

1. Application details and outcomes

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	10252/2
Permit type:	Purpose permit
Applicant name:	Greenmount Resources Pty Ltd
Application received:	15 December 2024
Application area:	1,100 hectares
Purpose of clearing:	Mineral production and associated activities
Method of clearing:	Mechanical removal
Tenure:	Mining Lease 52/1070
Location (LGA area):	Shire of Meekatharra
Colloquial name:	Karlawinda Gold Project

1.2. Description of clearing activities

Greenmount Resources Pty Ltd proposes to clear up to 1,100 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 2,982.7 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities. The project is located approximately 51.6 kilometres southeast of Newman, within the Shire of Meekatharra.

Clearing permit CPS 10252/1 was granted by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (now the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration) on 24 August 2023 and was valid from 16 September 2023 to 15 September 2028. The permit authorised the clearing of up to 500 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 2,982.7 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities.

On 15 December 2024, the permit holder applied to amend CPS 10252/1 to increase the amount of clearing authorised by 600 hectares, to 1,100 hectares. The permit boundary remains unchanged.

Based on the most recent annual clearing report (reporting period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025), Greenmount Resources Pty Ltd have cleared a total of 166.773 hectares of native vegetation (Capricorn Metals Ltd, 2024; 2025).

The amendment application is to allow for the continued development of key and miscellaneous mining activities (Greenmount Resources Pty Ltd, 2024). Greenmount Resources Pty Ltd plan to increase their operations through the construction of a new mining void, tailings storage facility, waste dump extension, and additional infrastructure needed to support new operations.

The application area was previously covered by clearing permit CPS 7836/4, which expired 31 January 2023. A total of 849.866 hectares was cleared under this permit (Capricorn Metals Ltd, 2023).

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Grant
Decision date:	17 February 2026
Decision area:	1,100 hectares of native vegetation

1.4. Reasons for decision

This clearing permit application was submitted, accepted, assessed, and determined in accordance with sections 51KA(1) and 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE) advertised the application for a public comment for a period of 21 days, and no submissions were received.

In making this decision, the Delegated Officer had regard for the site characteristics (Appendix A), relevant datasets (Appendix D), supporting information provided by the applicant including the results of a biodiversity surveys, the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act (Appendix B), proposed avoidance and minimisation measures (Section 3.1), relevant planning instruments and any other matters considered relevant to the assessment (Section 3.3).

The assessment identified that the proposed clearing may result in:

- the potential introduction and spread of weeds into adjacent vegetation, which could impact on the quality of the adjacent vegetation and its habitat values;
- impacts to terrestrial dwelling fauna species from clearing activities;
- impacts to vegetation growing in association with a watercourse; and
- potential land degradation in the form of erosion.

After consideration of the available information, as well as the applicant's minimisation and mitigation measures (Section 3.1), the Delegated Officer determined the proposed clearing can be minimised and managed to be unlikely to lead to an unacceptable risk to environmental values.

The Delegated Officer decided to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions to:

- avoid, minimise to reduce the impacts and extent of clearing;
- take hygiene steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds;
- undertake slow, progressive one-directional clearing to allow terrestrial fauna to move into adjacent habitat ahead of the clearing activity;
- commence construction no later than three months after undertaking clearing to reduce the risk of erosion;
- avoid clearing riparian vegetation and where a watercourse is to be impacted, maintain existing surface water flow.

The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed increase in the clearing authorised for this amendment is not likely to lead to an unacceptable risk to environmental values.

2. Legislative context

The clearing of native vegetation in Western Australia is regulated under the EP Act and the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004 (Clearing Regulations).

In addition to the matters considered in accordance with section 51O of the EP Act (Section 1.4), the Delegated Officer has also had regard to the objects and principles under section 4A of the EP Act, particularly:

- the precautionary principle
- the principle of intergenerational equity
- the principle of the conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity

Other legislation of relevance for this assessment include:

- *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (WA) (BC Act)
- *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* (BAM Act)
- *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (WA) (CALM Act)
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act)
- *Mining Act 1978* (WA)
- *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (RIWI Act)

Relevant agreements (treaties) considered during the assessment include:

- Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement
- China-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement
- Republic of Korea-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement

The key guidance documents which inform this assessment are:

- *A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation* (DER, December 2014)
- *Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits* (DWER, October 2021)
- Guidance for the Assessment of Environmental Factors – *Terrestrial Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment in Western Australia* (EPA, 2004a)
- Guidance for the Assessment of Environmental Factors – *Terrestrial Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment in Western Australia* (EPA, 2004b)
- Technical guidance – *Terrestrial Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment* (EPA, 2016a)

3. Detailed assessment of application

3.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

The applicant advised they would utilise existing transport corridors and other disturbed areas where possible (Greenmount Resources Pty Ltd, 2023; 2024). The Delegated Officer was satisfied that the applicant has made a reasonable effort to avoid and minimise potential impacts of the proposed clearing on environmental values.

3.2. Assessment of impacts on environmental values

A review of current environmental information (Appendix A) reveals that the assessment against the clearing principles has not changed significantly from clearing permit decision report CPS 10252/1. It was determined from this review that the variance level for principle (i) has changed to 'may be at variance' based on further interrogation.

3.2.1. Water resources - Clearing principle (f) and (i)

Assessment

The application area is mapped within the Wild Rivers listed Savory Creek and the nationally important wetland Lake Disappointment (Savory Creek) System, listed on the Directory of Important Wetlands (GIS Database).

While the application area intersects these mapped areas, it does not intersect either Savory Creek or Lake Disappointment (GIS Database). The minor, non-perennial watercourses that intersect the application area are located upstream from Savory Creek and Lake Disappointment, and surface water eventually flows in a west to east direction into Savory Creek, and ultimately into Lake Disappointment (GIS Database).

Advice received from DWER for clearing permit application CPS 7836/1 provided the following recommendations in order to protect the Savory Creek Wild River area from further degradation (DWER, 2017):

- Disturbance to riparian vegetation should be avoided to maintain foreshore stability and protect important riparian habitats
- No activity shall be undertaken which results in the loss of riverbank or wetland fringing vegetation, in particular construction of vehicular access tracks. Where possible, existing tracks are to be used
- No activity shall be undertaken that will unduly disrupt natural drainage or adversely affect the quality or quantity of water in any watercourse, dam, waterhole, spring or subterranean source of supply
- There should be no significant alteration of the natural hydrological regime and geomorphology of waterways and the catchment

It was considered that the clearing is unlikely to impact on water resources, provided activities are undertaken in accordance with DWER's advice and recommendations, and the applicants' environmental commitments (DWER, 2017).

Conclusion

For the reasons set out above, it is considered that the impacts from the proposed increase of 600 hectares of clearing on vegetation growing in association with a watercourse and clearing vegetation that may reduce the quality of surface water can be managed through conditions already implemented on the permit.

Conditions

To address the above impacts, the following management measures will be required as conditions on the clearing permit:

- a vegetation management condition requiring the permit holder to avoid clearing riparian vegetation where practicable and to maintain water flow.

3.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The clearing permit amendment application was advertised on 28 February 2025 by the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

There is one native title claim (WCD2018/008 - Nyiyaparli and Nyiyaparli #3) over the area under application (DPLH, 2026). This claim has been determined by the Federal Court on behalf of the claimant group. The mining tenure has been granted in accordance with the future act regime of the *Native Title Act 1993* and the nature of the act (i.e. the proposed clearing activity) has been provided for in that process, therefore, the granting of a clearing permit is not a future act under the *Native Title Act 1993*.

There are no registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the application area (DPLH, 2026). It is the proponent's responsibility to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* and ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

Other relevant authorisations required for the proposed land use include:

- A Mining Development and Closure Proposal approved under the *Mining Act 1978*

It is the proponent's responsibility to liaise with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, to determine whether a Works Approval, Water Licence, Bed and Banks Permit, or any other licences or approvals are required for the proposed works.

End

Appendix A. Site characteristics

A.1. Site characteristics

Characteristic	Details
Local context	<p>The area proposed to be cleared is located within the Augustus subregion of the Gascoyne bioregion and is part of an expansive tract of native vegetation in the extensive land use zone of Western Australia (GIS Database).</p> <p>The application area is located within the Weelarrana pastoral station and is surrounded by other mining operations targeting gold, manganese, and iron ore (GIS Database).</p> <p>Approximately 99% of the local area (50 kilometre radius from the area proposed to be cleared) remains uncleared (GIS Database).</p>
Ecological linkage	The application area does not represent an important ecological linkage (GIS Database).
Conservation areas	The application area is not located within any legislated conservation area (GIS Database). The nearest legislated conservation area is the Gulali western portion of the Collier Range National Park, located approximately 87.4 kilometres southwest of the application area (GIS Database).
Vegetation description	<p>The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation associations (GIS Database):</p> <p>29: Sparse low woodland; mulga, discontinuous in scattered groups (2,736.8 ha)</p> <p>216: Low woodland; mulga (with spinifex) on rises (245.9 ha)</p> <p>A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the application area and surrounds by 360 Environmental Pty Ltd during 22-16 March 2010. The following vegetation types were recorded within the application area (360 Environmental Pty Ltd, 2010):</p> <p><u>Vegetation of the crests and slopes of low stony ridges</u></p> <p>AaaTsh <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>aneura</i>?, <i>Acacia pruinocarpa</i>, <i>Acacia</i> aff. <i>ayersiana</i> (narrow form; ME Trudgen 15,786) low open woodland to low woodland over <i>Grevillea berryana</i>, <i>Acacia tetragonophylla</i> scattered tall shrubs over <i>Eremophila forrestii</i> subsp. <i>forrestii</i> scattered shrubs over <i>Triodia</i> sp. Shovelanna Hill (S. van Leeuwen 3835) hummock grassland.</p> <p>Aa1AacEf <i>Acacia</i> aff. <i>aneura</i> (narrow, fine veined, site 1259), <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>conifera</i> scattered low trees to low open woodland over <i>Grevillea berryana</i> scattered tall shrubs over <i>Eremophila fraseri</i> low open shrubland over <i>Eriachne mucronata</i> scattered grasses.</p> <p>AaaAsMt <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>aneura</i>?, (<i>Acacia pruinocarpa</i>) scattered low trees to low open woodland over <i>Acacia subcontorta</i> (to 2.5 – 3 m high) scattered tall shrubs over <i>Eremophila latrobei</i> subsp. aff. <i>filiformis</i> scattered shrubs over <i>Senna artemisioides</i> subsp. <i>helmsii</i>, <i>Senna</i> sp. Meekatharra (E. Bailey 1-26) scattered low shrubs over <i>Maireana triptera</i>, <i>Maireana melanocoma</i>, <i>Maireana villosa</i> (40-50 cm) very open herbland.</p> <p><u>Vegetation of the colluvial plains at the base of low stony ridges</u></p> <p>AyAc <i>Acacia ayersiana</i>, <i>Acacia</i> aff. <i>ayersiana</i> (narrow form; ME Trudgen 15,786), <i>Acacia</i> aff. <i>aneura</i> (narrow, fine veined, site 1259), <i>Acacia</i> aff. <i>aneura</i> (grey, flat, recurved tips, MET15, 828), <i>Acacia catenulata</i> subsp. <i>occidentalis</i> closed low woodland (in linear groves) over <i>Grevillea berryana</i> scattered low trees over <i>Eremophila forrestii</i> subsp. <i>forrestii</i>, <i>Rhagodia</i> sp. Hamersley (M Trudgen 17794) scattered shrubs over <i>Poaceae</i> sp. very open grassland.</p> <p>AyAcTep <i>Acacia ayersiana</i>, <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>conifer</i>, <i>Acacia catenulata</i> subsp. <i>occidentalis</i>, <i>Acacia</i> aff. <i>ayersiana</i> (narrow form; ME Trudgen 15,786) open woodland over <i>Eremophila latrobei</i> subsp. aff. <i>filiformis</i> scattered shrubs over <i>Eremophila forrestii</i> subsp. <i>forrestii</i> open shrubland over <i>Triodia pungens</i> very open hummock grassland.</p> <p><u>Vegetation of the exposed hard pans on the plains</u></p> <p>EfEy <i>Acacia paraneura</i>, <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>aneura</i>? sparsely scattered low trees over <i>Eremophila forrestii</i> subsp. <i>forrestii</i>, <i>Senna artemisioides</i> subsp. <i>helmsii</i>, <i>Eremophila fraseri</i>, <i>Eremophila youngii</i> subsp. <i>youngii</i> scattered shrubs to open shrubland.</p> <p><u>Vegetation of the drainage tracts on the hard pan plains</u></p> <p>AaiEfl <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>intermedia</i> low open woodland to low woodland over (<i>Acacia aneura</i> var. (green, flat; MET 15,946) 2-2.5 m) scattered tall shrubs over <i>Solanum lasiophyllum</i> scattered low shrubs over very open tussock grasslands including <i>Eriachne flaccida</i>, <i>Eragrostis xerophila</i> and <i>Chrysopogon</i> sp..</p>

Characteristic	Details
	<p><u>Vegetation of the hard pan plains adjacent to the drainage tracts with drainage tract elements</u></p> <p>AaiAa2 <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>intermedia</i>, <i>Acacia</i> aff. <i>aneura</i> (long, flat, recurved, FMR35-3) low open woodland to low woodland (regrowth after fire) over <i>Solanum lasiophyllum</i> scattered low shrubs over <i>Aristida inaequiglumis</i>, <i>Cenchrus</i> sp. (no flowers), <i>Eriachne flaccida</i> grassland (patches).</p> <p>Aa2AaiTs <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>intermedia</i>, <i>Acacia</i> aff. <i>aneura</i> (long, flat, recurved, FMR35-3) low open woodland over <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. (green, flat; MET 15,946) (50 cm (regrowth)), <i>Solanum lasiophyllum</i> scattered low shrubs over <i>Aristida inaequiglumis</i>, (<i>Triodia schinzii</i>, <i>Cymbopogon ambiguus</i>) open grassland/hummock grassland.</p> <p>Aa2AaiTep <i>Acacia</i> aff. <i>aneura</i> (long, flat, recurved, FMR35-3), <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>intermedia</i> low woodland over <i>Eremophila fraseri</i>, <i>Eremophila forrestii</i> subsp. <i>forrestii</i>, <i>Eremophila latrobei</i> subsp. aff. <i>filiformis</i> scattered low shrubs over <i>Triodia pungens</i>, <i>Monachather paradoxus</i>, <i>Eragrostis eriopoda</i> open hummock grassland/grassland.</p> <p><u>Other vegetation of the hard pan plains</u></p> <p>Aa2Aa1Ts <i>Acacia</i> aff. <i>aneura</i> (long, flat, recurved, FMR35-3), <i>Acacia</i> aff. <i>aneura</i> (narrow, fine veined, site 1259), <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>conifera</i> low woodland over <i>Eremophila forrestii</i> subsp. <i>forrestii</i> scattered shrubs over <i>Triodia schinzii</i>, <i>Aristida inaequiglumis</i>, <i>Aristida holathera</i> var. <i>holathera</i> hummock grassland/grassland.</p> <p>Aa2AprTs <i>Acacia</i> aff. <i>aneura</i> (long, flat, recurved, FMR35-3), <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>conifer</i>, (<i>Acacia pruinocarpa</i>) low open woodland (regrowth after fire) over <i>Eremophila forrestii</i> subsp. <i>forrestii</i> scattered shrubs over <i>Triodia schinzii</i>, <i>Aristida inaequiglumis</i> hummock grassland/grassland.</p> <p><u>Vegetation associated with stony plains</u></p> <p>AaiApEf <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>aneura</i>?, <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>intermedia</i>, <i>Acacia paraneura</i> low open woodland over <i>Acacia tetragonophylla</i> scattered tall shrubs over <i>Eremophila fraseri</i> scattered shrubs over <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i> scattered low shrubs over <i>Eragrostis xerophila</i> scattered grasses.</p> <p>A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over part of the application area and surrounds by 360 Environmental Pty Ltd during 3-6 May 2016. The following vegetation types were recorded within the application area (360 Environmental Pty Ltd, 2016a):</p> <p>1: <i>Acacia aneura</i>, <i>Corymbia candida</i> subsp. <i>dipsodes</i> (+- <i>C. hamersleyana</i>) low woodland over <i>Hakea lorea</i> subsp. <i>lorea</i> tall open shrubland over <i>Eriachne flaccida</i>, <i>Aristida inaequiglumis</i> and <i>Digitaria ammophila</i> open tussock grassland (334.9 ha)</p> <p>2: <i>Acacia aneura</i> tall sparse shrubland (to open shrubland) over <i>Eremophila forrestii</i> subsp. <i>forrestii</i> isolated shrubs over <i>Triodia schinzii</i> hummock</p> <p>3: <i>Acacia aneura</i> low woodland over <i>Eremophila forrestii</i> subsp. <i>forrestii</i> sparse shrubland over <i>Aristida inaequiglumis</i>, <i>Digitaria ammophila</i> sparse tussock grassland over and <i>Fimbristylis dichotoma</i> sparse herbland</p> <p>4: <i>Acacia aptaneura</i>, <i>Corymbia candida</i> subsp. <i>dipsodes</i>, <i>Acacia catenulata</i> subsp. <i>occidentalis</i> open forest over <i>Psydrax latifolia</i> tall sparse shrubland</p> <p>5a: <i>Acacia aptaneura</i> (and/or <i>A. paraneura</i>) tall isolated shrubs over <i>Eremophila fraseri</i> subsp. <i>fraseri</i> sparse shrubland over <i>Eremophila youngii</i> subsp. <i>youngii</i> low isolated shrubs over <i>Aristida contorta</i> sparse grassland and <i>Fimbristylis dichotoma</i> sparse herbs</p> <p>6: <i>Acacia aptaneura</i> or <i>Acacia subcontorta</i> sparse shrubland over <i>Fimbristylis dichotoma</i> isolated herbs (5.6 ha)</p> <p>7a: <i>Acacia pruinocarpa</i> isolated shrubs over <i>Triodia schinzii</i> hummock grassland (+- <i>Triodia epactia</i>) (20.5 ha)</p> <p>8: <i>Acacia synchronicia</i> (+- <i>Acacia aptaneura</i>/ <i>A. aneura</i>) tall scattered shrubs over <i>Maireana triptera</i> and <i>Eremophila cuneifolia</i> low open shrubland over <i>Aristida contorta</i> (21.8 ha)</p> <p>9: <i>Acacia aptaneura</i>, over <i>Eremophila flaccida</i> subsp. <i>flaccida</i> over <i>Fimbristylis dichotoma</i> and <i>Aristida contorta</i></p> <p>10: <i>Acacia pruinocarpa</i> (+- <i>Acacia incurvaneura</i>) sparse shrubland over <i>Triodia</i> sp. Shovelanna Hill (S. van Leeuwen 3835) hummock grassland</p> <p>11: <i>Acacia incurvaneura</i> and <i>Acacia ayersiana</i> low woodland over <i>Eremophila forrestii</i> subsp. <i>forrestii</i> sparse shrubland over <i>Thyridolepis xerophila</i> sparse tussock grassland (+- <i>Triodia pungens</i>)</p>

Characteristic	Details
Vegetation condition	<p>Vegetation surveys of the application area found the vegetation to be in good, very good, and excellent condition (360 Environmental Pty Ltd, 2010; 2016a; Trudgen, 1991).</p> <p>The full Trudgen (1991) condition rating scale is provided in Appendix C.</p> <p>The flora and vegetation surveys also recorded four introduced flora species within their respective survey boundaries (360 Environmental Pty Ltd, 2010; 2016a):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bidens bipinnata</i> • <i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i> • <i>Malvastrum americanum</i> • <i>Portulaca pilosa</i>
Climate and landform	<p>The climate of the Augustus subregion is described as desert, with the nearest weather station recording an average rainfall of approximately 316.8 millimetres per year (BoM, 2026; CALM, 2002).</p> <p>The application area is mapped at elevations of 580-600 metres Australian height datum (GIS Database).</p> <p>Landforms within the application area are broadly described as stony hardpan plains and rises with thin sand cover and sandy banks (DPIRD, 2026; Van Vreeswyk et al., 2004; GIS Database).</p>
Soil description	<p>The soils within the application area are broadly mapped as (DPIRD, 2026; Van Vreeswyk et al., 2004; GIS Database):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • red deep sand • red-brown hardpan shallow loam • red shallow sand • red loamy earth • red shallow loam • stony soil • pale shallow sand • red deep sandy duplex • loamy duplex soils
Land degradation risk	<p>Drainage tracts are moderately susceptible to erosion, and some hardpan plains are slightly susceptible within the Jamindie land system (DPIRD, 2026; Van Vreeswyk et al., 2004; GIS Database). Some parts of the alluvial plains, groves and tracts receiving more concentrated rainfall are moderately susceptible to erosion within the Washplain land system (DPIRD, 2026; Van Vreeswyk et al., 2004; GIS Database).</p>
Waterbodies	<p>The application area intersects several minor, non-perennial watercourses (GIS Database). It also intersects the Lake Disappointment (Savory Creek) System, listed Directory of Important Wetlands, and the Savory Creek Wild Rivers listed area (GIS Database).</p>
Hydrogeography	<p>The nearest Public Drinking Water Source Area is the Newman Water Reserve, located approximately 38.9 kilometres north-northwest of the application area (GIS Database).</p> <p>The application area is located within the Pilbara Surface Water Area and the East Murchison Groundwater Area proclaimed under the <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i> (GIS Database). The mapped groundwater salinity is between 500-3,000 total dissolved solids milligrams per litre, which is described as marginal to brackish water quality (GIS Database).</p>
Flora	<p>There are records of 22 priority flora species within 50 kilometres of the application area (GIS Database).</p>
Ecological communities	<p>There are no known ecological communities within the application area (GIS Database). The nearest ecological community is the '<i>Ethel Gorge aquifer stygobiont community</i>' threatened ecological community (CR), located approximately 49.4 kilometres northwest of the application area (GIS Database).</p>

Characteristic	Details
Fauna	There are records of 16 conservation significant fauna species within a 50 kilometre radius of the application area (GIS Database).
Fauna habitat	The following broad fauna habitats were identified in the survey area (360 Environmental Pty Ltd, 2010): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shrubs over spinifex • Shrubs over gravelly ground of quartz with minimal spinifex • Mulga shrubland with minimal spinifex • Rocky outcrop with occasional <i>Eremophila</i> species • Patchy shrubs over patchy spinifex over gravelly ground

A.2. Vegetation extent

	Pre-European area (ha)	Current extent (ha)	Extent remaining (%)	Current extent in all DBCA managed land (ha)	Current extent in all DBCA Managed Land (proportion of pre-European extent) (%)
IBRA bioregion - Gascoyne	18,075,219	18,067,441	~99	1,855,508.22	10.27
Beard vegetation associations - State					
29	7,903,991	7,898,973	~99	496,367.56	6.28
216	280,759	279,237	~99	N/A	N/A
Beard vegetation associations - Gascoyne bioregion					
29	3,802,459	3,799,635	~99	297,087.90	7.81
216	254,089	252,864	~99	N/A	N/A

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A.3. Flora analysis table

The following conservation significant flora species have records within a 50 kilometre radius of the application area (GIS Database). Habitat suitability and likelihood of occurrence was determined utilising biological survey information (360 Environmental Pty Ltd, 2010; 2016a) and the Western Australian Herbarium (WAH, 1998-; GIS Database).

Scientific name	Conservation status	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Likelihood	Habitat suitability	Are surveys adequate to identify? [Y, N, N/A]
<i>Aristida jerichoensis</i> var. <i>subspinulifera</i>	P3	19	possible	suitable habitat present	Y
<i>Comesperma sabulosum</i>	P3	41	unlikely	no suitable habitat present	Y
<i>Dampiera atriplicina</i>	P3	39	unlikely	no suitable habitat present	Y
<i>Eremophila capricornica</i>	P1	34	possible	suitable habitat present, but outside species known distribution	Y
<i>Eremophila magnifica</i> subsp. <i>velutina</i>	P3	18	unlikely	no suitable habitat present	Y
<i>Eremophila pilosa</i>	P1	1	unlikely	no suitable habitat, this record is from 1963 and is potentially incorrectly georeferenced as all other records are located 100km north	Y
<i>Eremophila rhexos</i>	P1	35	possible	some suitable habitat present	Y
<i>Eremophila rigida</i>	P3	37	likely	recorded outside the application area by 360 Environmental Pty Ltd (2016a)	Y
<i>Euphorbia inappendiculata</i> var. <i>inappendiculata</i>	P3	39	unlikely	no suitable habitat present	Y
<i>Goodenia beringbinensis</i>	P4	41	unlikely	no suitable habitat present	Y
<i>Goodenia hartiana</i>	P2	40	unlikely	no suitable habitat present	Y
<i>Ipomoea racemigera</i>	P3	26	unlikely	no suitable habitat present	Y
<i>Isotropis parviflora</i>	P3	48	unlikely	no suitable habitat present	Y

<i>Oxalis</i> sp. Pilbara (M.E. Trudgen 12725)	P3	45	unlikely	no suitable habitat present	Y
<i>Swainsona thompsoniana</i>	P3	45	unlikely	limited suitable habitat, however the application area is outside the species known distribution	Y
<i>Tecticornia globulifera</i>	P1	35	unlikely	no suitable habitat present	Y
<i>Tecticornia medusa</i>	P3	35	unlikely	no suitable habitat present	Y
<i>Triodia birriliburu</i>	P3	38	unlikely	no suitable habitat present	Y
<i>Triodia</i> sp. Mt Ella (M.E. Trudgen 12739)	P3	47	unlikely	no suitable habitat present	Y
<i>Uvedalia clementii</i>	P1	35	unlikely	no suitable habitat present	Y
<i>Vallisneria</i> sp. Weelarrana (M.N. Lyons & S.D. Lyons 3050)	P1	35	unlikely	no suitable habitat present	Y
<i>Vittadinia</i> sp. Coondewanna Flats (S. van Leeuwen 4684)	P3	38	unlikely	no suitable habitat present	Y

T: threatened, CR: critically endangered, EN: endangered, VU: vulnerable, P: priority

A.4. Fauna analysis table

The following conservation significant fauna species have records within a 50 kilometre radius of the application area (GIS Database). Habitat suitability and likelihood of occurrence was determined utilising biological survey information and other literature (360 Environmental Pty Ltd, 2010; 2016a; 2016b; 2017; Burbidge et al., 2014; Commonwealth of Australia, 2008; McKenzie et al., 2025).

Scientific name	Conservation status		Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Likelihood	Habitat suitability
	WA	EPBC			
BIRDS					
<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i> common sandpiper	MI	MI	46	highly unlikely	no suitable habitat present
<i>Falco peregrinus</i> peregrine falcon	OS		39	possible	wide distribution and can utilise most habitats, the species may utilise the area from time to time but would not be reliant on the application area
<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i> gull-billed tern	MI	MI	34	highly unlikely	no suitable habitat present
<i>Pezoporus occidentalis</i> night parrot	CR	EN	14	unlikely	this record is from 1934; in addition, the <i>Triodia</i> species present within the application area are not ring forming
<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i> glossy ibis	MI	MI	49	highly unlikely	no suitable habitat present
MAMMALS					
<i>Antechinomys longicaudatus</i> long-tailed dunnart	P4		36	unlikely	very limited suitable habitat present
<i>Dasycercus blythi</i> brush-tailed mulgara	P4		38	possible	a targeted survey did not observe any burrows, diggings, scats, or individuals. The habitat present is not preferred, but may be utilised occasionally
<i>Macroderma gigas</i> ghost bat	VU	VU	38	unlikely	very limited foraging habitat present, in addition to no nearby rocky hills or caves for breeding or roosting
<i>Macrotis lagotis</i> bilby, dalgyte, ninu	VU	VU	47	possible	a targeted survey did not observe any burrows, diggings, scats, or individuals. The habitat present is not preferred, but may be utilised occasionally
<i>Notoryctes</i> sp. marsupial mole	P4		39	unlikely	no suitable habitat present
<i>Pseudomys chapmani</i> western pebble-mound mouse, ngadjji	P4		31	possible	suitable habitat present
<i>Rhinonicteris aurantia</i> (Pilbara form) Pilbara leaf-nosed bat	VU	VU	48	unlikely	very limited foraging habitat present, in addition to no nearby rocky hills or caves for breeding or roosting
REPTILES					
<i>Aniliios ganei</i> Gane's blind snake (Pilbara)	P1		47		
<i>Ctenotus uber johnstonei</i> spotted ctenotus (northeast)	P2		42		
<i>Lerista macropisthopus remota</i>	P2		19	Records from	

unpatterned robust slider (Robertson Range)				1992 1996	
<i>Liopholis kintorei</i> great desert skink	VU	VU	35		

T: threatened, CR: critically endangered, EN: endangered, VU: vulnerable, MI: migratory, CD: conservation dependent, OS: other specially protected, P: priority

Appendix B. Assessment against the clearing principles

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Environmental value: biological values		
<p><u>Principle (a):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biodiversity."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The area proposed to be cleared does not contain locally or regionally significant flora, fauna, their habitats, or assemblages of plants. Some conservation significant species may have some suitable habitat within the application area; however, the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact these species at a local, regional, or species level due to the common and widespread habitats available (360 Environmental Pty Ltd, 2010; 2016a; 2016b; 2017).</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10252/1</p>	No
<p><u>Principle (b):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The area proposed to be cleared contains some habitat that could be utilised by a number of conservation significant fauna species (Appendix A.4), however it is unlikely that the available habitats are significant for the maintenance of any of these fauna species (360 Environmental Pty Ltd, 2010; 2016a; 2016b; 2017).</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10252/1</p>	No
<p><u>Principle (c):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>There are no known records of threatened flora within the application area or within a 50 kilometre radius (GIS Database).</p> <p>The flora and vegetation surveys of various parts of the application area did not identify any species of threatened flora (360 Environmental Pty Ltd, 2010; 2016a). These surveys did not record any habitats that have the potential to support threatened flora.</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10252/1</p>	No
<p><u>Principle (d):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a threatened ecological community."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The application area is not located within any known or mapped threatened ecological communities (TECs) (GIS Database). None of the habitats or vegetation types recorded in the application area are representative of a state or federal TEC (360 Environmental, 2010; 2016a).</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10252/1</p>	No
Environmental value: significant remnant vegetation and conservation areas		
<p><u>Principle (e):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The application area falls within the Gascoyne bioregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) (GIS Database). Approximately 99% of the pre-European vegetation still exists in the IBRA Gascoyne bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2019). The application area is broadly mapped as Beard vegetation associations 29: Sparse low woodland; mulga, discontinuous in scattered groups (2,736.8 ha); and 216: Low woodland; mulga (with spinifex) on rises (245.9 ha)</p>	<p>Not at variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10252/1</p>	No

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
<p>(GIS Database). Approximately 99% of the pre-European extent of each of these vegetation associations remains uncleared at both the state and bioregional level (Government of Western Australia, 2019).</p> <p>The application area does not represent a significant remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.</p>		
<p><u>Principle (h):</u> <i>“Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.”</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The application area is not located within any known or mapped conservation areas (GIS Database). Given the distance to the closest conservation area (87.4 kilometres), the proposed clearing is unlikely to have an impact on the environmental values of any conservation area.</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10252/1</p>	<p>No</p>
Environmental value: land and water resources		
<p><u>Principle (f):</u> <i>“Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.”</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>Given several minor, non-perennial watercourses are mapped within the application area, and the area is also mapped within Lake Disappointment (Savory Creek) System, listed Directory of Important Wetlands, and the Savory Creek Wild Rivers listed area (GIS Database), the proposed clearing may have an impact on vegetation growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.</p>	<p>At variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10252/1</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Refer to Section 3.2.1, above</p>
<p><u>Principle (g):</u> <i>“Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.”</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>Drainage tracts are moderately susceptible to erosion and some hardpan plains are slightly susceptible within the Jamindie land system (DPIRD, 2026; Van Vreeswyk et al., 2004; GIS Database). Some parts of the alluvial plains, groves and tracts receiving more concentrated rainfall are moderately susceptible to erosion within the Washplain land system (DPIRD, 2026; Van Vreeswyk et al., 2004; GIS Database). The potential impacts from the proposed clearing may be minimised by the continued implementation of a staged clearing condition.</p>	<p>May be at variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10252/1</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><u>Principle (i):</u> <i>“Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.”</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>Given there are Public Drinking Water Sources Areas within the application area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact groundwater quality (GIS Database).</p> <p>The application area is mapped within the Wild Rivers listed Savory Creek and nationally important wetland Lake Disappointment (Savory Creek) System, listed on the Directory of Important Wetlands (GIS Database). Disturbance within these areas may cause deterioration in the quality of surface water.</p>	<p>May be at variance</p> <p>changed from CPS 10252/1</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Refer to Section 3.2.1, above.</p>
<p><u>Principle (j):</u> <i>“Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.”</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The application area does not contain any permanent watercourses or wetlands (GIS Database). The non-perennial drainage lines within the application area are generally described as broad, shallow floodplains and sheet flow is considered typical during rainfall events (360 Environmental, 2010; 2016a). It is unlikely that the proposed clearing is likely to cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding.</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10252/1</p>	<p>No</p>

Appendix C. Vegetation condition rating scale

Vegetation condition is a rating given to a defined area of vegetation to categorise and rank disturbance related to human activities. The rating refers to the degree of change in the vegetation structure, density and species present in relation to undisturbed vegetation of the same type. The degree of disturbance impacts upon the vegetation's ability to regenerate. Disturbance at a site can be a cumulative effect from a number of interacting disturbance types.

Considering its location, the scale below was used to measure the condition of the vegetation proposed to be cleared. This scale has been extracted from Trudgen, M.E. (1991) *Vegetation condition scale* in National Trust (WA) 1993 Urban Bushland Policy. National Trust of Australia (WA), Wildflower Society of WA (Inc.), and the Tree Society (Inc.), Perth.

Measuring vegetation condition for the Eremaean and Northern Botanical Provinces (Trudgen, 1991)

Condition	Description
Excellent	Pristine or nearly so, no obvious signs of damage caused by human activities since European settlement.
Very good	Some relatively slight signs of damage caused by human activities since European settlement. For example, some signs of damage to tree trunks caused by repeated fire, the presence of some relatively non-aggressive weeds, or occasional vehicle tracks.
Good	More obvious signs of damage caused by human activity since European settlement, including some obvious impact on the vegetation structure such as that caused by low levels of grazing or slightly aggressive weeds.
Poor	Still retains basic vegetation structure or ability to regenerate it after very obvious impacts of human activities since European settlement, such as grazing, partial clearing, frequent fires or aggressive weeds.
Very poor	Severely impacted by grazing, very frequent fires, clearing or a combination of these activities. Scope for some regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive management. Usually with a number of weed species present including very aggressive species.
Completely degraded	Areas that are completely or almost completely without native species in the structure of their vegetation; i.e. areas that are cleared or 'parkland cleared' with their flora comprising weed or crop species with isolated native trees or shrubs.

Appendix D. Sources of information

D.1. GIS datasets

Publicly available GIS datasets used (sourced from www.data.wa.gov.au):

- Cadastre (Polygon) (LGATE-217)
- Clearing Instruments Activities (Areas Approved to Clear) (DWER-076)
- Clearing Instruments Conditions (Areas Subject to Conditions) (DWER-077)
- Clearing Instruments Proposals (Areas Applied to Clear) (DWER-075)
- Clearing Regulations - Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046)
- Clearing Regulations - Schedule One Areas (DWER-057)
- DBCA - Lands of Interest (DBCA-012)
- DBCA - Legislated Lands and Waters (DBCA-011)
- Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia - Western Australia (DBCA-045)
- EPA Referred Significant Proposals (DWER-120)
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide (DWER-026)
- Hydrographic Catchments - Basins (DWER-027)
- Hydrographic Catchments - Catchments (DWER-028)
- Hydrographic Catchments - Divisions (DWER-029)
- Hydrographic Catchments - Subcatchments (DWER-030)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- IBSA Survey Details (DWER-118)
- IOL - Carbon and Plantation (LGATE-340)
- Local Government Area (LGA) Boundaries (LGATE-233)
- Localities (LGATE-234)
- Medium Scale Topo Contour (Line) (LGATE-015)
- Medium Scale Topo Water (Line) (LGATE-018)
- Medium Scale Topo Water (Polygon) (LGATE-016)
- Mineral Field Boundaries (DMIRS-005)
- Native Title (Determination) (LGATE-066)
- Native Vegetation Extent (DPIRD-005)

- Pre-European Vegetation (DPIRD-006)
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (DWER-033)
- Ramsar Sites (DBCA-010)
- Reserves (LGATE-227)
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas (DWER-034)
- RIWI Act, Rivers (DWER-036)
- RIWI Act, Surface Water Areas and Irrigation Districts (DWER-037)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Best Available (DPIRD-027)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Western Australia attributed by WA Soil Group (DPIRD-076)
- Townsites (LGATE-248)
- WA Now Aerial Imagery
- Waterways Conservation Act Management Areas (DWER-072)
- Wild Rivers (DWER-087)

Restricted GIS Databases used:

- Threatened and Priority Flora (TPFL)
- Threatened and Priority Flora (WAHerb)
- Threatened and Priority Fauna
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities (Buffers)

D.2. References

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- 360 Environmental Pty Ltd (2016a) Karlawinda Gold Project Flora and Vegetation Assessment. Prepared by 360 Environmental Pty Ltd, Capricorn Metals Pty Ltd, July 2016.
- 360 Environmental Pty Ltd (2016b) Karlawinda Gold Project Vertebrate Fauna Review. Prepared by 360 Environmental Pty Ltd, for Capricorn Metals Pty Ltd, April 2016.
- 360 Environmental Pty Ltd (2017) Karlawinda Gold Project Targeted Fauna Survey. Prepared by 360 Environmental Pty Ltd, Capricorn Metals Pty Ltd, March 2017.
- Burbidge, A., Harrison, P., & Woinarski, J. (2014) The Action Plan for Australian Mammals 2012. CSIRO Publishing.
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- Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) (2004a) Guidance for the Assessment of Environmental Factors Western Australia - Terrestrial Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment in Western Australia, Guidance Statement No. 56, June 2004.

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- Government of Western Australia (2019) 2018 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of March 2019. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. <https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca-statewide-vegetation-statistics>
- Greenmount Resources Pty Ltd (2023) Clearing permit application form, CPS 10252/1, received 22 June 2023.
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Glossary

Acronyms:

BC Act	<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> , Western Australia
BoM	Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Government
DAA	Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Western Australia (now DPLH)
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia (now DPIRD)
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Australian Government
DBCA	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia
DEMIRS	Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (now DMPE)
DER	Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia (now DWER)
DMIRS	Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Western Australia (now DMPE)
DMP	Department of Mines and Petroleum, Western Australia (now DMPE)
DMPE	Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration
DoEE	Department of the Environment and Energy (now DCCEEW)
DoW	Department of Water, Western Australia (now DWER)
DPaW	Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia (now DBCA)
DPIRD	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia
DPLH	Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, Western Australia
DRF	Declared Rare Flora (now known as Threatened Flora)
DWER	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Western Australia
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> , Western Australia
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Commonwealth Act)
GIS	Geographical Information System
ha	Hectare (10,000 square metres)
IBRA	Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources – commonly known as the World Conservation Union
PEC	Priority Ecological Community, Western Australia
RIWI Act	<i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i> , Western Australia
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community

Definitions:

DBCA (2023) Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora and Fauna. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia:

Threatened species

T Listed by order of the Minister as Threatened in the category of critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable under section 19(1), or is a rediscovered species to be regarded as threatened species under section 26(2) of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (BC Act).

Threatened fauna is the species of fauna that are listed as critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable threatened species.

Threatened flora is the species of flora that are listed as critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable threatened species.

The assessment of the conservation status of threatened species is in accordance with the BC Act listing criteria and the requirements of [Ministerial Guideline Number 1](#) and [Ministerial Guideline Number 2](#) that adopts the use of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) [Red List of Threatened Species Categories and Criteria](#), and is based on the national distribution of the species.

CR Critically endangered species

Threatened species considered to be “*facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future, as determined in accordance with criteria set out in the ministerial guidelines*”.

Listed as critically endangered under section 19(1)(a) of the BC Act in accordance with the criteria set out in section 20 and the ministerial guidelines.

EN Endangered species

Threatened species considered to be “*facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future, as determined in accordance with criteria set out in the ministerial guidelines*”.

Listed as endangered under section 19(1)(b) of the BC Act in accordance with the criteria set out in section 21 and the ministerial guidelines.

VU Vulnerable species

Threatened species considered to be “*facing a high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium-term future, as determined in accordance with criteria set out in the ministerial guidelines*”.

Listed as vulnerable under section 19(1)(c) of the BC Act in accordance with the criteria set out in section 22 and the ministerial guidelines.

Extinct species

Listed by order of the Minister as extinct under section 23(1) of the BC Act as extinct or extinct in the wild.

EX Extinct species

Species where “*there is no reasonable doubt that the last member of the species has died*”, and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 24 of the BC Act).

EW Extinct in the wild species

Species that “*is known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalised population well outside its past range; and it has not been recorded in its known habitat or expected habitat, at appropriate seasons, anywhere in its past range, despite surveys over a time frame appropriate to its life cycle and form*”, and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 25 of the BC Act).

Currently there are no threatened fauna or threatened flora species listed as extinct in the wild.

Specially protected species

SP Specially protected species

Listed by order of the Minister as specially protected under section 13(1) of the BC Act. Meeting one or more of the following categories: species of special conservation interest; migratory species; cetaceans; species subject to international agreement; or species otherwise in need of special protection.

Species that are listed as threatened species (critically endangered, endangered, or vulnerable) or extinct species under the BC Act cannot also be listed as specially protected species.

MI Migratory species

Fauna that periodically or occasionally visit Australia or an external Territory or the exclusive economic zone; or the species is subject of an international agreement that relates to the protection of migratory species and that binds the Commonwealth; and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 15 of the BC Act).

Migratory species include birds that are subject to an agreement between the government of Australia and the governments of Japan (JAMBA), China (CAMBA) or The Republic of Korea (ROKAMBA), and fauna subject to the *Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals* (Bonn Convention), an environmental treaty under the United Nations Environment Program. Migratory species listed under the BC Act are a subset of the

migratory animals, that are known to visit Western Australia, protected under the international agreements or treaties, excluding species that are listed as Threatened species.

CD Species of special conservation interest (conservation dependent fauna)

Species of special conservation need that are dependent on ongoing conservation intervention to prevent it becoming eligible for listing as threatened, and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 14 of the BC Act).

Currently only fauna are listed as species of special conservation interest.

OS Other specially protected species

Species otherwise in need of special protection to ensure their conservation, and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 18 of the BC Act).

Currently only fauna are listed as species otherwise in need of special protection.

Priority species

P Priority species

Priority is not a listing category under the BC Act. The Priority Flora and Fauna lists are maintained by the department and are published on the department's website.

All fauna and flora are protected in WA following the provisions in Part 10 of the BC Act. The protection applies even when a species is not listed as threatened or specially protected, and regardless of land tenure (State managed land (Crown land), private land, or Commonwealth land).

Species that may possibly be threatened species that do not meet the criteria for listing under the BC Act because of insufficient survey or are otherwise data deficient, are added to the Priority Fauna or Priority Flora Lists under Priorities 1, 2 or 3. These three categories are ranked in order of prioritisation for survey and evaluation of conservation status so that consideration can be given to potential listing as threatened.

Species that are adequately known, meet criteria for near threatened, or are rare but not threatened, or that have been recently removed from the threatened species list or conservation dependent or other specially protected fauna lists for other than taxonomic reasons, are placed in Priority 4. These species require regular monitoring.

Assessment of priority status is based on the Western Australian distribution of the species, unless the distribution in WA is part of a contiguous population extending into adjacent States, as defined by the known spread of locations.

P1 Priority One - Poorly-known species – known from few locations, none on conservation lands

Species that are known from one or a few locations (generally five or less) which are potentially at risk. All occurrences are either: very small; or on lands not managed for conservation, for example, agricultural or pastoral lands, urban areas, road and rail reserves, gravel reserves and active mineral leases; or otherwise under threat of habitat destruction or degradation.

Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from one or more locations but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements for threatened listing and appear to be under immediate threat from known threatening processes. These species are in urgent need of further survey.

P2 Priority Two - Poorly-known species – known from few locations, some on conservation lands

Species that are known from one or a few locations (generally five or less), some of which are on lands managed primarily for nature conservation, for example, national parks, conservation parks, nature reserves and other lands with secure tenure being managed for conservation.

Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from one or more locations but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements for threatened listing and appear to be under threat from known threatening processes. These species are in urgent need of further survey.

P3 Priority Three - Poorly-known species – known from several locations

Species that are known from several locations and the species does not appear to be under imminent threat or from few but widespread locations with either large population size or significant remaining areas of apparently suitable habitat, much of it not under imminent threat.

Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from several locations but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and known threatening processes exist that could affect them. These species need further survey.

P4 Priority Four - Rare, Near Threatened and other species in need of monitoring

(a) Rare. Species that are considered to have been adequately surveyed, or for which sufficient knowledge is available, and that are considered not currently threatened or in need of special protection but could be if present circumstances change. These species are usually represented on conservation lands.

(b) Near Threatened. Species that are considered to have been adequately surveyed and that are close to qualifying for vulnerable but are not listed as a conservation dependent specially protected species.

- (c) Species that have been removed from the list of threatened species or lists of conservation dependent or other specially protected species, during the past five years for reasons other than taxonomy.
- (d) Other species in need of monitoring.

Principles for clearing native vegetation:

- (a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.
- (b) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna.
- (c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora.
- (d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.
- (e) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.
- (f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.
- (g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.
- (h) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.
- (i) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.
- (j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.