

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details and outcome

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	10692/2
Permit type:	Purpose Permit
Applicant name:	Regis Resources Limited
Application received:	22 December 2024
Application area:	950 hectares
Purpose of clearing:	Mineral production and associated activities
Method of clearing:	Mechanical Removal
Tenure:	Mining Leases 38/237, 38/250, 38/283, 38/292, 38/302, 38/303, 38/316, 38/317, 38/319, 38/343, 38/344, 38/352, 38/354, 38/407, 38/498, 38/499, 38/500, 38/589, 38/600, 38/601, 38/802, 38/837, 38/939, 38/940, 38/943, 38/1091, 38/1092, 38/1247, 38/1249, 38/1250, 38/1251, 38/1257, 38/1258, 38/1259, 38/1260, 38/1261, 38/1262, 38/1263, 38/1264, 38/1265, 38/1269, 38/1270, 38/1277 Miscellaneous Licences 38/133, 38/156, 38/182, 38/201, 38/204, 38/216, 38/226, 38/239, 38/315, 38/316, 38/317, 38/318, 38/319, 38/348, 38/365, 38/383, 38/391, 38/392
Location (LGA area/s):	Shire of Laverton
Colloquial name:	Duketon Gold Project

1.2. Description of clearing activities

Regis Resources Limited proposes to clear up to 950 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 17,936 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities (Regis, 2024a). The project is located approximately 70 kilometres north of Laverton, within the Shire of Laverton (GIS Database). The total cumulative land cleared to date is approximately 37.12 hectares (Regis, 2025).

Clearing permit CPS 10692/1 was granted by the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (now the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration) on 10 October 2024 and was valid from 2 November 2024 to 1 November 2029. The permit authorised the clearing of up to 950 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 17,789 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities.

On 22 December 2024, the permit holder applied to amend CPS 10692/1 to include two miscellaneous tenements, and to increase the boundary by 156 hectares from 17,789 hectares to 17,936 hectares.

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Grant
Decision date:	19 August 2025
Decision area:	950 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). Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DEMIRS) (now DMPE) advertised the application for public comment for a period of 7 days, and no submissions were received.

In making this decision, the Delegated Officer had regard for the site characteristics, relevant datasets, supporting information provided by the applicant, the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act, and any other matters considered relevant to the assessment. The assessment identified that the proposed clearing will have negligible impact on habitat for flora, fauna and ecological communities and conservation areas.

After consideration of the available information, as well as the applicant's minimisation and mitigation measures (Section 2.1), the Delegated Officer determined that 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 with no additional management conditions.

Site map

A site map of proposed clearing is provided in Figure 1 below.

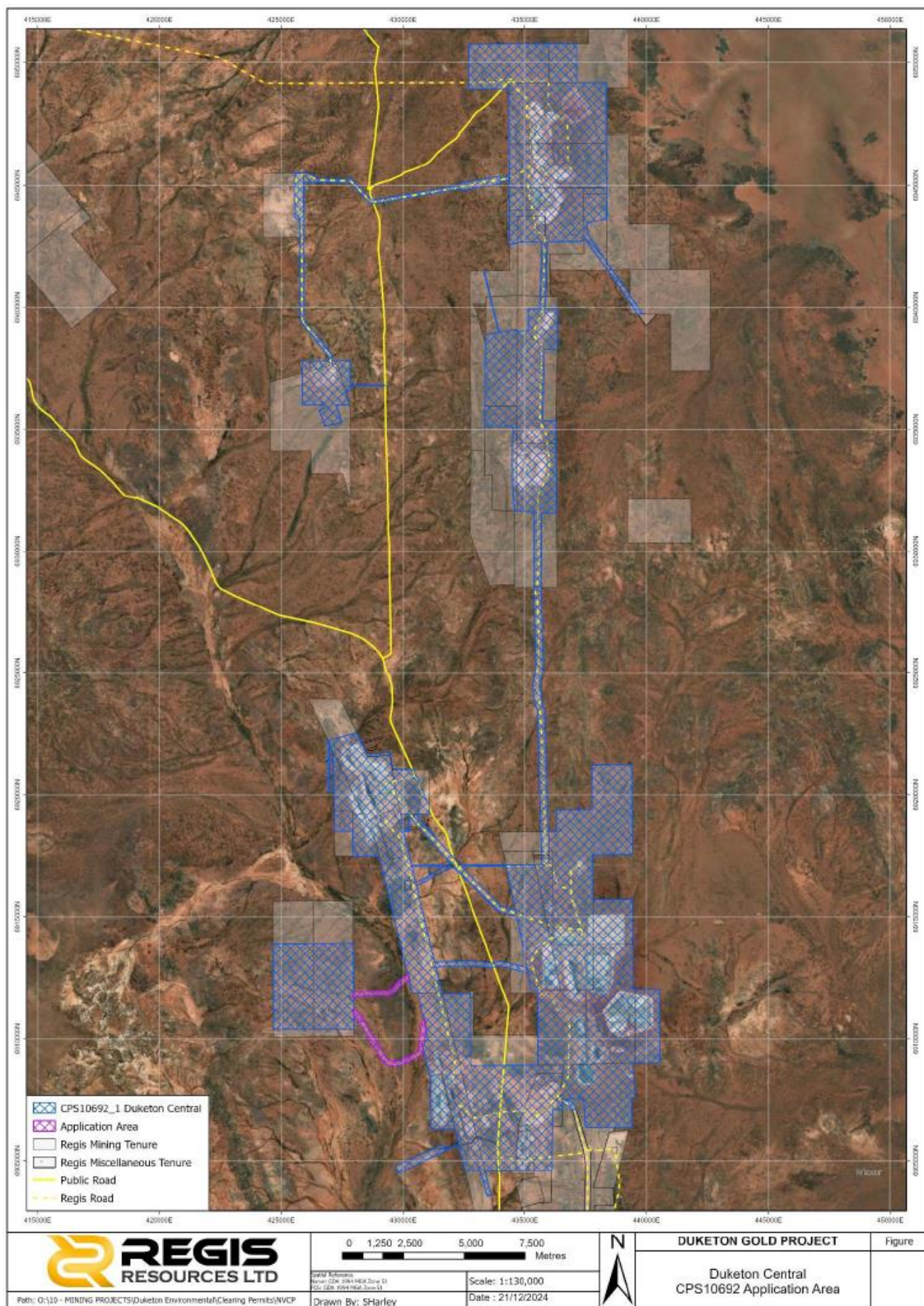


Figure 1. Map of the application area.

2. Assessment of application

2.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

The applicant adequately demonstrated that all reasonable efforts had been taken to avoid and minimise potential impacts of the clearing on environmental values as part of CPS 10692/1 application. No additional disturbance is required as part of this amendment (Regis, 2024a).

2.2. Assessment of impacts on environmental values

The amendment application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with s.51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. Environmental information has been reviewed, and the assessment of the proposed clearing against the clearing principles remains consistent with the assessment contained in decision report CPS 10692/1.

Two individuals at one location of *Eremophila pungens* (Priority 4) have been recorded within the King John Haulage Network (Regis, 2024b; Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-; Appendix A). Planning of the haul road has been designed to minimise impacts to this species (Regis, 2024b). A number of individuals have been recorded within the Duketon Central application area and local surrounds (Regis, 2024b; Appendix A). As per decision report CPS 10692/1, it is unlikely that this species will be significantly impacted by the proposed clearing.

The application area intersects a major non-perennial watercourse named Borodale Creek (Regis, 2024b; GIS Database). This ephemeral creek only flows during periods of heavy rainfall and consists of riparian vegetation described as D1 and D3 (Regis, 2024b). Impacts to vegetation associated with watercourses can be minimised by maintaining the watercourse management condition to avoid riparian vegetation and maintain existing water flow.

2.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The clearing permit amendment application was advertised on 28 February 2025 by the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (now DMPE) inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

There are no native title claims over the area under application (DPLH, 2025). 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 26 registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the application area (DPLH, 2025). 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 Programme of Work approved under the *Mining Act 1978*
- A Mining Proposal / Mine Closure Plan 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

Vegetation description and conservation significant flora

Twenty one vegetation associations were recorded within the application area (Regis, 2024b; detailed in decision report CPS 10692/1). The following vegetation communities have been mapped within the amendment area (Mattiske, 2022; Mattiske, 2023; Regis, 2024b):

Vegetation associations in the King John Haulage Network (L38/391 and L38/392)

Vegetation Association Code	Description	Mapped Area
A24	Mid-open shrubland of <i>Acacia tetragonophylla</i> , and <i>A. burkittii</i> over low-open shrubland of <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i> , <i>Rhagodia eremaea</i> , and <i>Maireana villosa</i> on clay loams with quartz and ironstone pebbles in seasonal wet flats	7.6
A5	<i>Acacia</i> section <i>Juliflorae</i> (<i>Acacia aneura</i> and <i>Acacia aptaneura</i>) tall-open shrubland over mid- sparse shrubland of <i>Acacia tetragonophylla</i> , <i>Hakea preissii</i> , and <i>Senna artemisioides</i> over low sparse shrubland of <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i> , <i>Sida ectogama</i> , and <i>Cheilanthes sieberi</i> on undulating red clay flats with ironstone and quartz pebbling	6.5
C2	<i>Hakea preissii</i> and <i>Eremophila platycalyx</i> mid-sparse shrubland over low-sparse chenopod shrubland of <i>Maireana triptera</i> , <i>Sclerolaena cuneata</i> , and <i>Cratystylis subspinescens</i> on undulating red-orange, sandy-clay flats with quartz pebbling	30.6
C5	<i>Acacia</i> section <i>Juliflorae</i> (<i>Acacia aptaneura</i>), <i>Eremophila youngii</i> , and <i>Hakea preissii</i> mid-sparse shrubland over low-sparse chenopod shrubland of <i>Maireana pyramidata</i> , <i>Sclerolaena cuneata</i> , and <i>Maireana triptera</i> on undulating red-orange, sandy-clay flats with ironstone and quartz pebbling	2.4
CH2	Low-sparse chenopod shrubland of <i>Sclerolaena cuneata</i> , <i>Maireana villosa</i> , and <i>Cratystylis subspinescens</i> on clay flats with large quartz and ironstone pebbles	90.0
D1	<i>Acacia</i> section <i>Juliflorae</i> (<i>Acacia aneura</i> and <i>Acacia aptaneura</i>), and <i>Acacia craspedocarpa</i> tall- open shrubland over mid-open shrubland of <i>Acacia tetragonophylla</i> , <i>Acacia burkittii</i> , and <i>Senna artemisioides</i> over low-open shrubland of <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i> , <i>Solanum lasiophyllum</i> , and <i>Cheilanthes sieberi</i> on red clay soils in minor drainage lines	4.7
D3	<i>Acacia</i> section <i>Juliflorae</i> (<i>Acacia aneura</i> and <i>Acacia aptaneura</i>) tall-open shrubland over mid- sparse shrubland of <i>Acacia burkittii</i> , <i>Eremophila youngii</i> , and <i>Senna artemisioides</i> over low- sparse chenopod shrubland of <i>Maireana pyramidata</i> , <i>Sclerolaena cuneata</i> , and <i>Frankenia fecunda</i> on red-orange, sandy-clay soils in minor drainage lines	9.4
R1	<i>Acacia</i> section <i>Juliflorae</i> (<i>Acacia aneura</i> and <i>Acacia aptaneura</i>) and <i>Acacia oswaldii</i> tall-sparse shrubland over mid-sparse shrubland of <i>Senna artemisioides</i> and <i>Acacia tetragonophylla</i> over low sparse shrubland of <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i> on skeletal red clay soil on ironstone ridgelines	1.0



Figure 2. Map of vegetation associations within the amendment area (Regis, 2024b).

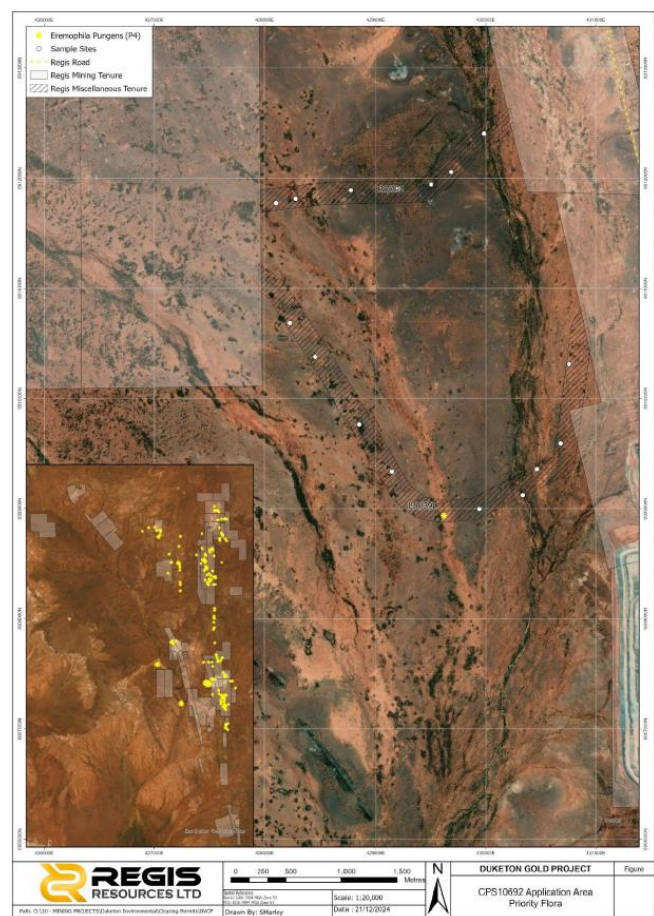


Figure 3. Map of *Eremophila pungens* (Priority 4) within the application area and local surrounds (Regis, 2024b).

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> “Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biodiversity.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>No vegetation communities mapped within the Duketon tenements are spatially restricted (Regis, 2024b). While some vegetation units occupy a small area within Regis Resources’ Duketon tenements, similar vegetation assemblages are known to be regionally abundant (Regis, 2024b).</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10692/1</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Refer to Section 2.2 above.</p>
<p><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.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>Although the proposed clearing areas will comprise habitat that may be suitable for fauna indigenous to Western Australia, from a regional context, the vegetation associations within the project area are well represented within the broader region (Regis, 2024b).</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10692/1</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><u>Principle (c):</u> “Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>No Threatened flora species have been recorded at the Duketon Gold Project application area (Regis, 2024b; GIS Database).</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10692/1</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><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.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>No Threatened Ecological Communities have been recorded at the Duketon Gold Project application area (Regis, 2024b; GIS Database).</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10692/1</p>	<p>No</p>
Environmental value: significant remnant vegetation and conservation areas		
<p><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.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The extent of the mapped vegetation type is consistent with the national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001). The vegetation proposed to be cleared is not considered to be part of a significant ecological linkage in the local area (GIS Database).</p>	<p>Not at variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10692/1</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><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.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>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 (GIS Database).</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10692/1</p>	<p>No</p>
Environmental value: land and water resources		
<p><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.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>Given several water courses are recorded within the application area (Regis, 2024b; GIS Database), the proposed clearing is likely to vegetation growing in association with a watercourse. No wetlands have been recorded within the application area (Regis, 2024b; GIS Database).</p>	<p>At variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10692/1</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Refer to Section 2.2 above.</p>

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
<p>Principle (g): <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>The mapped soils are moderately susceptible to soil erosion, especially along drainage lines (Pringle <i>et al.</i>, 1994). Noting the location of the application area and the condition of the vegetation, the proposed clearing is likely to have an appreciable impact on land degradation.</p>	<p>May be at variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10692/1</p>	No
<p>Principle (i): <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 no permanent water courses, wetlands or Public Drinking Water Sources Areas are recorded within the application area (GIS Database), the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact surface or ground water quality.</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10692/1</p>	No
<p>Principle (j): <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>Given no permanent water courses or wetlands are recorded the application area (GIS Database), the proposed clearing is unlikely to contribute to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p> <p>as per CPS 10692/1</p>	No

Appendix C. References and databases

C.1. GIS datasets

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

- 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)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- IBSA Survey Details (DWER-118)
- Local Government Area (LGA) Boundaries (LGATE-233)
- Localities (LGATE-234)
- Native Title (Determination) (LGATE-066)
- Native Vegetation Extent (DPIRD-005)
- Pre-European Vegetation (DPIRD-006)
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (DWER-033)
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas (DWER-034)
- RIWI Act, Surface Water Areas and Irrigation Districts (DWER-037)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Best Available (DPIRD-027)
- Townsites (LGATE-248)
- WA Now Aerial Imagery

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)

C.2. References

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) (2025) Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. <https://espatial.dplh.wa.gov.au/ACHIS/index.html?viewer=ACHIS> (Accessed 11 July 2025).
- Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd (Mattiske) (2022) Detailed flora and vegetation survey: King Jon and Davies Bore Project areas, and associated haul roads, Western Australia. Prepared for Regis Resources Ltd, October 2022.
- Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd (Mattiske) (2023) Detailed flora and vegetation assessment: Maverick and Mckenzie's Project areas, Western Australia. Prepared for Regis Resources Ltd, November 2023.
- Pringle, H J, Gilligan, S A, and van Vreeswyk, A M. (1994) An inventory and condition survey of rangelands in the north-eastern Goldfields, Western Australia. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia, Perth. Technical Bulletin 87. https://library.dpir.wa.gov.au/tech_bull/5
- Regis Resources Ltd (Regis) (2024a) Clearing permit application form, CPS 10692/2, received 22 December 2024.
- Regis Resources Ltd (Regis) (2024b) Purpose Permit CPS 10692/1 amendment application Central Duketon – Duketon Gold Project – Addition of L38/391 and L38/392 (King John Project Area). Prepared December 2024.
- Regis Resources Ltd (Regis) (2025) Clearing permit report CPS 10692/1, 2 November 2024 – 30 June 2025. Received 31 July 2025.
- Western Australian Herbarium (WAM) (1998-) FloraBase - the Western Australian Flora. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia. <https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/> (Accessed 11 July 2025).

3. 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.