

COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT REPORT

Proposal: Yandicoogina Junction South West and Oxbow Iron
Ore Project, WA (EPBC 2011/5815)

Report period: 1 January – 31 December 2015

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1. Proposal and Proponent details

Proposal Title	Yandicoogina Junction South West and Oxbow Iron Ore Project, WA (EPBC 2011/5815)
Decision Number	EPBC 2011/5815
Proponent Name	Hamersley Iron – Yandi Pty. Limited
Reporting Period	1/01/15 to 31/12/15
Implementation phase(s) during reporting period	Operation

2. Audit table

Details of compliance with each condition under decision notice EPBC 2011/5815 are presented in Table 1 and Key Characteristics in Table 1.

Table 1 Audit table for EPBC 2011/5815 -Yandicoogina

Condition	Requirement	How	Evidence	Timeframe	Status ¹	Information
1	To protect habitat for the Northern Quoll and Pilbara Olive Python disturbance of vegetation must: a) not exceed a total of 2,200 hectares and must only occur within the development footprint ; and b) not exceed 40 hectares within the floodplain and riparian vegetation zone associated with Marillana Creek located within the development footprint .	Disturbance mapping carried out by RTIO GIS team.	Annual clearing data for JSW & Oxbow reconciled though survey pick up and/or aerial survey.	Overall	C	Up to 31 December 2015, 414.22 hectares (of maximum permitted 2,200 hectares) has been cleared within the development footprint and 11.14 hectares (of maximum 40 hectares) cleared within Marillana Creek.
2	The person taking the action must establish and maintain an EPBC Act listed threatened species register on a publicly available website. The Register must record any sightings of EPBC Act listed threatened species , alive or dead, in the project area no less than every three months during construction , and no less than every 12 months during operation . The web address of the register must be provided to the department within 30 days of establishment.	Yandicoogina Operations EPBC Act listed threatened species register. Advise SEWPaC in writing within 30 days of being established.	http://www.riotinto.com/documents/Yandi_EPB_C_National_Matters_of_Environmental_Significance_Register_2013_Q3.pdf	Register updates is ongoing. Update every 3 months during construction. Update annually during operation Advise SEWPaC in writing of the RTIO web address within 30 days of the register being established.	C CLD	Threatened species list maintained the Rio Tinto Iron Ore website and, as the project is in an operational phase, the register is updated annually: http://www.riotinto.com/documents/Copy%20of%20Copy%20of%20RTIO-HSE-0163656.pdf

¹ C = Compliant, NR – Not Yet Required, PNC – Potentially Non-Compliant, CLD - Completed

Condition	Requirement	How	Evidence	Timeframe	Status ¹	Information
3	<p>The person taking the action must develop a staff environmental induction to be undertaken by all staff, including contractors, prior to the commencement of their duties and annually thereafter. The induction material must include, but not necessarily be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) clear colour images and simple descriptions of the ecology and diagnostic features of EPBC Act listed threatened species and their habitat; b) protocols for reporting sightings, including vehicle strike (including GPS coordinates), of EPBC Act listed threatened species within seven days to the officer in charge of implementing the EPBC Act listed threatened species Register described in condition 2); c) reference to the penalties imposed for causing intentional harm to EPBC Act listed threatened species; and d) legal and on site environmental responsibilities. 	<p>All new starters engaged by operations are required to undergo a Yandicoogina Operations site induction, which includes an EPBC awareness session</p> <p>All personnel engaged by Expansion Projects to undergo the Calibre site induction and annual refresher. MNES educational information is included in regular site-wide communication forums</p>	<p>Personnel records to be provided upon request</p> <p>RTIO EPBC Act Induction</p>	<p>Prior to project commencement</p> <p>Ongoing during the life of the operations</p>	C	<p>Annual refresher inductions have been completed by personnel at Yandicoogina Operations, it is mandatory annual training.</p> <p>Site wide communications are shared each year to maintain staff awareness of the EPBC Act listed threatened species.</p> <p>Reports of sightings were received by the environment team and updated in the EPBC sightings register. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0163656.</p> <p>Staff have access to the Yandicoogina EPBC species reporting procedure on the Health, Safety, Environment and Quality intranet. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0169976.</p>

Condition	Requirement	How	Evidence	Timeframe	Status ¹	Information
4	The person taking the action must display the information required in condition 3) a) on signs or posters around staff amenities, construction camps and material/equipment depots, and on laminated cards for all staff vehicles. The signs, posters and laminated cards must also state that the Pilbara Olive Python is slow moving and highly susceptible to road strike.	Produce and display signs or posters in designated locations.	Signs located in the camp, administration offices, and on laminated cards in RTIO site vehicles	Overall	C	Yandicoogina MS914 EPBC Act vehicle information card. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0163384. Yandicoogina MS914 EPBC Act poster. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0163382.
5	In the event one or more Northern Quoll and/or Pilbara Olive Python individuals are detected within the development footprint , the person taking the action must limit vehicle speeds outside the active pit areas , excluding automated haulage machines, to 40 km per hour on all roads within the development footprint between dusk and dawn until no Northern Quolls and/or Pilbara Olive Python individuals are sighted for a continuous period of four weeks.	Once species has been confirmed, a site wide notification will be distributed, indicating that reduced speed limit is enforced.	Site wide notification indicating reduced speed limit is enforced.	As required and within 48 hours of the species being confirmed.	NR	No Northern Quolls or Pilbara Olive Pythons were detected in the development footprint during the reporting period. Personnel have access to the Yandicoogina EPBC species reporting procedure on the Health, Safety, Environment and Quality intranet. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0169976.
6	The person taking the action must ensure that all vehicles, machinery, and equipment remain within the development footprint , and must prevent off road driving, unless in case of an emergency.	Designated light vehicle and heavy vehicle haul roads. RTIO Vehicles and Driving Work Practice.	RTIO-HSE-0049645 - Iron Ore (WA) Vehicles and Driving Work Practice. RTIO HSE induction	Overall	C	All vehicles, machinery, and equipment remained in the development footprint as per Iron Ore (WA) Vehicles and Driving Work Practice. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0049645.

Condition	Requirement	How	Evidence	Timeframe	Status ¹	Information
7	The person taking the action must ensure that all vehicles, machinery and equipment are prevented from accessing known locations of the Hamersley Lepidium , as seen in Annexure 1 during construction and operation .	Demarcated and/or barricade known locations of <i>Hamersley Lepidium</i> .	MapInfo Avoidance layer in GIS System and in earthmoving equipment Internal ground disturbance and approval request system	Overall	C	The internal ground disturbance and approvals request system includes an avoidance layer in GIS (MapInfo) which covers locations where <i>Hamersley lepidium</i> has been recorded. This system highlights the areas that cannot be disturbed by personnel without prior government approval.
8	The person taking the action must implement measures to prevent the spread or establishment of feral animal species populations within the project area in a manner that is sympathetic with the conservation of EPBC Act listed threatened species . Measures must include, but not necessarily be limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) appropriate waste management associated with staff amenities, construction camps and material/equipment depots; b) a control program which is consistent with current national guidelines for pest control; and c) annual monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the measures. 	Implementation of feral animal control measures	Feral animal trapping register RTIO-HSE-0230450-Pilbara Operations feral animal trapping register	Overall	C	Waste managed in accordance with DER Licence to Operate L7340/1997/9. Trapping of feral cats was conducted in line with the Yandicoogina Feral Animal Management Plan. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0187214. Cat trapping occurred throughout the year however did not result in any captures. There were fewer sightings of feral cats reported to the environment team than in previous years.

Condition	Requirement	How	Evidence	Timeframe	Status ¹	Information
9	<p>The person taking the action must implement measures to prevent the spread or establishment of invasive weeds within the project area in a manner that is sympathetic with the conservation of EPBC Act listed threatened species. Measures must include, but not necessarily be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) baseline surveys and Geographical Information System mapping of target weed species, as determined by a suitably qualified expert; b) a targeted control program; c) weed hygiene measures for vehicles and mining equipment and machinery; and d) annual monitoring, reporting and evaluation of the measures identified in conditions 9) a) to c). 	Implement a weed management strategy.	<p>Yandicoogina PER and PD Documents , including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline surveys (including weed mapping in the Vegetation mapping reports) • Vegetation transect surveys 	Overall	C	<p>The Yandicoogina Weed Monitoring Plan was established in 2013. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0188629. A Yandicoogina weed baseline survey was also completed. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0186283. Weed layer in GIS (MapInfo) includes location of weeds found during surveys and locations of weeds sprayed.</p> <p>All machinery and equipment complete the relevant weed hygiene as per RTIO Equipment hygiene inspection procedure - RTIO-HSE-0036005.</p> <p>Weed monitoring survey for 2015 showed lower weed coverage in most transects surveyed compared to the 2013 baseline, one transect showed similar coverage for <i>Acetosa vesicaria</i>. Results indicate effective controls. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0270835.</p>

Condition	Requirement	How	Evidence	Timeframe	Status ¹	Information
10	The person taking the action must implement measures to prevent and/or control the spread of fires caused by any component of construction and operation.	Implement the Yandicoogina Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP)	Yandicoogina Environment (Fire) Management Plan	Overall	C	Response procedures to fire scenarios are detailed in the Yandicoogina Emergency Response Plan. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0186219. Rio Tinto Iron Ore: Hot Work Standard. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0049936
11	In the event the person taking the action becomes aware of new information regarding the presence of any EPBC Act listed threatened species within the development footprint, that information must be reported to the Minister within seven business days of becoming aware of the new information.	If applicable, report new information to the Minister	Correspondence to the Minister advising of new, relevant information. EPBC threatened species register	As required, within seven days of being made aware of the new information.	NR	No EPBC Act listed threatened species were sighted within the development footprint in 2015.
12	The person taking the action must implement measures to minimise potential impacts from dewatering and discharge of surplus water on habitat for the Northern Quoll and Pilbara Olive Python along Marillana Creek and Weeli Wolli Creek, both in the dewatering and surplus water discharge impact areas. Measures must include, but not necessarily be limited to: a) baseline data surveys to be undertaken prior to dewatering and the discharge of surplus water, for Northern Quoll and Pilbara Olive Python habitat, including vegetation abundance, health, foliage cover and diversity; b) appropriate monitoring (including annual surveys) to detect changes, occurring as a result of the action, to Northern Quoll and Pilbara Olive Python habitat,	Undertake baseline vegetation health monitoring data. Undertake annual monitoring of vegetation health in the JSW/Oxbow project area. Undertake monitoring of creek profile surveys and erosion assessments at discharge outlets	Baseline vegetation health monitoring data as outlined in the Surface Water Discharge Monitoring and Management plan and the Vegetation and Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Monitoring and Management Plan including: * Annual DMSI, * Quarterly DCP, * Biannual Mattiske Vegetation Transects across Marillana and Weeli Wolli creeks	Overall	C	The condition of flora and vegetation along Marillana and Weeli Wolli creek lines was monitored in June and September 2015. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0276132. Digital canopy photography was used to monitor foliage cover of mature eucalypts along Weeli Wolli and Marillana Creeks on a quarterly basis. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0188667.

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	<p>including vegetation abundance, health, foliage cover and diversity;</p> <p>c) thresholds appropriate for the changes determined for condition 12) b) that establish when the action is resulting in degradation of habitat taking into consideration climatic variability, seasonal variation and discharge volumes from other relevant mines;</p> <p>d) contingency measures to be implemented, should the thresholds identified in condition 12) c) be exceeded as a result of the action, for addressing current and future exceedances and remediation of habitat degraded by dewatering and discharge activities; and</p> <p>e) protocols for reporting to the Minister within seven days if the thresholds developed for condition 12) c) are exceeded, within 30 days for contingency measures implemented and within 6 months on the success the contingency measures.</p>		* Biannual creek profile surveys.			<p>Broad scale Digital Multi Spectral Imaging of creekline areas is undertaken on an annual basis. Results are stored in the company's GIS database.</p> <p>Creek profile surveys and erosion assessments at the discharge outlets were completed in the reporting period.</p> <p>Monitoring programmes and results are managed in accordance with the Surface Water Discharge and Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Monitoring and Management Plan. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0171024.</p>

Condition	Requirement	How	Evidence	Timeframe	Status ¹	Information
13	<p>The person taking the action must rehabilitate all potentially suitable habitat for EPBC Act listed threatened species that is disturbed during construction and operation. The rehabilitation must be developed in consultation with a suitably qualified expert and must include, but not necessarily be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) baseline data of the characteristics of the pre-mining ecosystems within the development footprint; b) use of plant species of local provenance that are compatible with land system units that provide suitable habitat for EPBC Act listed threatened species; c) rehabilitation must be monitored, and evaluated annually for three years or until establishment 	<p>Review the rehabilitation and closure plans to incorporate the Junction South West and Oxbow proposal</p> <p>Where possible, identify areas that are suitable for progressive rehabilitation.</p>	<p>Rehabilitation projects active in the reporting period.</p> <p>Monitoring of rehabilitated areas conducted in the reporting period.</p>	Overall	C	<p>The Yandicoogina Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Plan was reviewed to incorporate Junction South West and Oxbow. Our Ref: RTIO-HSE-0208486.</p> <p>No suitable areas were identified in the reporting period for progressive rehabilitation.</p> <p>In August 2015 a wetland rehabilitation trial commenced. This trial proposes to test the growth of vegetation species in different materials (direct mineral waste, topsoil and subsoil) at different elevations above a simulated water table. Outcomes will be used to inform the seed mix selection for rehabilitation of areas near the water table.</p>

Condition	Requirement	How	Evidence	Timeframe	Status ¹	Information
14	<p>To compensate for the residual impacts of the action and for the better protection and long-term conservation of the Northern Quoll and Pilbara Olive Python, a Threatened Species Offset Plan (TSOP) must be submitted to the Minister for approval. The TSOP must include, but not necessarily be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a contribution of no less than \$3,000,000 (GST exclusive) to fund, extend or expand a land management program within the Pilbara bioregion for a period of no less than five years; i) details of measures to control and/or manage, for the benefit of the Northern Quoll and Pilbara Olive Python: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii) introduced predators; iii) feral herbivores; iv) wild fires; and v) invasive weeds. b) for each threat identified in condition 14) b), the TSOP must define: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) how the control/management measures are expected to benefit the Northern Quoll and Pilbara Olive Python; ii) details of the location and area of land to be managed which must be mapped and provided to the department in a shapefile(s); iii) details of methodology, timing, frequency and intensity (effort) of management measures; iv) responsibility of management measures; and c) details of how the management actions identified for condition 14) b) will be 	<p>Make a contribution of no less than \$3,000,000 (GST exclusive) to fund, extend or expand a land management program within the Pilbara bioregion.</p> <p>Prepare a Threatened Species Offset Plan (TSOP).</p>	<p>Receipt of payment from the WA OEPA.</p> <p>Threatened Species Offset Plan (TSOP).</p> <p>Correspondence from Minister approving the TSOP</p>	<p>Within 18 months of the TSOP being approved.</p> <p>Prior to 31 December 2013.</p> <p>Post 31 December 2013.</p>	NR	<p>Delay to strategic offset fund and subsequent delay to offset funding requirement. OEPA ref: CA03-2013-0027. Our Ref: RTIO-HSE-0208390</p> <p>A biodiversity offset fund has been established with \$3 million deposited into the trust account on 18 February 2014.</p> <p>Extension of TSOP submission granted for 31 December 2014. DoE ref: 2013-9250. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0206795.</p> <p>Signed variation notice –Condition 14: TSOP extension. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0206794</p> <p>TSOP submitted on 23 December 2014. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0245553</p> <p>TSOP approved by the Minister on 5 March 2015. DoE ref: 2011/5815. Our ref:</p>

Condition	Requirement	How	Evidence	Timeframe	Status ¹	Information
	<p>undertaken in a manner that is sympathetic with the conservation of other relevant threatened species listed under the EPBC Act known to occur in the area identified under 14) c) ii).</p> <p>d) details of a monitoring program, including but not necessarily limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) methodology, timing, frequency, scope and survey effort for/of monitoring; ii) baseline surveys of the area to be managed; iii) monitoring during and post land management actions to determine the effectiveness of land management actions; iv) performance indicators, which will determine the effectiveness of the land management program; and v) measures to make the results of the monitoring made publically available. <p>The TSOP must be submitted to the Minister for approval by 31 December 2013. Should the TSOP be approved then the approved TSOP must be implemented.</p>					RTIO-HSE-0275796.

Condition	Requirement	How	Evidence	Timeframe	Status ¹	Information
15	Documentary evidence must be submitted to the department showing that payments of the total amount required in condition 14) a) have been made to the person(s) responsible for implementation of the land management program within 18 months of the date of approval of the TSOP.	Provide the receipt of contribution payment to SEWPaC.	Receipt of contribution payment.	Within 18 months of the TSOP being approved.	NR	<p>Extension of TSOP submission granted for 31 December 2014. DoE ref: 2013-9250. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0206795</p> <p>Signed variation notice –Condition 14: TSOP extension. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0206794</p> <p>TSOP submitted on 23 December 2014. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0245553</p> <p>TSOP approved by the Minister on 5 March 2015. DoE ref: 2011/5815. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0275796.</p>

Condition	Requirement	How	Evidence	Timeframe	Status ¹	Information
16	<p>Annually on 30 April, after commencement of the action, a report must be submitted to the Minister detailing how condition 14) is, or has been, met including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) whether the timeframes for undertaking the management actions identified in condition 14) c) and d) have been met; and b) whether the performance indicators required for condition 14) c) have been met. 	Prepare and submit annual compliance report to the Minister.	Annual compliance report.	On or before 30 April annually, reporting on the previous year (January to December)	NR	<p>2015 was the first year of the 5-year program. The program successfully completed year 1 of monitoring and management actions to stay on target to satisfy performance indicators.</p> <p>This report and associated appendices detail the actions against each of the threats listed in 14a).</p>
17	Within 10 days after the commencement of the action, the person taking the action must advise the Department in writing of the actual date of commencement.	Advise SEWPaC of the action commencement date.	Record of correspondence to SEWPaC advising on commencement date.	Within 10 days of commencement of action.	CLD	<p>Notice of Project Commencement to SEWPaC - EPBC Condition 17 on 3 December 2012 Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0165415</p>

Condition	Requirement	How	Evidence	Timeframe	Status ¹	Information
18	The person taking the action must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to the conditions of approval, including measures taken to implement the plans required by this approval, and make them available upon request to the department. Such records may be subject to audit by the department or an independent auditor in accordance with section 458 of the EPBC Act, or used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval. Summaries of audits will be posted on the department's website. The results of audits may also be publicised through the general media.	Maintain records in the Rio Tinto Document Management System	Rio Tinto Document Management System	Overall.	C	<p>Environmental Approvals register. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0070635</p> <p>Rio Tinto Document Management System</p> <p>No requests for information were received and no audits were conducted by the DoE during the report period.</p>

Condition	Requirement	How	Evidence	Timeframe	Status ¹	Information
19	Annually on 30 April, after commencement of the action, the person taking the action must publish a report on their website addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval, including implementation of any management plans as specified in the conditions. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication and non-compliance with any of the conditions of this approval must be provided to the department at the same time as the compliance report is published.	Prepare an annual compliance report. Annual compliance report to be published on the Rio Tinto Iron Ore website (www.riotintoironore.com)	Annual compliance report Rio Tinto Iron Ore website (www.riotintoironore.com)	On or before 30 April annually, reporting on the previous year (1 January to 30 December)	C	The 2015 report will be published on the Rio Tinto website following submission to the Commonwealth DoE. Historical reports were published on the Rio Tinto website and available for: 2012: http://www.riotinto.com/documents/Iron%20Ore/20130424_Yandicoogina_Operations_2012_EPBC_compliance_report.pdf 2013: http://www.riotinto.com/documents/Yandicoogina%20Operations%20%E2%80%93%20EPBC%20Annual%20Compliance%20Assessment%20Report%202013.pdf 2014: http://www.riotinto.com/documents/Yandicoogina%20Operations%20%E2%80%93%20EPBC%20Annual%20Compliance%20Assessment%20Report%202014.pdf

Condition	Requirement	How	Evidence	Timeframe	Status ¹	Information
20	Upon the direction of the Minister, the person taking the action must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions of approval is conducted and a report submitted to the Minister. The independent auditor must be approved by the Minister prior to the commencement of the audit. Audit criteria must be agreed to by the Minister and the audit report must address the criteria to the satisfaction of the Minister.	Engage independent person to conduct compliance audit.	Independent compliance report	Upon request by the Minister.	NR	No requests received from the Minister during the reporting period.
21	If the person taking the action wishes to carry out any activity otherwise than in accordance with the plan(s) as specified in the conditions, the person taking the action must submit to the department for the Minister's written approval a revised version of that plan(s). The varied activity shall not commence until the Minister has approved the varied plan(s) in writing. The Minister will not approve a varied plan(s) unless the revised plan(s) would result in an equivalent or improved environmental outcome over time. If the Minister approves the revised plan(s), that plan(s) must be implemented in place of the plan(s) originally approved.	As required, submit revised version of project to the Minister for approval.	Written correspondence submitting the revised project version.	As required.	NR	No variation requested during the report period.

Condition	Requirement	How	Evidence	Timeframe	Status ¹	Information
22	If the Minister believes that it is necessary or convenient for the better protection of listed threatened species and communities to do so, the Minister may request that the person taking the action make specified revisions to the plan(s) specified in the conditions and submit the revised plan(s) for the Minister's written approval. The person taking the action must comply with any such request. The revised approved plan(s) must be implemented. Unless the Minister has approved the revised plan(s), then the person taking the action must continue to implement the plan(s) originally approved, as specified in the conditions.	Revise specific plan(s) as requested by the Minister. Provide revised plan(s) to the Minister for approval, as required.	Revised plan(s) Correspondence from the Minister approving revised plan(s)	As required.	NR	No requests were received from the Minister during the reporting period.
23	If, at any time after five (5) years from the date of this approval, the person taking the action has not substantially commenced the action, then the person taking the action must not substantially commence the action without the written agreement of the Minister.	Advise SEWPaC of the action commencement date.	Written correspondence advising SEWPaC of commencement date.	Within 10 days of commencement of action.	NR	Project substantially commenced in 2013 Notice of Project Commencement to SEWPaC - EPBC Condition 17. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0165415
24	Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister, the person taking the action must publish all plan(s) referred to in these conditions of approval on their website. Each plan must be published on the website within 1 month of being approved.	Relevant management plans to be published on the Rio Tinto Iron Ore website	Rio Tinto Iron Ore website (www.riotintoironore.com)	Within 1 month of the plan approval date	NR	TSOP submitted on 23 December 2014. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0245553 TSOP approved by the Minister on 5 March 2015. DoE ref: 2011/5815. Our ref: RTIO-HSE-0275796.

Table 2 Definitions

Active pit areas	means the area identified as 'JSW & Oxbow Conceptual Mine Pits' in Annexure 3 .
Commencement of the action(except in the sense of substantial commencement)	means the commencement of construction .
Construction	means the undertaking of any activity including preparatory works, clearance of vegetation, the erection of any onsite temporary structures and the use of heavy duty equipment for the purpose of breaking the ground for buildings or infrastructure within the development footprint excluding minor and preliminary works and investigation work and works associated with the existing mining operation .
Department	means the Australian Government Department administering the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> .
Development footprint	means the area identified as "JSW & Oxbow proposed mining and infrastructure" in Annexure 1 excluding the areas associated with the existing mining operation .
De-watering	means the removal of water by pumping, drainage, or evaporation.
Diagnostic features	mean physical features or distinguishing characteristics which may aid in species identification.
Disturb or disturbance	of vegetation means the cutting down, felling, thinning, logging, removing, killing, destroying, poisoning, ringbarking, uprooting or burning of native vegetation, this also includes any activities associated with earth moving.
EPBC Act Listed threatened species	means the Northern Quoll , the Pilbara Olive Python and the Hamersley Lepidium .
Existing mining operation	means the area identified as "disturbed or cleared – associated with MS417, 523 & 695" in Annexure 1.
Hamersley Lepidium	means <i>Lepidium catapycnon</i> .
Marillana Creek	means the creek line identified as "Marillana Creek" in Annexure 2.
Minister	means the Minister administering the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> and includes a delegate of the Minister.
Minor and preliminary works and investigation work	means minor and preliminary works and investigation works as defined in the Western Australian Environmental Protection Authority Environmental Protection Bulletin No. 16.
Northern Quoll	means <i>Dasyurus hallucatus</i>
Operation	includes any activities associated with the extraction and transportation of iron ore.
Pilbara Olive Python	means <i>Liasis olivaceus barroni</i>
Project area	means the area identified as "Overall project area" in Annexure 1 .
Shapefiles	means an ESRI ArcGIS Shapefile, containing '.shp', '.shx.' and '.dbf' files and other files. Shapefiles must include appropriate metadata capturing attributes including but not limited to the EPBC reference number of the approved action and details of the EPBC protected matters present within the offset, covenant or legal protection details, including type and identification. The department prefers shapefiles using the Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA) 94.
Substantially commence	means the erection of any permanent infrastructure, excluding signage and fences, associated with the action.
Suitably qualified expert	means a suitably qualified botanist, ecologist, or environmental scientist with demonstrated expertise in the survey, management and, if need be, translocation in the relevant listed threatened species .
Weeli Wolli Creek	means the creek line identified as "Weeli Wolli Creek" in Annexure 2 .