

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details and outcomes

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	10638/1
Permit type:	Purpose Permit
Applicant name:	Calidus Resources Limited
Application received:	10 July 2024
Application area:	40.2 hectares
Purpose of clearing:	Mineral Production and Associated Activities
Method of clearing:	Mechanical Removal
Tenure:	Mining Lease 45/521, 45/672, 45/682 Miscellaneous Licence 45/564, 45/565, 45/566 Exploration Licence 45/4622, 45/4666 General Purpose Lease 45/348
Location (LGA area):	Shire of East Pilbara
Colloquial name:	Fielding's Gully Gold Project

1.2. Description of clearing activities

Calidus Resources Limited proposes to clear up to 40.2 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 254.2 hectares, for the purpose of mining related infrastructure (Calidus, 2024a). The project is located approximately 15 kilometres south of Marble Bar, within the Shire of East Pilbara (GIS Database).

The application is to allow for the construction of a new road, to include borrow pits, potential bore fields, and a utility corridor and a small mine pit with associated infrastructure including a ROM (run of mine), WRL (waste rock landform), topsoil stockpiles, laydown and offices (Calidus, 2024b).

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Grant
Decision date:	10 April 2025
Decision area:	40.2 hectares of native vegetation

1.4. Reasons for decision

This clearing permit application was submitted, accepted, assessed, and determined in accordance with sections 51E and 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DEMIRS) 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 flora and vegetation survey (Rapallo, 2024), 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 riparian vegetation;
- the loss of native vegetation that is suitable foraging and dispersal habitat for several conservation significant fauna species; and
- potential land degradation.

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;
- restricted clearing within drainage habitats; and
- watercourse management to avoid riparian vegetation and maintain surface water flow.

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)
- *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (WA) (CALM Act)
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act)
- *Mining Act 1978* (WA)

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)
- Technical guidance – *Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment* (EPA, 2016b)
- Technical guidance – *Terrestrial Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment* (EPA, 2016a)

3. Detailed assessment of application

3.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

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.

Evidence was submitted by the applicant, demonstrating that various avoidance and mitigation measures such as the following will be implemented:

- the application area has been designed to avoid disturbance to flora and vegetation of conservation significance and core habitat of conservation significant fauna species;
- groundwater dependent vegetation has been avoided where practicable;
- clearing has been restricted to 40.2 hectares;
- any incidence of unauthorised clearing is reported (internally and externally) and the area is to be rehabilitated immediately;
- clearing will be undertaken in accordance with internal Ground Disturbance Permit Procedure;
- weed and hygiene procedures will be implemented;
- internal flora management procedures will be implemented;
- all conditions placed on the clearing permit will be adhered to;
- permit boundaries and other spatial data will be provided to operational staff; and, but not limited to
- all staff will complete environmental inductions, education and training (Calidus, 2024b).

3.2. Assessment of impacts on environmental values

In assessing the application, the Delegated Officer has had regard for the site characteristics (see Appendix A) and the extent to which the impacts of the proposed clearing present a risk to biological, conservation, or land and water resource values.

The assessment against the clearing principles identified that the impacts of the proposed clearing present a risk to biological values (foraging habitat for conservation significant fauna, riparian vegetation, land degradation, vegetation). The consideration of these impacts, and the extent to which they can be managed through conditions applied in line with sections 51H and 51I of the EP Act, is set out below.

3.2.1. Biological values (flora, vegetation) - Clearing Principles (a) and (f)

Assessment

A flora and vegetation survey (254 hectares) was conducted over the application area by Rapallo Environmental during July, 2023 (Rapallo, 2024). A total of 137 flora taxa from 34 families including 134 native taxa and three introduced taxa were recorded within the survey area during the flora and vegetation survey (Rapallo, 2024). The desktop assessment identified 16 priority flora species that may potentially occur within the application area due to the presence of suitable habitat and proximity of records (GIS Database). The flora survey did not identify any conservation significant flora species within the application area (Rapallo, 2024). There is potential for individuals of conservation significant flora to occur within the application area, however as suitable habitat is available in the surrounding environment, the proposed clearing is not considered to significantly impact these species at a local level.

Five broad vegetation types were identified within the application area, none of these vegetation types represented any known Threatened or Priority Ecological Community (Rapallo, 2024). The vegetation types present within the application area are considered typical for the Pilbara bioregion and extended beyond the boundaries of the application area (Rapallo, 2024; GIS Database).

The survey recorded five taxa of facultative phreatophytes (plant species requiring groundwater at some stage of their life cycle), all within vegetation type D (covering 2 percent of the application area) which comprised the wider drainage channels of the survey area (Rapallo, 2024). Since these taxa are all facultative phreatophytes, vegetation type D does not appear to be (strongly) groundwater dependent (Rapallo, 2024). Impacts to this groundwater dependent vegetation will be managed by implementing a condition on the permit ensuring the permit holder does not clear riparian vegetation where practicable, to maintain surface water flow, and to limit the amount of clearing permitted within this vegetation type.

The flora and vegetation survey identified three weeds within the application area: *Aerva javanica*; *Calotropis procera*; and *Cenchrus ciliaris*. Of these, *Calotropis procera* (rubber bush) is a Declared Pest – s22(2), while the other two weeds are listed Permitted – s11 and the permit holder must adhere to the requirements under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*. None of the species are listed as Weeds of National Significance, however weeds have potential to out-compete native flora and reduce biodiversity of an area. Potential impacts to biodiversity as a result of the proposed clearing can be minimised by the implementation of a weed management condition.

Conclusion

Based on the above assessment, the proposed clearing will result in the potential impacts to riparian vegetation. For the reasons set out above, it is considered that the impacts of the proposed clearing on riparian vegetation can be managed to be environmentally acceptable.

Conditions

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

- avoid, minimise to reduce the impacts and extent of clearing;
- take hygiene steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds;
- avoid clearing riparian vegetation where practicable and maintain surface water flow; and
- restricting the clearing within vegetation type D.

3.2.2. Biological values (fauna) - Clearing Principle (b)

Assessment

Rapallo combined a detailed flora and vegetation survey and a basic vertebrate survey, which was completed from 14 to 21 July 2023 (Rapallo, 2024). A total of 249 vertebrate fauna species were identified as having the potential to occur within the application area and 42 species of vertebrate fauna were recorded during the fauna survey (Rapallo, 2024). There are records of 20 conservation significant fauna species within the local area (50 kilometre radius), the following species are considered most likely to occur within the application area:

Pilbara leaf-nosed bat (*Rhinonicteris aurantia* (Pilbara form)) (PLNB) – Vulnerable – is a small insectivorous bat that occurs throughout the Pilbara and adjacent upper Gascoyne regions of Western Australia (TSSC, 2016). The species relies on underground roosts supporting warm, high humidity microclimates which consist generally of deep, complex caves and disused underground mines (TSSC, 2016). The species has been recorded foraging in a variety of habitats across its range, including open spinifex grasslands, black soil grasslands, open savannah woodland, tall open forest and monsoon rainforest (TSSC, 2016). In the Pilbara, this species is recorded from large watercourses, around rocky outcrop, gullies, gorges and over pools (TSSC, 2016). During the fauna survey, *Rhinonicteris aurantia* was recorded nine times from within the application area within drainage habitats (Rapallo, 2024). Although the application area does not contain habitat that could provide caves for roosting, suitable foraging habitat is present and known roosts are located on and proximal to the Warrawoona Gold Project, located approximately six kilometres southeast of the application area (Rapallo, 2024). Potential impacts from the proposed clearing on foraging habitat may be managed by restricting the clearing within the drainage habitats.

Grey falcon (*Falco hypoleucos*) – Vulnerable – was recorded within the application area, with one sighting of this species in active foraging flight (Rapallo, 2024). Wide ranging species, migratory species or species that forage or hunt over vast areas such as the Grey Falcon and Peregrine Falcon are unlikely to be impacted by the proposed clearing.

Northern quoll (*Dasyurus hallucatus*) – Endangered – was ranked as highly likely to occur within the application area (Rapallo, 2024). This species has been found inhabiting a variety of habitats, with a preference to complex rocky areas in the Pilbara (DNREAS, 2010). Daytime den sites provide important shelter and protection from predators and weather, occurring in rocky outcrops, tree hollow, hogs, termite mounds and goanna burrows (DNREAS, 2010). The National Recovery Plan for the Northern Quoll (DNREAS, 2010) states that habitat critical to survival is where the species is least exposed to threats, with this broadly being defined as rocky areas and offshore islands. Rocky areas are considered particularly important, as these habitats

support denser populations both through greater resource availability and protection from external threats such as feral cats, livestock and fire (DNREAS, 2010). Drainage habitat associated with flowlines is considered to be of high value as watercourses facilitate connectivity for dispersal and foraging (Cowan et al., 2022). The drainage lines recorded within the application area may provide foraging and dispersal habitat for this species. Potential impacts to this species may be managed by implementing condition on the permit restricting the clearing within drainage lines.

Western pebble-mound mouse (*Pseudomys chapmani*) (Priority 4), was ranked as highly likely to occur within the application area (Rapallo, 2024). The hillcrest/hillslope and stony plain habitat, which was recorded across 93 percent of the application area, provides suitable habitat for this species (Rapallo, 2024). No individuals of this species was recorded during the fauna survey, however records have been identified within 10 kilometres of the application area, and suitable habitat is present (Rapallo, 2024; GIS Database). As suitable habitat is available within the surrounding environment and across multiple bioregions, the proposed clearing is not considered to significantly impact this species at a local or regional level.

Ghost bat (*Macroderma gigas*) – Vulnerable – was ranked as likely to occur within the application area (Rapallo, 2024). The application area is located 12 and eight kilometres to the northwest of two significant roosts, the Klondyke Queen (Category 1 maternity/diurnal roost sites with permanent ghost bat occupancy) and Bow Bells South (Rapallo, 2024). Additionally, the Comet mine (Category 1 roost) is located seven kilometres south of Marble Bar (Rapallo, 2024). This species will often forage more broadly across habitats, often utilising drainage lines and other habitats where prey species are likely to be most abundant (Rapallo, 2024). Although no individuals of this species was recorded during the fauna survey and the application area does not contain habitat that could provide caves for roosting, suitable foraging habitat is present (Rapallo, 2024). Potential impacts from the proposed clearing on foraging habitat may be managed by restricting the clearing within the drainage habitats.

Pilbara olive python (*Liasis olivaceus barroni*) – Vulnerable – was ranked as likely to occur within the application area (Rapallo, 2024). This species occurs in rocky ranges throughout the Pilbara, typically near fresh water sources (Rapallo, 2024). Suitable foraging and dispersal habitat for this species exists within the drainage habitat in the application area. Potential impacts from the proposed clearing on foraging habitat may be managed by restricting the clearing within the drainage habitats.

Peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) – Other Specially Protected – was ranked as likely to occur within the application area (Rapallo, 2024). This species is often recorded from cliffs above rivers, ranges and wooded watercourses, typically nesting on rocky ledges occurring on tall, vertical cliff faces (Rapallo, 2024). The application area may provide suitable foraging habitat for this species, however due to the mobility and range of these species and the widespread nature of the habitat types found within the application area, the proposed impacts are unlikely to have a significant impact.

Long-tailed dunnart (*Antechinomys longicaudata*) – Priority 4 – was ranked as likely to occur within the application area (Rapallo, 2024). Common habitat characteristics are described as elevated landforms such as hills, ridges, breakaways with sparse vegetation (Western Australian Museum, 2024). The hill crest / hillslope habitat found within the application area may support populations of long-tailed dunnart, however, it is unlikely that the proposed clearing represents critical habitat for this species, given its widespread distribution in the local and regional area.

Spectacled hare-wallaby (*Lagorchestes conspicillatus leichhardti*) – Priority 4 – was ranked as likely to occur on the survey area (Rapallo, 2024). This species inhabits open forests, woodlands, shrublands, and hummock grasslands, preferring areas where there is a mosaic of vegetation due to differences in fire history (DAWE, 2008). The stony plain habitat (covering 16 percent of the application area) which comprises patches of Triodia hummock grasslands provides suitable habitat for the species (Rapallo, 2024). While suitable habitat is available within the application area, this vegetation and fauna habitat is widespread throughout the region and the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact the species.

Conclusion

For the reasons set out above, it is considered that the impacts of the proposed clearing on conservation significant fauna habitat can be managed with restricted clearing in the drainage habitats, slow directional clearing to allow fauna to move into adjacent vegetation and watercourse management to avoid riparian vegetation.

Conditions

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

- restrict the clearing within drainage habitats;
- undertake slow, progressive one-directional clearing to allow terrestrial fauna to move into adjacent habitat ahead of the clearing activity; and
- watercourse management to avoid riparian vegetation and maintain surface water flow.

3.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The clearing permit application was advertised on 8 October 2024 by the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

There is one native title claim over the area under application (Nyamal Palyku Proceeding: WCD2024/001) (DPLH, 2025). This claim has been determined by the Federal Court on behalf of the claimant group. However, 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*.

Other relevant authorisations required for the proposed land use include:

- A Mining Proposal / Mine Closure Plan approved under the *Mining Act 1978*.

It is noted that the proposed clearing may impact on foraging and dispersal habitat for *Dasyurus hallucatus*, *Liasis olivaceus barroni*, *Macroderma gigas* and *Rhinonictis aurantia* which are a protected matter under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act). The proponent may be required to refer the project to the (Federal)

Department of Climate Change, Environment and Water for environmental impact assessment under the EPBC Act. The proponent is advised to contact the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water and the Environment for further information regarding notification and referral responsibilities under the EPBC Act.

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	The application area is located approximately 15 kilometres south of Marble Bar, within the Shire of East Pilbara and falls within Chichester subregion of the Pilbara Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) (GIS Database). The area proposed to be cleared is part of an expansive tract of native vegetation in the extensive land use zone of Western Australia (GIS Database).
Ecological linkage	According to aerial imagery, the application area is not located within any formal or informal ecological linkages (GIS Database).
Conservation areas	There are no conservation areas within the application area (GIS Database). The nearest conservation area is Meentheena (Purungunya) National Park (R 54522) which is located approximately 39 kilometres northeast of the application area (GIS Database).
Vegetation description	The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation association: 82: Hummock grasslands, low tree steppe; snappy gum over <i>Triodia wiseana</i> (GIS Database). A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the application area by Rapallo Environmental during July, 2023 (Rapallo, 2024). The following vegetation associations were recorded within the application area (Rapallo, 2024): A - <i>Ficus brachypoda</i> or <i>Atalaya hemiglauc</i> over <i>Acacia bivenosa</i> over <i>Triodia wiseana</i> on steep rocky slopes, gullies, and rocky hill crests (11%); B - <i>Corymbia hamersleyana</i> over <i>Acacia inaequilatera</i> and <i>Acacia orthocarpa</i> over <i>Triodia wiseana</i> and <i>Triodia brizoides</i> on stony plains and rounded hills with on orange soil (69%); C - <i>Eucalyptus leucophloia</i> subsp. <i>leucophloia</i> over <i>Acacia acradenia</i> over <i>Triodia angusta</i> and <i>Triodia epactia</i> on stony plains and lower hill slopes with calcareous soil and surface rocks (13%); D - <i>Eucalyptus victrix</i>, <i>Acacia trachycarpa</i>, <i>Melaleuca linophylla</i> and <i>Atalaya hemiglauc</i> over <i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i> in drainage channels with open stony creek bed (2%); E - <i>Corymbia hamersleyana</i> over <i>Acacia acradenia</i> tall shrubland over mixed shrubs over <i>Chrysopogon fallax</i> and <i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i> on diffuse drainage channels (4%); and X - Roads (cleared: not a vegetation type) (1%).
Vegetation condition	The vegetation survey (Rapallo, 2024) indicates the vegetation within the proposed clearing area is in degraded to excellent (Trudgen, 1991) condition. The full Trudgen (1991) condition rating scale is provided in Appendix C.
Climate and landform	The Pilbara climate is variable, dominated by tropical cyclones or severe drought conditions (Calidus, 2024b). The Marble Bar area experiences an annual rainfall of approximately 382.6 millimetres (BoM, 2025).
Soil description and Land degradation risk	The soil is mapped within the Talga Land System (280TI) which consists of hills and ridges of greenstone and chert and stony plains supporting hard and soft spinifex grasslands (DPIRD, 2025; GIS Database). The Talga Land System is not susceptible to erosion (Van Vreeswyk et al., 2004).
Waterbodies	The desktop assessment and aerial imagery indicated that several minor non-perennial watercourses transect the application area (GIS Database).
Hydrogeography	The application area is mapped within the Pilbara Groundwater and Surface Water Area, however is not within any public drinking water supply areas (GIS Database). The area is mapped within the De Grey River basin within the Coongan River catchment (GIS Database). Runoff from the range proceeds to the Brockman Creek catchment to the north, which discharges to the Talga River or alternatively to the Coongan River catchment, approximately 4.4 kilometres northwest (Calidus, 2024b). The Coongan River discharges into the Camel Creek in a southerly direction, with this creek located approximately one kilometre south of the western end of the application area (Calidus, 2024b). The flowlines proximal to the survey area are tributaries of the Coongan River (Calidus, 2024b). One unnamed tributary of the Camel Creek intersects the survey area twice as it winds its way in and out of its boundaries (Calidus, 2024b).
Flora	No Threatened flora species have been recorded within the application area (GIS Database). There are records of 24 conservation significant flora within the local area (50 kilometres), no conservation significant flora have been recorded within the application area (Rapallo, 2024; GIS Database).

Characteristic	Details
Ecological communities	There are no mapped Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities (TECs/PECs) within the application area (GIS Database).
Fauna	There are records of 20 fauna of conservation significance within the local area, two conservation significant fauna species were recorded within the application area during the fauna survey: - Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat (<i>Rhinonictis aurantia</i> (Pilbara form) – Vulnerable; and - Grey falcon (<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>) Vulnerable) (Rapallo, 2024).
Fauna habitat	Five main habitat types have been recorded within the application area: - Hillcrest/hillslope (77%); - Medium drainage (2%); - Minor drainage (4%); - Road (1%); and - Stony plain (16%) (Rapallo, 2024).

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 Pilbara	17,808,657.04	17,731,764.88	99.57	1.00	0.00
Beard vegetation associations - State					
Veg Assoc No. 82	2,565,901.28	2,553,206.19	99.51	295,377.96	11.51
Beard vegetation associations - Bioregion					
Veg Assoc No. 82	2,563,583.23	2,550,888.14	99.50	1.00	0.00

Government of Western Australia (2019)

A.3. Flora analysis table

With consideration for the site characteristics set out above, relevant datasets (see Appendix D.1), and biological survey information (Rapallo, 2024; Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-; GIS Database), impacts to the following conservation significant flora required further consideration.

Species name	Conservation status	Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Number of known records (total)
<i>Acacia aphanoclada</i>	P1	Y	<50	45
<i>Acacia cyperophylla</i> var. <i>omearana</i>	P1	Y	<45	18
<i>Acacia leeuweniana</i>	P1	Y	<45	28
<i>Acacia levata</i>	P3	Y	<25	21
<i>Acacia</i> sp. Marble Bar (J.G. & M.H. Simmons 3499)	P1	N	<5	1
<i>Acacia</i> sp. Nullagine (B.R. Maslin 4955)	P1	Y	<45	1
<i>Bulbostylis burbridgeae</i>	P4	N	<30	40
<i>Cochlospermum macnamarae</i>	P1	N	<35	11
<i>Corchorus</i> sp. Yarrie (J. Bull & D. Roberts CAL 01.05)	P1	Y	<20	6
<i>Euphorbia clementii</i>	P3	Y	<45	31
<i>Euploca mutica</i>	P3	Y	<20	77
<i>Gomphrena leptophylla</i>	P3	Y	<25	8
<i>Gymnanthera cunninghamii</i>	P3	Y	<5	45
<i>Heliotropium murinum</i>	P3	Y	<15	25
<i>Josephinia</i> sp. Woodstock (A.A. Mitchell PRP 989)	P1	Y	<10	7

Species name	Conservation status	Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Number of known records (total)
<i>Nicotiana umbratica</i>	P3	N	<15	18
<i>Phyllanthus hebecarpus</i>	P3	N	<45	8
<i>Ptilotus mollis</i>	P4	Y	<10	46
<i>Rostellularia adscendens</i> var. <i>latifolia</i>	P3	Y	<25	50
<i>Rothia indica</i> subsp. <i>australis</i>	P3	Y	<50	23
<i>Schoenus coultasii</i>	P1	N	<25	2
<i>Stylidium weeliwolli</i>	P3	N	<25	29
<i>Themeda</i> sp. Panorama (J. Nelson et al. NS 102)	P1	N	<15	10
<i>Triodia basitricha</i>	P3	Y	<50	43

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

A.4. Fauna analysis table

With consideration for the site characteristics set out above, relevant datasets (see Appendix D.1), and biological survey information (Rapallo, 2024; GIS Database), impacts to the following conservation significant flora required further consideration.

Species name	Common Name	Conservation status	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]
<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Common Sandpiper	MI	<15	N
<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Sharp-tailed sandpiper	MI	<20	N
<i>Charadrius veredus</i>	oriental plover	MI	<20	Y
<i>Dasycercus blythi</i>	brush-tailed mulgara	P4	<20	Y
<i>Dasyurus hallucatus</i>	Northern quoll	EN	<10	Y
<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>	Grey falcon	VU	0	Y
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine falcon	OS	<5	Y
<i>Lagorchestes conspicillatus leichardti</i>	Spectacled hare-wallaby (mainland)	P4	<10	Y
<i>Leggadina lakedownensis</i>	Northern short-tailed mouse, Lakeland Downs mouse, kerakenga	P4	<45	Y
<i>Liasis olivaceus barroni</i>	Pilbara olive python	VU	<20	Y
<i>Macroderma gigas</i>	Ghost bat	VU	<10	Y
<i>Macrotis lagotis</i>	Bilby, dalgyte, ninu	VU	<15	Y
<i>Ninox connivens connivens</i>	Barking owl (southwest subpop.)	P3	<15	Y
<i>Pandion cristatus</i>	Osprey, eastern osprey	MI	<45	N
<i>Pezoporus occidentalis</i>	Night Parrot	EN	<150	Y
<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Glossy ibis	MI	<45	N
<i>Pseudomys chapmani</i>	Western pebble-mound mouse, ngadji	P4	<10	Y
<i>Rhinonictis aurantia</i> (Pilbara)	Pilbara leaf-nosed bat	VU	0	Y
<i>Sminthopsis longicaudata</i>	Long-tailed dunnart	P4	<15	Y
<i>Tringa glareola</i>	Wood sandpiper	MI	<20	N
<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Common greenshank, greenshank	MI	<20	Y

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

Appendix B. Assessment against the clearing principles

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Environmental value: biological values		
<u>Principle (a):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biodiversity." <u>Assessment:</u> A total of 137 flora taxa from 34 families including 134 native taxa and three introduced taxa were recorded within the survey area during the flora and vegetation survey (Rapallo, 2024). The desktop assessment identified 16 priority flora species that may potentially occur within the application area due to the presence of suitable habitat and proximity of records (GIS Database). A total of 249 vertebrate fauna species were identified as having the potential to occur within the application area and 42 species of vertebrate fauna were recorded during the fauna survey (Rapallo, 2024; GIS Database). No conservation significant flora or vegetation associations were recorded within the application area and the vegetation associations, fauna habitats and landform types present within the application area, are well represented in surrounding areas (Rapallo, 2024)	Not likely to be at variance	Yes <i>Refer to Section 3.2.1, above.</i>
<u>Principle (b):</u> "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." <u>Assessment:</u> The area proposed to be cleared contains foraging habitat for several conservation significant fauna species (Rapallo, 2024; GIS Database).	May be at variance	Yes <i>Refer to Section 3.2.2, above.</i>
<u>Principle (c):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora." <u>Assessment:</u> There are no records of Threatened flora species in the local area and the flora and vegetation survey carried out within the application area did not record any Threatened flora species (Rapallo, 2024; GIS Database).	Not likely to be at variance	No
<u>Principle (d):</u> "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." <u>Assessment:</u> There are no Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) mapped within the application area and the flora and vegetation survey did not record any vegetation associations representative of a TEC (Rapallo, 2024; GIS Database).	Not likely to be at variance	Yes
Environmental value: significant remnant vegetation and conservation areas		
<u>Principle (e):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared." <u>Assessment:</u> The extent of the mapped vegetation type is consistent with the national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia.	Not at variance	No
<u>Principle (h):</u> "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." <u>Assessment:</u> Given the distance to the nearest conservation area, the proposed clearing is not likely to have an impact on the environmental values of nearby conservation areas.	Not likely to be at variance	No
Environmental value: land and water resources		
<u>Principle (f):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland." <u>Assessment:</u> Five taxa of facultative phreatophytes (plant species requiring groundwater at some stage of their life cycle) were recorded within the application area, all within vegetation	At variance	Yes <i>Refer to Section 3.2.1, above.</i>

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
type D which comprised the wider drainage channels of the survey area (Rapallo, 2024).		
<u>Principle (g):</u> “Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.” <u>Assessment:</u> The mapped land system is not generally susceptible to erosion (Van Vreeswyk et al., 2004), however, soils within the application area may have a risk of wind erosion following clearing of native vegetation (Calidus, 2024b). Potential land degradation may be managed by implementing a condition on the permit ensuring clearing is undertaken immediately prior to the commencement of construction.	Not likely to be at variance	No
<u>Principle (i):</u> “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.” <u>Assessment:</u> There are no wetlands, permanent sources of surface water, or areas of public drinking water identified within the application area (GIS Database). Several non-minor and medium ephemeral drainage lines transect the application area (Rapallo, 2024; GIS Database). Potential impacts to surface water quality as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a watercourse management condition.	May be at variance	No
<u>Principle (j):</u> “Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.” <u>Assessment:</u> Several small, minor and medium ephemeral drainage lines transect the application area (Rapallo, 2024; GIS Database). Extensive clearing of native vegetation may increase the potential for localised and/or wide scale flooding. However, given that the proposed clearing of 40.2 hectares of native vegetation is to be undertaken at various locations within an application area of approximately 254.2 hectares, the proposed clearing is not likely to increase the potential for flooding in this region (GIS Database).	Not likely to be at variance	No

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.

Condition	Description
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 databases

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

- Aboriginal Heritage Places (DPLH-001)
- Contours (DPIRD-073)
- Clearing Regulations – Schedule One Areas (DWER-057)
- DBCA – Lands of Interest (DBCA-012)
- DBCA Legislated Lands and Waters (DBCA-011)
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046)
- Flood Risk (DPIRD-007)
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide (DWER-026)
- Hydrographic Catchments – Catchments (DWER-028)
- Hydrography – Inland Waters – Waterlines
- Hydrography, Linear (DWER-031)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- Native Title (ILUA) (LGATE-067)
- Pre-European Vegetation Statistics
- Interim Ramsar Sites (DBCA-010)
- Regional Parks (DBCA-026)
- Remnant Vegetation, All Areas
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas (DWER-034)
- RIWI Act, Surface Water Areas and Irrigation Districts (DWER-037)
- Soil Landscape Mapping – Best Available (DPIRD-027)
- Soil Landscape Mapping – Rangelands (DPIRD-064)
- WA Now Aerial Imagery

Restricted GIS Databases used:

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

D.2. References

- Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) (2025) Bureau of Meteorology Website – Climate Data Online, Weather Station: Marble Bar (004106). Bureau of Meteorology. <https://reg.bom.gov.au/climate/data/> (Accessed 13 March 2025).
- Calidus Resources Limited (Calidus) (2024a) Clearing permit application form, CPS 10638/1, received 10 July 2024.
- Calidus Resources Limited (Calidus) (2024b) Fielding's Gully Satellite Gold Project NVCP Application, Supplementary Information Report. Report prepared by Calidus Resources Limited, May 2024.
- Cowan, M.A., Moore, H.A., Hradsky, B.A., Jolly, C.J., Dunlop, J.A., Wysong, M.L., Hernandez-Santin, L., Davis, R.A., Fisher, D.O., Michael, D.R., Turner, J.M., Gibson, L.A., Knuckey, C.G., Henderson, M., Nimmo, D.G. (2022) Non-preferred habitat increases the activity area of the endangered northern quoll (*Dasyurus hallucatus*) in a semi-arid landscape. Australian Mammalogy.
- Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE) (2008) Approved Conservation Advice for *Lagorchestes conspicillatus conspicillatus* (Spectacled Hare-wallaby (Barrow Island)) Available from: <https://environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/species/pubs/66661-conservation-advice.pdf>
- Department of Environment Regulation (DER) (2014) A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation. Perth. https://www.der.wa.gov.au/images/documents/your-environment/native-vegetation/Guidelines/Guide2_assessment_native_veg.pdf
- Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport (DNREAS) Northern Territory (2010) National Recovery Plan for the Northern Quoll *Dasyurus hallucatus*. Darwin. Available from: <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/northern-quoll.pdf>.
- Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) (2025) Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. <https://espatial.dph.wa.gov.au/ACHIS/index.html?viewer=ACHIS> (Accessed 13 March 2025).
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) (2025) NRInfo Digital Mapping. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. Government of Western Australia.

<https://dpiird.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=662e8cbf2def492381fc915aaf3c6a0f> (Accessed 13 March 2025).

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) (2021) Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits. Joondalup. <https://www.wa.gov.au/system/files/2023-06/procedure-native-vegetation-clearing-permits.pdf>

Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) (2016a) Technical Guidance - Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment. http://www.epa.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/Policies_and_Guidance/EPA%20Technical%20Guidance%20-%20Flora%20and%20Vegetation%20survey_Dec13.pdf

Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) (2016b) Technical Guidance – Terrestrial Fauna Surveys. https://www.epa.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/Policies_and_Guidance/Tech%20guidance-%20Terrestrial%20Fauna%20Surveys-Dec-2016.pdf

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>

Rapallo Environmental (Rapallo) (2024) Detailed flora survey and basic fauna survey of Fielding Gully. Report prepared for Calidus Resources Limited by Rapallo Environmental, May 2024.

Threatened Species Scientific Committee (TSSC) (2016) Approved Conservation Advice for *Rhinonicteris aurantia* (Pilbara form) Pilbara Leaf-nosed Bat. <https://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/species/pubs/82790-conservation-advice-10032016.pdf>

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.

Van Vreeswyk, A.M.E., Payne, A.L., Hennig, P., and Leighton, K.A. (2004) An Inventory and Condition Survey of the Pilbara Region, Western Australia, Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.

Western Australian Herbarium (1998-) FloraBase - the Western Australian Flora. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia. <https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/> (Accessed 26 March 2025).

Western Australian Museum (2024) Long-tailed Dunnart (*Sminthopsis longicaudata*) collections and research. Available from: <https://museum.wa.gov.au/online-collections/names/sminthopsis-longicaudata> (Accessed March 2025)

4. 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
DER	Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia (now DWER)
DMIRS	Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Western Australia (now DEMIRS)
DMP	Department of Mines and Petroleum, Western Australia (now DEMIRS)
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> (Federal 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.