

**RioTinto**

***Environment Protection and Biodiversity  
Conservation Act 1999***  
**Annual Compliance Report**

**EPBC Approval: 2021/9035**

**Project: Iron Ore Mine, Hope Downs 2 Project, Pilbara  
Region, Western Australia**

**Report period: 24 June – 31 December 2025**

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## 1 Description of activities

<b>EPBC approval number:</b>	2021/9035
<b>Project name:</b>	Iron Ore Mine, Hope Downs 2 Project, Pilbara Region, Western Australia
<b>Approval holder:</b>	Hamersley HMS Pty Ltd
<b>Approval holder's Australian Business Number:</b>	51 115 004 129
<b>Approved action:</b>	To develop and operate an above water table (AWT) iron ore mine and associated infrastructure approximately 80 km north-west of Newman in the Pilbara region of Western Australia.
<b>Location of the project:</b>	Pilbara Region, Western Australia
<b>Reporting period:</b>	24 June to 31 December 2025
<b>Report preparation date:</b>	30 March 2026
<b>Implementation phase(s) during reporting period:</b>	Construction

## 2 Audit table

Details of compliance with each condition under EPBC approval 2021/9035 are presented in Table 1.

**Table 1: EPBC Approval Conditions Compliance Table: 2021/9035 Iron Ore Mine, Hope Downs 2 Project, Pilbara Region, Western Australia**

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments
1	In taking the action, the approval holder must not: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>clear</b> outside of the <b>Action area</b>.</li> <li>b) <b>construct</b> outside of the <b>Action area</b>.</li> <li>c) <b>harm</b>, including indirectly impact, <b>cave 9</b> outside of the <b>Action area</b>.</li> </ul>	Compliant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) all clearing has been completed inside the Action area.</li> <li>b) all construction has been completed inside the Action area.</li> <li>c) No harm has been identified at Cave 9.</li> </ul>
2	The approval holder must comply with conditions A1-1 B2-1(1), B2-2 of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b> to the extent they relate to <b>protected matters</b> .	Compliant	On-ground survey data was collected during the reporting period to reconcile ground disturbance and the prescribed clearing limits were not exceeded. Cumulative clearing within the Action area totalled 785.52ha, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0.01ha of gorge/gully habitat</li> <li>• 0.22ha of breakaway habitat</li> <li>• 4.14ha of rocky hills habitat</li> </ul> Groundwater abstraction during the reporting period totalled 7.4kL.
3	The approval holder must not <b>clear</b> more than 4,900 hectares (ha) of <b>native vegetation</b> within the <b>Action area</b> consisting of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Critical habitat as identified in condition B2-1(1) of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b>; and</li> <li>b) Supporting habitat including foraging and dispersal habitat for the:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) <b>Northern Quoll</b>, consisting of <b>Minor Drainage Lines</b> and <b>Rocky Hills</b>;</li> <li>ii) <b>Grey Falcon</b>, consisting of <b>Minor Drainage Lines</b> and <b>Rocky Hills</b>;</li> <li>iii) <b>Pilbara Olive Python</b>, consisting of <b>Minor Drainage Lines</b>;</li> <li>iv) <b>Ghost Bat</b>, consisting of <b>Alluvial Plain, Low Hills and Slopes, Minor Drainage Lines, Mulga Woodland, Rocky Hills</b> and <b>Stony Plain</b>;</li> <li>v) <b>Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat</b>, consisting of <b>Alluvial Plain, Gorge/Gully, Low Hills and Slopes, Minor Drainage Lines, Mulga Woodland</b> and <b>Rocky Hills</b>;</li> <li>vi) <b>Night Parrot</b>, consisting of <b>Alluvial Plain, Gorge/Gully, Low Hills and Slopes, Minor Drainage Lines, Mulga Woodland</b> and <b>Rocky Hills</b>;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Compliant	Cumulative clearing within the Action area totalled 785.52ha during the reporting period, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Critical habitat consisting of:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 0.01ha of gorge/gully habitat;</li> <li>- 0.22ha of breakaway habitat; and</li> <li>- 4.14ha of rocky hills habitat.</li> </ul> </li> <li>b) 736.29ha of supporting habitat (including areas that overlap with critical habitat).</li> </ul>
4	The approval holder must not <b>mine</b> within any <b>Mining Exclusion Zones (MEZ)</b> .	Compliant	No mining occurred within any Mining Exclusion Zones (MEZ) during the reporting period.
5	The approval holder must not <b>clear</b> any <b>habitat</b> within an <b>MEZ</b> , except for <b>low impact activities</b> , which may be undertaken within no more than 5% of the total area of each <b>MEZ</b> .	Compliant	No clearing occurred within any Mining Exclusion Zones (MEZ) during the reporting period.

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments
6	To protect the <b>Ghost Bat</b> and <b>Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat</b> from impacts of the <b>Action</b> , the approval holder must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) not <b>harm</b> more than two caves consisting of <b>Cave 1</b> (category 3) and <b>Cave 8</b> (category 4); and</li> <li>b) not <b>harm</b> seven caves consisting of <b>Caves 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 10</b>.</li> </ul>	Compliant	No harm to Caves 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 or 10 occurred from impacts of the Action during the reporting period.
7	To avoid and mitigate impacts from clearing and habitat fragmentation on the <b>Northern Quoll, Pilbara Olive Python, Ghost Bat, Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat, Grey Falcon and Night Parrot</b> , the approval holder must comply with conditions B2-1(2) to B2-1(6), B2-9(1) to (4) and B6-1 to B6-9, of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b> .	Compliant	No disturbance occurred within the Fauna Corridor Protection Zone or Mining Exclusion Zone 2 during the reporting period. No impacts to Ghost Bats, Cave 10 or Cave 5 were noted during the reporting period. No ground disturbing activities occurred in gorge/gully habitat or Cave 1 during the reporting period. Pre-clearance surveys were undertaken 7 days prior to ground disturbing activities in breakaway and rocky hills habitats. No rehabilitation works were undertaken during the reporting period.
8	To avoid and mitigate impacts from vehicle strike on the <b>Northern Quoll, Pilbara Olive Python, Ghost Bat, Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat, Grey Falcon and Night Parrot</b> the approval holder must comply with Conditions B2-15 and B2-16 of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b> .	Compliant	During construction, the speed of vehicles and machinery is restricted to 40km/hr and is administered using an In-Vehicle Monitoring System (IVMS).  No vehicles and machinery related to Operations were in use during the reporting period.
9	To avoid and mitigate impacts from fire on the Northern Quoll, the approval holder must comply with Condition B1-3 of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b> .	Compliant	Impacts to flora and vegetation including but not limited to impacts from altered hydrological regimes, bushfire, dust, fragmentation and weeds are managed under the HD1S Project Construction Environmental Management Plan, the Rio Tinto Disturbance Permit Process and Weed Hygiene Inspection Procedure.
10	To avoid and mitigate impacts from feral animals on the <b>Northern Quoll, Pilbara Olive Python, Ghost Bat, Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat, Grey Falcon and Night Parrot</b> the approval holder must comply with Condition B2-1(8) of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b> .	Compliant	All artificial lighting use directional and/or shielded lighting and use the minimum number and intensity of lights required, to avoid and otherwise minimise impacts to nocturnal fauna due to artificial lighting.

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments
11	To avoid and mitigate impacts from weeds on the <b>Northern Quoll, Pilbara Olive Python, Ghost Bat, Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat, Grey Falcon and Night Parrot</b> the approval holder must comply with Condition B1-1(5) and B1-3 of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b> .	Compliant	Impacts to flora and vegetation including but not limited to impacts from altered hydrological regimes, bushfire, dust, fragmentation and weeds are managed under the HD1S Project Construction Environmental Management Plan, the Rio Tinto Disturbance Permit Process and Weed Hygiene Inspection Procedure.
12	To avoid and mitigate the impacts of disturbance on caves and surrounding foraging habitat for the <b>Ghost Bat</b> , the approval holder must comply with Conditions B2-1(2), B2-1(3), B2-1(4), B2-1(5), B2-1(6), B2-4, B2-5, B2-6, B2-9(1) and B2-9(2) of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b> .	Compliant	No disturbance occurred within the Fauna Corridor Protection Zone or Mining Exclusion Zone 2 during the reporting period. No impacts to Ghost Bats, Cave 10 or Cave 5 were noted during the reporting period. No Ghost Bat monitoring was completed in 2025 and as such no Ghost Bat Performance Report has been prepared. The Ghost Bat Management Plan was not submitted during the reporting period and as such no outcomes cannot be reported. Pre-clearance surveys were undertaken 7 days prior to ground disturbing activities in breakaway and rocky hills habitats.
13	To avoid and mitigate the impacts of noise and vibration on the <b>Pilbara Olive Python, Ghost Bat, Pilbara Leaf nosed Bat</b> the approval holder must comply with Condition B2-3 and B2-7 of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b> .	Compliant	Rio Tinto has developed a Ghost Bat Management Plan to address the requirements of Condition B2-3 and B2-7 of the Ministerial Statement.
14	To avoid and mitigate the impacts of fencing on the <b>Ghost Bat and Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat</b> the approval holder must comply with Condition B2-14 of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b> .	Compliant	Rio Tinto has Fencing and Gates Standard Specifications and Environmental Design Criteria which detail the requirements if barbed wire is required.
15	To avoid and mitigate the impacts of dust on the <b>Ghost Bat and Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat</b> the approval holder must comply with Condition B1-3 of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b> .	Compliant	Dust management in accordance with HD1S Project CEMP and Land Disturbance Procedure.
16	To avoid and mitigate the impacts of lighting on the <b>Pilbara Olive Python, Ghost Bat and Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat</b> the approval holder must comply with Condition B2-8 of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b> .	Compliant	All artificial lighting uses directional and/or shielded lighting, and the minimum number and intensity of lights are used to avoid and otherwise minimise impacts to nocturnal fauna due to artificial lighting.
17	To avoid and mitigate <b>harm</b> to the <b>Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat</b> , the approval holder must: a) Complete, prior to the commencement of <b>blasting</b> within 350 m of <b>Cave 10</b> , a baseline assessment of the structural integrity, microclimate and use by <b>Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat</b> of <b>Cave 10</b> ; b) Ensure <b>mining</b> does not <b>harm</b> the structural integrity, microclimate or use by <b>Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat</b> of any <b>retained bat cave</b> .	Not applicable	No blasting occurred within 350m of Cave 10 during the reporting period. No mining occurred during the reporting period.

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments
18	<p>To avoid and mitigate <b>harm</b> to the <b>Ghost Bat</b>, the approval holder must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Comply with Conditions B2-2 to B2-7, and B2-12 to B2-13, of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b>;</li> <li>b) Develop a <b>Ghost Bat Management Plan</b> that satisfies the requirements of the environmental outcomes and objectives required by Condition B2-2 of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b>;</li> <li>c) Prior to the commencement of <b>blasting</b> within 350 m of <b>Cave 10</b>, submit to the <b>department</b> for the approval of the <b>Minister</b> a <b>Ghost Bat Management Plan</b>;</li> <li>d) Implement the approved <b>Ghost Bat Management Plan</b>;</li> <li>e) At least once every five years following the <b>commencement of the Action</b>, undertake sufficient <b>genetic and hormonal studies</b> using scats to reliably determine the size of the population of <b>Ghost Bat</b> roosting within the <b>development envelope</b> at that time;</li> <li>f) Provide a copy of the reporting on the outcomes of the <b>Ghost Bat Management Plan</b> required by condition B2-6 of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b> to the department annually;</li> <li>g) Complete, prior to the commencement of <b>blasting</b> within 350 m of <b>Cave 10</b>, a baseline assessment of the structural integrity, microclimate and use by <b>Ghost Bats of Cave 10</b>;</li> <li>h) Ensure <b>mining</b> does not <b>harm</b> the structural integrity, microclimate or use by Ghost Bats of any <b>retained bat cave</b>;</li> <li>i) Ensure that no unauthorised personnel enters or approaches within 150 metres of any <b>retained bat cave</b>;</li> <li>j) Ensure that scat collection and sheet replacement or assessment of structural integrity are undertaken outside of the <b>maternity season</b> for the <b>Ghost Bat</b>.</li> </ul>	Compliant	Rio Tinto has developed a Ghost Bat Management Plan to address the requirements of this condition.
19	The approval holder must ensure that the Action does not lead to a 10 year long term average decrease in the size of each population of each <b>protected matter</b> within the <b>development envelope</b> , relative to the baseline population, at least until the expiry date of this approval.	Not applicable	Noted
20	<p>If the approval holder detects the presence, where likely to be affected by the Action, of any <b>protected matter</b> or the habitat of any <b>protected matter</b> not previously reported to the <b>department</b> as part of the referral or assessment of this Action or in accordance with this condition, the approval holder must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Notify the <b>department</b> in writing of the presence of any <b>protected matter</b> or the habitat of any <b>protected matter</b> not previously reported to the <b>department</b> within 10 <b>business days</b> of detecting the presence of any <b>protected matter</b> or the habitat of any <b>protected matter</b> not previously reported to the <b>department</b>.</li> </ul>	Not applicable	Noted

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) The notice must include the likely extent of the <b>protected matter</b> or the habitat of any <b>protected matter</b>, and proposed management measures to be implemented as part of a revised plan.</li> <li>c) Avoid or minimise harm to that <b>protected matter</b> or habitat of the <b>protected matter</b> until the <b>department</b> has confirmed in writing that the management approach is approved; and</li> <li>d) Update the relevant <b>plan</b> to include the approved management measures.</li> </ul>		
21	<p>To avoid and mitigate any <b>harm</b> from noise and vibration on <b>protected matters</b>, the approval holder must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Conduct geotechnical assessment and vibration modelling prior to trial blasting required by B2-7 of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b>.</li> <li>b) Have an <b>independent suitably qualified expert</b> in vibration modelling review the geotechnical assessment and vibration modelling to determine that the proposed trial blasting will not cause cave collapse.</li> <li>c) During the trial blasting permitted under WA EPA condition 2-7(2) to determine the size of the <b>Bat Cave Buffer Zones</b>, the approval holder must ensure sound pressure level, noise level, vibration PPV and bat behavioural response is monitored at the entrance of <b>Cave 10</b>, and the data is submitted to the <b>department</b> within 90 days of the trial;</li> <li>d) Ensure no <b>blasting</b> is undertaken outside <b>daylight hours</b>;</li> <li>e) Ensure no haul truck comes within 150m of <b>cave 5</b> and <b>cave 10</b>;</li> <li>f) Ensure no barbed wire fence is installed within the <b>development envelope</b> unless explicitly required by other legislation.</li> </ul>	Compliant	Rio Tinto has developed a Ghost Bat Management Plan to address the requirements of this condition.
22	The approval holder must comply with condition B3-1 of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b> .	Compliant	<p>No clearing occurred within the Surface Water Protection Zone (SWPZ) or the Surface Water Restriction Zone (SWRZ) during the reporting period.</p> <p>No clearing occurred within MEZ1 and MEZ2 during the reporting period.</p> <p>No clearing occurred at the Hope Downs 2 Waterhole or Bedded Hill Top Waterhole during the reporting period.</p> <p>15.15 ha of vegetation unit D4 and D5 (riparian vegetation) was cleared during the reporting period.</p>
23	To avoid and mitigate <b>harm</b> to <b>protected matters</b> , including riparian habitat, the approval holder must limit ground water abstraction to no more than 3GL/year for fifteen years.	Compliant	Groundwater abstraction during the reporting period totalled 7.4kL.



Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments
24	The approval holder must comply with conditions B3-1(1) and B3-1(2) of the Ministerial within the <b>Surface Water Protection Zone</b> and <b>Surface Water Restriction Zone</b> for the life of the approval.	Compliant	No clearing occurred within the Surface Water Protection Zone (SWPZ) or the Surface Water Restriction Zone (SWRZ) during the reporting period.
25	The approval holder must ensure no direct disturbance to water pools at <b>Hope Downs 2 Waterhole</b> and <b>Bedded Hill Top Waterhole</b> .	Compliant	No clearing occurred at the Hope Downs 2 Waterhole or Bedded Hill Top Waterhole during the reporting period.
26	To ensure ongoing protection of the <b>protected matters</b> , the approval holder must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) submit to the <b>department</b> for the <b>Minister's</b> approval a revised version of the <b>Mine Closure Plan</b> specifying how mine features, infrastructure, progressive rehabilitation and closure will be designed and undertaken to maximise progressive rehabilitation of the land to a stable and non-polluting landscape. The revised Mine Closure Plan must include <b>SMART</b> milestones to achieve the outcome specified in Condition B6-1 of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b>.</li> <li>b) implement the <b>Mine Closure Plan</b> until the <b>Minister</b> has approved in writing a revised <b>Mine Closure Plan</b>.</li> <li>c) rehabilitate the land to a safe, stable and non-polluting landscape consistent with the post-mining land use prescribed in the <b>Mine Closure Plan</b>.</li> <li>d) commence implementing the approved revised <b>Mine Closure Plan</b> from the date of its approval by the <b>Minister</b> and continue to implement the approved revised Mine Closure Plan most recently approved by the <b>Minister</b> until the expiry date of this <b>approval</b>.</li> </ul>	Not applicable	Mine Closure Plan yet to be submitted.
27	To compensate for the residual significant impact of the Action on <b>protected matters</b> , the approval holder must prepare and submit an Offset Strategy to the <b>department</b> for approval by the <b>Minister</b> within three months of the <b>commencement of the Action</b> . The Offset Strategy must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Outline a strategy for compensating for the residual significant impacts of the Action on <b>protected matters</b>; and</li> <li>b) Meet the requirements of the <b>EPBC Act Environmental Offset Policy</b> to the satisfaction of the Minister.</li> </ul>	Compliant	The Offset Strategy was submitted to DCCEEW on 26 September 2025 (our ref: RTIO-1127350). The Offset Strategy is yet to be approved by the Minister.
28	The approval holder must prepare and submit a Management Program to the <b>department</b> for approval by the <b>Minister</b> within twelve months of the approval of the Offset Strategy by the <b>Minister</b> . The Management Program must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) describe specific program/s to be implemented under the <b>Offset Strategy</b> to compensate for the residual significant impacts of the Action on <b>protected matters</b>;</li> <li>b) identify conservation priorities or information gaps that will be addressed for these <b>protected matters</b>;</li> <li>c) identify how and by whom the program/s will be undertaken;</li> <li>d) identify how, where and when the program/s will be published;</li> </ul>	Not applicable	The Management Program was not due for submission during the reporting period.

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e) identify the planned duration of the program/s;</li> <li>f) identify the criteria that will be used to determine whether the program/s have met the specified information gaps;</li> <li>g) identify corrective actions that will be undertaken in the event that the program/s do not meet the specified conservation priorities or information gaps.</li> </ul>		
29	<p>The approval holder must demonstrate that the Offset Strategy and Management Program are sufficient to compensate for the residual significant impact of the Action on <b>protected matters</b>. The residual significant impact includes <b>clearing</b> of up to 4,900 ha of <b>native vegetation</b> consisting of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Critical habitat identified in condition B2-1 of the <b>Ministerial Statement</b>; and</li> <li>b) Supporting habitat including foraging and dispersal habitat for the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) <b>Northern Quoll</b>, consisting of <b>Minor Drainage Lines</b> and <b>Rocky Hills</b>;</li> <li>ii) <b>Grey Falcon</b>, consisting of <b>Minor Drainage Lines</b> and <b>Rocky Hills</b>;</li> <li>iii) <b>Pilbara Olive Python</b>, consisting of <b>Minor Drainage Lines</b>;</li> <li>iv) <b>Ghost Bat</b>, consisting of <b>Alluvial Plain, Low Hills and Slopes, Minor Drainage Lines, Mulga Woodland, Rocky Hills</b> and <b>Stony Plain</b>;</li> <li>v) <b>Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat</b>, consisting of <b>Alluvial Plain, Gorge/Gully, Low Hills and Slopes, Minor Drainage Lines, Mulga Woodland</b> and <b>Rocky Hills</b>;</li> <li>vi) <b>Night Parrot</b>, consisting of <b>Alluvial Plain, Gorge/Gully, Low Hills and Slopes, Minor Drainage Lines, Mulga Woodland</b> and <b>Rocky Hills</b>;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Not applicable	The Offset Strategy is yet to be approved by the Minister. The Management Program was not due for submission during the reporting period.
30	<p>If the approval holder elects to make financial payments to the <b>Pilbara Environmental Offset Fund</b> as part of the Offset Strategy or Management Program, the approval holder must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Contribute funds toward an offset activity or activities that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) reduces the rate of decline of the <b>Northern Quoll, Pilbara Olive Python, Ghost Bat, Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat, Grey Falcon</b> and <b>Night Parrot</b>;</li> <li>ii) ensures a viable population of <b>Northern Quoll, Pilbara Olive Python, Ghost Bat, Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat, Grey Falcon</b> and <b>Night Parrot</b>, remain in the Pilbara region;</li> <li>iii) has specified outcomes and performance indicators; timeframes and milestones for their achievement;</li> <li>iv) includes sufficient monitoring to detect achievement of performance indicators, milestones, and the outcomes; and</li> <li>v) requires regular reporting to the approval holders of the outcomes of the offset activity or activities their funding has contributed towards.</li> </ul> </li> <li>b) The approval holder must submit the Impact Reconciliation Procedure to the department for approval by the <b>Minister</b> within 3 months of the approval date</li> </ul>	Not applicable	The Offset Strategy is yet to be approved by the Minister. The Impact Reconciliation Procedure was not due for submission during the reporting period.

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments
	<p>of the Offset Strategy. The Impact Reconciliation Procedure may be revised and approved by <b>DWER</b> at any time, but the approval holder must seek endorsement from the <b>Minister</b> prior to the approval of any revised Impact Reconciliation Procedure by <b>DWER</b> if revisions have been made to offset requirements for the species outlined in Condition 29 of this approval.</p> <p>c) The Impact Reconciliation Procedure must be prepared in accordance with the <b>Impact Reconciliation Report Guidelines</b> and include the financial contributions values described this approval for each protected matter per hectare of <b>critical habitat</b> and <b>supporting habitat</b> cleared over the <b>life of the approval</b>.</p> <p>d) Within 6 months of the approval of the Offsets Strategy, the approval holder must make a payment of at least 10 per cent of the possible total contribution that will be paid into the <b>PEOF</b>, which will contribute towards achieving the requirements of this approval.</p> <p>e) Make biennial payments to the <b>PEOF</b> based on evidence of the <b>actual clearing footprint</b> in accordance with the timing specified in the approved Impact Reconciliation Procedure. Biennial payments must be equivalent to or greater than the value of the following amounts, by adjustment in accordance with the <b>CPI</b> from the date of this approval decision until the date on which any payment is made, of:</p> <p>i) A minimum of \$3,306 AUD (excluding GST) per hectare of <b>critical habitat</b>.</p> <p>ii) A minimum of \$1,653 AUD (excluding GST) per hectare of <b>supporting habitat</b>.</p> <p>f) Submit evidence of each payment made to the <b>department</b> within 10 <b>business</b> days of the date of making the payment.</p> <p>g) Include details of progress towards, or achievement of, the outcomes specified under condition 30 of this approval for the <b>Northern Quoll, Pilbara Olive Python, Ghost Bat, Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat, Grey Falcon and Night Parrot</b>.</p>		
31	Write to the Minister, within 10 <b>business days</b> of being aware or having concerns, that the offset outcomes specified for the PEOF project(s) may not be achieved for the <b>Northern Quoll, Pilbara Olive Python, Ghost Bat, Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat, Grey Falcon and Night Parrot</b> .	Not applicable	The Offset Strategy is yet to be approved by the Minister. The Impact Reconciliation Procedure was not due for submission during the reporting period.
32	Should the <b>Minister</b> determine that the <b>PEOF</b> is likely to <b>fail</b> for one or more <b>protected matter(s)</b> , the <b>Minister</b> may write to the approval holder asking to provide evidence that failure has not occurred or is unlikely to occur and nominating a deadline by which this must be provided. If, after considering any information provided by the approval holder:	Not applicable	No notification received from the Minister regarding failure of the PEOF.
33	The <b>Minister</b> determines that the <b>PEOF</b> has failed for one or all species named in Condition 29 of this approval, the approval holder must submit for the <b>Minister's</b> approval, within 4 months of being notified by the <b>Minister</b> , an Offset Strategy consistent	Not applicable	No notification received from the Minister regarding failure of the PEOF.

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments
	with the principles of the <b>Environmental Offsets Policy</b> to the satisfaction of the <b>Minister</b> .		
34	If the Offset Strategy has not been approved by the <b>Minister</b> in writing within 6 months of the notification by the <b>Minister</b> of this approval, and the <b>Minister</b> notifies the approval holder that the provided Offset Strategy is not suitable for approval, the <b>Minister</b> may, at least 2 months after so notifying the approval holder, approve a version of the Offset Strategy revised by the <b>department</b> . The approval holder must commence implementation of the approved Offset Strategy within 2 months of the approval of the Offset Strategy by the <b>Minister</b> in writing, or another time as agreed in writing by the <b>Minister</b> . The approval holder must implement the approved Offset Strategy for the <b>life of the approval</b> .	Not applicable	No notification received from the Minister regarding failure of the PEOF.
35	The Offset Strategy to be provided for the <b>Minister's</b> approval, if required by this approval, must provide a framework for how the <b>residual significant impacts</b> from the approved action on the <b>Northern Quoll, Pilbara Olive Python, Ghost Bat, Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat, Grey Falcon and Night Parrot</b> will be offset and must detail:	Not applicable	No notification received from the Minister regarding failure of the PEOF.
36	<p>how the strategy will achieve the outcomes required under condition 30(a) of this approval;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) how it accounts for relevant approved conservation advices, recovery plans and threat abatement plans;</li> <li>ii) the party to be responsible for implementing the proposed offset(s);</li> <li>iii) the location and nature of the proposed offset(s);</li> <li>iv) objectives, outcomes, and timeframes for their achievement;</li> <li>v) budget;</li> <li>vi) performance and completion criteria for evaluating conservation outcomes;</li> <li>vii) project monitoring (with indicators and measures) capable of detecting progress;</li> <li>viii) reporting of specified outputs/offset activities, progress towards and achievement of the required outcomes, and evaluation of appropriateness of measures implemented;</li> <li>ix) description of the potential risks to the successful implementation of each proposed offset (including but not limited to environmental, administrative, financial and governance risks);</li> <li>x) a description of the measures that will be implemented to mitigate risk associated with each proposed offset and a description of <b>the contingency actions</b> that will be implemented if performance or completion criteria are not met;</li> <li>xi) processes to adaptively manage the proposed offset;</li> </ul>	Not applicable	No notification received from the Minister regarding failure of the PEOF.

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>xii) how the proposed offset is consistent with the <b>Environmental Offsets Policy</b>; and</li> <li>xiii) how the approval holder will ensure that the measures to be implemented as part of the Offsets Strategy have no detrimental <b>impact</b> on any <b>protected matters</b> under the <b>EPBC Act</b>.</li> </ul>		
37	<p>The approval holder may choose to revise a <b>plan</b> required to be implemented under condition 38 without submitting it for approval under section 143A of the <b>EPBC Act</b>, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the taking of the Action in accordance with the revised <b>plan</b> would be consistent with the approved Action,</li> <li>b) the taking of the Action in accordance with the revised <b>plan</b> would be consistent with the conditions attached to this approval,</li> <li>c) the taking of the Action in accordance with the revised <b>plan</b> would not be likely to have a <b>new or increased impact</b>, and</li> <li>d) the approval holder notifies the <b>department</b> electronically that it has prepared a revised version of the <b>plan</b> (the 'revised <b>plan</b>'). In notifying the <b>department</b>, the approval holder must specify each condition which references the <b>plan</b> and provide the <b>department</b> with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) an electronic copy of the revised <b>plan</b>,</li> <li>ii) an electronic copy of the revised <b>plan</b> marked up with track changes to show the differences between the <b>plan</b> and the revised <b>plan</b>,</li> <li>iii) a comprehensive explanation of all differences between the <b>plan</b> and the revised <b>plan</b>,</li> <li>iv) a declaration that the approval holder has read and understands the Guidance on 'new or increased impact' relating to changes to approved management plans under EPBC Act environmental approvals, Commonwealth of Australia 2017,</li> <li>v) a comprehensive analysis and detailed discussion on the likelihood that taking the Action in accordance with the revised plan will not have, or will be not likely to have, a <b>new or increased impact</b>,</li> <li>vi) written notice of the date on which the approval holder will implement the revised <b>plan</b> (the 'revised <b>plan</b> implementation date'), being at least 30 <b>business days</b> after the date of providing notice of the revision of the <b>plan</b>, or a date agreed to in writing with the <b>department</b>, and</li> <li>vii) a copy of the <b>compliance report</b> for the latest <b>ACR period</b> and a statement of any relevant history of compliance (including non-compliance) in relation to the <b>plan</b>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>e) The approval holder must commence implementation of the revised <b>plan</b> from the revised <b>plan</b> implementation date unless otherwise notified in writing by the <b>Minister</b>.</li> </ul>	Not applicable	No plan has been submitted during the reporting period.

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments
38	<p>If the <b>Minister</b> notifies the approval holder that the <b>Minister</b> is satisfied that the taking of the Action in accordance with a <b>plan</b> which has been revised without submitting it for the <b>Minister's</b> approval would be likely to have a <b>new or increased impact</b>, then:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the approval holder's ability to choose to revise a <b>plan</b> without submitting the <b>plan</b> for <b>Minister</b> approval does not apply, or ceases to apply, in relation to the revised <b>plan</b>,</li> <li>b) the approval holder must implement the <b>plan</b> in force immediately prior to that revised <b>plan</b> or a version of the <b>plan</b> specified by the <b>Minister</b> in the notice, and</li> <li>c) the <b>Minister</b> may also notify that, for a specified period, the approval holder's ability to choose to revise a <b>plan</b> without submitting the <b>plan</b> for <b>Minister</b> approval does not apply for one or more specified <b>plans</b>.</li> </ul>	Not applicable	No plan has been submitted during the reporting period.
39	<p>The approval holder may, at any time by giving written notice to the <b>department</b>, revoke its choice to implement a plan which has been revised without submitting it for the <b>Minister's</b> approval. If the approval holder revokes the choice to implement a revised <b>plan</b>, the approval holder must implement the plan in force immediately prior to that revised <b>plan</b>.</p>	Not applicable	No plan has been submitted during the reporting period.
40	<p>Wherever these conditions require the approval holder to submit any <b>plan</b> to the <b>department</b>, all such <b>plans</b> must be submitted to the <b>department</b> electronically.</p>	Not applicable	No plan has been submitted during the reporting period.
41	<p>Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the <b>Minister</b>, the approval holder must publish each <b>plan</b> on the <b>website</b> within 15 <b>business days</b> of the date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) of this approval, if the version of the <b>plan</b> to be implemented is specified in these conditions,</li> <li>b) the <b>plan</b> is approved by the <b>Minister</b> in writing, if the <b>plan</b> requires the approval of the <b>Minister</b>,</li> <li>c) the <b>plan</b> is approved by <b>WA Government</b> which must be complied with in accordance with these <b>EPBC Act</b> conditions, or</li> <li>d) the <b>plan</b> is submitted to the <b>department</b> in accordance with a requirement of these conditions, if the <b>plan</b> does not require the approval of the <b>Minister</b>.</li> </ul>	Not applicable	No plan has been submitted during the reporting period.
42	<p>The approval holder must keep all <b>plans</b> published on the <b>website</b>, in a format that is easily accessible and downloadable, from the first date which that <b>plan</b> must be published and until the expiry date of this approval. This requirement applies to all current and superseded versions of <b>plans</b>.</p>	Not applicable	No plan has been submitted during the reporting period.
43	<p>The approval holder is required to exclude or redact <b>sensitive biodiversity data</b> from any version of a <b>plan</b> before that <b>plan</b> is published on the <b>website</b> or otherwise provided to a member of the public. If <b>sensitive biodiversity data</b> is excluded or redacted from a <b>plan</b>, the approval holder must notify the <b>department</b> in writing what exclusions and redactions have been made in the version published on the <b>website</b>.</p>	Not applicable	No plan has been submitted during the reporting period.

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments
44	The approval holder must notify the <b>department</b> in writing of any proposed change to the <b>WA recommended conditions</b> that may relate to <b>protected matters</b> within 2 <b>business days</b> of formally proposing such a change and within 5 <b>business days</b> of becoming aware of any proposed change.	Not applicable	No change to the WA recommended conditions.
45	The approval holder must notify the <b>department</b> in writing of any change to the <b>WA recommended conditions</b> that may relate to <b>protected matters</b> , within 5 <b>business days</b> of such a change to conditions coming into effect. Such notification must include a copy of the changed <b>WA recommended conditions</b> showing what changes have been made.	Not applicable	No change to the WA recommended conditions.
46	The approval holder must notify the <b>department</b> electronically of the date of <b>commencement of the Action</b> , within 5 <b>business days</b> following <b>commencement of the Action</b> .	Compliant	Notification of commencement of action was submitted on 2 July 2025 (our ref: RTIO-1118982).
47	The approval holder must not <b>commence the Action</b> later than 5 years after the date of this approval decision.	Compliant	Action commenced on 29 June 2025.
48	The approval holder must maintain accurate and complete <b>compliance records</b> and document the procedure for recording and storing <b>compliance records</b> .	Compliant	Records associated with or relevant to the conditions of this approval are maintained within the Rio Tinto Iron Ore Document Management System.
49	If the <b>department</b> makes a request in writing, the approval holder must provide electronic copies of <b>compliance records</b> to the <b>department</b> within the timeframe specified in the request.	Not applicable	No requests received during the reporting period.
50	The approval holder must ensure that any <b>monitoring data</b> , surveys, maps, and other spatial and metadata required under the conditions of this approval are prepared in accordance with the <i>Guidelines for biological survey and mapped data</i> , Commonwealth of Australia 2018, or as otherwise specified by the <b>Minister</b> in writing.	Compliant	Noted.
51	The approval holder must ensure that any <b>monitoring data</b> , surveys, maps, and other spatial and metadata required under the conditions of this approval are prepared in accordance with the <i>Guide to providing maps and boundary data for EPBC Act projects</i> , Commonwealth of Australia 2021, or as otherwise specified by the <b>Minister</b> in writing.	Compliant	Noted.
52	The approval holder must submit all <b>monitoring data</b> , surveys, maps, other spatial and metadata and all species occurrence record data (sightings and evidence of presence) electronically to the <b>department</b> within 40 business days of the next anniversary of the date of this approval decision except where otherwise specified in a <b>plan</b> .	Compliant	Noted.
53	The approval holder must prepare a <b>compliance report</b> for each <b>Annual Compliance Report period (ACR period)</b> .	Not applicable	No compliance reports were due for submission during the reporting period.
54	The approval holder must ensure each <b>compliance report</b> includes: a) accurate and complete details of compliance and any non-compliance with:	Not applicable	No compliance reports were due for submission during the reporting period.

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) each condition imposed under the <b>WA Ministerial Statement</b>, if a condition attached to this approval decision requires compliance with that state approval condition,</li> <li>ii) each condition attached to this approval decision, and</li> <li>iii) all commitments made in each <b>plan</b>,</li> <li>b) a schedule of all <b>plans</b> in effect in relation to these conditions during the <b>ACR period</b>,</li> <li>c) accurate and complete details of how each <b>plan</b> was implemented during the <b>ACR period</b>, and</li> <li>d) if any <b>incident</b> occurred, accurate and complete details of each <b>incident</b>.</li> </ul>		
55	The approval holder must ensure each <b>compliance report</b> is completed to the satisfaction of the <b>Minister</b> and is consistent with the <i>Annual Compliance Report Guidelines</i> , Commonwealth of Australia 2023.	Not applicable	No compliance reports were due for submission during the reporting period.
56	The approval holder must, within 60 <b>business days</b> following the end of each <b>ACR period</b> , in a format that is easily accessible and downloadable, publish on the <b>website</b> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) each <b>compliance report</b>, and</li> <li>b) a <b>shapefile</b> showing all <b>clearing of protected matters</b>, and their habitat, undertaken within the <b>ACR period</b>.</li> </ul>	Not applicable	No compliance reports were due for submission during the reporting period.
57	The approval holder must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Exclude or redact <b>sensitive biodiversity data</b> from each <b>compliance report</b> and <b>shapefile</b> published on the <b>website</b> or otherwise provided to a member of the public.</li> <li>b) If <b>sensitive biodiversity data</b> is excluded or redacted from a version of a <b>compliance report</b> published or otherwise provided to a member of the public, submit the full <b>compliance report</b> to the <b>department</b> within 5 <b>business days</b> of its publication on the <b>website</b> and notify the <b>department</b> in writing what exclusions and redactions have been made in the version published on the <b>website</b> or otherwise provided to a member of the public.</li> <li>c) If <b>sensitive biodiversity data</b> is excluded or redacted from a version of a <b>shapefile</b> published or otherwise provided to a member of the public, submit the full <b>shapefile</b> to the <b>department</b> within 5 <b>business days</b> of its publication on the <b>website</b> and notify the <b>department</b> in writing what exclusions and redactions have been made in the version published on the <b>website</b> or otherwise provided to a member of the public.</li> </ul>	Not applicable	No compliance reports were due for submission during the reporting period.
58	The approval holder must notify the <b>department</b> electronically, within 5 <b>business days</b> of each date of publication that the <b>compliance report</b> has been published on the <b>website</b> . In this notification, the approval holder must provide the <b>department</b> with the web address for where the <b>compliance report</b> and related <b>shapefile</b> are published on the <b>website</b> .	Not applicable	No compliance reports were due for submission during the reporting period.



Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments
59	The approval holder must keep each <b>compliance report</b> and related <b>shapefile</b> published on the <b>website</b> from the first date which that <b>compliance report</b> must be published and until the expiry date of this approval.	Not applicable	No compliance reports were due for submission during the reporting period.
60	The approval holder must notify the <b>department</b> electronically, within <b>2 business days</b> of becoming aware of any <b>incident</b> . The approval holder must specify in each notification: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) any condition or commitment made in a <b>plan</b> which has not been, or may have not been, complied with,</li> <li>b) a short description of the <b>incident</b>, and</li> <li>c) the location (if applicable, including co-ordinates), date and time of the <b>incident</b>.</li> </ul>	Not applicable	There were no non-compliances with the conditions during the reporting period.
61	The approval holder must provide to the <b>department</b> in writing, within <b>12 business days</b> of becoming aware of an <b>incident</b> , the details of that <b>incident</b> . The approval holder must specify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) all corrective measures and investigations which the approval holder has already taken in respect of the <b>incident</b>,</li> <li>b) the potential impacts of the <b>incident</b>,</li> <li>c) the method and timing of any corrective measures that the approval holder proposes to undertake to address the <b>incident</b>, and</li> <li>d) any variation of these conditions or revision of a <b>plan</b> that will be required to prevent recurrence of the <b>incident</b> and/or to address its consequences.</li> </ul>	Not applicable	There were no non-compliances with the conditions during the reporting period.
62	The approval holder must ensure that an <b>independent audit</b> of compliance with the conditions is conducted for every <b>audit period</b> .	Not applicable	No audits requested.
63	The approval holder must submit details of the proposed <b>independent auditor</b> and their qualifications to the <b>department</b> within <b>10 business days</b> following the end of each <b>audit period</b> .	Not applicable	No audits requested.
64	The approval holder must ensure the scope of each <b>independent audit</b> is sufficient to determine the compliance status for each condition of approval, and each commitment made in each <b>plan</b> .	Not applicable	No audits requested.
65	The approval holder must ensure the criteria for each <b>independent audit</b> and the undertaking of each <b>independent audit</b> are consistent with the <b>Independent Audit and Audit Report Guidelines</b> .	Not applicable	No audits requested.
66	The approval holder must submit an <b>audit report</b> to the <b>department</b> for written agreement from the <b>department</b> within 3 months following the end of each <b>audit period</b> , or as otherwise directed by the <b>Minister</b> in writing.	Not applicable	No audits requested.

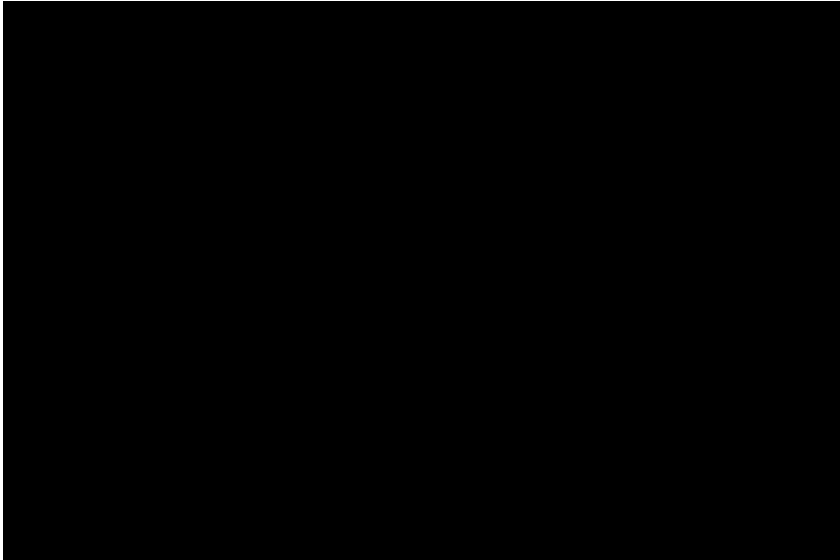
Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Evidence/Comments
67	The approval holder must ensure each <b>audit report</b> is completed to the satisfaction of the <b>Minister</b> and is consistent with the <b>Independent Audit and Audit Report Guidelines</b> to the extent that the <b>Independent Audit and Audit Report Guidelines</b> are consistent with these conditions.	Not applicable	No audits requested.
68	The approval holder must publish each <b>audit report</b> on the <b>website</b> , in a format that is easily accessible and downloadable, within 10 <b>business days</b> of the date the <b>department</b> agrees to that <b>audit report</b> in writing.	Not applicable	No audits requested.
69	The approval holder must notify the <b>department</b> within 5 <b>business days</b> of the date the audit report is published on the <b>website</b> . In this notification, the approval holder must provide the <b>department</b> with the web address for where the <b>audit report</b> is published on the <b>website</b> .	Not applicable	No audits requested.
70	The approval holder must keep each <b>audit report</b> published on the <b>website</b> from the first date which that <b>audit report</b> must be published and until the expiry date of this approval.	Not applicable	No audits requested.
71	Within 20 <b>business days</b> after the <b>completion of the Action</b> , and, in any event, at least 20 <b>business days</b> prior to the expiry date of this approval, the approval holder must notify the <b>department</b> electronically of the date of <b>completion of the Action</b> and provide <b>completion data</b> . The approval holder must submit any spatial data that comprises <b>completion data</b> as a <b>shapefile</b> .	Not applicable	Action not completed.
72	The approval holder must notify the <b>department</b> electronically at least 60, but not more than 70, <b>business days</b> prior to the expiry date of this approval, that the approval is due to expire.	Not applicable	Approval has effect until 31 December 2040.

### **3 New environmental risks**

There are no new environmental risks that have become apparent during the reporting period.

## 4 Declaration of accuracy

In making this declaration, I am aware that sections 490 and 491 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act) make it an offence in certain circumstances to knowingly provide false or misleading information or documents. The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment or a fine, or both. I declare that all the information and documentation supporting this compliance report is true and correct in every particular. I am authorised to bind the approval holder to this declaration and that I have no knowledge of that authorisation being revoked at the time of making this declaration.



# 5 Appendices

## Appendix 1: Figures



Figure 1: Clearing completed during the reporting period

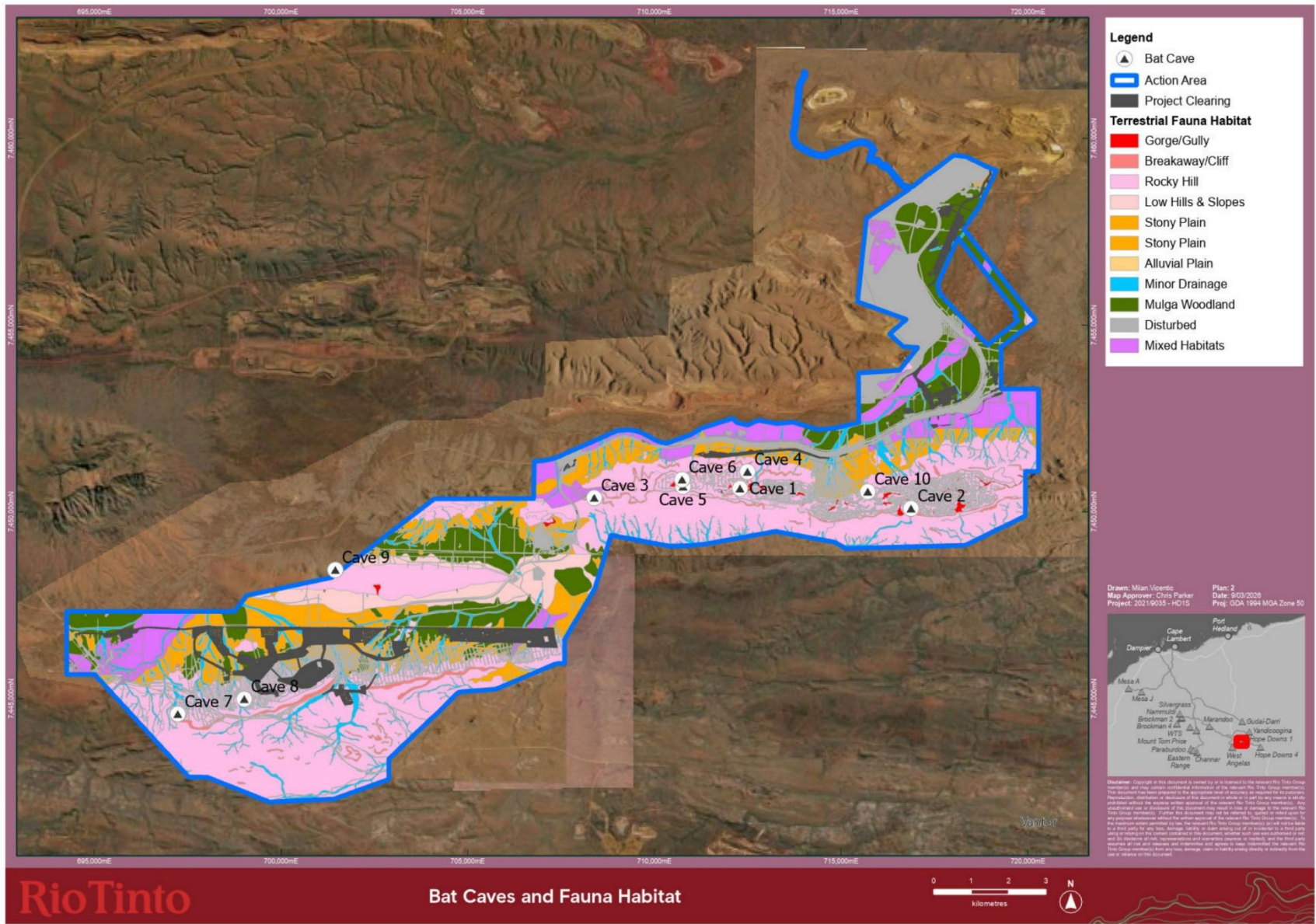


Figure 2: Clearing completed during the reporting period – Caves and Fauna Habitat

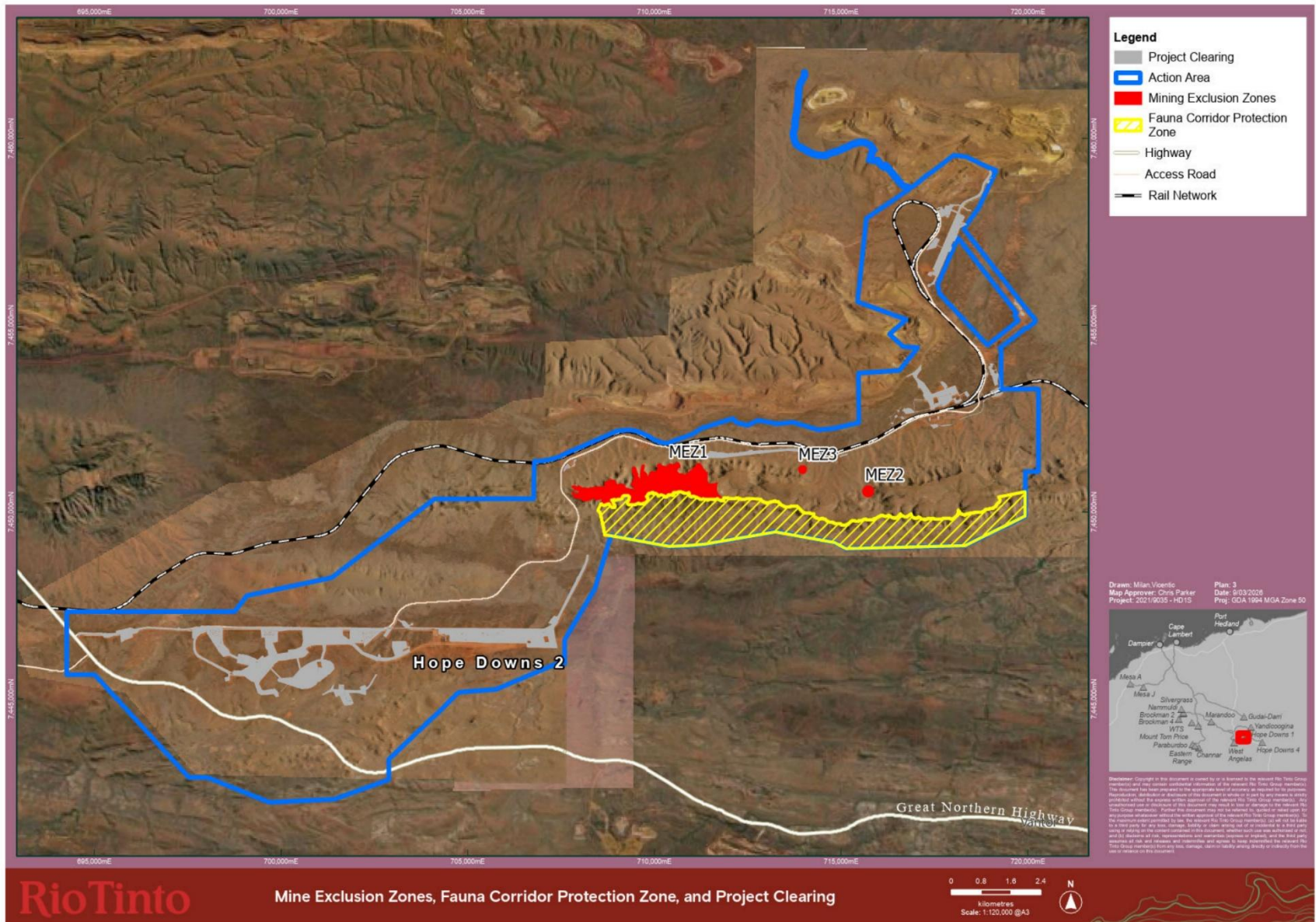


Figure 3: Clearing completed during the reporting period – Mine Exclusion Zones

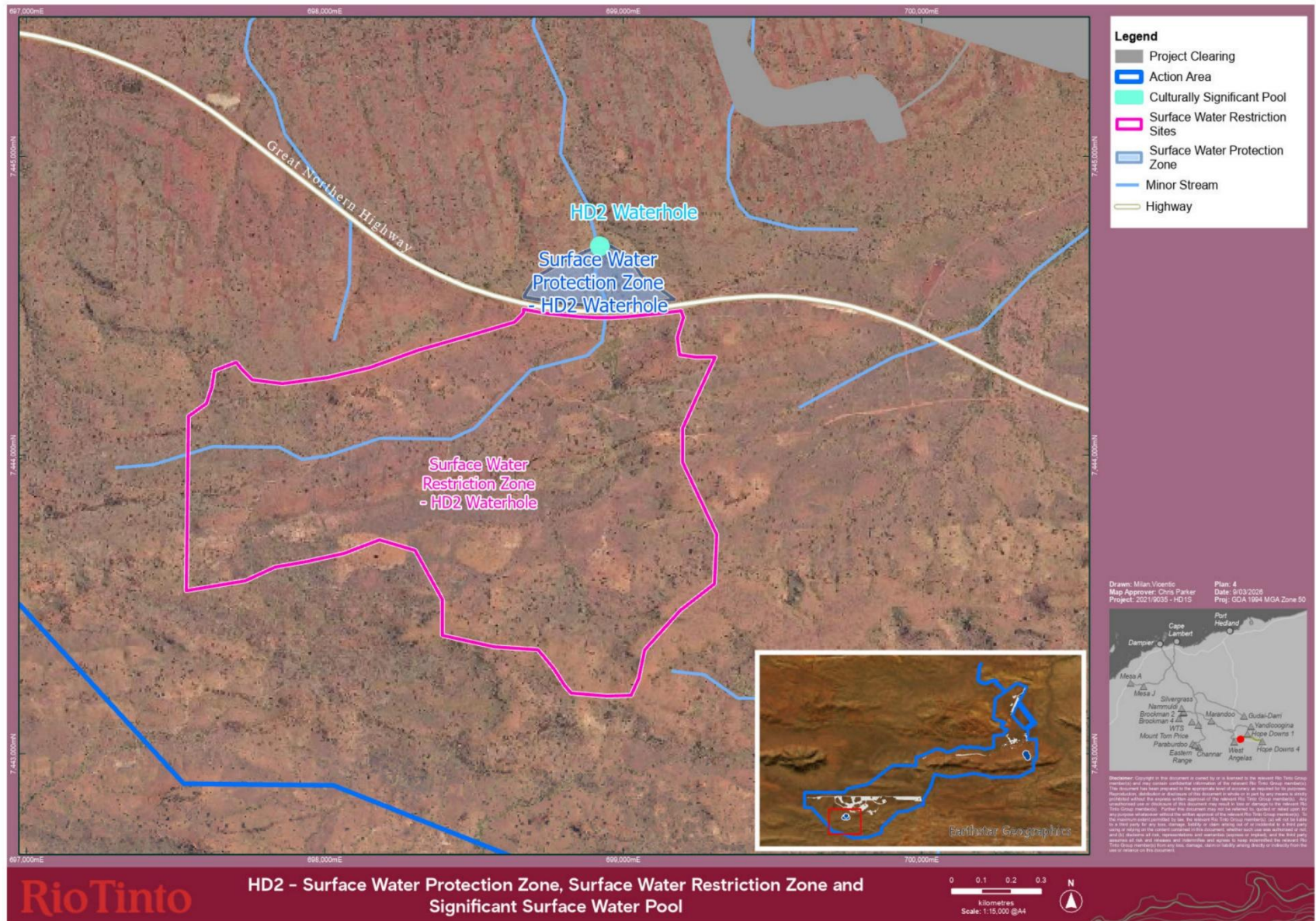


Figure 4: Clearing completed during the reporting period – HD2 Surface Water Protection Zone



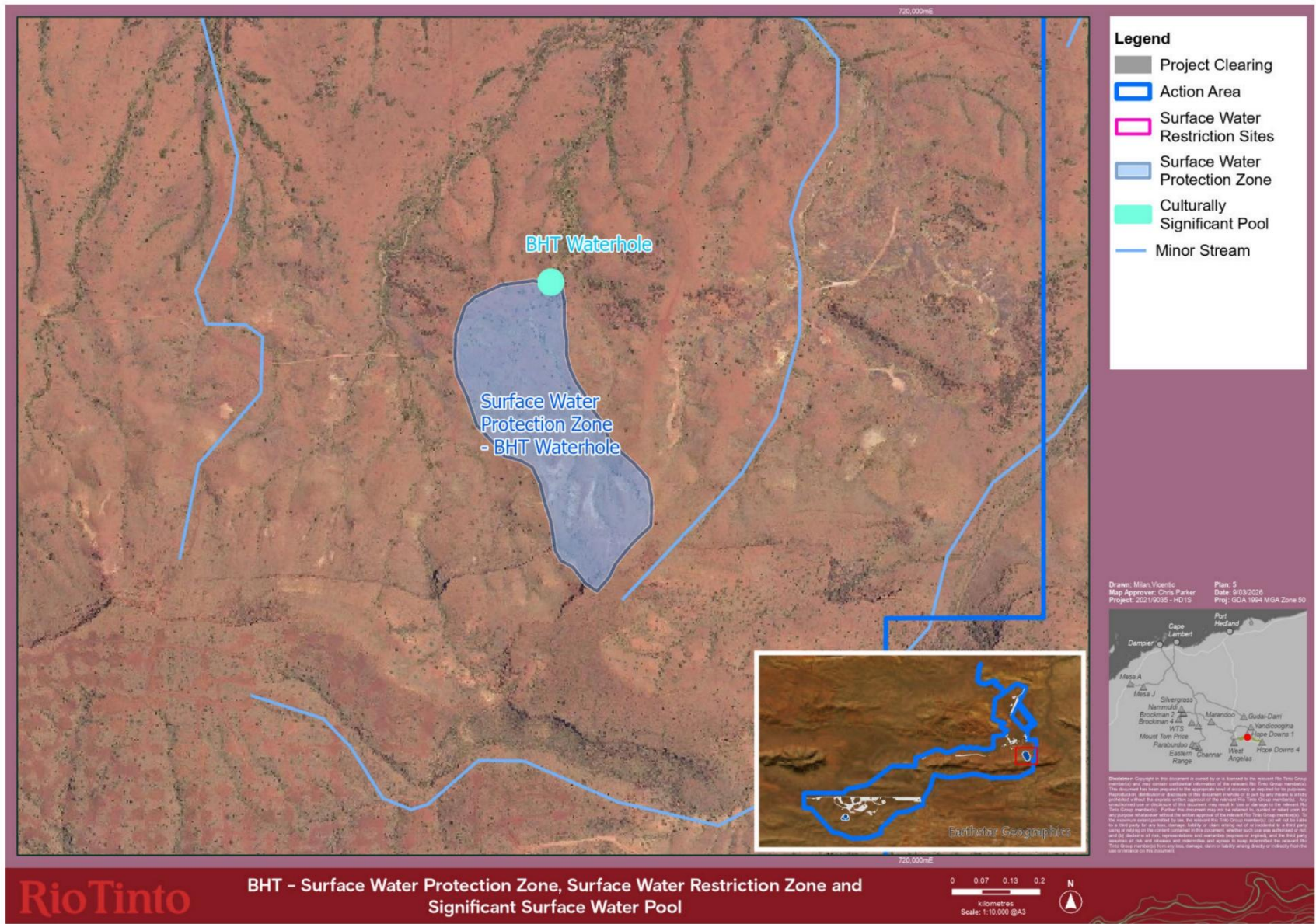


Figure 5: Clearing completed during the reporting period – BHT Water Protection Zone