

# **Karara Mining Limited**

## **Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan**

CORP-EN-PLN-1032

28 May 2025



## CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION .....	1
1.1	Purpose .....	1
1.2	Responsibilities .....	2
2	DEFINITIONS .....	3
3	RELEVANT LEGISLATION .....	4
4	EXTENT OF ACTIVITY COVERED BY MANAGEMENT PLAN .....	5
4.1	Location and Native Title Claims.....	6
5	DISCOVERY OF A SUSPECTED ABORIGINAL HERITAGE SITE.....	7
5.1	Cultural Heritage Material Contingency Plan .....	7
5.2	Reporting a Suspected Aboriginal Heritage Site.....	9
5.3	Types of Aboriginal Sites .....	9
6	ONGOING MANAGEMENT.....	12
6.1	Training and Awareness .....	12
6.2	Protection of Existing Sites .....	12
6.3	Aboriginal Consultants for Monitoring .....	13
6.4	Obligations and Audits .....	13
7	GROUND DISTURBANCE .....	14
7.1	Desktop Review .....	14
7.2	Surveys .....	14
8	FEEDBACK AND GRIEVANCES .....	15

## **LIST OF FIGURES**

Figure 1: Yamatji Native Title Determined Area.....	6
Figure 2: Cultural Material Contingency Plan .....	8

## **LIST OF TABLES**

Table 1: Types of Aboriginal Sites in the Midwest .....	9
---	---

## 1 INTRODUCTION

The Greater Karara Iron Ore Project (Project) consists of the Karara Iron Ore Project (KIOP), Mungada Iron Ore Project (MIOP), and the Hinge Iron Ore Project (HIOP), as well as exploration activities within KML held tenure. The Project, located 225 km east-southeast of Geraldton and 320 km north-northeast of Perth (Figure 1), consists of open-cut iron ore mining, onsite processing facility, haul roads, railway line, water pipeline, powerline, airstrip and on-site accommodation facilities.

Due to the broad scope of the development (both functionally and geographically) this Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan (AHMP) has been prepared with the intention of providing management of all significant Aboriginal heritage sites within the Project area. Through implementation of the AHMP, KML will ensure that all employees and contractors operating on KML tenements are aware of obligations to avoid or minimise impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage.

### 1.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan (AHMP) is to ensure that:

- KML conducts all works involved with the Project in a manner that complies with statutory obligations related to the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* (AH Act).
- A procedural framework for the management of existing and potential unidentified Aboriginal sites and materials during exploration, mining, and any future construction works.
- Any impact on Aboriginal sites is avoided, where disturbance is unavoidable, minimise the impacts to these sites.
- Informing relevant Aboriginal Groups of ground disturbance and relevant development issues in a timely and effective manner.
- Reporting of all prospective and/or potential sites, to alleviate any potential risks that may occur.

All land users who wish to use land for a purpose that might contravene Section 17 of the AH Act must exercise due diligence in trying to establish whether their proposed activity on a specified area may damage or destroy an Aboriginal site.

## 1.2 Responsibilities

The AHMP will apply to all personnel working for or on behalf of KML.

The KML General Manager HSEC is responsible for implementing the requirements of this AHMP. This role includes liaising with all site personnel to ensure the AHMP is implemented appropriately.

KML is responsible for engaging Aboriginal consultants, archaeologists and anthropologists to manage Sections 16 and 18 Conditions of Consent. The KML General Manager HSEC will liaise with all Aboriginal consultants, archaeologists and anthropologists as required.

The KML General Manager HSEC is also responsible for ensuring this AHMP meets the requirements of the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) and the Yamatji Nation (WCD2020/001), the single Native Title Claimant Group within the greater Mid-West region.

## 2 DEFINITIONS

Abbreviation	Definition
AH Act	<i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972</i>
AHMP	Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan
AR/GD	Approvals Requests and Ground Disturbance
DPLM	Department of Planning, Land and Heritage
GD	Ground Disturbance
GIS	Geographic Information System
HIOP	Hinge Iron Ore Project
KIOP	Karara Iron Ore Project
KML	Karara Mining Limited
MIOP	Mungada Iron Ore Project
Project	Greater Karara Iron Ore Project

### 3 RELEVANT LEGISLATION

Legislation governing Aboriginal heritage sites in Western Australia includes, but is not limited to:

- *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972;*
- *Mining Act 1978;* and
- *Environmental Protection Act 1986.*

The AHMP is in place to ensure that Section 17 (offences relating to Aboriginal sites) of the AH Act is not breached:

*A person who -*

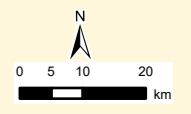
- (a) excavates, destroys, damages, conceals or in any way alters any Aboriginal site; or*
- (b) in any way alters, damages, removes, destroys, conceals, or who deals with in a manner not sanctioned by relevant custom, or assumes the possession, custody or control of, any object on or under an Aboriginal site, commits an offence unless he is acting with the authorisation of the Registrar under section 16 or under a consent given under section 18(3)(a).*

## **4 EXTENT OF ACTIVITY COVERED BY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

This AHMP applies to all areas under KML tenure, as well as areas where infrastructure is owned and managed by KML. It covers all construction, exploration, and mining activity, as well as infrastructure operations.

## 4.1 Location and Native Title Claims

*Figure 1: Yamatji Native Title Determined Area*

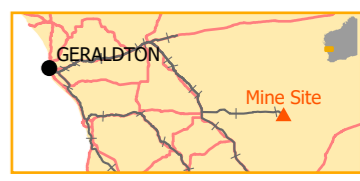


**Karara Mine Iron Ore Project**

**Yamatji Native Title Determined Area**



- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| Yamatji Native Title Determined and ILUA Area | Other                     |
| <b>KML Tenements by Type</b>                  | Railway (Freight)         |
| Mining Lease                                  | <b>Roads Regional</b>     |
| General Purpose Lease                         | Main                      |
| Miscellaneous Licence                         | Highway                   |
| Retention Licence                             | Karara Power Transmission |
| Exploration Licence                           |                           |



Ref: K0149 F1 Proj: GDA94 MGAZ50  
Version: A Scale: 1:1,200,000  
29 September 2023 Size: A3

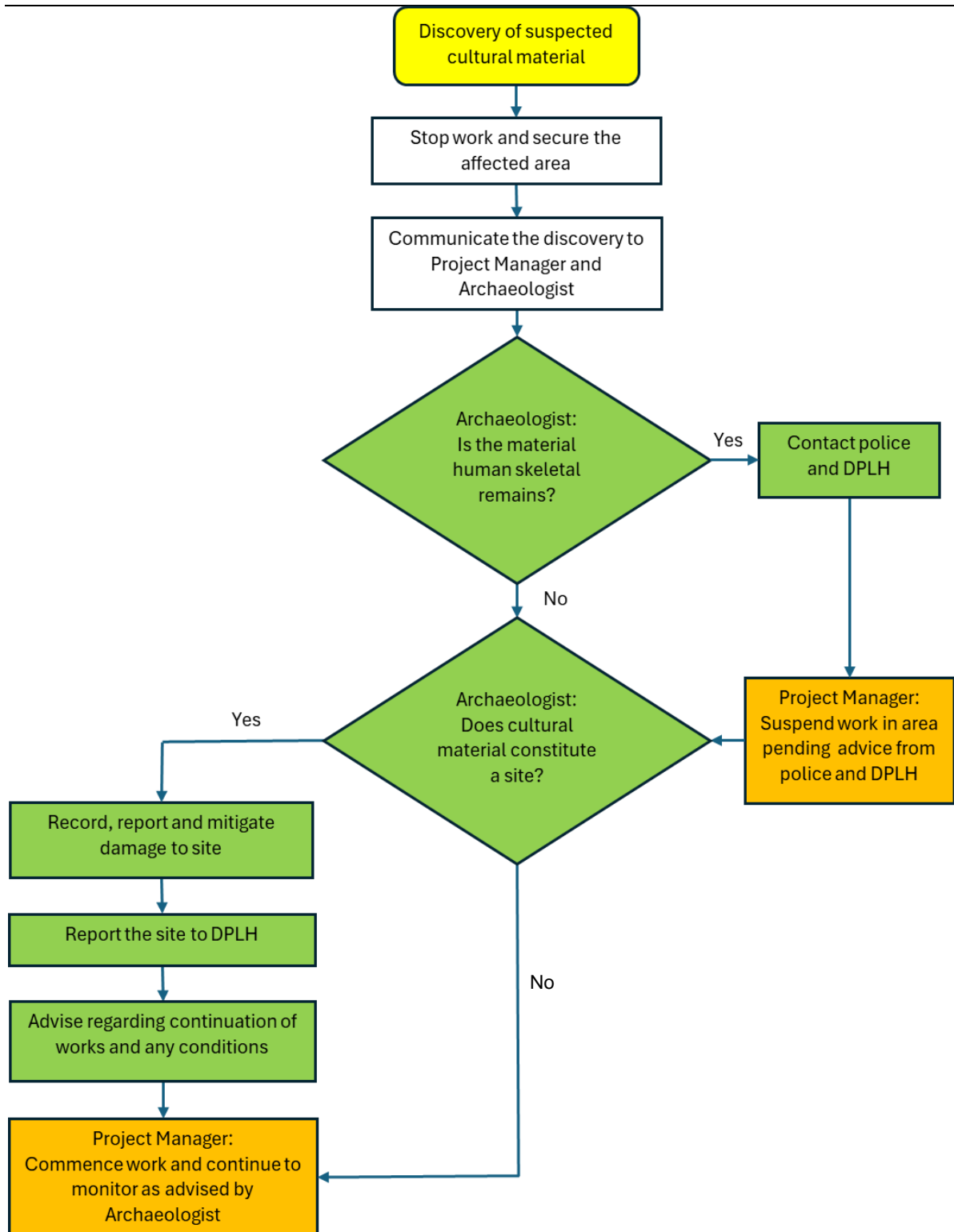
## 5 DISCOVERY OF A SUSPECTED ABORIGINAL HERITAGE SITE

### 5.1 Cultural Heritage Material Contingency Plan

On the discovery of cultural material, potential cultural material, or a possible Aboriginal heritage site the following procedures (

Figure 2) apply:

- All work within the direct vicinity shall cease immediately and the General Manager HSEC is to be notified;
- If the material is determined to constitute a heritage site, then work will not recommence in the affected area until appropriate management strategies have been implemented. Management strategies will be developed in consultation with the Yamatji Nation governing body (e.g. Yamatji Southern Regional Corporation (YSRC)), DPLH and heritage consultants;
- This strategy will include the provision of expert advice (archaeological and/or anthropological) for verification, appropriate recording, and dealing with any cultural material identified. All relevant authorities will be contacted and an assessment made about the correct course of action;
- Where skeletal remains that are not unequivocally animal are identified, the General Manager HSEC is to be notified, and ensure that all work immediately ceases at that location. The General Manager HSEC must notify the nominated archaeologist. The nominated archaeologist will inspect the area and assess the skeletal remains. If the remains are not unequivocally animal the nominated archaeologist will contact the relevant authorities i.e. Police, DPLH and YSRC as needed. Work will recommence at that location only when the relevant authorities have confirmed that the skeletal material is not of human origin and when the nominated archaeologist has recorded the site;
- If cultural material is likely to be affected, DPLH will be contacted for appropriate advice; and
- The nominated archaeologist will consult with the General Manager HSEC and Aboriginal heritage consultants to prepare a report of the new site, which will be forwarded to DPLH as soon as practical in accordance with the requirements of Section 15 of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*.



**Figure 2: Cultural Material Contingency Plan**

**5.2 Reporting a Suspected Aboriginal Heritage Site**

Should a potential Aboriginal heritage site not previously identified is discovered during works on site, all activities in the vicinity will cease immediately. The General Manager HSEC will be notified in accordance with the contingency plan.

If in the opinion of KML Community and Heritage Officer or Site Environmental Advisor, the site could represent an Aboriginal heritage site, it is to be reported to the DPLH. Under Section 15 of the AH Act the reporting of a site is compulsory:


*“Any person who has knowledge of the existence of anything in the nature of Aboriginal burial grounds, symbols or objects of sacred, ritual or ceremonial significance, cave or rock paintings or engravings, stone structures or arranged stones, carved trees, or of any other place or thing to which this Act applies or to which this Act might reasonably be suspected to apply shall report its existence to the Registrar, or to a police officer, unless he has reasonable cause to believe the existence of the thing or place in question to be already known to the Registrar”.*


This is to be completed by the Community and Heritage Officer via the DPLH [Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Portal](#).

**5.3 Types of Aboriginal Sites**

Table 1 represents a small sample of the variety of Aboriginal sites that have been recorded during KML’s ethnographic and archaeological surveys.

**Table 1: Types of Aboriginal Sites in the Midwest**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Man-Made Structure</b></p> <p>The placement or arrangement of stone or wood made into a structure for ceremonial or utilitarian purpose.</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Granite with Rock Hole</b></p>
--	---

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Gnamma Hole</b></p> <p>A Gnamma hole is a natural or artificially modified rock hole with a narrow mouth, usually widening to a larger chamber within the parent rock. Rainwater collects in the gnamma hole and can be preserved against evaporative loss through the use of a cap stone. Gnamma holes are usually associated with granite or lateritic outcrops and were often utilised as water sources by Aboriginal groups during the spring and early summer months when surface water is increasingly scarce. Gnamma holes often show signs of human modification in the form of grinding or polishing around the mouth of the rock hole, possibly as a means of increasing accessibility.</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Gnamma Hole</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Artefacts</b></p> <p>An artefact site is a place where human activity is identifiable by the presence of portable objects, such as stone glass, bone and shell utilised or modified by Aboriginal people in relation to traditional past or present culture.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Modified or Scarred Tree</b></p> <p>A place with one or more tree(s), living or dead, that has been modified by Aboriginal people by removing the bark or wood resulting in the formation of a scar. This sort of modification was and is frequently done for the making of implements, tools or other materials that were used in traditional cultural practices.</p>	

### Grinding Patches / Grooves

A place where grinding patches or grooves can be found. Grinding patches or grooves are smoothed areas or grooves on rock surfaces (non-portable) that have been created by grinding activity associated with food production such as seed milling, preparation of pigments, tool manufacture and/or maintenance and ritual.



## 6 ONGOING MANAGEMENT

### 6.1 Training and Awareness

- All personnel, including contractors, will be informed of their obligations regarding Aboriginal heritage management through the KML online induction prior to mobilisation, and at two-year intervals while working on site.
- KML will communicate the significance of Aboriginal heritage regularly through toolbox training sessions at site pre-start meetings, these will include awareness of Cultural/Aboriginal Heritage obligations.
- All KML site staff and contractors will periodically complete ground disturbance training.

### 6.2 Protection of Existing Sites

KML will manage the specific requirements of existing Aboriginal heritage sites through the GIS database and the Approvals Request and Ground Disturbance Procedure (CORP-EN-PRO-1004).

The following measures are implemented by the KML Community and Heritage Officer and Aboriginal monitors (where applicable) prior to the commencement of any ground-disturbing work in proximity to a registered site:

- Organise survey teams for additional archaeological fieldwork as necessary.
- Ensure that the vulnerable sites and associated features, where deemed necessary by KML or required by Section 18 of the AH Act approvals, are demarcated and signs are erected and maintained.
- Ensure geofabric protection is assembled and fixed for vulnerable heritage sites and features.
- Supervise all excavation work that alters the beds and banks of watercourses to prevent impacts on Aboriginal heritage sites.
- Where works are within 20 m of an identified heritage site, a spotter will be required to ensure that there is no disturbance to the site. This requirement will be included in the GD permit.

- Ensure that any heritage concerns are reported to the KML General Manager HSEC as soon as practical.

### **6.3 Aboriginal Consultants for Monitoring**

When required by Section 18 Ministerial consent, KML will engage Aboriginal consultants on a rotational basis to monitor all initial ground-disturbing activities that may impact or affect a known heritage site. The KML General Manager HSEC will oversee this process.

### **6.4 Obligations and Audits**

Cultural heritage obligations will be managed through the KML obligations register. All obligations relating to cultural heritage from legislation, this AHMP, active Section 18 Ministerial consent notices and Section 18 applications will be recorded in the obligations register and audited as per the audit schedule.

## 7 GROUND DISTURBANCE

The Approvals Request and Ground Disturbance (AR/GD) system is the primary mechanism for protecting heritage sites, both recorded and unrecorded. The process is outlined in the Environmental Procedure – Approvals Request and Ground Disturbance (CORP-EN-PRO-1004). The AR/GD procedure facilitates the mapping and delineation of all proposed ground disturbance activities and ensures compliance with the terms and conditions of relevant regulatory approvals and legislative requirements before any development activity commences. Additionally, the AR/GD procedure ensures that all relevant company and contractor personnel responsible for ground disturbing activities are informed of specific requirements regarding heritage within the permit area.

### 7.1 Desktop Review

Any proposed ground disturbance works will first undergo a desktop assessment using the KML GIS database. KML staff with specific knowledge of heritage issues will review the disturbance footprint and compare it against the DPLH-listed heritage sites (this database is regularly updated by the KML GIS Coordinator from publicly available DPLH spatial data), as well as KML heritage records.

### 7.2 Surveys

Prior to any ground disturbance outside of previously approved areas for exploration or construction activities, KML will consult with the native title claimant of the area (e.g. Yamatji Nation) to identify sites of significance to local Aboriginal people. This consultation will determine whether heritage surveys are required and if additional management measures are necessary to preserve heritage values.

When heritage surveys are deemed necessary, KML will engage a suitably qualified consultant to conduct the survey and prepare a report in collaboration with the relevant Aboriginal group. The results of any survey will be uploaded into the KML GIS database to ensure that all heritage sites are managed through the AR/GD procedure, in accordance with the Environmental and Heritage Data Management Procedure (CORP-EN-PRO-1045).

## **8 FEEDBACK AND GRIEVANCES**

All feedback and grievances will be managed in accordance with the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (CORP-CH-PLN-1002), ensuring timely responses to all feedback received by KML and records are kept of all communications regarding Aboriginal heritage concerns.