



Minister for the Environment; Climate Change; Peel

Statement No.

000750

**STATEMENT THAT A PROPOSAL MAY BE IMPLEMENTED
(PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1986)**

**MT GIBSON IRON ORE MINE & INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT
SHIRE OF YALGOO**

Proposal: To mine and process iron ore from Extension Hill and Extension Hill North, within the Mt Gibson Ranges, construct a pipeline to transport the magnetite slurry to Geraldton Port, and construct infrastructure at the port to strip the ore from the slurry for export.

Proponent: Mount Gibson Mining Limited

Proponent Address: Level 1, 7 Havelock Street, WEST PERTH WA 6872

Assessment Number: 1538

Report of the Environmental Protection Authority: Bulletin 1242

The proposal referred to in the above report of the Environmental Protection Authority may be implemented. The implementation of that proposal is subject to the following conditions and procedures:

1 Proposal Implementation

1-1 The proponent shall implement the proposal as documented and described in schedule 1 of this statement subject to the conditions and procedures of this statement.

2 Proponent Nomination and Contact Details

2 3-1 The proponent for the time being nominated by the Minister for the Environment under sections 38(6) or 38(7) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* is responsible for the implementation of the proposal.

2 3-2 The proponent shall notify the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Environment and Conservation (CEO) of any change of the name and address of the proponent for the serving of a notice or other correspondence within 30 days of such change.

Published on

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3 Time Limit of Authorisation

- 3-1 The authorisation to implement the proposal provided for in this statement shall lapse and be void within five years after the date of this statement if the proposal to which this statement relates is not substantially commenced.
- 3-2 The proponent shall provide the CEO with written evidence which demonstrates that the proposal has substantially commenced on or before the expiration of five years from the date of this statement.

4 Compliance Reporting

- 4-1 The proponent shall submit to the CEO environmental compliance reports annually reporting on the previous twelve-month period, unless required by the CEO to report more frequently.
- 4-2 The environmental compliance reports shall address each element of an audit program approved by the CEO and shall be prepared and submitted in a format acceptable to the CEO.
- 4-3 The environmental compliance reports shall:
1. be endorsed by signature of the proponent's Managing Director or a person, approved in writing by the CEO, delegated to sign on behalf of the proponent's Managing Director;
 2. state whether the proponent has complied with each condition and procedure contained in this statement;
 3. provide verifiable evidence of compliance with each condition and procedure contained in this statement;
 4. state whether the proponent has complied with each key action contained in any environmental management plan or program required by this statement;
 5. provide verifiable evidence of conformance with each key action contained in any environmental management plan or program required by this statement;
 6. identify all non-compliances and non-conformances and describe the corrective and preventative actions taken in relation to each non-compliance or non-conformance;
 7. provide an assessment of the effectiveness of all corrective and preventative actions taken; and
 8. describe the state of implementation of the proposal.
- 4-4 The proponent shall make the environmental compliance reports required by condition 4-1 publicly available in a manner approved by the CEO.

5 Performance Review

5-1 The proponent shall submit a Performance Review report every five years after the start of ground-disturbing activities to the Environmental Protection Authority, which addresses:

1. the major environmental issues associated with implementing the project; the environmental objectives for those issues; the methodologies used to achieve these; and the key indicators of environmental performance measured against those objectives;
2. the level of progress in the achievement of sound environmental performance, including industry benchmarking, and the use of best available technology where practicable;
3. significant improvements gained in environmental management, including the use of external peer reviews;
4. stakeholder and community consultation about environmental performance and the outcomes of that consultation, including a report of any on-going concerns being expressed; and
5. the proposed environmental objectives over the next five years, including improvements in technology and management processes.

5-2 The proponent shall make the Performance Review reports required by condition 5-1 publicly available in a manner approved by the CEO.

6 *Darwinia masonii* Research and Recovery Plans

6-1 Prior to the commencement of ground-disturbing activities for the mine site, the proponent shall prepare a *Darwinia masonii* Research Plan to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority and the and the Department of Environment and Conservation.

The objective of this Plan is to facilitate the continued *in situ* survival and improvement in the conservation status of *Darwinia masonii* over time through targeted research which assists development of a recovery plan for the species.

This Plan shall set out a timetable, objectives and methodologies for research and measures to:

1. monitor the numbers of individuals of the species, their health, and reproductive success;
2. investigate the requirements for maintaining or improving the viability of the population through genetic and ecological factors relating to the conservation, management, restoration, propagation and translocation of the species;
3. provide a scientifically robust analysis of the habitat requirements of the species;

4. offset the direct impacts of the proposal on the local population of the species by regeneration, re-establishment or translocation of additional plants or sub-populations on suitable un-impacted areas of banded ironstone formations in the Mt Gibson area; and
 5. provide information which, combined with the results of monitoring activities required by condition 8, assists in ensuring that mining and other activities of the proposal, particularly the generation of dust, do not lead to a further decline in the local population of the species.
- 6-2 Prior to the commencement of ground-disturbing activities for the mine site, the proponent shall prepare an Interim Recovery Plan for *Darwinia masonii*, to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority and the Department of Environment and Conservation.

The objective of this Plan is to maintain or improve the conservation status of *Darwinia masonii* during the development of the Recovery Plan required by condition 6-3.

This Plan shall include a timetable for and actions to:

1. locate and report any additional populations of the species;
2. enhance the survival of existing populations of the species; and
3. expand the existing populations or establish new populations;

based on currently available information and the results of early research and experimentation undertaken in accordance with condition 6-1.

- 6-3 Within four years following the commencement of ground-disturbing activities for the mine site, the proponent shall prepare a Recovery Plan for *Darwinia masonii* to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority and the Department of Environment and Conservation.

The objective of this Plan is to maintain, and ultimately improve, the conservation status of *Darwinia masonii* such that its conservation status is more secure in the Mt Gibson area.

This Plan shall identify:

1. habitats which are critical to the survival of the species and the actions needed to protect those habitats;
2. threats to the species, and areas and populations under threat;
3. objectives to be achieved;
4. criteria against which achievement of the objectives is to be measured;

5. management actions, based on the outcomes of the implementation of the Research Plan referred to in Condition 6-1 and the Interim Recovery Plan referred to in Condition 6-2 that will remediate the impacts of the project and provide for a net improvement on the pre-mining conservation status of the species; and

6. further research required into the management or recovery of the species,

and shall be consistent with the requirements of the current version of the "Recovery Plan Guidelines for Nationally Listed Threatened Species and Ecological Communities under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*" (published on the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Heritage website).

6-4 The proponent shall implement the *Darwinia masonii* Research Plan required by condition 6-1.

6-5 The proponent shall implement the Interim Recovery Plan for *Darwinia masonii* required by condition 6-2.

6-6 The proponent shall implement the Recovery Plan for *Darwinia masonii* required by condition 6-3.

6-7 The proponent shall review and revise the *Darwinia masonii* Research and Recovery Plans required by conditions 6-1, 6-2 and 6-3 as and when directed by the CEO.

6-8 The proponent shall implement revisions of the *Darwinia masonii* Research and Recovery Plans required by condition 6-7.

6-9 The proponent shall make the *Darwinia masonii* Research Plan required by condition 6-1 and revisions required by condition 6-7 publicly available in a manner approved by the CEO.

6-10 The proponent shall make the Interim Recovery Plan for *Darwinia masonii* required by condition 6-2 and revisions required by condition 6-7 publicly available in a manner approved by the CEO.

6-11 The proponent shall make the Recovery Plan for *Darwinia masonii* required by condition 6-3 and revisions required by condition 6-7 publicly available in a manner approved by the CEO.

7 *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson - Research and Recovery Plans

7-1 Prior to the commencement of ground-disturbing activities for the mine site, the proponent shall prepare a *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson Research Plan to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority and the Department of Environment and Conservation.

The objective of this Plan is to facilitate the continued *in situ* survival and improvement in the conservation status of *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson over time through targeted research which assists development of a recovery plan for the species.

This Plan shall set out a timetable, objectives and methodologies for research and measures to:

1. monitor the numbers of individuals of the species, their health, and reproductive success;
2. investigate the requirements for maintaining or improving viability of the population through genetic and ecological factors relating to the conservation, management, restoration, propagation and translocation of the species;
3. provide a scientifically robust analysis of the habitat requirements of the species;
4. offset the direct impacts of the proposal on the local population of the species by regeneration, re-establishment or translocation of additional plants or sub-populations on suitable un-impacted areas of banded ironstone formations in the Mt Gibson area; and
5. provide information which, combined with the results of monitoring activities required by condition 8, assists in ensuring that mining and other activities of the proposal, particularly the generation of dust, do not lead to a further decline in the local population of the species.

- 7-2 Prior to the commencement of ground-disturbing activities for the mine site, the proponent shall prepare an Interim Recovery Plan for *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson, to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority and the Department of Environment and Conservation.

The objective of this Plan is to maintain or improve the conservation status of *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson during the development of the Recovery Plan required by condition 7-3.

This Plan shall include a timetable for and actions to:

1. locate and report any additional populations of the species;
2. enhance the survival of existing populations of the species; and
3. expand the existing populations or establish new populations;

based on currently available information and the results of early research and experimentation undertaken in accordance with condition 7-1.

- 7-3 Within four years following the commencement of ground-disturbing activities for the mine site, the proponent shall prepare a Recovery Plan for *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environment Protection Authority and the Department of Environment and Conservation.

The objective of this Plan is to maintain, and ultimately improve, the conservation status of *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson such that its conservation status is more secure in the Mt Gibson area.

This Plan shall identify:

1. habitats which are critical to the survival of the species and the actions needed to protect those habitats;
2. threats to the species, and areas and populations under threat;
3. objectives to be achieved;
4. criteria against which achievement of the objectives is to be measured;
5. management actions, based on the outcomes of the Research Plan referred to in Condition 7-1 and the Interim Recovery Plan referred to in Condition 7-2 that will to remediate the impacts of the project and provide for a net improvement on the pre-mining conservation status of the species; and
6. further research required into the management or recovery of the species,

and shall be consistent with the requirements of the current version of the "Recovery Plan Guidelines for Nationally Listed Threatened Species and Ecological Communities under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*" (published on the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Heritage website).

- 7-4 The proponent shall implement a *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson Research Plan required by condition 7-1.
- 7-5 The proponent shall implement the Interim Recovery Plan for *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson required by condition 7-2.
- 7-6 The proponent shall implement the Recovery Plan for *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson required by condition 7-3.
- 7-7 The proponent shall review and revise the *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson Research and Recovery Plans required by conditions 7-1, 7-2 and 7-3 as and when directed by the CEO.
- 7-8 The proponent shall implement revisions of the *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson Research and Recovery Plans required by condition 7-7.
- 7-9 The proponent shall make the *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson Research Plan required by condition 7-1 and revisions required by condition 7-7 publicly available in a manner approved by the CEO.
- 7-10 The proponent shall make the Interim Recovery Plan for *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson required by condition 7-2 and revisions required by condition 7-7 publicly available in a manner approved by the CEO.
- 7-11 The proponent shall make the Recovery Plan for *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson required by condition 7-3 and revisions required by condition 7-7 publicly available in a manner approved by the CEO.

8 Conservation of Significant Flora and Communities

- 8-1 Prior to the commencement of ground-disturbing activities, the proponent shall prepare a Significant Flora Species and Communities Management Plan to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority and the Department of Environment and Conservation.

Note: "Significant flora species" include: Declared Rare Flora; Priority Listed Flora; geographically restricted flora; and newly discovered and undescribed flora.

The following species shall be addressed in the Plan:

- *Darwinia masonii*;
- *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson;
- *Acacia cerastes*;
- *Grevillea* aff. *yorkkrakinensis*;
- *Cryptandra imbricata*;
- *Podotheca unisetata*; and
- *Psammomoya implexa*.

Note: "Significant communities" include: Threatened Ecological Communities; Priority Ecological Communities; and geographically restricted ecological communities.

The objectives of this Plan are to:

- maintain the conservation status of significant native flora species and communities through the avoidance or management of adverse impacts of the proposal (other than those within the approved area of direct disturbance set out in schedule 1), including dust, and through improvements in knowledge of their distribution and ecology; and
- ensure compliance with the requirements of the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* and the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* for significant flora species and communities.

This Plan shall:

1. provide the results of targeted flora and vegetation surveys where surveys have not been completed or where the result of previous surveys are no longer current, to provide further information on the conservation and baseline conservation status of each of the significant flora species and communities within the project area;
2. describe details of monitoring and management activities to ensure that the proposal does not lead, directly or indirectly, to the taking of significant flora beyond the approved area of direct disturbance, including:
 - monitoring of the numbers and population distribution of *Darwinia masonii* and *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson, their health and reproductive success; and

- a detailed risk management plan setting out monitoring and management procedures, parameters, and schedules, and defining response triggers and acceptable performance criteria for the avoidance and management of potential indirect impacts of mining activities, including, the impacts of dust deposition, fire, weeds, altered hydrology and unauthorised disturbance, on the populations of *Darwinia masonii* and *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson outside the mining footprint;

Note: See also Weed Management Plan (condition 9) and Bush Fire Management Plan (condition 10).

3. describe measures to ensure that direct and indirect impacts on significant flora species and communities within the mine site and along the services corridor are minimised;
 4. describe measures to manage impacts of the mining operation on vegetation downstream of the mine site;
 5. set out monitoring parameters, methods and criteria for establishing impact on significant flora species and communities within the mine site and along the services corridor;
 6. outline the regeneration or revegetation strategies which may be required for significant flora species and components of communities, including completion criteria to be met;
 7. outline management or mitigation actions required to address any failure to achieve regeneration completion criteria arising from item 6 above; and
 8. outline further investigations into the regeneration and reproductive ecology of affected significant flora species and components of communities, in order to determine appropriate regeneration methodologies, if the completion criteria are not being achieved.
- 8-2 The proponent shall implement the Significant Flora Species and Communities Management Plan required by condition 8-1.
- 8-3 The proponent shall review and revise the Significant Flora Species and Communities Management Plan required by condition 8-1 as and when directed by the CEO.
- 8-4 The proponent shall implement revisions of the Significant Flora Species and Communities Management Plan required by condition 8-3.
- 8-5 The proponent shall make the Significant Flora Species and Communities Management Plan required by condition 8-1 and revisions required by condition 8-3 publicly available in a manner approved by the CEO.

9 Weeds

- 9-1 Prior to the commencement of ground-disturbing activities, the proponent shall prepare, in consultation with the Department of Environment and Conservation and the Department of Agriculture and Food, a Weed Management Plan.

The objectives of this Plan are to:

- prevent the spread of existing weeds within the mine site and along the services corridor caused by the activities of the proponent;
- prevent the establishment of new weeds within the mine site and along the services corridor caused by the activities of the proponent;
- control and/or eradicate weeds within the mine site and along the services corridor; and
- minimise the potential for the impact of weeds and weed management on significant flora identified in condition 8.

This Plan shall:

1. identify the location and approximate number of each weed species recorded within the mine site and along the services corridor, during previous vegetation surveys, while having regard for weed species outside the project area;
 2. identify weeds of environmental significance in the project area as target weeds in collaboration with the Department of Environment and Conservation;
 3. map the presence of target weeds;
 4. implement appropriate hygiene practices for all plant and vehicle equipment operated by the proponent;
 5. control and eradicate target weeds during construction and operation of the mine site and construction of the services corridor;
 6. identify performance indicators for weed management; and
 7. monitor the success of weed control.
- 9-2 The proponent shall implement the Weed Management Plan required by condition 9-1.
- 9-3 The proponent shall review and revise the Weed Management Plan required by condition 9-1 as and when directed by the CEO.
- 9-4 The proponent shall implement revisions of the Weed Management Plan required by condition 9-3.

- 9-5 The proponent shall make the Weed Management Plan required by condition 9-1 and revisions required by condition 9-3 publicly available in a manner approved by the CEO.

10 Bush Fires

- 10-1 Prior to the commencement of ground-disturbing activities, the proponent shall prepare, in consultation with the Department of Environment and Conservation and the relevant Local Governments, a Bush Fire Management Plan.

The objective of this Plan is to reduce the risk of unplanned fires and provide contingency measures to minimise the impacts of fires on the local environment.

This Plan shall set out the provision of resources and measures to:

1. prevent bushfires in the vicinity of the mine site;
 2. detect bushfires in the vicinity of the mine site;
 3. train personnel to fight fires in the vicinity of the mine site; and
 4. respond to bush fire emergencies.
- 10-2 The proponent shall implement the Bush Fire Management Plan required by condition 10-1.
- 10-3 The proponent shall review and revise the Bush Fire Management Plan required by condition 10-1 as and when directed by the CEO.
- 10-4 The proponent shall implement revisions of the Bush Fire Management Plan required by condition 10-3.
- 10-5 The proponent shall make the Bush Fire Management Plan required by condition 10-1 and revisions required by condition 10-3 publicly available in a manner approved by the CEO.

11 Malleefowl *Leipoa ocellata*

- 11-1 Prior to the commencement of ground-disturbing activities, the proponent shall prepare, in consultation with the Department of Environment and Conservation, a Malleefowl Conservation Plan.

The objective of this Plan is to maintain the abundance, diversity, geographic distribution and productivity of the Malleefowl *Leipoa ocellata* through mitigation of adverse impacts and improvements in knowledge.

This Plan shall:

1. identify the distribution and abundance of *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) within and around the project area, including the services corridor;
2. identify the threats to the Malleefowl populations in the areas identified in item 1 above;
3. identify management objectives and actions to minimise impacts on Malleefowl from the threats identified in item 2 above, including feral animal control and investigations into avoiding mounds being used by Malleefowl;
4. identify a monitoring program to assess the Malleefowl population and any impacts as a result of the proposal; and
5. identify measures for community involvement in Malleefowl conservation.

11-2 The proponent shall implement the Malleefowl Conservation Plan required by condition 11-1.

11-3 The proponent shall review and revise the Malleefowl Conservation Plan required by condition 11-1 as and when directed by the CEO.

11-4 The proponent shall implement revisions of the Malleefowl Conservation Plan required by condition 11-3.

11-5 The proponent shall make the Malleefowl Conservation Plan required by condition 11-1 and revisions required by condition 11-3 publicly available in a manner approved by the CEO.

12 Fauna Management at the Mine Site

12-1 Prior to the commencement of ground-disturbing activities for the mine site, the proponent shall prepare in consultation with the Department of Environment and Conservation, a Mine Site Fauna Management Plan.

The objective of this Plan is to maintain the abundance, diversity, geographic distribution and productivity of native fauna through mitigation of adverse impacts and improvements in knowledge.

This Plan shall address management and monitoring to:

1. demonstrate that the effects of vegetation clearing, noise and vibration, light overspill and vehicle movement on fauna are minimised; and
2. in particular, management and monitoring of *Egernia stokesii badia* (Western spiny-tailed skink); *Falco peregrinus* (Peregrine Falcon); *Cacatua leadbeateri* (Major Mitchell's Cockatoo); and *Merops ornatus* (Rainbow Bee-eater).

Note: The management of Malleefowl is considered in a separate Malleefowl Conservation Plan (condition 11).

- 12-2 The proponent shall implement the Mine Site Fauna Management Plan required by condition 12-1.
- 12-3 The proponent shall review and revise the Mine Site Fauna Management Plan required by condition 12-1 as and when directed by the CEO.
- 12-4 The proponent shall implement revisions of the Mine Site Fauna Management Plan required by condition 12-3.
- 12-5 The proponent shall make the Mine Site Fauna Management Plan required by condition 12-1 and revision required by condition 12-3 publicly available in a manner approved by the CEO.

13 Fauna Management along the Services Corridor

- 13-1 Prior to ground-disturbing activities of the Services Corridor, the proponent shall clearly delineate on the ground the boundaries of the services corridor, being up to 20 metres wide from Geraldton Port to Monger's Lake (agricultural section) and up to 15 metres wide from Monger's Lake to the mine site (pastoral section).
- 13-2 The proponent shall not cause or allow disturbance of vegetation outside the delineated services corridor referred to in condition 13-1, unless authorised by the Minister for the Environment.
- 13-3 The proponent shall undertake open trench works in the pastoral section of the services corridor from April to September (inclusive) unless otherwise authorised by the CEO.
- 13-4 Prior to vegetation clearing, the proponent shall mark significant habitat trees of sufficient age to form nesting hollows for hollow-nesting birds and mammals, and Malleefowl mounds, in consultation with the Department of Environment and Conservation.
- 13-5 The proponent shall not fell marked trees or disturb mounds referred to in condition 13-4, except in the case where habitat trees or mounds occur in the direct line of the proposed pipeline and cannot reasonably be avoided.
- 13-6 The proponent shall limit the length of open trench to a maximum length of 10 kilometres at any time in the pastoral section and 20 kilometres at any time in the agricultural section of the services corridor.
- 13-7 No part of the trench shall remain open for more than seven days, unless authorised by the CEO.
- 13-8 The proponent shall install ramps at intervals of 500 metres along the entire route of the open trench to allow trapped animals to escape, except in remnant vegetation patches in the agricultural section, where each remnant vegetation patch shall have at least one ramp.

13-9 The proponent shall employ at least two "fauna clearing persons" per ten kilometres of open trench to remove fauna from the trench. The "fauna clearing persons" shall be able to demonstrate suitable experience to obtain a fauna handling licence issued by the Department of Environment and Conservation.

13-10 The open trenches shall be inspected by the "fauna clearing persons" for trapped fauna each day by no later than three hours after sunrise and half an hour prior to backfilling of the trench.

13-11 In the event of significant rainfall, the proponent shall, following the clearing of fauna from the trench, pump out any pooled water in the open trench (with the exception of groundwater) and discharge it via a mesh (to dissipate energy) to adjacent areas.

Note: "Fauna clearing persons" means employees whose responsibility is to daily walk the open trench to recover and record fauna found within the trench.

13-12 The proponent shall produce monthly performance monitoring reports on fauna management. These reports shall include a Fauna Register on the fauna found in the trenches, and fatalities. These reports are to be provided to the Department of Environment and Conservation each month, and made publicly available.

14 Closure

14-1 Prior to ground-disturbing activities, the proponent shall prepare a Preliminary Closure Plan in consultation with the Department of Environment and Conservation, the Department of Industry and Resources, the Department of Water, the Australian Bush Heritage Fund, the Australian Wildlife Conservancy, the Pindiddy Aboriginal Corporation and the relevant Local Governments, which describes the framework to ensure that the mine area and the services corridor are left in an environmentally acceptable condition, and provides:

1. the rationale for the siting and design of plant and infrastructure as relevant to environmental protection;
2. a conceptual description and design of the final landform at closure;
3. for the long-term management of groundwater and surface water systems affected by the mining operations and services corridor;
4. for the management of noxious materials to avoid the creation of contaminated areas (including acid-generating materials);
5. a rehabilitation program, which aims to restore the original vegetation communities to areas disturbed by the mining operations and construction within the services corridor, and includes completion criteria to be met; and
6. for the monitoring and response to the progress towards the re-establishment of the floristic communities as part of the rehabilitation of the area, including studies on the composition of the floristic communities on Extension Hill North.

14-2 The proponent shall make the Preliminary Closure Plan required by condition 14-1 publicly available in a manner approved by the CEO.

14-3 At least two years prior to the anticipated date of closure, or at a time agreed with the Environmental Protection Authority, the proponent shall prepare a Final Closure Plan, to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority.

The objectives of this Plan are to:

- achieve construction of landforms which are stable, non-polluting and aesthetically compatible with the surrounding landscape; and
- ensure that closure planning and rehabilitation are carried out in a coordinated, progressive manner and are integrated with development planning, consistent with current best practice, and the agreed end land uses.

The Final Closure Plan shall set out details and measures for:

1. removal or, if appropriate, retention of plant and infrastructure in consultation with relevant stakeholders;
2. final landforms and the extent of the mine void;
3. long-term management of groundwater and surface water systems affected by the waste rock dumps, the mine void and the services corridor;
4. identification of contaminated areas, including provision of evidence of notification and proposed management measures to relevant statutory authorities; and
5. rehabilitation of all disturbed areas, including the mine area and the services corridor, to ensure establishment of sustainable vegetation communities with local species and local provenance, consistent with the reconstructed landscape and surrounding vegetation and in accordance with the completion criteria.

14-4 The proponent shall implement the Final Closure Plan required by condition 14-3 until such time as the Minister for the Environment determines, on advice of the CEO, that the proponent's closure responsibilities have been fulfilled.

14-5 The proponent shall make the Final Closure Plan required by condition 14-3 publicly available, in a manner approved by the CEO.

15 Performance Bond

15-1 As security for the due and punctual observance and performance by the proponent of the requirement to rehabilitate that part of the services corridor that lies outside mining tenure, as required by conditions 14-1(5) and 14-3(5), the proponent shall lodge with the CEO on demand prior to commencement of operations of the mine, an irrevocable Unconditional Performance Bond as nominated and approved by the CEO in his sole unfettered discretion to a cash value and in a form acceptable to the CEO ("the Security") which Security at the date hereof being \$5,000 per hectare of disturbance from Geraldton Port to Mongers Lake (agricultural section) and \$7,000 per hectare of disturbance from Mongers Lake to the mining tenure at the Mt Gibson mine site (pastoral section).

The proponent shall lodge with the CEO an Unconditional Performance Bond executed by a Bank or other approved financial institution for due compliance with the environmental conditions in the sum of \$576,000.

15-2 The CEO may review the Security required by condition 15-1 at any time or times and if, on such review, the CEO considers that a security has ceased to be acceptable to the CEO, then the CEO may, with the approval of the Minister for the Environment, require the proponent to furnish replacement or additional security for performance by the proponent of its obligations to rehabilitate that part of the services corridor that lies outside mining tenure, as required by conditions 14-1(5) and 14-3(5).

15-3 The proponent shall within fourteen days after written request by the CEO furnish replacement or additional security in such sum as the CEO shall nominate, in a form and upon terms and conditions approved by the CEO, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. On receipt of approved replacement security the CEO shall release and discharge the original security.

Note:

1. In the preparation of advice to the CEO in relation to conditions 15-1, 15-2 and 15-3, the Environmental Protection Authority expects that the advice of the Department of Environment and Conservation and the Department of Industry and Resources will be obtained.
2. The rehabilitation of the services corridor referred to in conditions 15-1 and 15-2 is required by conditions 14-1(5) and 14-3(5).

16 Offsets

16-1 The proponent shall implement the offset package set out in Schedule 2 to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Department of Environment and Conservation.

Notes

1. Where a condition states "on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority", the Environmental Protection Authority will provide that advice to the Department of Environment and Conservation for the preparation of written notice to the proponent.

2. The Environmental Protection Authority may seek advice from other agencies or organisations, as required, in order to provide its advice to the Department of Environment and Conservation.
3. The Minister for the Environment will determine any dispute between the proponent and the Environmental Protection Authority or the Department of Environment and Conservation over the fulfilment of the requirements of the conditions.
4. The proponent is required to apply for a Works Approval and Licence for this project under the provisions of Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.



David Templeman MLA
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT; CLIMATE CHANGE; PEEL

24 SEP 2007

Schedule 1

The Proposal (Assessment No. 1538)

General Description

The proposal is to mine and process iron ore (hematite and magnetite) from Extension Hill and Extension Hill North and to construct an underground pipeline, within a services corridor, to transport the magnetite slurry to Geraldton Port, and infrastructure at the port to strip the magnetite ore from the slurry for export. Extension Hill and Extension Hill North are part of a ridge of banded ironstone formations within the Mt Gibson Ranges. The banded ironstone formation contains hematite, and the underlying magnetite. The mine site is located approximately 350 kilometres north-east of Perth (Figure 1).

Details of the proposal are provided in the proponent's *Mt Gibson Iron Ore Mine and Infrastructure Project Public Environmental Review*, April 2006.

Summary Description

A summary of the key proposal characteristics is presented in Table 1.

Table 1 – Summary of the Key Proposal Characteristics

Element	Description
Project life	Approximately 20 years
Ore quantity	Magnetite approximately 230 Million tonnes Hematite approximately 13 Million tonnes
Waste management	Overburden will be stockpiled in a dump to the east of the pit. Tailings from magnetite processing will be combined with the overburden dump.
Processing requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dry and wet processing of magnetite to produce approximately 5 Million tonnes per annum of magnetite concentrate • Dry processing of hematite
Size of final pit	Approximately 2,400 metres long and 700 metres wide
Depth of final pit	Not more than 350 metres below the ground level (approximately 220 metres below the groundwater level)
Dewatering	Approximately 2,500 cubic metres per day
Mine water supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dewater for potable and domestic supplies: 80 cubic metres per day • Dewater for dust suppression: 2,055 cubic metres per day • Process water and slurry transportation water: 5,424 cubic metres per day from the Tathra borefield (piped 168 kilometres to the mine site) and drying of tailings
Vegetation disturbance	Not more than 880 hectares at the mine site (152 hectares for the mine pit and 552 hectares for the waste dump) Not more than 90 hectares along the services corridor

Underground pipelines within the services corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slurry pipeline from the mine site to Geraldton Port • Return water pipelines from Geraldton Port to Three Springs, from Three Springs to the mine site, and from the Tathra Borefield to the return water pipeline near Three Springs • Pumping stations for the water • Gas pipeline from Main Line Valve 92 on the Dampier-Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline to the mine site
Width of services corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not more than 15 metres in pastoral section (from Monger's Lake to the mine site) • Not more than 20 metres in the agricultural section (from Geraldton Port to Monger's Lake)

Figures (attached):

Figure 1 - Regional location

Figure 2 - Mt Gibson Ranges and pit

Figure 3 - Mine site layout

Figure 4 - Location of services corridor

Figure 5 - Facilities at Geraldton Port

Figure 6 - *Darwinia masonii*, *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson and floristic vegetation communities at Mt Gibson.

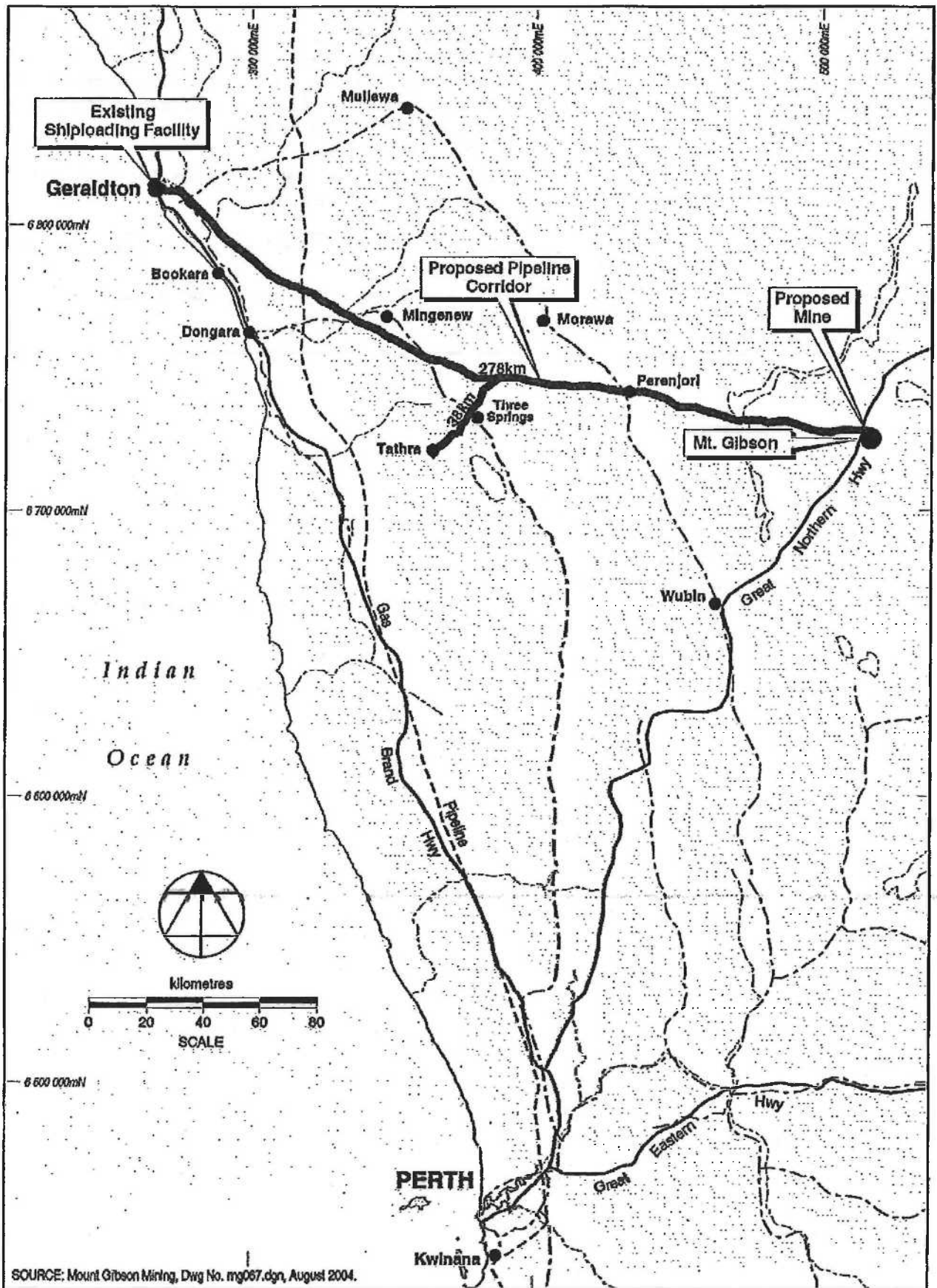


Figure 1: Regional location

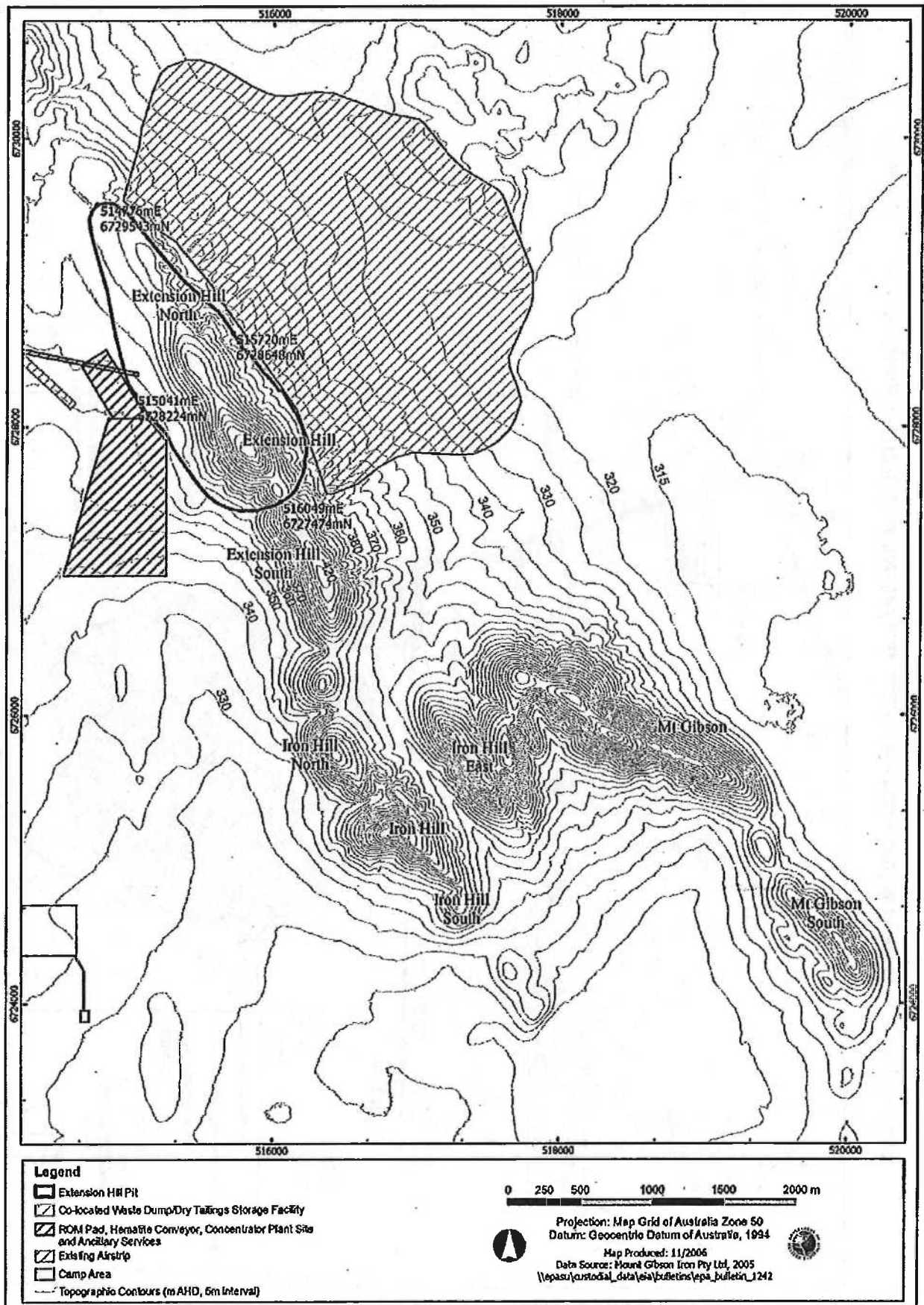


Figure 2: Mt Gibson Ranges and pit

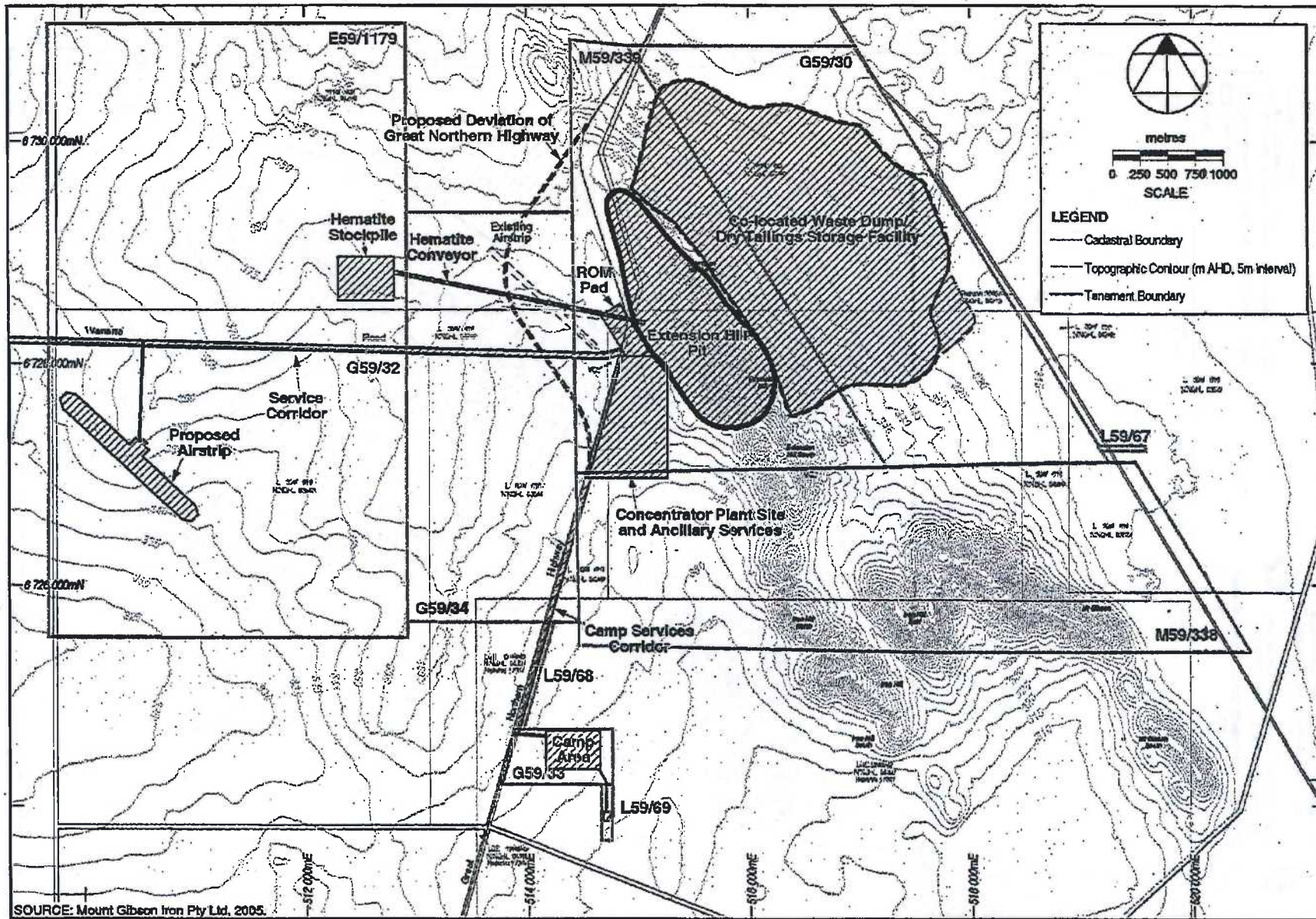


Figure 3: Mine site layout – NOTE: This hatched area defines the ‘mine site’ as referred to in the conditions

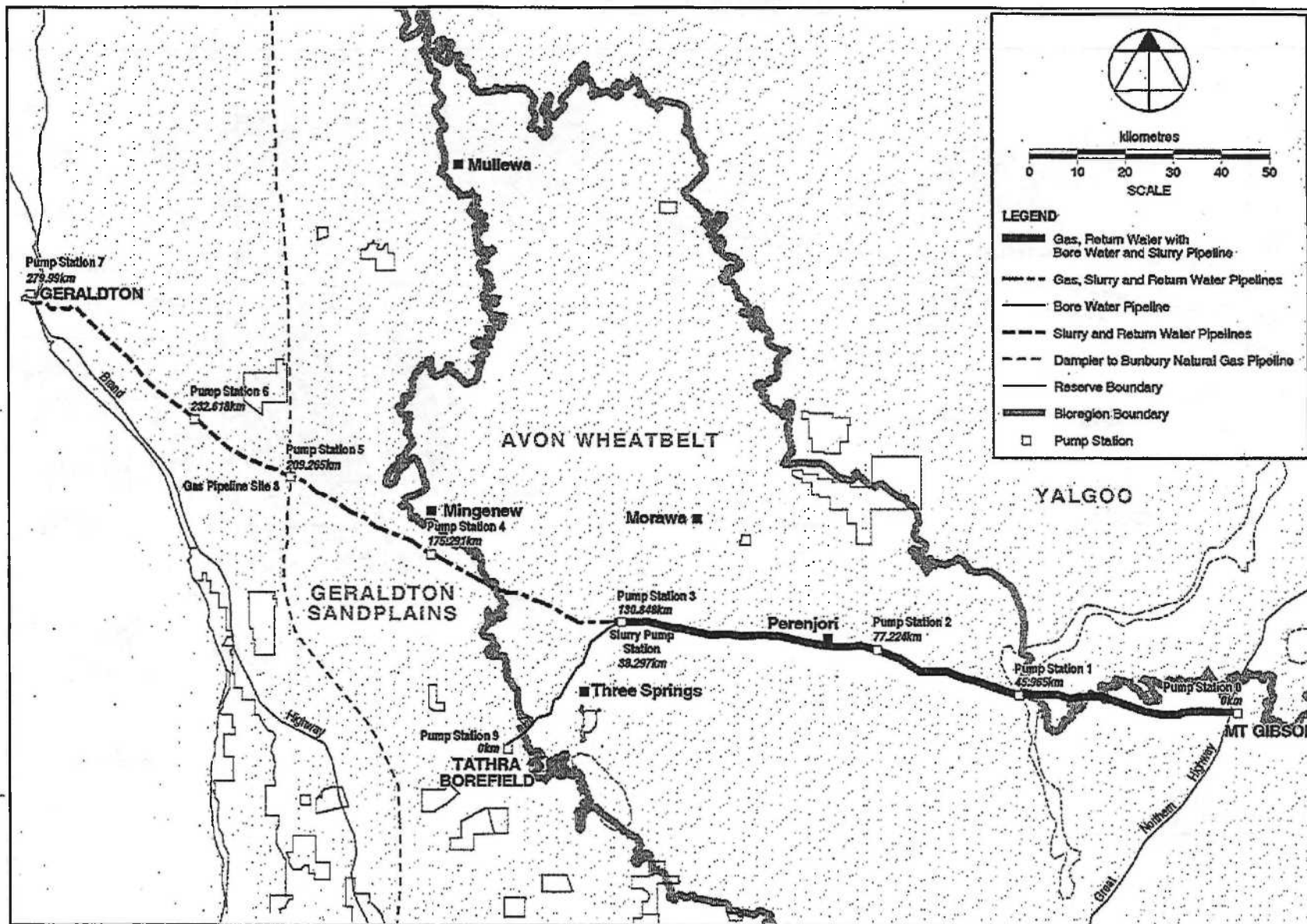


Figure 4: Location of services corridor

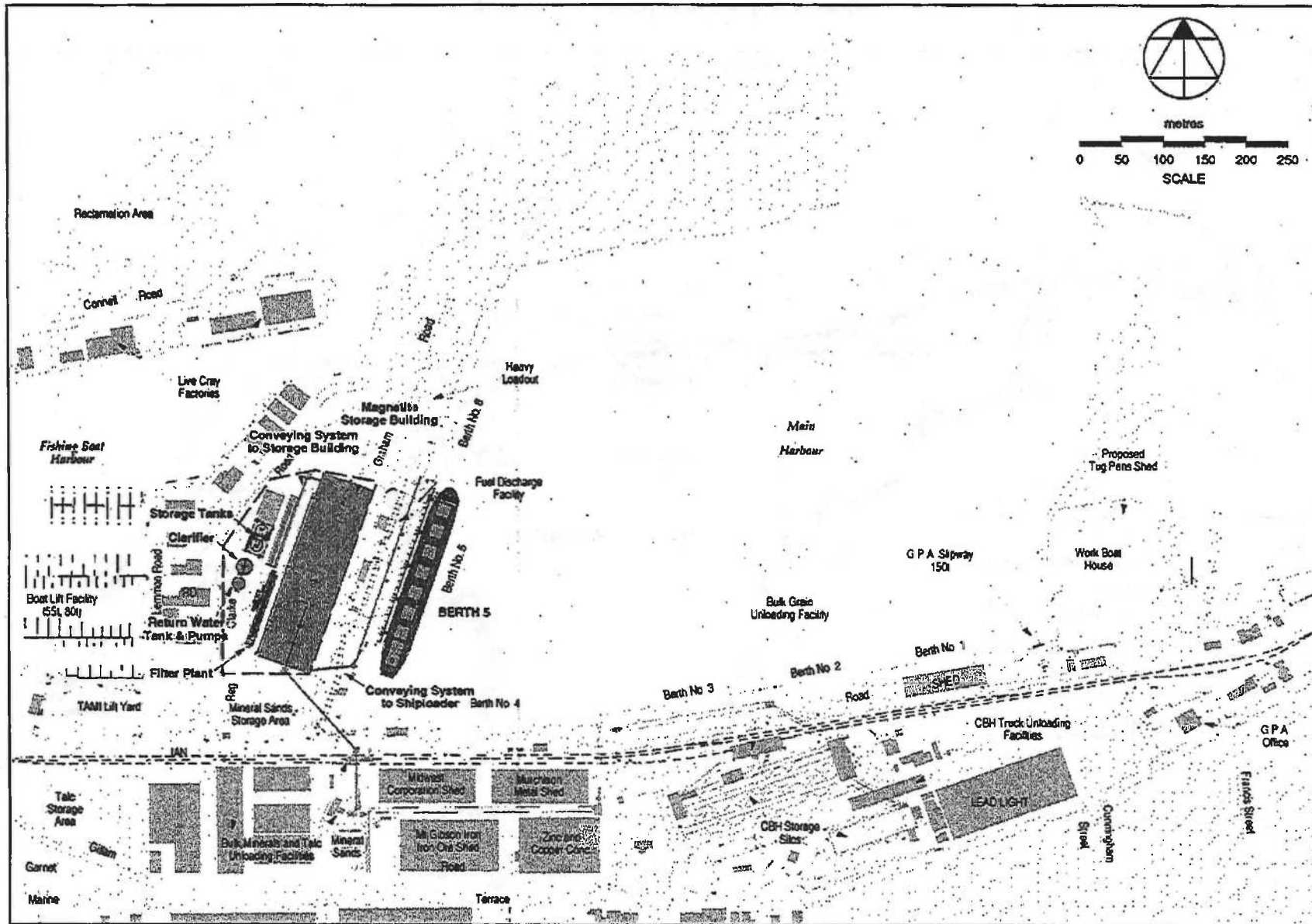


Figure 5: Facilities at Geraldton Port

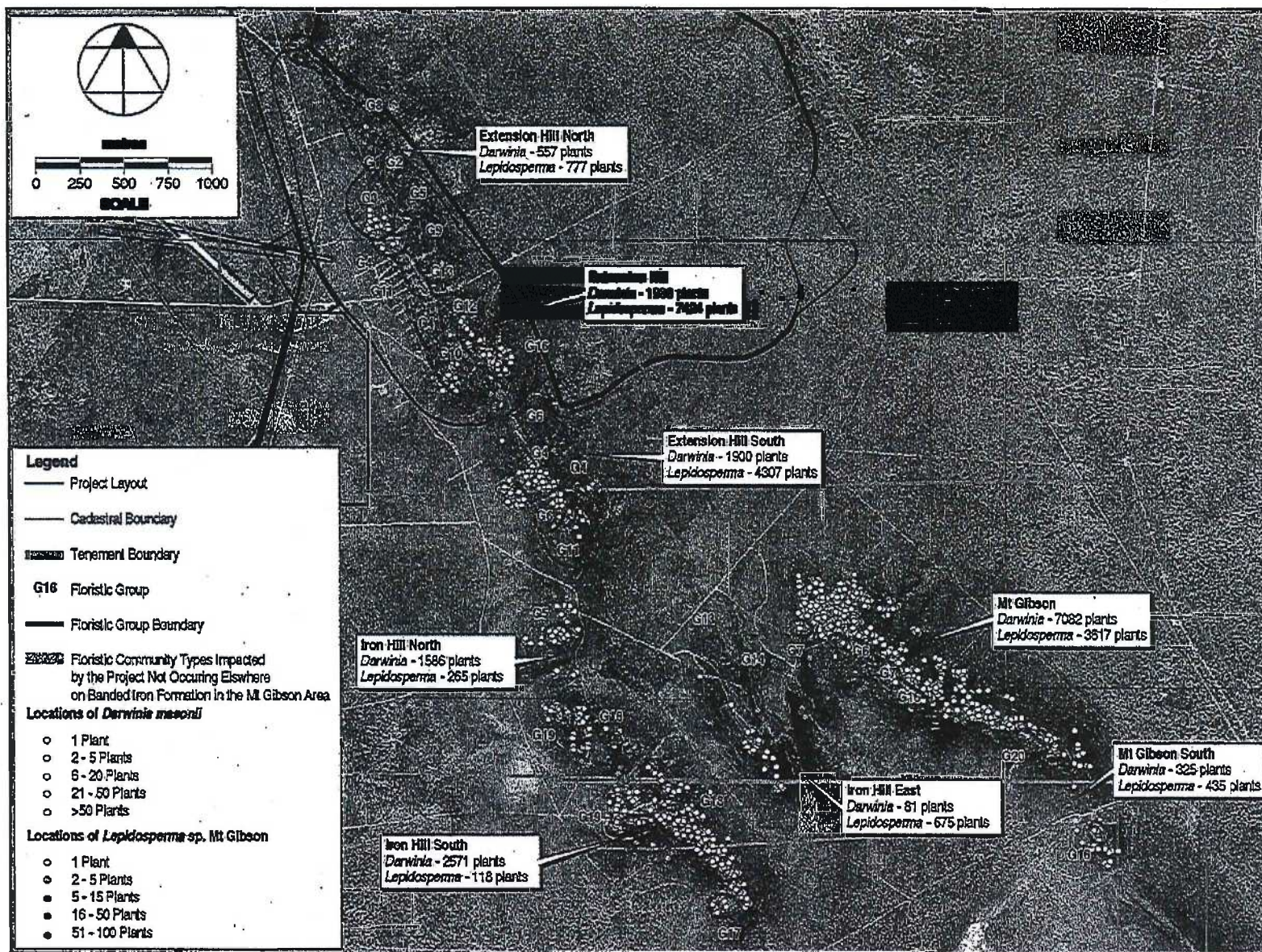


Figure 6: *Darwinia masonii*, *Lepidosperma* sp. Mt Gibson and floristic vegetation communities at Mt Gibson

Schedule 2

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Schedule: Summary of Proponent Offsets

Offset	Governance	Timeline	Value
Support for a 3 year plus (Stage 2) research program to be undertaken by BGPA leading to the preparation & implementation of a Recovery Plan for the DRF <i>Darwinia masonii</i> (already commenced).	BGPA commissioned to undertake this work To the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the EPA	Three years or as required to meet objectives of the Research Plan. Stage 1 of the Research Plan completed. Stage 2 of the Research Plan commenced in May 2007	Stage 1 = \$215,900 (already completed)
Support for a 3 plus year (Stage 2) research program to be undertaken by BGPA leading to the preparation and implementation of a Recovery Plan for the DRF <i>Lepidosperma</i> sp Mt Gibson (already commenced).	BGPA commissioned to undertake this work To the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the EPA	Three years or as required to meet objectives of the Research Plan. Stage 2 of the Research Plan commenced in May 2007	Stage 2 of combined research program = \$1.11 million
Management of the Proponent's mining tenements in the Mt Gibson Ranges in accordance with the: (i) Significant Flora Species and Communities Management Plan (Condition 8) (ii) Weed Management Plan (Condition 9) (iii) Fire Management Plan (Condition 10) (iv) Malleefowl Management Plan (Condition 11); (v) Minesite Fauna Management Plan(Condition 12); (vi) Fire Management Plan (Condition 10); and Preliminary Closure Management Plan (Condition 14).	To the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on the advice of the EPA, DEC, DAF, DOIR, DoW	Ongoing for the life of the project	
Funding of \$110,000 pa for the position of a DEC officer(s) during the life of the proposal. The funding is to be directed towards the achievement of environmental objectives detailed below and will cease in the event of any type of conservation reserve being imposed on the all or part of the Proponents Non Project land by any government agency. The rôle of the DEC position will be limited to • Assist with the development and implementation of the	Expenditure of funds to be agreed between Proponent and DEC's Regional Manager for the Midwest by 30 Nov each year DEC to provide an annual report to the Proponent by the end of September in each year which addresses performance in that rôle in the previous 12 months to assist in Proponents annual environmental reporting requirements	Ongoing for the life of the project	\$2.2 million (\$110,000pa)

<p>interim and full recovery plans for <i>Lepidosperma</i> sp Mt Gibson and <i>Darwinia masonii</i>;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinating the management of threatening processes in relation to <i>Lepidosperma</i> sp Mt Gibson and <i>Darwinia masonii</i>; • Oversee the development and implementation of a Malleefowl Management Plan; and • Other environmental target areas in DEC's Midwest Region as agreed by the Proponent and the DEC Manager for the Mid West Region on an annual basis 			
<p>Provide support of \$50,000 pa each to ABHF, AWC and Pindiddy for predominately on-ground projects aimed at enhancing biodiversity and regional sustainability values on White Wells, Mt Gibson and Ninghan Stations respectively.</p>	<p>Simple contract between Pindiddy, AWC, ABHF and the Proponent</p> <p>Reporting by each organisation on expenditure of funds & works undertaken.</p> <p>Included in Proponents annual compliance reporting</p>	<p>Ongoing for the life of the project</p>	<p>\$3 million (\$150,000pa)</p>
<p>Establishment of and support for a Regional Conservation Association with the objectives of enhancing biodiversity and regional sustainability values. Funding of \$100,000pa for projects in the northern Avon Wheatbelt and Southern Yalgoo IBRA bioregions generally focusing on an 2,600,000 ha area between Morawa and Beacon (200km west – east) and Wubin to Paynes Find (approximately 130km north – south). Provision of \$100,000 seed funding on receipt of all State and Commonwealth approvals to establish the organisation</p>	<p>In accordance with the Proponents Biodiversity Offset Management Plan</p> <p>Articles of Association of the Regional Conservation Association determined by the members</p> <p>Annual reporting by Association on financial expenditure and the success of the various projects to the Proponent</p> <p>Proponent will report on allocation of monies in Progress and Compliance reporting</p> <p>Operation of the Association will be</p>	<p>Ongoing for the life of the project</p>	<p>\$2 million (\$100,000 pa)</p>

	reviewed triennially by a current member of the EPA		
Contribute to a regional feral animal control program (in particular foxes)	Proponent, DEC, AWC, ABHF and Pindiddy to agree scope and implementation	On-going, for the life of the project	