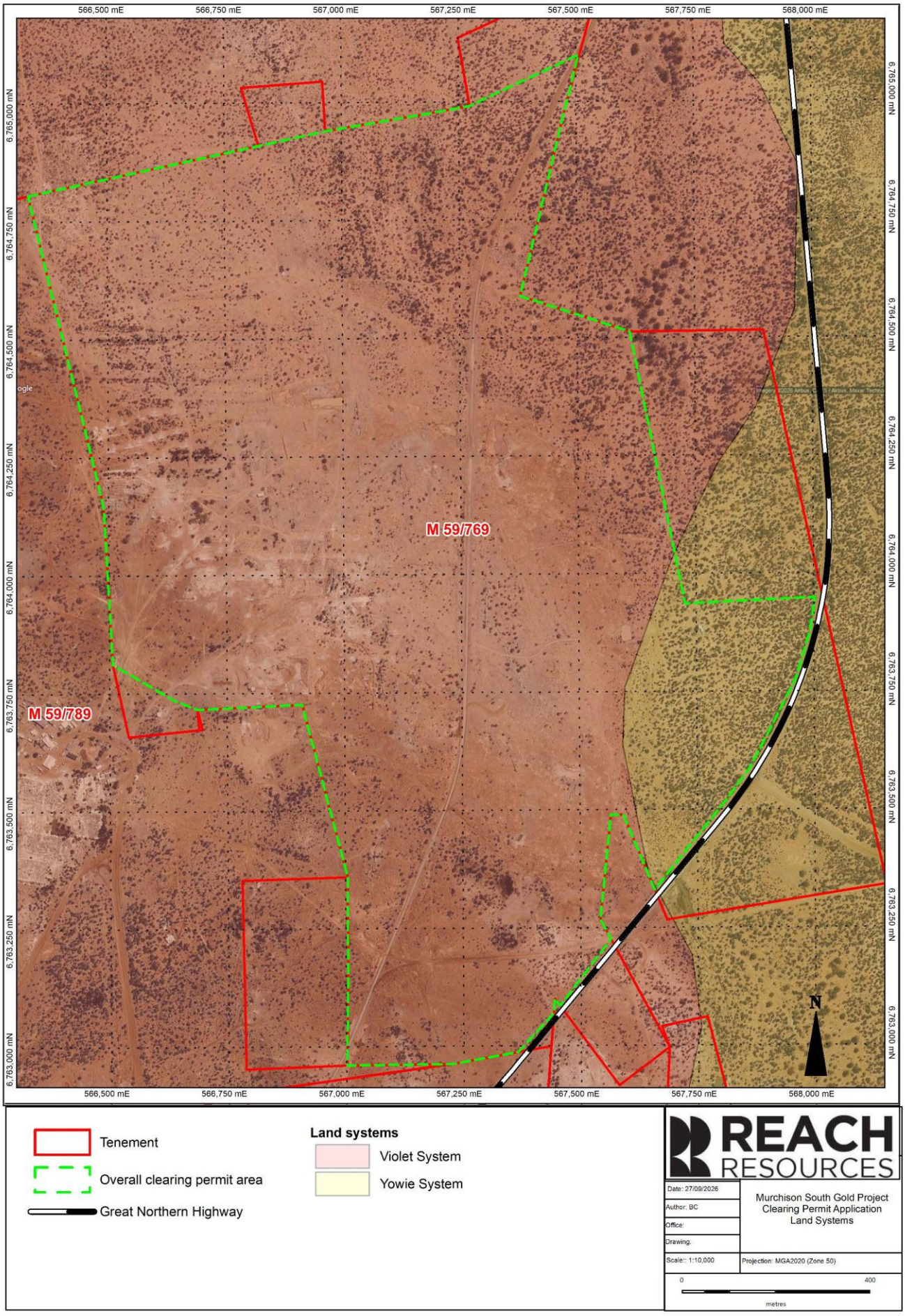


Figure 4: Land Systems in and adjacent to the clearing area

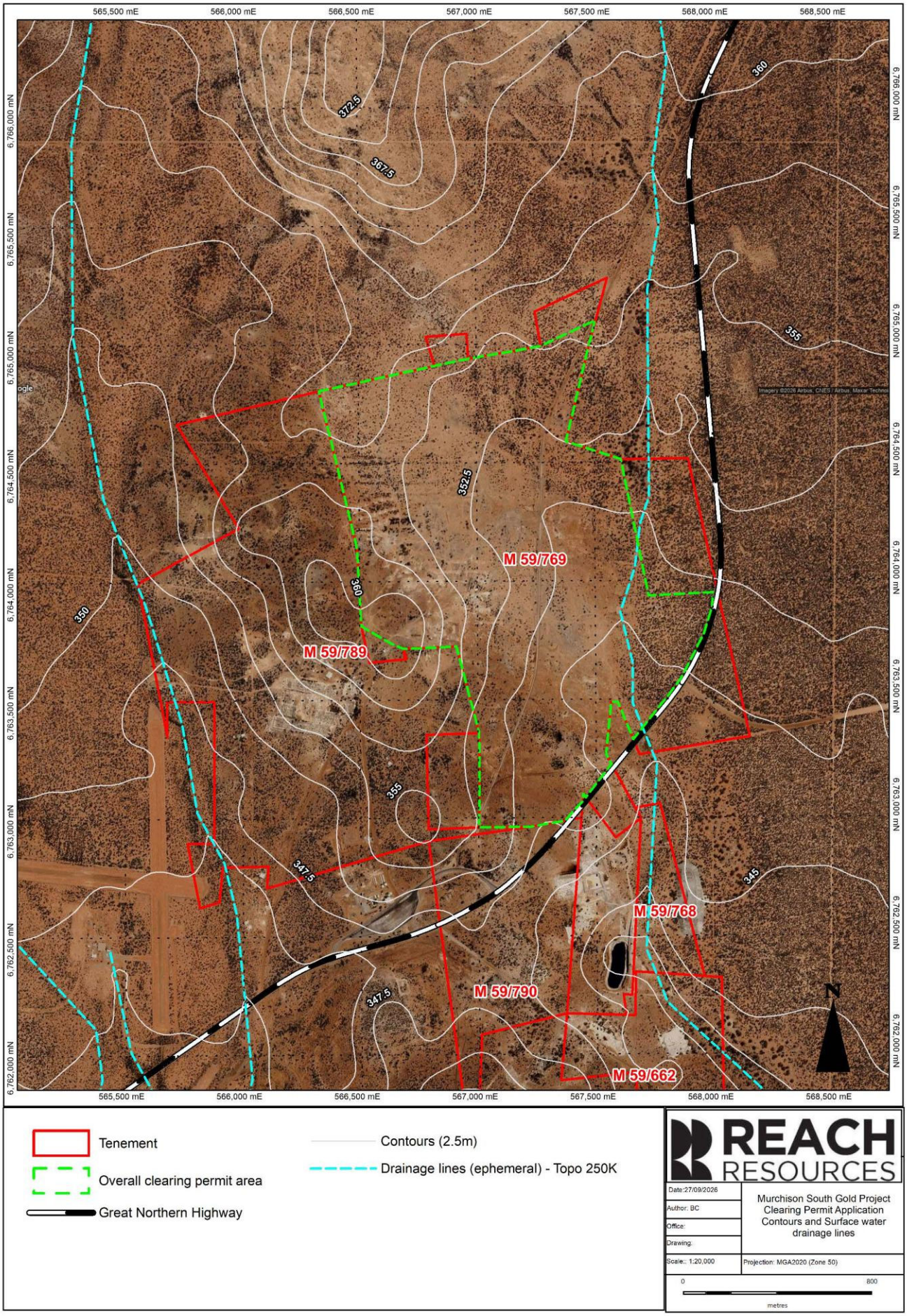


Figure 5: Surface water lines (Topo 250K) and 2.5 contours over the Project and surrounds



Plate 1: Soils in eastern side of clearing area



Plate 2: Soils – *Ptilotus obovatus* shrubland

3.5 VEGETATION AND FLORA

3.5.1 Vegetation

The vegetation types correspond broadly with two pre-European vegetation associations: Barlee 533 and Yalgoo 18. Both are very well represented at the state, bioregional and local levels, with more than 95% of their pre-European extent remaining (Anders Environmental Consulting (AEC) 2025).

AEC completed a Flora and Vegetation Survey, which included the majority of the proposed clearing area, in August 2025. The report is attached as Appendix 1.

The AEC (2025) survey identified four vegetation types were identified within the survey area (Figure 6):

- VT1 – *Acacia ramulosa var. ramulosa* shrubland.
- VT2 – *Ptilotus obovatus* shrubland.
- VT3 – *Eucalyptus loxophleba subsp. supralaevis* woodland.
- VT4 – *Acacia acuminata* shrubland.

The area has been subject to significant historic mining disturbance.

The survey did not record any Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC's) as defined by the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Act (1999) or TEC or Priority Ecological Communities (PEC) as defined by the WA Minister for the Environment.

3.5.2 Vegetation Condition

The Project area and surrounds has been subject to historic mining activity since the 1900'S and alluvial mining has been undertaken over much of the proposed clearing area, in addition to old workings including shafts and costeans and tracks which occur across the entire area.

Vegetation condition within the area surveyed by AEC (2025) ranges from Completely Degraded to Very Good. Reach has avoided clearing in areas of vegetation in 'Very good' condition that is located on the eastern side of M59/769 as much as practicable.

The area has been heavily modified by historic mining, numerous tracks, clearing and grazing by goats and AEC mapped >60% of the vegetation in the clearing area is mapped as Degraded or Completely Degraded as is apparent on the aerial images (Figure 7).

The area is subject to grazing by goats, as evident in Plate 1 and Plate 2.

3.5.3 Flora

A total of 105 vascular flora taxa (including subspecies and varieties) from 34 families and 67 genera were recorded within the Project area, comprising 101 native species and four introduced species

No Threatened or Priority flora were identified during the AES (2026) survey.

3.5.4 Weeds

Four introduced species were recorded within the Project area:

- *Arctotheca calendula* (Cape Weed),
- *Cuscuta epithymum* (Lesser Dodder),
- *Echium plantagineum* (Paterson's Curse)
- *Hypochaeris glabra* (Smooth Cats-ear).

Paterson's Curse is a Declared Pest under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*. AEC (2026) noted the weed burden at the site is relatively low despite extensive disturbance, likely reflecting the semi-arid setting and substantial grazing pressure that also suppresses grassy weeds.

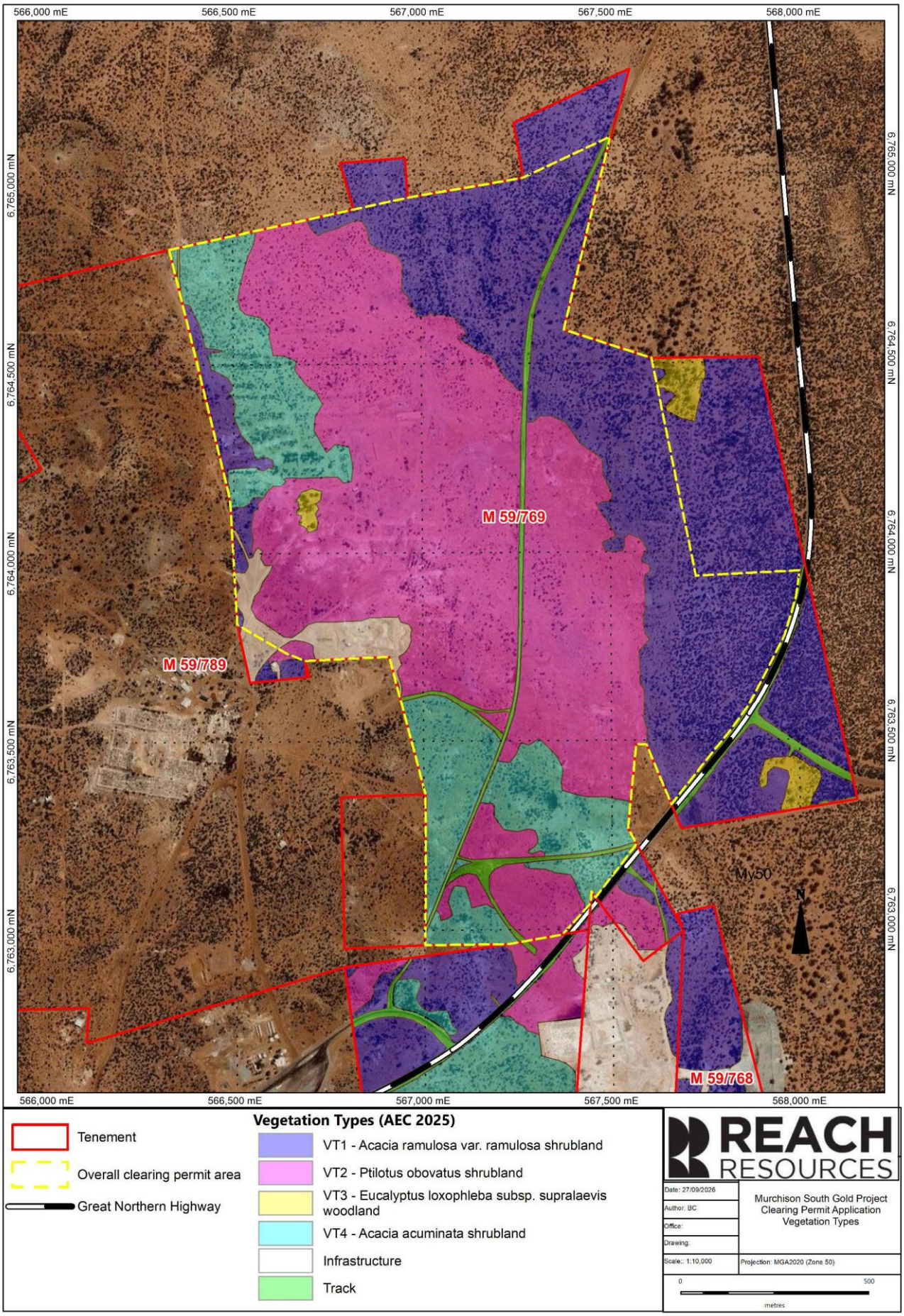


Figure 6: Vegetation types in the overall clearing area

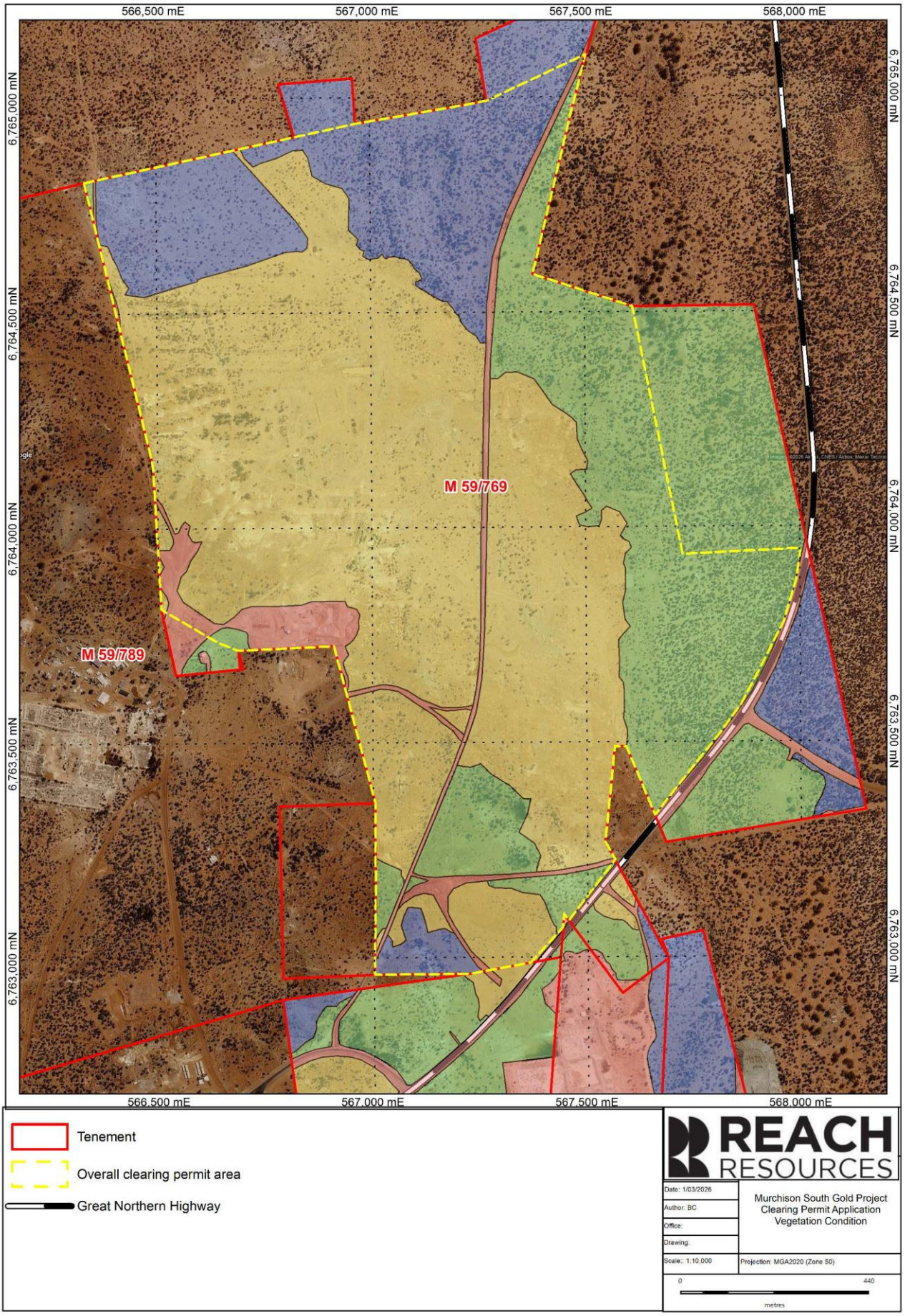


Figure 7: Vegetation Condition in the overall clearing area

3.6 FAUNA

3.6.1 Terrestrial Fauna

Western Ecological (2025) undertook a Basic vertebrate fauna survey and targeted Malleefowl survey which included the proposed clearing area in August 2025. The report is attached as Appendix 2.

Two broad fauna habitat types were mapped in the proposed clearing area (Figure 8):

- Acacia Shrubland
- Low Mixed Shrubland.

Western Ecological (2025) noted that the area is highly disturbed by historic mining, roads, and grazing by introduced herbivores, particularly large numbers of goats.

An assessment of the potential occurrence of conservation significant fauna species in the Project area was completed by Western Ecological (2025) and they identified two fauna species of conservation significance were identified as having the potential to occur:

- Malleefowl (*Leiopoa ocellata*) – Vulnerable under BC Act and EPBC Act. Identified as 'possible to occur'.
- Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) listed as other specially protected fauna under BC Act. Identified as 'unlikely' to occur. The Project area lacks suitable cliff, rock outcrop habitat and rivers and so lacks any suitable nesting and foraging habitat. The Peregrine Falcon may fly over the survey area however the species is considered Unlikely to occur (Western Ecological 2025).

3.6.2 Malleefowl

During the Malleefowl assessment, no Malleefowl, mounds or tracks were recorded. In relation to the fauna habitats mapped Western Ecological (2025) advised:

- A total of 4 ha of Eucalyptus Woodland and 169 ha of Acacia Shrubland are present in the survey area, both of which have limited vegetation structure, providing little shelter for Malleefowl, and more importantly their mounds. Malleefowl may still forage in both these habitats, however, these areas could provided potential foraging habitat.
- 142 ha of Low Mixed Shrubland is considered too sparse for both mound construction and foraging and is highly disturbed from previous mining activities and extremely large Goat herds.
- There is a total of 47 ha of Degraded habitat, consisting of disturbed and cleared areas from previous mining activities (these areas provide no shelter or vegetation for Malleefowl to build mounds or forage).

Evidence of standing water was present in a limited number of places in the survey area and so Malleefowl are unlikely to build mounds in these drainage areas due to the possibility of flooding.

Based on the field observations and habitat assessment, Malleefowl is considered only possibly present as an occasional forager and is unlikely to breed within the Project area (Western Ecological 2025).

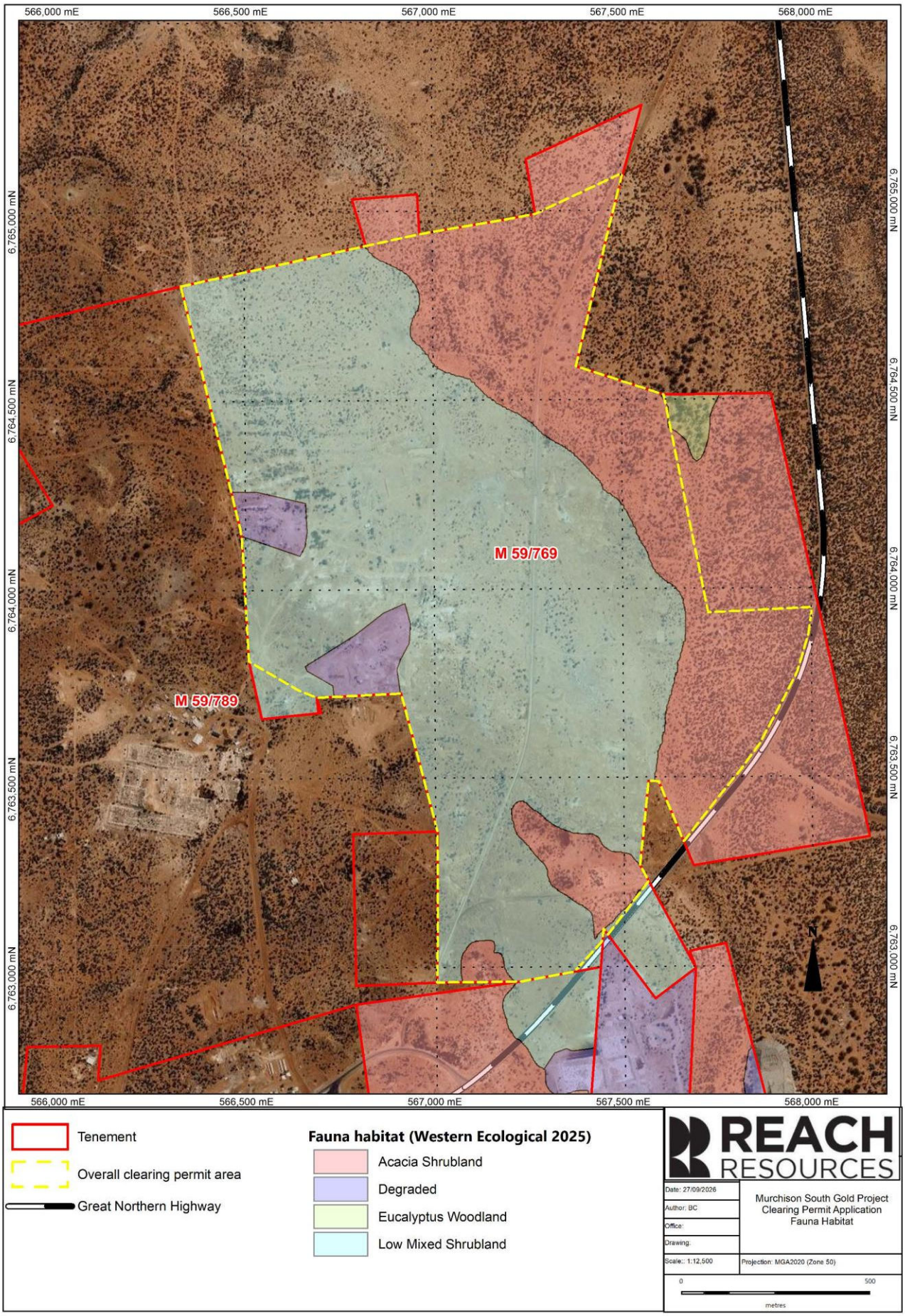


Figure 8: Fauna Habitat Types

3.6.3 Short Range Endemic Invertebrates (SRE)

No specific assessment for SRE Invertebrates has been undertaken. However, from an SRE perspective, the habitats identified within the project area are typical of those occurring in the wider subregion and they are also contiguous with very similar habitat extending beyond the project area.

Using habitat as a surrogate to infer wider distributions, if SRE taxa were to occur, they would not be restricted solely to the project area, as there are no geomorphological or habitat attributes that would suggest a high risk of species level distributions being restricted to the scale of the project area.

In addition, the proposed clearing area is highly disturbed, with historic mining activities having been carried out in the Project area for more than 100 years.

3.7 SURFACE WATER HYDROLOGY

There are no surface water bodies of significance, lakes or swamps in the Project area.

The Project is located within the Lake Moore Water Catchment within the Ninghan surface water area. Local drainage is towards Lake Lefroy, a salt lake located approximately 40km south-southeast of the Project.

Surface water flow (broad sheet flow)in the proposed clearing area is to the southeast into an ephemeral drainage line (Figure 5). Based on review of the contours the upstream catchment area is small. Local runoff occurs only following significant rainfall events and is generally shallow and of short duration. Drainage lines in the area are poorly defined and ephemeral, and only flow following major rainfall events. Figure 5 shows the surface water drainage lines (250K topo) mapped in the local area with contours.

The proposed clearing area includes some low-lying disturbed depressions associated with historic mining that can temporarily hold water after heavy rain; however, there are no mapped riparian systems or significant drainage features.

3.8 GROUNDWATER HYDROLOGY

The Project is located within the East Murchison Proclaimed Groundwater Management Area (Meekatharra Subarea) in 'Combined Fractured Rock'.

Groundwater is hosted in Archaean basement (greenstone and granite) as a combined fractured and weathered rock aquifer, with only minor local valley alluvium. Water occurs mainly in the shallow weathered profile and fractures of bedrock. Groundwater flow is localised – recharge from rare heavy rainfall percolates into rock fractures and ephemeral drainage channels, then slowly flows toward low-lying salt lake basins, where it discharges by evaporation.

Groundwater bores

The Project area does not fall within a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA) or PDWSA Protection Zone.

3.9 CONSERVATION RESERVES OR SIGNIFICANT ECOSYSTEMS IN ADJACENT AREAS

There are no conservation reserves or DBCA managed lands in the Project area or surrounds. The closest DBCA Managed Lands are:

- Thunderlarra Conservation Park - located 12.5 km to the northwest of the clearing area.
- Gurdurdu Conservation Park – located 12.4 km to the southeast of the clearing area.

There are no Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) within 20 km of the Project.

3.10 LAND USE AND DEGRADATION

The Project area has been used historically for mining and associated access, and remains heavily disturbed. Widespread historic workings, cleared areas, tracks and grazing are evident throughout.

Goats are prevalent in the proposed clearing area and the vegetation has been subject to sustained grazing pressure. Western Ecological (2025) noted evidence of large herds of Goats, as well as evidence of Rabbits and Dogs.

Reach will develop a Mine Closure Plan for the Project to outline the rehabilitation requirements.

4 CLEARING PRINCIPLES

a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.

The proposed clearing area occurs in a modified mining landscape and does not comprise a high level of biological diversity in a regional context.

AEC (2025) recorded four vegetation types and 105 flora taxa across the survey area, but no Threatened flora, Priority flora, TECs or PECs were identified onsite. he mapped vegetation types correspond with broad vegetation associations Barlee 533 and Yalgoo 18, both of which are very well represented at state, regional and local levels with over 95% of their pre-European extent remaining.

Vegetation condition across much of the site is degraded to completely degraded due to historical mining, tracks, clearing and grazing. Although some intact native vegetation remains, these are largely restricted to outside the clearing area and these assemblages present are common, widespread and typical of the Yalgoo–Murchison transition. Reach has intentionally avoided areas of vegetation in good-very good condition.

Western Ecological similarly found that fauna habitats are widespread and of generally low to moderate quality in a regional context. Goats are prevalent within the proposed clearing area as noted during the flora and fauna surveys, and the vegetation shows evidence of sustained grazing pressure. Western Ecological (2025) recorded large herds of goats, together with signs of rabbit and dog activity throughout the area surveyed.

The proposed clearing is therefore not considered likely to cause a significant reduction in biological diversity at the local or regional scale and is not at variance to this principle.

(b) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole, or part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

The proposed clearing area does not comprise the whole or part of, nor is it necessary for the maintenance of, significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

Western Ecological (2025) recorded three broad fauna habitat types within the site—Eucalyptus Woodland, Acacia Shrubland and Low Mixed Shrubland—together with substantial degraded areas. These habitats are common in the broader region and no critical refuge or specialised habitats such as wetlands, mature hollow-rich woodland, cliffs or caves were identified.

The primary threatened fauna species considered was Malleefowl. While limited foraging habitat may be present, no breeding habitat was identified because canopy cover is sparse, leaf litter is limited and local disturbance depressions are subject to episodic inundation (Western Ecological 2025). No Malleefowl mounds, tracks or birds were recorded.

Peregrine Falcon was considered unlikely due to the absence of suitable nesting structures and preferred foraging habitats.

The proposed clearing is not likely to have a significant impact on fauna habitats at a local or regional scale and is not at variance to this principle.

(c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.

No Threatened flora under the EPBC Act or BC Act, and no Priority flora, were recorded within the proposed clearing area during the detailed flora and targeted survey undertaken by Anders Environmental (2025).

Given the above, the clearing will not be at variance to this 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 (TEC).

No TEC's are listed under the Commonwealth *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* or endorsed by the Western Australian Minister for the Environment within the clearing area.

Therefore, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this 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.

The vegetation associations represented in the proposed clearing area retain over 95% of their pre-European extent at the state, bioregional and local scales. Although historical disturbance has occurred within the Project area, the remaining native vegetation forms part of extensive, widespread vegetation across the district.

Given the above, the clearing will not be at variance to this principle.

(f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing, in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetlands.

There are no surface water bodies of significance, lakes or drainage lines in the proposed clearing area.

The proposed clearing area includes some low-lying disturbed depressions associated with historic mining that can temporarily hold water after heavy rain; however, there are no mapped riparian systems or drainage features. An ephemeral drainage line is located in the eastern part of the clearing area, this area does not contain riparian vegetation.

The proposed clearing may be at variance to this principle.

(g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.

The proposed clearing area has been used historically for mining and associated access, and remains heavily disturbed. Widespread historic workings, cleared areas, tracks and grazing from goats are evident throughout.

Consistent with the land management described in Payne et al (1998), suitable management measures to reduce land degradation in the land systems are:

- Avoiding disturbance within drainage lines – this will not occur in the clearing area
- Minimising clearing on slopes and hardsetting surfaces – clearing area is gently slope.
- Locate infrastructure and access tracks to prevent concentration of runoff, and install appropriate drainage controls where required – a surface water management assessment is being completed and management measures will be implemented as required.
- Progressively rehabilitate disturbed areas and limit duration of exposed soils to reduce erosion potential - the disturbed areas (except for the open pit) will be rehabilitated at completion of mining.

The proposed clearing of vegetation is not likely to lead to land degradation issues and therefore is not at variance to this 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.

There are no conservation or nature reserves within the proposed clearing area with the closest conservation areas being located >12km from the proposed clearing area.

The clearing, therefore, is not at variance to this 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.

There is no surface water of significance, drainage lines, lakes or swamps in the clearing area.

With an average rainfall of 283.3 mm and a mean annual evaporation rate of >2,500 mm there is little surface flow during normal seasonal rains.

Given the low annual rainfall, high evaporation rate and size of the proposed clearing area there is expected to be little (if any) rainfall recharge that would impact the groundwater levels or the quality of groundwater in the local area or region.

The area proposed to be cleared does not fall within a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA) or PDWSA Protection Zone.

The clearing of native vegetation is not likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or groundwater and therefore, is not at variance to this principle.

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

There are no drainage lines in the proposed clearing area with surface water runoff occurring as broad sheet flow. The area also has a small upstream catchment (Figure 6).

With an average rainfall of 283.3 mm and a mean annual evaporation rate of >2,500 mm there is little surface flow during normal seasonal rains. Whilst large rainfall events may result in short-term flooding of the area, the proposed clearing is not likely to lead to an increase in incidence or intensity of flooding.

The proposed clearing is not at variance to this principle.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1:
Flora and Vegetation Survey Report

Appendix 2:
Basic Fauna and Malleefowl Survey Report