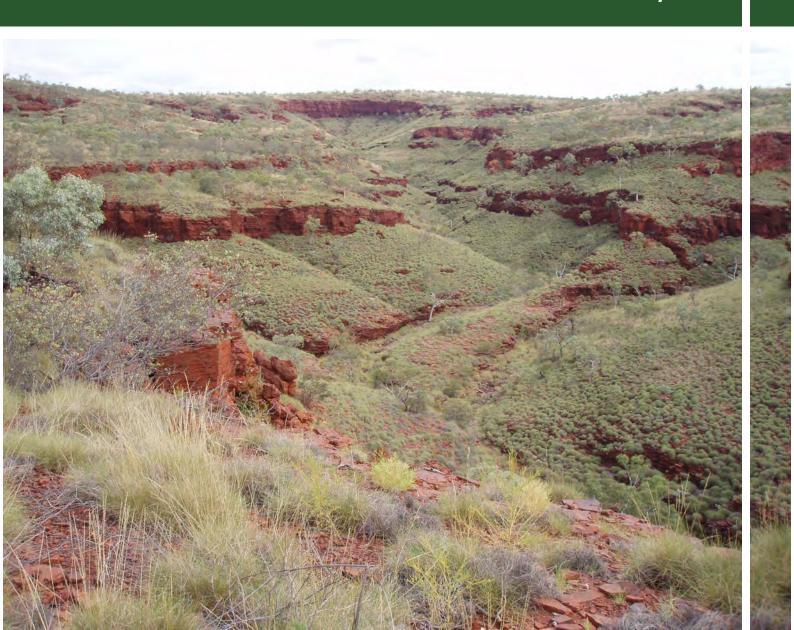


Marillana Tenement Targeted Flora Survey

Prepared for BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd July 2016



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ACN 095 837 120 PO Box 227 YALLINGUP WA 6282 Telephone / Fax (08) 9756 6206 E-mail: onshoreenv@westnet.com.au

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd (BHP Billiton Iron Ore) commissioned Onshore Environmental Consultants Pty Ltd (Onshore Environmental) to undertake a targeted flora survey of the Marillana tenement (herein referred to as the study area), situated in the south-east Pilbara region of Western Australia. The objective of the survey was to identify any conservation significant flora and introduced weed species present within the study area.

The field survey was completed over four days between the 4th and 16th November 2015. None of the plant taxa recorded from the study area were gazetted as Threatened Flora pursuant to subsection (2) of section 23F of the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* (WC Act), or listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

Two Priority flora taxa were recorded from the study area; *Synostemon hamersleyensis* (Priority 1) and *Eremophila magnifica* subsp. *magnifica* (Priority 4).

Synostemon hamersleyensis was recorded from 28 locations associated with steep and very steep upper hillslopes, breakaway slopes, gorges and cliff lines. Plants were typically present at low density ranging from one to ten individuals. Vegetation in which it occurred, was non-specific but characterised by a Low Woodland (to Low Open Woodland) strata of low trees, High Open Shrubland of tall shrubs, with Hummock Grassland (to Open Hummock Grassland) of variable spinifex species, occasionally with Open Tussock Grassland.

Eremophila magnifica subsp. magnifica was recorded as an estimated 50 to 100 plants from the summit of a rocky gorge and cliff line at one location within the study area. The associated vegetation was described as Hummock Grassland of *Triodia wiseana* with High Shrubland of *Acacia arida* and *Acacia inaequilatera* and Very Open Mallee of *Eucalyptus gamophylla*.

A total of eight introduced weed species were recorded from the study area. None of these taxa are listed as a Declared Pest under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* (BAM Act), and all are common weeds in the Pilbara.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Preamble

Onshore Environmental was commissioned by BHP Billiton Iron Ore to undertake a targeted flora survey of the Marillana tenement in November 2015. The survey did not assess any specific development proposed by BHP Billiton Iron Ore.

BHP Billiton Iron Ore currently operates the Marillana (Yandi) open pit iron ore mine, located approximately 100 km north-west of the town of Newman in the south-east Pilbara region of Western Australia (Figure 1). The study area is situated approximately 10 km north-east of the Marillana (Yandi) Mine.

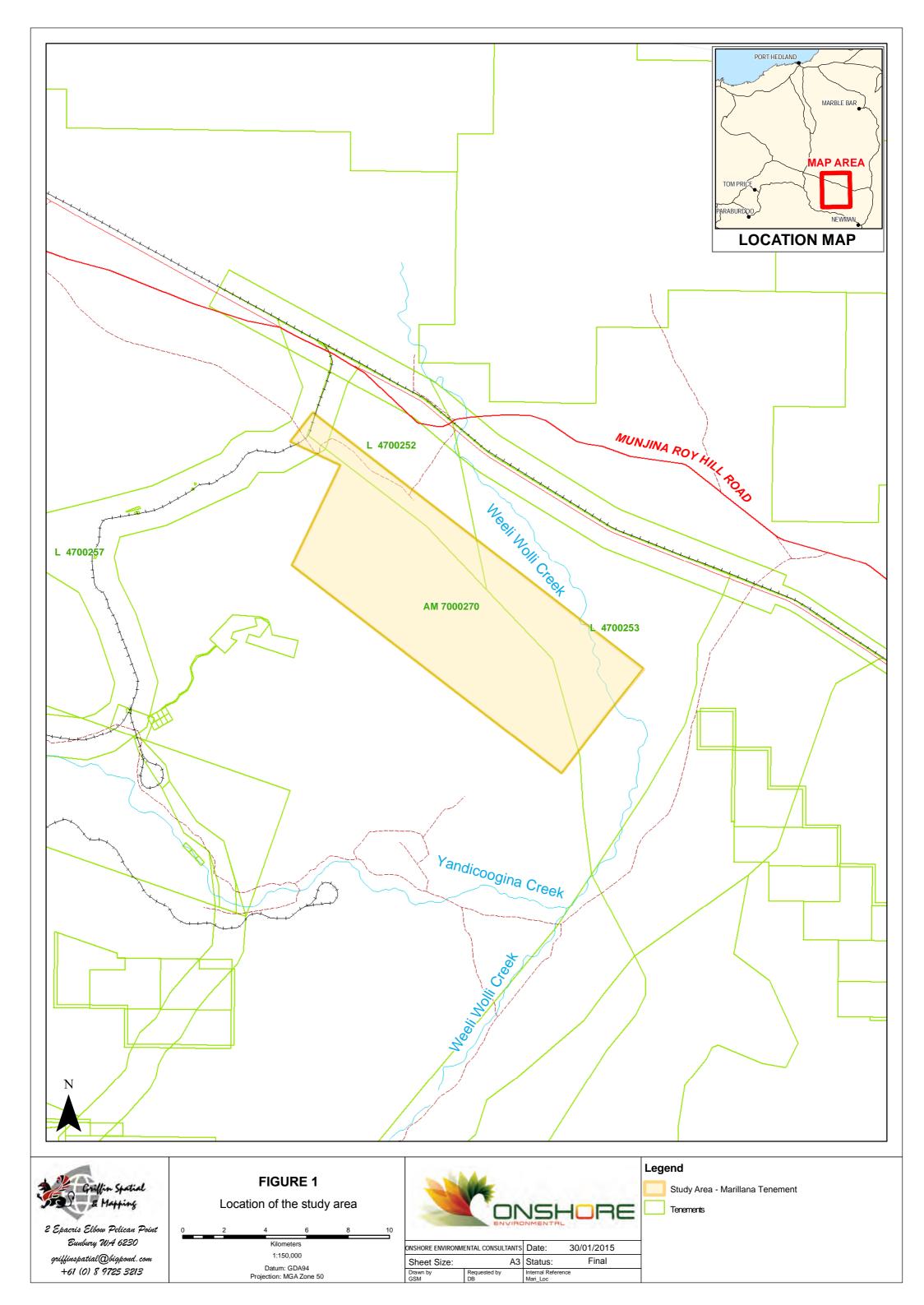
1.2 Previous Surveys

A total of 45 previous flora and vegetation surveys have been completed within, or in close proximity to, the study area, including three previous flora and vegetation surveys within the study area boundary:

- Onshore Environmental (2013a) Flora and Vegetation Survey Marillana ML70/270);
- ENV Australia (2008) RGP5 M270SA Flora and Vegetation Assessment; and
- Ecologia (2007) Marillana ML70/270 SA Sec 2 Flora and Vegetation Survey.

The remaining 43 surveys were associated with BHP Billiton Iron Ore's Yandi (Marillana), Mindy, Coondiner and Fortescue Marsh tenements, associated infrastructure including railway corridors and camp sidings, as well as Marillana Creek and Weeli Wolli Creek. There is also a publically available report for Rio Tinto's Koodaideri tenement situated north-west of the study area.

The previous flora and vegetation surveys are outlined further in Section 3.1.1 and Appendix 1.



1.3 Climate

The Pilbara region has an arid to tropical climate with two distinct seasons; a hot summer from October to April and a mild winter from May to September. The majority of annual rainfall is received during the hot summer months. Summer and autumn rainfall is typically associated with cyclonic activity and thunderstorms, with falls being of higher intensity and shorter duration contributing to an erratic annual range (ANRA 2013).

Annual average rainfall for the Pilbara ranges from 180 mm to over 400 mm (Beard 1975). The long-term average for the nearby Marillana Weather Station is 318.5 mm. Most of the annual precipitation occurs between the four months from December to March. The average maximum summer temperatures typically range between 38°C and 40°C, while winter maximum temperatures range from 28°C to 30.5°C (BOM 2015).

There was significant autumn rainfall received prior to the November 2015 survey. The months of January and February 2015 received average monthly falls, with March, April and May 2015 all received more than double the long term average (Figure 2, BOM 2015). While the three months prior to the November 2015 field survey were relatively dry, limited to 23.5 mm in October, seasonal conditions were rated as *fair* owing to the above average rainfall received through to May.

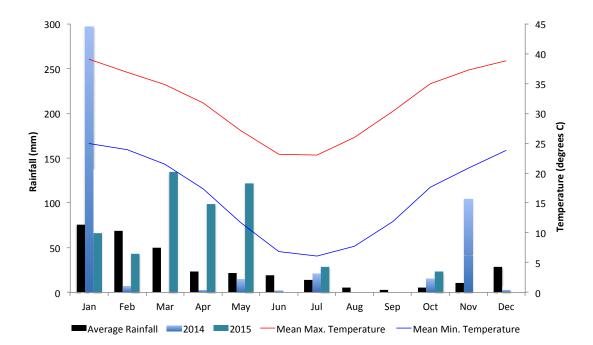


Figure 2 Rainfall and climatic data recorded at Newman Airport between January 2014 and October 2015 (BOM 2015).

1.4 Biogeographic Regions

The Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA7) divides Australia into 89 bioregions based on climate, geology, landform, native vegetation and species information and includes 419 sub-regions (Department of Environment 2013). The bioregions and sub-regions are the reporting unit for assessing the status of native ecosystems and their level of protection in the National Reserve

System.

Within the Pilbara bioregion there are four sub-regions: Chichester, Fortescue, Hamersley and Roebourne. The study area is located in the Hamersley sub-region (PIL3) which is described as mountainous areas of Proterozoic sedimentary ranges and plateaux, dissected by gorges (basalt, shale and dolerite) (Kendrick 2001). It contains Mulga low woodland over bunch grasses on fine textured soils in valley floors, and *Eucalyptus leucophloia* over *Triodia brizoides* on skeletal soils of the ranges.

1.5 Existing Land Use

Land tenure in the Pilbara region consists of Aboriginal and leasehold reserves, national parks and reserves and Crown land which falls under a range of pastoral and mining leases. The dominant land uses in the Pilbara are mining, pastoralism in the form of cattle grazing, conservation, unallocated crown land, crown reserves and urban areas (Kendrick 2001).

The study area is situated on Marillana pastoral lease and approximately 60 km east of Karijini National Park.

1.6 Landforms

The study area lies within the northern Hamersley Range, which is dominated by rounded hills and ranges. The Hamersley Range is characterised by long strike ridges rising from valley floors reaching a height of up to 300 m. The flat valley floors consist of Cainozoic sediments. Drainage flows to the north-east towards the Fortescue Valley. The major drainage line of Weeli Wolli Creek is situated to the east of the study area.

1.7 Soils

Tille (2007) classified the most recent and detailed mapping of Western Australia's Rangelands and Arid Interior into a hierarchy of soil-landscape mapping units. The study area is located within the Hamersley Plateaux Zone:

 285 - Hamersley Plateaux Zone, located in the Fortescue Province is described as having stony soils with red shallow loams and some red/brown non-cracking clays and red loamy earths.

The Australian Soil Resource Information System (CSIRO 2006) described two soil types as occurring within the study area:

- My55: Gently sloping outwash plains generally flanking the northern face of the Hamersley Range; coarse surface gravels are extensive: chief soils are neutral red earths (Gn2.12) with some (Gn2.11) and (Dr2.33) soils; and
- Fa13: Ranges of banded jaspilite and chert along with shales, dolomites, and iron ore formations; some areas of ferruginous duricrust as well as occasional narrow winding valley plains and steeply dissected pediments. This unit is largely associated with the Hamersley and Ophthalmia Ranges. The soils are frequently stony and shallow and there are extensive areas without soil cover: chief soils are shallow stony earthy loams (Um5.51) along with some (Uc5.11) soils on the steeper slopes. Associated are (Dr2.33, Dr2.32) soils on the limited areas of dissected pediments, while (Um5.52) and (Uf6.71) soils occur on the valley plains.

1.8 Geology

The geology of the wider Pilbara region is ancient and has been evolving over the past 3,500 million years (Trendall as cited in Johnson 2004). There are three main geological phases that comprise the development of the Pilbara region as it is today. These include the Precambrian basement rocks, the Phanerozoic sedimentary rocks and the Cainozoic deposits (Johnson 2004).

The Precambrian basement rocks were formed through sedimentation, intrusion and volcanism before being metamorphosed by movements in the Earth's crust. These rocks cover most of the Pilbara but have been dissected by more recent intrusions. After a course of sea level changes, deposition of the large Phanerozoic sedimentary basins that cover the western and eastern areas of the Pilbara occurred. Following this, the erosion of the basement rocks and transportation of this sediment via drainages resulted in the deposition of Cainozoic superficial units that now cover most of the basement rocks and sedimentary basins (Johnson 2004).

The main geological features of the Yandi area have been described by Tyler *et al.* (1991). The dominant geological unit is the Tertiary Colluvium (Tc) comprised of partially cemented valley-fill deposits with boulders of limonite. Interspersed within this unit are areas of limestone and calcareous gravels with opaline silica, which are part of the Oakover Formation (To). The Tertiary Robe Pisolite (Tp) formation is also present and is comprised of pisolitic limonite with fossil wood fragments. This unit contains iron ore deposits and is the main source of iron ore mined at Yandi. The Weeli Wolli Formation (Phj) consists of banded jaspilite with interbedded shale intruded by medium grained dolerite, and is also found in the area.

1.9 Flora and Vegetation

The study area is located within the Hamersley Botanical District, within the Pilbara IBRA region of the Eremaean Province (Beard 1990). Beard (1975) mapped vegetation of the Pilbara at a scale of 1:1,000,000. The most common vegetation associations within the study area were *Eucalyptus leucophloia* (snappy gum) and *Triodia wiseana* (hard spinifex) tree steppe occurring on hills, and tall woodlands of *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*, *Eucalyptus victrix* and *Melaleuca argentea* along major drainage lines such as Marillana Creek.

The original vegetation mapping undertaken by Beard (1975) was refined by Shepherd *et al.* (2002), who confirmed the same three vegetation associations were present within the study area (Figure 3). While the Pre-European extent for each vegetation association is greater than 99.9 percent, less than ten percent of each association occurs within formal or informal reserves (Table 1).

Table 1 Pre-European extent of vegetation associations occurring within the study area (Shepherd *et al.* 2002).

Vegetation Sub- Association	Description	Pre-Euro. Extent Remaining	% remaining IUCN Class I- IV Reserves	% remaining Other Reserves	% remaining DPaW Managed PL
82	Hummock grasslands, low tree steppe; snappy gum over <i>Triodia wiseana</i>	100.0	8.9	0.2	1.0
111	Hummock grasslands, shrub steppe; Eucalyptus gamophylla over hard spinifex	100.0	5.8	0.5	0.0
29	Sparse low woodland; mulga, discontinuous in scattered groups	100.0	0.3	0.0	2.4

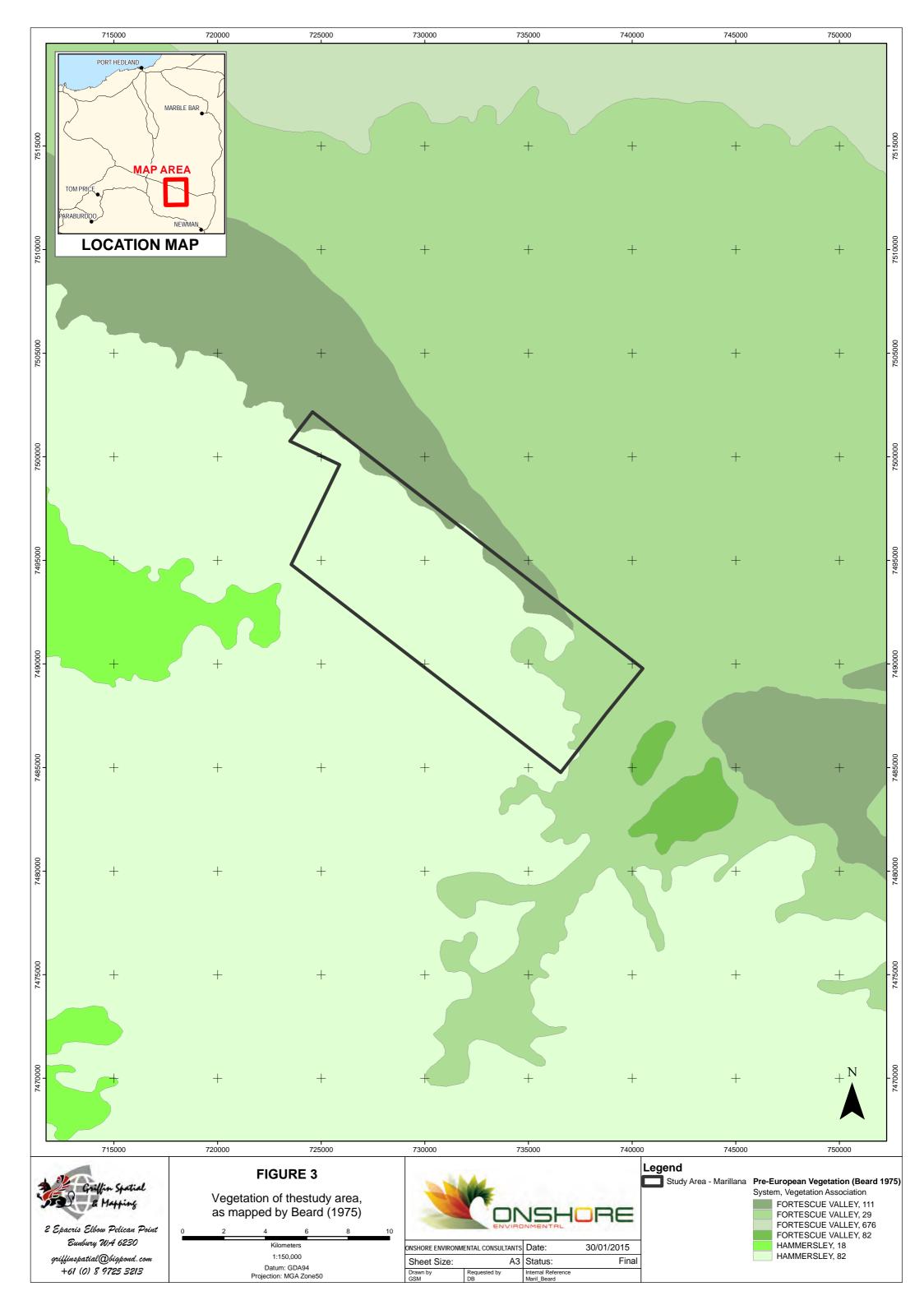
1.10 Land Systems

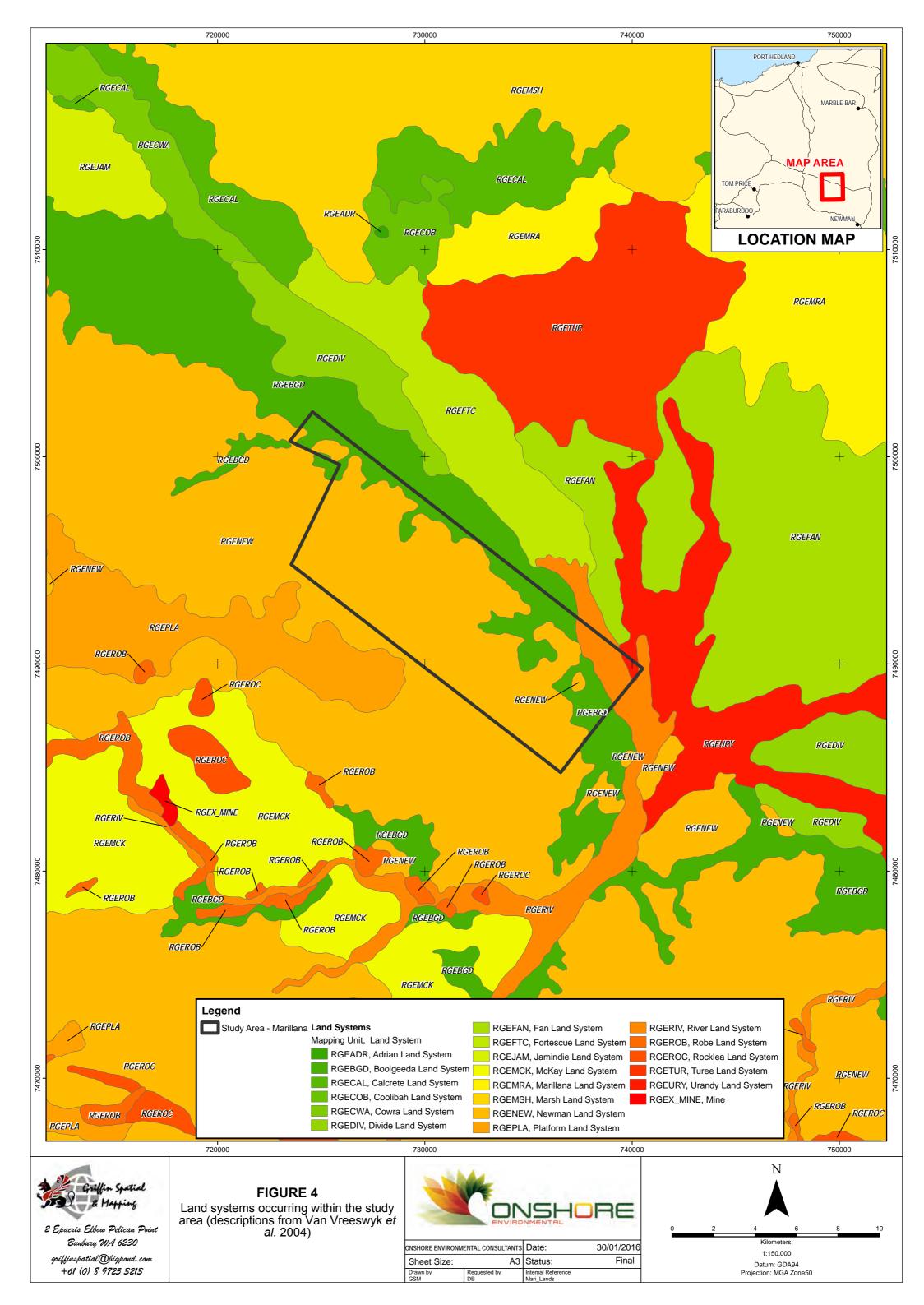
The Department of Agriculture (now the Department of Agriculture and Food) has conducted inventory and condition surveys of the Pilbara (van Vreeswyk *et al.* 2004) using an integrated survey method involving the land system approach to rangeland description evaluation.

A total of 102 land systems were defined in the Pilbara at a scale of 1: 250,000 (van Vreeswyk *et al.* 2004). Four land systems occurring within the study area (Table 2, Figure 4). The dominant land system is the Newman Land System, which forms the main ridge at Marillana. The Boolgeeda Land System is present along the north-eastern border of the study area extending to the south-east corner. It forms the lowers slopes of the range leading down into the plains of the Fortescue Valley. These are generally depositional surfaces of very gently inclined stony slopes leading to flat plains. The River and Urandy Land Systems occupy the eastern corner of the study area, consisting of alluvial plains and floodplains around Weeli Wolli Creek as it enters the Fortescue Valley. These areas are periodically flooded and the vegetation is highly attractive to grazing animals.

Table 2 Land systems occurring within the study area (descriptions from van Vreeswyk et al. 2004).

Land System	Representation in the Pilbara	Description
River	4,088 km ² or 2.3%	Active flood plains and major rivers supporting grassy eucalypt woodlands, tussock grasslands and soft spinifex grassland.
Newman	14,580 km ² or 8.0%	Rugged jaspilite plateaux, ridges and mountains supporting hard spinifex grasslands.
Boolgeeda	7,748 km ² or 4.3%	Stony plains with hard spinifex grasslands or mulga shrublands. The geology is quaternary colluvium.
Urandy	1,311 km ² or 0.7%	Stony plains, alluvial plains and drainage lines supporting shrubby soft spinifex grasslands.





2.0 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Legislation and Guidance Statements

The targeted flora survey was carried out in a manner that was compliant with Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) requirements for the environmental surveying and reporting of flora and vegetation in Western Australia:

- Terrestrial Biological Surveys as an Element of Environmental Protection.
 Position Statement No. 3 (EPA 2002);
- EPA Guidance for the Assessment of Environmental Factors: Terrestrial Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment in Western Australia No. 51 (EPA 2004); and
- Technical Guide Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment (EPA and DPaW 2015).

The survey was also conducted in accordance with BHP Billiton Iron Ore's Guidance for Flora and Vegetation Surveys in the Pilbara (BHP Billiton Iron Ore 2010).

2.2 Desktop Searches

Desktop searches of three databases were completed for information relating to rare flora (DPaW 2015a), TECs and PECs (DPaW 2015b) previously collected or described within, or in close proximity to, the study area. For this report a database search covering the entire study area was completed. The search was extended beyond the immediate survey limits to place flora values into a local and regional context. The search was undertaken for a 50 km radius around the study area using the point coordinate 723000 mE 7494500 mN (Zone 50 GDA94). The State database search investigated three DPaW databases:

- The DPaW Threatened Flora Database (DPaW 2015a);
- The DPaW Threatened and Priority Flora List (DPaW 2015b); and
- The Western Australian Herbarium Specimen Database for priority species opportunistically collected in the area of interest.

A search of the EPBC Act Protected Matters database was undertaken (DOE 2015), as well as a search of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) database (IUCN 2015). A comprehensive literature review of surveys previously completed within or in close proximity to the study area was also completed.

2.3 Field Survey Methodology

2.3.1 Timing and Personnel

The targeted flora survey was completed by Principal Botanist Dr Jerome Bull and Field Botanist Ms Jessica Waters working over a four day period on the 4th, 6th, 11th and 16th November 2015.

2.3.2 Targeted Surveys for Conservation Significant Species

Targeted searches for species of conservation significance were completed across the study area. Previous locations for priority flora within the study area were revisited in the field to confirm their existence. Targeted searches were then conducted in similar habitats in the surrounding area. Aerial maps were also used

to identify the locations of habitat potentially supporting species of conservation significance.

2.3.3 Vouchering

Voucher specimens were taken for all conservation significant plant taxa as well as taxa that could not be identified to species level in the field. Taxonomy was completed by Dr Jerome Bull at the Western Australian Herbarium (WAH), with selected voucher specimens provided to the BHP Billiton Iron Ore sponsored botanist, Mr Steve Dillon. Use was made of the WAH for confirmation of species identification.

2.3.4 Field Survey Constraints

The EPA Guidance Statement for Terrestrial Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment in Western Australia (EPA 2004) list twelve potential constraints that field surveys may encounter. These constraints are addressed in Table 3.

Table 3 Relevance of constraints, as identified by EPA (2004), to the flora and vegetation survey.

Constraint	Relevance
Scope	The scope was established by BHP Billiton Iron Ore in compliance with relevant EPA Guidance Statements.
Proportion of flora collected and identified	The seasonal conditions at the time of survey were rated as fair. However, ephemeral taxa may not have been present at the time of the field survey, noting there were five Priority flora taxa recorded from the database search as possibly or likely to occur within the study area. That said, the conservation significant flora previously recorded within the study area were easily identified under the <i>in situ</i> conditions.
Sources of information	Three previous flora and vegetation surveys have been completed from within the study area, with a further 42 completed surrounding areas. This is confirmed by the intensity of rare flora records locally.
The proportion of the task achieved and further work which might be needed	All allocated tasks detailed in the scope of works were achieved during the 2015 survey and no further work is required at this site.
Timing / weather / season / cycle	The survey was completed in November 2015 under <i>fair</i> seasonal conditions and following significant monthly rainfall from January to May.
Disturbances, e.g. fire, flood	Disturbances within the study area include introduced species, grazing of vegetation by domestic stock (cattle), flooding and fire (mosaic of burn ages recorded).
Intensity	A total of four days was spent surveying for conservation significant flora and weed species across the study area in November 2015.
Completeness	Given the intensity of the current survey and the additional previous surveys completed it is considered the area has been adequately surveyed. However due to time constrains and the steep nature of the terrain only a portion of the suitable habitat for <i>Synostemon hamersleyensis</i> could be surveyed. It is likely this species occurs more extensively within the study area.

Constraint	Relevance
Resources	Appropriate resources were applied to surveying the study area.
Access problems	The study area was accessed by vehicle and on foot. The terrain of the study area is very steep with deep gorges and cliffs making access difficult.
Availability of contextual information	At least 45 previous flora and vegetation surveys have been undertaken within or in close proximity to the study area, providing an extensive local database.
Experience levels	The Principal Botanist working on the survey has over 15 years Pilbara experience, and the accompanying Field Botanist has in excess of four years Pilbara experience. Together the group has completed numerous surveys in close proximity to the study area over recent years.

2.3.5 Assessment of Conservation Significance

The conservation significance of flora, fauna and ecological communities are classified at a Commonwealth, State and Local level on the basis of various Acts and Agreements, including:

Commonwealth Level:

• EPBC Act: The Department of Environment (DoE) lists Threatened Flora, Fauna and Ecological Communities, which are determined by the Threatened Species Scientific Committee according to criteria set out in the Act. The Act lists flora that are considered to be of conservation significance under one of six categories (Appendix 4).

State Level:

- WC Act: At a State level native flora and fauna species are protected under the WC Act - Wildlife Conservation Notice. A number of species are assigned an additional level of conservation significance based on a limited number of known populations and the perceived threats to these locations.
- DPaW Priority list: DPaW produces a list of Priority species and ecological communities (PEC's) that have not been assigned statutory protection under the WC Act. Possibly threatened species that do not meet survey criteria, or are otherwise data deficient, are added under Priorities 1, 2 or 3. Species that are adequately known, are rare but not threatened, or meet criteria for near threatened, or that have been removed from the threatened species list for other taxonomic reasons, are placed in Priority 4. These species require regular monitoring (see Appendix 5). The list of PEC's identifies those that need further investigation before nomination for TEC status at a State level.

Local Level:

 Species may be considered of local conservation significance because of their patterns of distribution and abundance. Although not formally protected by legislation, such species are acknowledged to be in decline as a result of threatening processes, primarily habitat loss through land clearing.

3.0 RESULTS

3.1 Desktop Review

3.1.1 Previous Baseline Flora Surveys

A total of 45 previous flora and vegetation surveys have been completed within, or in close proximity to, the study area. Appendix 1 summarises findings from the literature review including survey timing, survey type, flora statistics, vegetation associations, significant flora and weed species recorded during each survey.

There are three previous baseline flora and vegetation surveys that have been completed within the study area (Ecologia 2007, ENV Australia 2008, and Onshore Environmental 2013a). The latest survey recorded *Sauropus* sp. Koodaideri detritals (J. Naaykens & J. Hurter JH 11213) which is now known as the Priority 1 flora taxon *Synostemon hamersleyensis*. No other conservation significant flora had been recorded during previous surveys.

A total of seven introduced weed species were recorded from the study area during previous baseline surveys including *Acetosa vesicaria (Ruby Dock), *Aerva javanica (Kapok Bush), *Argemone ochroleuca (Mexican Poppy), *Bidens bipinnata (Beggar's Bipinnate), *Cenchrus ciliaris (Buffel Grass), *Cenchrus setiger (Birdwood Grass) and *Sisymbrium orientale (Indian Hedge Mustard).

3.1.2 Threatened Flora listed under the EPBC Act

A search of the EPBC Act Protected Matters database was undertaken within a 40 km buffer of the study area (DoE 2015). One Threatened Flora or their habitat was listed as likely to occur within the study area; *Lepidium catapycnon*. This species is no longer listed as Threatened Flora by DPaW and has recently had the State conservation code downgraded to Priority 4. No Federal listed TECs were recorded during the database search.

3.1.3 Threatened Flora listed under the IUCN Red List

A search of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) database was conducted (IUCN 2015). No Threatened Flora were listed as likely to occur within the study area from this search.

3.1.4 Threatened Flora listed under the WA Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice

A search of the DPaW databases did not identify any Threatened Flora taxon as occurring within a 50 km radius of the study area.

3.1.5 Priority Flora recognised by the DPaW

The DPaW rare flora database search (DPaW 2015a) identified 29 Priority flora taxa as potentially occurring within a 50 km radius of the study area (Table 4). It was determined that five of these taxa were likely to occur within the study area based on occurrence of habitat and proximity to previous records (Table 4).

Table 4 Significant flora previously recorded from a 50 km search radius of the study area (DPaW 2015a).

Taxon	Cons. Code	Life Form	Habitat Preference	Suitable Habitat	Likelihood in Study Area
Acacia bromilowiana	4	Perennial	Red skeletal stony loam, laterite, banded ironstone, basalt. Rocky hills, breakaways, scree slopes, gorges, creek beds.	Yes	Possible
Acacia subtiliformis	3	Perennial	Rocky calcrete plateau.	No	Unlikely
Aristida lazaridis	2	Perennial	Hard pan plains.	Yes	Possible
Atriplex flabelliformis	3	Perennial	Clay loam, loam. Saline flats or marshes.	No	Unlikely
Calotis squamigera	1	Perennial	Sand, Ioam. Rocky hillsides, floodplains, rocky creeks or river beds.	Yes	Possible
Eremophila spongiocarpa	1	Perennial	Weakly saline alluvial plain on margins of marsh.	No	Unlikely
Eremophila youngii subsp. lepidota	4	Perennial	Flats plains, floodplains, sometimes semi- saline, clay flats.	No	Unlikely
Euphorbia australis var. glabra	2	Annual or Perennial	Variety of soils.	Yes	Possible
Fimbristylis sieberiana	3	Perennial	Mud, skeletal soil pockets. Pool edges, sandstone cliffs.	No	Unlikely
Goodenia nuda	4	Annual	Plains and floodplains.	Yes	Likely
Goodenia sp. East Pilbara (A.A. Mitchell PRP 727)	3	Biennial	Low undulating plain, swampy plains.	No	Unlikely
Grevillea saxicola	3	Perennial	Ironstone hills and ridges. Skeletal ironstone soils. Steep slopes and cliffs.	Yes	Possible
Gymnanthera cunninghamii	3	Perennial	Sandy soils. Major drainage lines.	Yes	Possible
Hibiscus sp. Gurinbiddy Range (M.E. Trudgen MET 15708)	2	Perennial	Skeletal soils over ironstone.	Yes	Possible
Indigofera gilesii	3	Perennial	Pebbly loam amongst boulders and outcrops. Hills.	Yes	Possible

Taxon	Cons. Code	Life Form	Habitat Preference	Suitable Habitat	Likelihood in Study Area
Isotropis parviflora	2	Perennial	Ironstone hills. Short lived post- disturbance coloniser.	Yes	Likely
Lepidium catapycnon	4	Perennial	Skeletal soils. Hillsides.	Yes	Likely
Myriocephalus scalpellus	1	Annual	Clay. Depression on flood plain.	Yes	Possible
Nicotiana heterantha	1	Annual or Perennial	Black clay. Seasonally wet flats.	No	Unlikely
Polymeria distigma	3	Annual	Sandy soils.	Yes	Possible
Rhagodia sp. Hamersley (M. Trudgen 17794)	3	Perennial	Clay plains. Mulga woodlands.	Yes	Possible
Rostellularia adscendens var. latifolia	3	Annual or Perennial	Ironstone soils. Near creeks, rocky hills.	Yes	Likely
Sida sp. Barlee Range (S. van Leeuwen 1642)	3	Perennial	Cliffs and gorges, rocky ledges, overhangs.	Yes	Possible
Stylidium weeliwolli	2	Annual	Gritty sand soil, sandy clay. Edge of watercourses.	No	Unlikely
Synostemon hamersleyensis	1	Perennial	Ironstone upper hill slopes.	Yes	Likely
Tecticornia globulifera	1	Perennial	Saline flats. Marsh.	No	Unlikely
Tecticornia medusa	3	Perennial	Saline flats. Marsh.	No	Unlikely
Themeda sp. Hamersley Station (M.E. Trudgen 11431)	3	Perennial	Clay pan, grass plain.	No	Unlikely
<i>Triodia</i> sp. Mt Ella (M.E. Trudgen 12739)	3	Perennial	Upper hill slopes, ironstone ranges.	Yes	Possible

3.2 Significant Flora

3.2.1 Threatened Flora listed under the WC Act and EPBC Act

No plant taxon gazetted as Threatened Flora (T) pursuant to subsection (2) of Section 23F of the WC Act or listed under the EPBC Act was recorded from the study area.

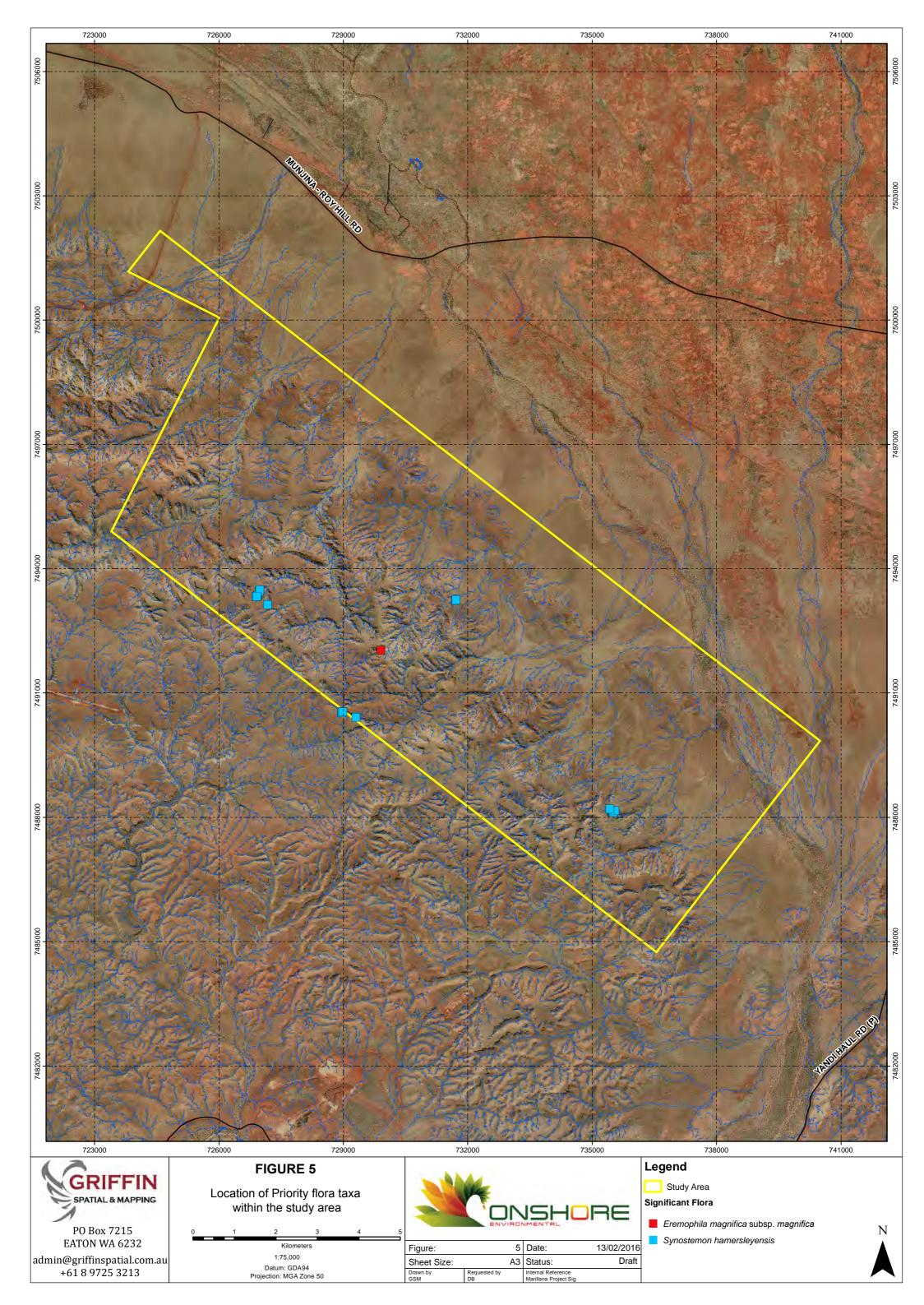
3.2.2 Significant Flora

Two Priority flora taxa as defined by DPaW were recorded from the study area; *Synostemon hamersleyensis* (Priority 1) and *Eremophila magnifica* subsp. *magnifica* (Priority 4) (Table 5, Figure 5, and Appendix 4).

Table 5 Description of Priority flora species recorded within the study area.

Taxon	Photograph	Description	Occurrence in study area
Synostemon hamersleyensis (Priority 1)		This species is recently described and grows to a height of 0.5 m. It has been observed flowering from August through to November. It is restricted to the Hamersley subregion from a 30km x 5km area at the northern edge of the Hamersley Range. It grows on breakaway formations and rocky outcrops in gullies and on upper slopes (Telford and Naaykens 2015). This species had previously been recorded from three locations within BHP Billion Iron Ore's Marillana tenement (Onshore Environmental 2013a) and at one location within the Area C West to Yandi infrastructure corridor (Onshore Environmental 2014a). It has also been recorded from Rio Tinto's Koodaideri tenement (Biota 2012a).	Recorded from a total of 27 locations within the study area including three previous locations recorded by Onshore Environmental (2013a). An additional 4 records were also made from marginally outside the boundary of the study area. It was recorded from steep rocky gullies, hillslopes and cliff lines throughout elevated sectors of the study area. Numbers of individuals at each location ranged from a single plant up to 10 plants. It is likely that it occurs elsewhere within the study area where suitable habitat exists. Vegetation was non-specific and characterised by up to four vegetation strata: 1. Low Woodland (to Low Open Woodland) of Corymbia ferriticola, Eucalyptus leucophloia subsp. leucophloia, Corymbia hamerselyana, Acacia pruinocarpa and/or Brachychiton acuminatus; 2. High Open Shrubland of Acacia tumida var. pilbarensis, Grevillea wickhamii subsp. hispidula, Petalostylis labicheoides, Acacia hamersleyensis, Flueggea virosa, Acacia monticola, Santalum lanceolatum and/or Acacia bivenosa; 3. Hummock Grassland (to Open Hummock Grassland) of Triodia sp. Shovelanna Hill (S. van Leeuwen 3835), Triodia wiseana, Triodia pungens and/or Triodia brizoides; and 4. Open Tussock Grassland of Aristida burbidgeae, Cymbopogon ambiguus, Eriachne mucronata and/or Themeda triandra.

Taxon	Photograph	Description	Occurrence in study area
Eremophila magnifica subsp. magnifica (Priority 4)		Shrub growing to a height of 1.5 m, producing blue or magenta flowers between August and November. It typically occurs on skeletal soils over ironstone and on rocky screes. Known from 548 locations across the southern Pilbara bioregion and recorded from majority of BHP Billiton Iron Ore tenements in southeast Pilbara including Mining Area C, Marillana, Tandanya, Mudlark and South Flank, and with scattered records from Mt Whaleback extending east along Ophthalmia Range towards Jimblebar.	Recorded as an estimated 50 - 100 plants from the summit of a rocky gorge and cliff line at one location within the study area. The vegetation was described as 'Hummock Grassland of <i>Triodia wiseana</i> with High Shrubland of <i>Acacia arida</i> and <i>Acacia inaequilatera</i> and Very Open Mallee of <i>Eucalyptus gamophylla'</i> .



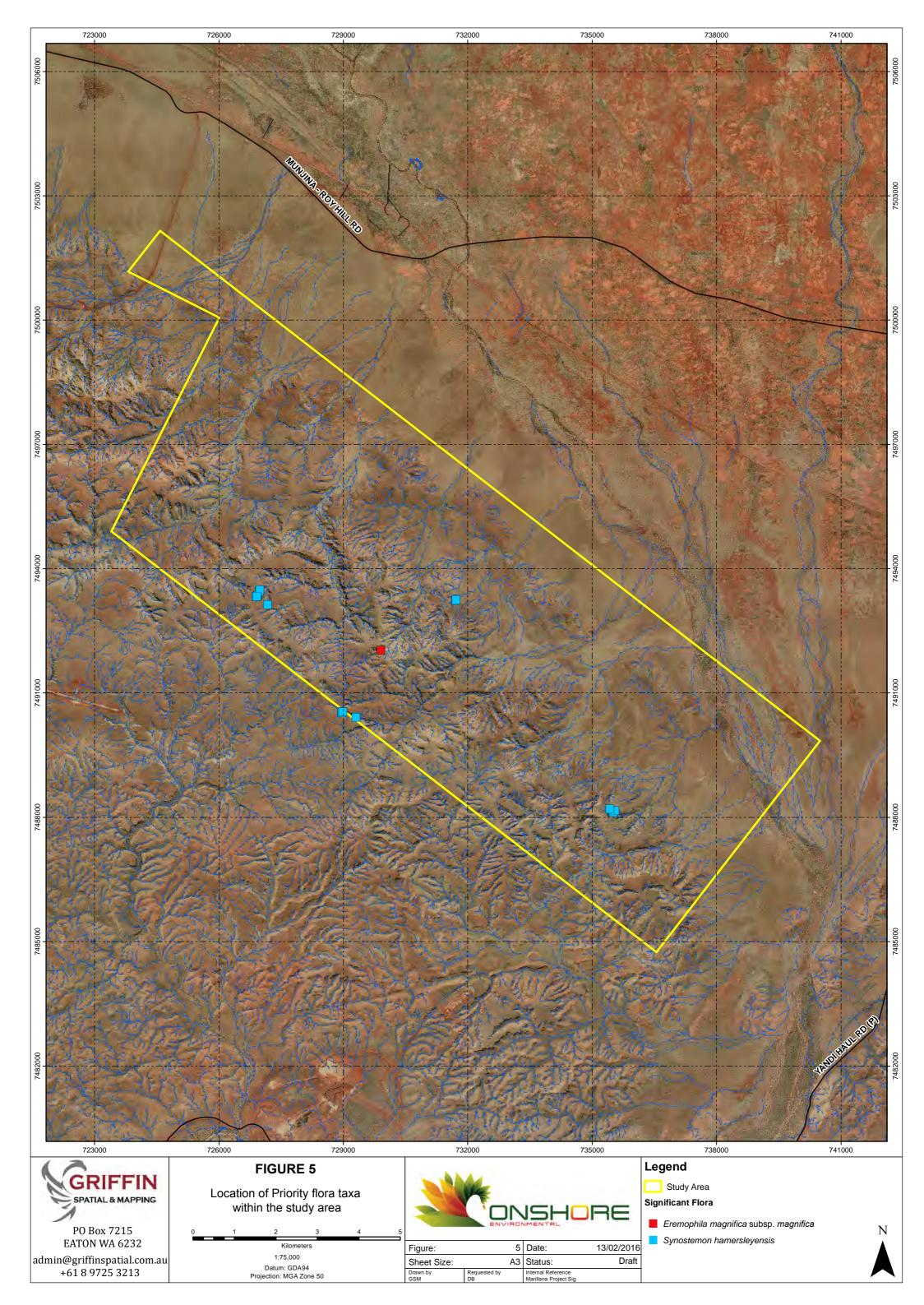
3.3 Introduced Flora

There were three introduced weed species recorded from the study area in November 2015; *Bidens bipinnata, *Cenchrus ciliaris and *Setaria verticillata. Seven weed species have previously been recorded from within the study area (Ecologia 2007, ENV Australia 2008, Onshore Environmental 2013a); *Acetosa vesicaria, *Aerva javanica, *Argemone ochroleuca, *Bidens bipinnata, *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Cenchrus setiger and *Sisymbrium orientale.

The total number of weed taxa recorded from the study area to-date is eight taxa; these taxa are described in more detail below (see Table 6, Figure 6, Appendix 5). None of these taxa are listed as a Declared Pest under the BAM Act.

Table 6 Introduced weed species recorded from the study area.

Weed Taxon	Common Name	Occurrence in Study Area
*Acetosa vesicaria	Ruby Dock	Recorded from a single location during a previous survey (Ecologia 2007). There was no GPS coordinate provided for this location.
*Aerva javanica	Kapok Bush	Recorded as scattered plants from four locations in the eastern, central and north-western sectors of the study area, associated with sandy levee banks and riverbeds on major drainage lines.
*Argemone ochroleuca	Mexican Poppy	Restricted to three locations within the gravelly stream channel of a major drainage line in the eastern sector of the study area. It was a minor component of the vegetation.
*Bidens bipinnata	Bipinnate Beggars Tick	Recorded as scattered plants from four locations in the western sector of the study area. Found in small groves of Mulga frequented by cattle, as well as under overhanging rock ledges along disturbed cliff lines.
*Cenchrus ciliaris	Buffel Grass	Common across the entire study area with highest ground coverage (approximating 70 percent) provided along drainage lines, floodplains, sand dunes and other sites where soil disturbance was apparent. It was especially dominant on floodplains in the northern and eastern sectors of the study area.
*Cenchrus setiger	Birdwood Grass	Recorded from the far northern and eastern sectors of the study area where it was confined to floodplains associated with the major drainage line (occurring with the more dominant *Cenchrus ciliaris).
*Setaria verticillata	Whorled Pigeon Grass	Scattered plants were recorded from one location within the central eastern sector of the study area, occurring on steep gorge slopes.
*Sisymbrium orientale	Indian Hedge Mustard	Recorded from a single location within the riverbed of the major drainage line on the eastern fringe of the study area.



4.0 SUMMARY

The targeted flora survey completed by Onshore Environmental in November 2015 recorded two Priority flora taxa from the Marillana Tenement; *Synostemon hamersleyensis* (Priority 1) and *Eremophila magnifica* subsp. *magnifica* (Priority 4).

Synostemon hamersleyensis was recorded from 28 locations distributed across elevated areas of the Marillana tenement. Plants were typically present at low density (1-10 individuals) and associated with steep and very steep upper hillslopes, breakaway slopes, gorges and cliff lines. Vegetation in which it occurred was non-specific but characterised by a Low Woodland (to Low Open Woodland) strata of low trees, High Open Shrubland of tall shrubs, with Hummock Grassland (to Open Hummock Grassland) of variable spinifex species, occasionally with Open Tussock Grassland.

Eremophila magnifica subsp. magnifica was recorded as an estimated 50 to 100 plants from the summit of a rocky gorge and cliff line at one location within the Marillana Tenement. The associated vegetation was described as Hummock Grassland of *Triodia wiseana* with High Shrubland of *Acacia arida* and *Acacia inaequilatera* and Very Open Mallee of *Eucalyptus gamophylla*.

A total of eight introduced weed species have been recorded from the study area; *Acetosa vesicaria, *Aerva javanica, *Argemone ochroleuca, *Bidens bipinnata, *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Cenchrus setiger, *Setaria verticillata and *Sisymbrium orientale. None of these taxa are listed as a Declared Pest under the BAM Act, and all are common weeds in the Pilbara.

5.0 STUDY TEAM

The targeted vegetation survey was planned, co-ordinated and executed by the following personnel:

Onshore Environmental Consultants P/L ABN 41 095 837 120 PO Box 227 YALLINGUP WA 6282 pf 08 9756 6206 m0427 339 842 Email onshoreenv@westnet.com.au

Project Staff

Dr Darren Brearley PhD Project Manager and Principal Botanist

Dr Jerome Bull PhD Principal Botanist

Ms Jessica Waters BSc Botanist
Mrs Kerry Keenan Data Analyst
Mr Todd Griffin GIS Specialist

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APPENDIX 1

Summary of results from previous flora and vegetation surveys within, or in close proximity to, the study area

Report	Proximity to Study Area	Survey Timing & Intensity	Vegetation Associations & Landform	Taxon Summary	Significant Flora
Surveys within or partially	within the study ar	rea			
Onshore Environmental 2013) Flora and Vegetation Survey Marillana ML70/270	Within the study area	27 th -30 th April, 28 th September - 6 th October 2011	18 vegetation associations	268 taxa, 44 families, 117 genera, 7 weed species *Aerva javanica, *Argemone ochroleuca, *Bidens bipinnata, *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Cenchrus setiger, *Sisymbrium orientale	No Threatened or Priority Flora
ENV Australia (2008) RGP5 M270SA Flora and Vegetation Assessment	Within the study area	22 nd April 2008 7 quadrats	5 vegetation associations	114 taxa, 30 families, 58 genera, 2 weed species *Aerva javanica, *Cenchrus ciliaris	No Threatened or Priority Flora
Ecologia (2007) Marillana ML70/270 SA Sec 2 Flora and Vegetation Survey	Within the study area	5 th -14 th October 2005, March 2006 78 quadrats	16 vegetation associations	243 taxa, 43 families, 92 genera, 2 weed species *Acetosa vesicaria, *Cenchrus ciliaris	No Threatened or Priority Flora
Barimunya Airport					
ENV Australia (2009d) RGP5 Yandi Flora Survey and Assessment of Barimunya Airport and a Potential Borrow Area	~ 3.5km south of the study area	24 th - 27 th September 2008 8 quadrats	4 vegetation associations	Barimunya Airport: 79 taxa, 24 families, 44 genera Potential borrow areas: 84 taxa, 28 families, 52 genera, 1 weed species *Cucumis melo subsp. agrestis	No Threatened or Priority Flora
Ecologia Environment (2001) Yandi Proposed Air Strip Environmental Clearance Survey	~ 3.5km south of the study area	26 th -27 th September 2001	Not Recorded	66 taxa, 25 families, no weed species	No Threatened or Priority Flora
Ecologia Environment (2002) Yandi Airstrip and Access Road Rare and Priority Flora Survey	~ 3.5km south of the study area	14 th - 17 th March 2002	3 vegetation associations	154 taxa, 38 families, no weed species	No Threatened Flora Isotropis parviflora (P2) ¹

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¹ Originally recorded as *Isotropis winneckei*

Report	Proximity to Study Area	Survey Timing & Intensity	Vegetation Associations & Landform	Taxon Summary	Significant Flora
Biota (2002) Proposed Yandi Airstrip Flora Survey	~ 3.5km south of the study area	19 th August 2002	Not Recorded	Not Recorded	No Threatened Flora Isotropis parviflora (P2) ² Species of interest: Senna curvistyla and Tephrosia arenicola
Other surveys in close pro	ximity to the study	area			
Onshore Environmental (2012) Flora and Vegetation Survey Jinidi to Mainline Study Area	Adjoins the eastern part of the study area	February, March, April and September 2011 395 quadrats	28 vegetation associations	471 taxa, 178 genera, 59 families, 20 weeds species	No Threatened Flora Lepidium catapycnon (P4) ³ , Goodenia nuda (P4), Rostellularia adscendens var. latifolia (P3), Sida sp. Barlee Range (S. van Leeuwen 1642) (P3), Fimbristylis sieberiana (P3), Stylidium weeliwolli (P2)
Biota (2012a) A Vegetation and Flora Survey of the Koodaideri Study Area	Adjoins the western part of the study area	July 2010, March, May 2011 69 quadrats	29 vegetation associations	385 taxa, 192 genera, 44 families	No Threatened Flora Lepidium catapycnon (P4)³, Vigna sp. Central⁴, Nicotiana umbratica (P3), Sida sp. Barlee Range (S. van Leeuwen 1642) (P3), Themeda sp. Hamersley Station (M.E. Trudgen 11431) (P3), Eremophila magnifica subsp. magnifica (Priority 4), Rhynchosia bungarensis (P4)
Ecologia Environment (2007a) Rapid Growth Project 5 Cowra to Kurrajurra Sidings and Cowra Camp Site Flora and Vegetation Survey	Adjoins the study area to the west and continues to Cowra siding	5 th -9 th October 2007 Level 1 Survey	13 vegetation associations	206 taxa, 92 genera, 38 families 5 weed species; *Acetosa vesicaria, *Aerva javanica, *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Malvastrum americanum, *Setaria verticillata	No Threatened or Priority Flora

² Originally recorded as *Isotropis winneckei*

³ Listed as a Threatened Flora at the time of survey

⁴ No longer listed as a Priority flora taxon

Report	Proximity to Study Area	Survey Timing & Intensity	Vegetation Associations & Landform	Taxon Summary	Significant Flora
Onshore Environmental (2014a) Area C West to Yandi Level 2 Flora and Vegetation Survey	~8.5 km west of the study area	21st May - 3rd June 2011, 19th July - 1st August 2012, 20th -29th August 2013	23 vegetation associations	428 taxa, 58 families, 174 genera, 12 weed species; *Acetosa vesicaria, *Bidens bipinnata, *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Cenchrus setiger, *Citrullus colocynthis, *Flaveria trinervia, *Malvastrum americanum, *Setaria verticillata, *Sigesbeckia orientalis, *Sonchus oleraceus, *Tribulus terrestris, *Vachellia farnesiana	No Threatened Flora Acacia bromilowiana (P4), Acacia effusa (P3), Acacia subtiliformis (P3), Aristida jerichoensis var. subspinulifera (P3), Gymnanthera cunninghamii (P3), Goodenia nuda (P4), Goodenia sp. East Pilbara (A.A. Mitchell PRP 727) (P3), Rostellularia adscendens var. latifolia (P3), Rhynchosia bungarensis (P4), Sauropus sp. Koodaideri detritals (J. Naaykens & J. Hurter JH 11213) (P1) ⁵ , Sida sp. Barlee Range (S. van Leeuwen 1642) (P3), Spartothamnella puberula (P2) ⁶ , Vittadinia sp. Coondewanna Flats (s. van Leeuwen 4684) (P1)
ENV Australia (2007a) Mindy North Exploration Lease Flora and Vegetation Assessment	~10km south- east of the study area	18 th -25 th April 2007 53 quadrats	21 vegetation associations	200 taxa, 93 genera, 38 families, 4 introduced flora; *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Malvastrum americanum, *Setaria verticillata, *Bidens bipinnata	No Threatened or Priority Flora
Ecologia Environment (2005) Mindy-Coondiner Exploration Project Biological Survey	~10km south- east of the study area	7 th -11 th November 2005 14 quadrats	7 vegetation associations	137 taxa, 66 genera, 32 families, 3 weed species; *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Acetosa vesicaria, *Aerva javanica	No Threatened or Priority Flora
Biota (2012b) Jinidi to Mindy Level 1 Flora and Vegetation Survey	~10km south- south east	11 th -13 th March 2011 9 quadrats	16 vegetation associations	260 taxa, 117 genera, 41 families, 6 weed species *Bidens bipinnata, *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Datura leichhardtii, Portulaca oleracea ⁷ , *Setaria verticillata, *Tribulus terrestris	No Threatened or Priority Flora

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⁵ Now known as *Synostemon hamersleyensis* (P1)

⁶ Now known as *Spartothamnella canescens* and no longer considered threatened

⁷ No longer listed as a weed in the Pilbara

Report	Proximity to Study Area	Survey Timing & Intensity	Vegetation Associations & Landform	Taxon Summary	Significant Flora
BHPBIO (2008) Rapid Growth Project 5 Paroo, Ethel and Sandhill Proposed Sidings Flora and Vegetation Report	~25km east- south east (Sandhill Siding)	20 th October 2007	3 vegetation associations	Sandhill siding: 59 taxa, 36 genera, 22 families, 2 weed species *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Malvastrum americanum	No Threatened or Priority Flora
ENV Australia (2007b) Coondiner and Mindy East Exploration Leases Flora and Vegetation Assessment	~35 km south- east	13 th -18 th April 2007 36 quadrats	Coondiner: 11 vegetation associations Mindy East: 3 vegetation associations	Coondiner: 217 taxa, 97 genera, 43 families Mindy East: 95 taxa, 60 genera, 24 families 5 weeds species from both tenements *Aerva javanica, *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Malvastrum americanum, *Setaria verticillata, *Solanum nigrum	No Threatened Flora Coondiner: Olearia fluvialis ⁸ , Cynanchum sp. Hamersley (M. Trudgen 2302) ⁹ , Sida sp. Barlee Range (S. van Leeuwen 1642) (P3) Triumfetta Ieptacantha ⁸ Mindy East: No Priority Flora
Onshore Environmental (2014b) Mainline Rail Expansion Level 2 Flora and Vegetation Survey	Starts approximately 3km to the north of the north- western corner of the study area and continues along the mainline rail to Port Hedland	25 th October -7 th November 2011, 21 st November - 4 th December 2011, 12 th March - 25 th March 2012, 18 th April - 1 st May 2012	73 vegetation associations. Vegetation within the study area was affiliated with the following PECs: i) The western fringe of the Fortescue Marsh PEC (Priority 1); ii) Freshwater claypans of the Fortescue Valley; iii) Four plant assemblages of the Wona Land System' described as 'Mitchell Grass (Astrebla spp.) on gilgai (Priority 3iii)	706 taxa, 229 genera and 67 families, 16 weed species, Those recorded in close proximity included; *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Cenchrus setiger, *Vachellia farnesiana, *Bidens bipinnata, *Aerva javanica, *Malvastrum americanum, *Setaria verticillata, *Flaveria trinervia	No Threatened flora 16 priority flora Those recorded in close proximity included <i>Eremophila spongiocarpa</i> (P1), <i>Tecticornia</i> sp. Christmas Creek (K.A Shepherd and T. Colmer et al KS 1063) (P1), <i>Abutilon</i> sp. Pritzelianum (S. van Leeuwen 5095) (P1), <i>Eremophila youngii</i> subsp. <i>lepidota</i> (P4), <i>Bulbostylis burbidgeae</i> (P4)

No longer listed as a Priority flora taxon
 Now known as *Tylophora flexuosa* and no longer listed as Priority flora

Report	Proximity to Study Area	Survey Timing & Intensity	Vegetation Associations & Landform	Taxon Summary	Significant Flora			
Fortescue Marsh	Fortescue Marsh							
Onshore Environmental (2015a) Fortescue Marsh Tenements E47/1585&E47/1586 Level 1 Flora and Vegetation Survey	~30 km east	26 th - 7 th October 2014	59 vegetation associations	No flora inventory, 6 weed species; *Aerva javanica, *Bidens bipinnata, *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Malvastrum americanum, *Setaria verticillata, *Vachellia farnesiana	No Threatened Flora Eremophila spongiocarpa (P1), Helichrysum oligochaetum (P1), Nicotiana heterantha (P1), Tecticornia globulifera (Priority 1), Tecticornia sp. Christmas Creek (K.A. Shepherd & T. Colmer et al. KS 1063) (P1), Eremophila youngii subsp. Iepidota (P4), Goodenia nuda (P4)			
Onshore Environmental (2015b) Targeted Flora Survey Fortescue Marsh Tenements	~10km north- east	4 th - 14 th May 2015	Not recorded	Not recorded	Eremophila spongiocarpa (P1), Teucrium pilbaranum (P1), Stackhousia clementii (P3), Eremophila youngii subsp. lepidota (P4), Goodenia nuda (P4)			
Marillana (Yandi) Mine								
Dames & Moore (1991) Yandi Baseline Vegetation Survey Marillana Creek - Part 1, Precommissioning of Yandicoogina Iron Ore Mine	Within the Yandi study area and downstream on Marillana Creek	1st- 7th March 1991 9 transects along drainage lines	3 vegetation associations	23 taxa, 1 weed species; *Vachellia farnesiana	No Threatened or Priority Flora			
AGC Woodward Clyde (1995) Marillana and Weeli Wolli Creeks and Paleochannel Vegetation and Flora Survey	Within the Yandi study area and surrounds	9th -15th May 1995 41 vegetation sites (including four of the 9 established above by Dames & Moore)	6 vegetation associations	270 taxa, 7 weed species; *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Argemone ochroleuca, *Malvastrum americanum, *Bidens bipinnata, *Sonchus oleraceus, *Vachellia farnesiana, *Citrullus lanatus	No Threatened Flora Rostellularia adscendens var. latifolia (P3) Goodenia stellata ¹⁰ , Olearia fluvialis ¹⁰ , Eriachne tenuiculmis ¹⁰			

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¹⁰ No longer listed as a Priority flora taxon

Report	Proximity to Study Area	Survey Timing & Intensity	Vegetation Associations & Landform	Taxon Summary	Significant Flora
Ecologia Environment (1995) Yandi Stage 2 Iron Ore Project Biological Assessment Survey	Within the Yandi study area and surrounds	May- June 1995 83 flora sites	22 vegetation associations	345 taxa, 55 families, 156 genera, 5 weed species; *Argemone ochroleuca, *Bidens bipinnata, *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Malvastrum americanum, *Sonchus oleraceus	No Threatened or Priority Flora Goodenia stellata ¹¹
Halpern Glick Maunsell (1996) Yandi Stage 2 Iron Ore Project Survey of Flora of Interest	Within the Yandi study area and surrounds	24 th -27 th October 1996	Not Recorded	Not Recorded	No Threatened or Priority Flora Wedelia sp. Hamersley (A.S. Weston 8444) ¹¹ Previously located species of species of conservation significance were not recorded due to poor seasonal conditions
Halpern Glick Maunsell (1997) Marillana Creek Iron Ore Project Survey for <i>Goodenia stellata</i> and Flora of Interest	Within the Yandi study area and surrounds	28 th May- 1 st June 1997	Not Recorded	Not Recorded	No Threatened or Priority Flora Goodenia stellata ¹¹
BSD (1997) A survey of Mexican Poppy (*Argemone ochroleuca) at Marillana Creek	Within the Yandi study area and extending to surrounding tributaries	30 th November- 6 th December 1996	Not Recorded	*Argemone ochroleuca was recorded at 27 locations	Not Recorded
Ecologia Environment (1998) Yandi Vegetation and Soil Survey	Within the Yandi study area and surrounds	27 th May - 1 st June 1998 32 quadrats	14 vegetation associations	200 taxa, 45 families, 104 genera, 7 weed species; *Argemone ochroleuca, *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Rostraria cristata ¹² , *Malvastrum americanum, *Centaurea melitensis ¹³ , *Sonchus oleraceus, *Vachellia farnesiana	No Threatened Flora Goodenia nuda (P4)

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¹¹ No longer listed as a Priority flora taxon

¹² It is noted that *Rostraria cristata has not previously been recorded north from a line between Shark Bay and Wiluna

¹³ It is noted that *Centaurea melitensis has not previously been recorded north from a line between Carnarvon and Laverton

Report	Proximity to Study Area	Survey Timing & Intensity	Vegetation Associations & Landform	Taxon Summary	Significant Flora
Halpern Glick Maunsell (1999a) Marillana Creek Iron Ore Project Review of Biological Reporting	Within the Yandi study area and surrounds	Desktop review	28 vegetation associations from previous surveys	493 taxa, 55 families, 7 weed species; *Argemone ochroleuca subsp. ochroleuca, *Bidens bipinnata, *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Centaurea melitensis, *Malvastrum americanum, *Rostraria cristata and *Sonchus oleraceus	No Threatened Flora Goodenia nuda (P4) Goodenia stellata ¹⁴ , Olearia fluvialis ¹⁴ , Eriachne tenuiculmis ¹⁴
Halpern Glick Maunsell (1999b) Marillana Creek Western Access Corridor Biological Assessment	Western Access Corridor runs from Mining Area C through the Juna Downs pastoral lease to the Yandi mine site	23 rd -30 th April 1999 16 vegetation sites	25 vegetation associations	195 taxa, 40 families, 98 genera, 2 weed species; *Bidens bipinnata, *Malvastrum americanum	No Threatened or Priority Flora Goodenia stellata ¹⁴
BHPBIO (2000) Yandi Priority Flora Species Survey	Within the Yandi study area and surrounds	July 2000 Targeted survey for flora of conservation significance	Not Recorded	Not Recorded	No Threatened or Priority Flora Goodenia nuda (P4) could not be relocated

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¹⁴ No longer listed as a Priority flora taxon

Report	Proximity to Study Area	Survey Timing & Intensity	Vegetation Associations & Landform	Taxon Summary	Significant Flora
Biota (2001) Mining Area C Rail Rare Flora Survey	40km rail corridor between MAC and Yandi	12 th - 18 th November 2001 Targeted survey for flora of conservation significance	Not Recorded	Not Recorded	No Threatened or Priority Flora Triodia biflora ¹⁵ , Triumfetta Ieptacantha ¹⁵ , Themeda sp. Mt Barricade ¹⁵ , Dicrastylis sp. ¹⁵
Biota (2003) Mining Area C Rail Corridor - Seasonal Rare Flora Survey Phase II	40km rail corridor between MAC and Yandi	21st - 31st March 2002 Targeted survey for flora of conservation significance	Not Recorded	Not Recorded	No Threatened or Priority Flora Triodia biflora ¹⁵ , Eriachne tenuiculmis ¹⁵ , Triumfetta leptacantha ¹⁵ , Themeda sp. Mt Barricade ¹⁵ , Goodenia stellata ¹⁵
Ecologia Environment (2003a) Yandi IOWA Conveyor: Rare and Priority Flora Survey	Within the Yandi study area and surrounds	27 th March and 19 th - 21 st May 2003 Targeted survey for flora of conservation significance	Not Recorded	174 taxa ¹⁶	No Threatened or Priority Flora Olearia fluvialis ¹⁵ , Themeda sp. Mt Barricade ¹⁵
Ecologia Environment (2003b) Yandi IOWA Conveyor - Amendment to Rare and Priority Flora Survey	Within the Yandi study area and surrounds	8 th August 2003 Targeted survey for <i>Olearia</i> <i>fluvialis</i>	Not Recorded	Not Recorded	No Threatened or Priority Flora Olearia fluvialis ¹⁵
Maunsell (2003) Yandi Life of Mine Flora and Fauna	Within and surrounding the Yandi the study area	23 rd - 28 th September 2003 Targeted survey for flora of conservation significance	Not Recorded	5 weed species; *Acetosa vesicaria, *Argemone ochroleuca, *Bidens bipinnata, *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Sisymbrium orientale	No Threatened or Priority Flora Olearia fluvialis ¹⁵ , Goodenia stellata ¹⁵

No longer listed as a Priority flora taxon
 As the survey was targeting DRF and Priority flora some common species may not have been recorded

Report	Proximity to Study Area	Survey Timing & Intensity	Vegetation Associations & Landform	Taxon Summary	Significant Flora
Ecologia Environment (2004) Yandi Stockyard and Overland Conveyor Fauna and Flora Assessment	Within and surrounding the Yandi the study area	18 th -19 th October 2004	2 vegetation associations	Not Recorded	No Threatened Flora Isotropis parvifolia (P2) ¹⁷
Maunsell (2004) Yandi Flora and Vegetation Survey Lease M47 292 and E4 Drill Lines	To the north of the Yandi study area	15 th -16 th December 2003 Targeted searches for flora of conservation significance	7 vegetation associations	Not Recorded	No Threatened or Priority Flora Olearia fluvialis ¹⁸
Ecologia Environment (2006) Yandi Rail Corridor DRF and Priority Flora Assessment	To the north of the study area	19 th -20 th May 2006 Targeted searches for flora of conservation significance	6 vegetation associations	131 taxa, 37 families, 84 genera, 7 weeds; *Bidens bipinnata, *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Sonchus oleraceus, *Malvastrum americanum, *Acetosa vesicaria, *Solanum nigrum and *Citrullus lanatus	No Threatened or Priority Flora
Ecologia Environment (2007b) Yandi Mine Extension RGP5 EIA Flora Survey Interim Report Post Phase 1 Survey	Within the Yandi study area and surrounds	13 th - 20 th November 2007	Not recorded	212 taxa, 38 families, 93 genera, 4 weed species; *Argemone ochroleuca subsp. ochroleuca, *Sonchus oleraceus, *Malvastrum americanum and *Cenchrus ciliaris	No Threatened or Priority Flora One species of interest: <i>Sida</i> sp.

Originally recorded as *Isotropis winneckei* No longer listed as a Priority flora taxon

Report	Proximity to Study Area	Survey Timing & Intensity	Vegetation Associations & Landform	Taxon Summary	Significant Flora
Ecologia Environment (2008) Two Phase Assessment of the Flora and Vegetation of the Proposed Marillana Creek (Yandi) Mine Extension Areas RGP5- KBR	Within the Yandi study area and surrounds	13 th - 19 th November 2007 and 10 th - 17 th March 2008 119 quadrats	10 vegetation associations	333 taxa, 52 families, 138 genera, 9 weed species: *Argemone ochroleuca, *Malvastrum americanum, *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Sonchus oleraceus, *Aerva javanica, *Bidens bipinnata, *Cucumis melo subsp. agrestis, *Cynodon dactylon, *Vachellia farnesiana	No Threatened or Priority Flora Tephrosia sp. Cathedral Gorge (F.H. Mollemans 2420) ¹⁹
ENV Australia (2009a) Western 2 & Western 1 Waste Dump Flora and Assessment	Within the Yandi study area and surrounds	22 nd -23 rd September 2007 16 quadrats	7 vegetation associations	163 taxa, 36 families, 76 genera, 3 weed species; *Argemone ochroleuca, *Bidens bipinnata and *Chloris virgata	No Threatened Flora Rostellularia adscendens var. latifolia (P3)
ENV Australia (2009b) Central 3 Flora and Vegetation Assessment	~3km to the north of the Yandi study area	19 th - 24 th September 2007 9 quadrats	Six vegetation/landform types	128 taxa, 38 families, 74 genera, 4 weed species; *Acetosa vesicaria, *Solanum nigrum, *Sonchus asper ²⁰ , *Vachellia farnesiana	No Threatened or Priority Flora
ENV Australia (2009c) Western 6, 7, and 8 Flora and Vegetation Assessment	Within the Yandi study area and surrounds	22 nd - 23 rd September 2007 17 quadrats	Eight vegetation associations	133 taxa, 35 families, 76 genera, 6 weed species: *Bidens bipinnata, *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Malvastrum americanum, *Setaria verticillata, *Sonchus oleraceus, *Vachellia farnesiana	No Threatened or Priority Flora One species of interest; Hibiscus aff. gardneri
GHD (2010) Report for Yandi W1 and W4 OSA Targeted Rare and Priority Flora Survey	Within the Yandi study area and surrounds	16 th -19 th February 2010 Targeted survey for flora of conservation significance	Five vegetation associations	No species inventory, 2 weed species; *Malvastrum americanum, *Vachellia farnesiana	No Threatened or Priority Flora

 $^{^{19}}$ No longer listed as a Priority flora taxon 20 No previous collections from the Pilbara and determined to be a misidentification

Report	Proximity to Study Area	Survey Timing & Intensity	Vegetation Associations & Landform	Taxon Summary	Significant Flora
BHPBIO (2010a) Declared Rare Flora (DRF) and Priority flora search at Yandi - Proposed haul road crossing at Marillana Creek	Within the Yandi study area and surrounds	28 th September 2010	Not recorded	41 taxa, 20 families, 2 weed species: *Malvastrum americanum, *Argemone ochroleuca	No Threatened or Priority Flora
Onshore Environmental (2011) Yandi Flora and Vegetation Review	Within the Yandi study area and surrounds	9th - 16th December 2010 Targeted survey and desktop review	24 vegetation associations	452 taxa, 56 families, 178 genera, 20 weed species; *Acetosa vesicaria, *Aerva javanica, *Argemone ochroleuca subsp. ochroleuca, *Bidens bipinnata, *Cenchrus ciliaris, *Centaurea melitensis, *Chloris virgarta, *Citrullus lanatus, *Conyza bonariensis, *Cucumis melo subsp. agrestis, *Cynodon dactylon, *Latuca serriola forma serriola, *Malvastrum americanum, *Polypogon monspeliensis, *Rostaria cistata, Setaria verticillata, *Sisymbrium orientale, *Solanum nigrum, *Sonchus oleraceus, *Vachellia farnesiana	Lepidium catapycnon (P4) ²¹ , Acacia subtiliformis (P3), Rostellularia adscendens var. latifolia (P3) and Goodenia nuda (P4).
Onshore Environmental (2015c) Marillana Creek Riparian Flora and Vegetation Survey	~13 km southwest	8 th - 19 th June 2015.	22 vegetation associations	399 taxa, 186 genera, 58 families, 22 weed species	No Threatened Flora Amaranthus centralis (P3), Aristida lazaridis (P2), Goodenia nuda (P4), Goodenia sp. East Pilbara (A.A. Mitchell PRP 727) (P3), Ipomoea racemigera (P2), Rostellularia adscendens var. latifolia (P3)

²¹ Listed as DRF at the time of survey

Conservation categories for flora described under the EPBC Act.

Category	Description
Extinct	A species is extinct if there is no reasonable doubt that the last member of the species has died.
Extinct in the Wild	A species is categorised as extinct in the wild if it is only known to survive in cultivations, in captivity, or as a naturalised population well outside its past range; or if it has not been recorded in its known/expected habitat, at appropriate seasons, anywhere in its past range, despite exhaustive surveys over a time frame appropriate to its life cycle and form.
Critically Endangered	The species is facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild and in the immediate future.
Endangered	The species is likely to become extinct unless the circumstances and factors threatening its abundance, survival, or evolutionary development cease to operate; or its numbers have been reduced to such a critical level, or its habitats have been so drastically reduced, that it is in immediate danger of extinction.
Vulnerable	Within the next 25 years, the species is likely to become endangered unless the circumstances and factors threatening its abundance, survival or evolutionary development cease to operate.
Conservation Dependent	The species is the focus of a specific conservation program, the cessation of which would result in the species becoming vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered within a period of 5 years.

Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora.

T: Threatened (Declared Rare) Flora - Extant Taxa

Taxa which have been adequately searched for, and are deemed to be in the wild either rare, in danger of extinction, or otherwise in need of special protection, and have been gazetted as such.

1: Priority One - Poorly Known Taxa

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, e.g. 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 localities but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and appear to be under immediate threat from known threatening processes. Such species are in urgent need of further survey.

2: Priority Two - Poorly Known Taxa

Species that are known from one or a few collections (generally five or less), some of which are on lands managed primarily for nature conservation, e.g. 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 localities but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and appear to be under threat from known threatening processes. Such species are in urgent need of further survey.

3: Priority Three - Poorly Known Taxa

Species that are known from collections or sight records from several localities not under imminent threat, or from few but widespread localities 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 localities but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and known threatening processes exist that could affect them. Such species are in need of further survey.

4: Priority Four - Rare, Near Threatened and other taxa 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 taxa are usually represented on conservation lands.
- (b) Near Threatened. Species that are considered to have been adequately surveyed and that do not qualify for Conservation Dependent, but that are close to qualifying for Vulnerable.
- (c) Species that have been removed from the list of threatened species during the past five years for reasons other than taxonomy.

Records for conservation significant species recorded from the study area

Genus	Species	Infra Rank	Infra Name	Easting m	Northing m	MGA Zone
Eremophila	magnifica	subsp.	magnifica	729900	7492030	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			731702	7493232	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			731702	7493232	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			731702	7493232	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			726926	7493360	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			726902	7493337	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			726887	7493331	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			726923	7493343	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			726971	7493452	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			726987	7493485	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			727168	7493131	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			735465	7488166	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			735466	7488160	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			735457	7488157	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			735476	7488155	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			735483	7488155	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			735493	7488138	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			735488	7488129	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			735486	7488125	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			735485	7488136	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			735485	7488142	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			735493	7488135	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			735502	7488127	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			735508	7488121	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			735547	7488163	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			728953	7490555	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			728968	7490530	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			728963	7490529	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			728983	7490539	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			729303	7490411	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			726916	7493337	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			731717	7493254	50
Synostemon	hamersleyensis			735427	7488195	50

Records for introduced weed species recorded from the study area

Genus	Species	Easting m	Northing m	MGA Zone
Aerva	javanica	724072	7500791	50
Aerva	javanica	728329.8866	7495313.347	50
Aerva	javanica	728515.9997	7494567.001	50
Aerva	javanica	737883.9997	7490825.999	50
Argemone	ochroleuca	738195.9914	7490513.543	50
Argemone	ochroleuca	738346.3331	7490265.619	50
Argemone	ochroleuca	739022.9998	7488299	50
Bidens	bipinnata	726915.9998	7493337.001	50
Bidens	bipinnata	727054.3345	7493551.746	50
Bidens	bipinnata	727115	74935717	50
Bidens	bipinnata	727167	7493290	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	724273	7501345	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	724404.0008	7500888.001	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	724469.0001	7500620	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	724521	7501809	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	724543.5041	7501041.993	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	724543.5041	7501498	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	724575	7501033	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	725317.9993	7500096.001	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	725317.9993	7495238	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris ciliaris	726121.9996	7499780.001	50
Cenchrus		726533.0001	7497345	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	726999.9991	7498336	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	727815.9995	7499390.999	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	728026.9993	7496468.001	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	728183.0003	7497310.001	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	728515.9997	7494567.001	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	728974.793	7496032.999	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	730189.0006	7495124	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	730574	7490333	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	731255.9997	7496625	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	733079.0007	7494818.999	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	733115.999	7492633.001	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	733255.56	7492786.952	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	733300.0005	7491506.999	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	734484.999	7492939.001	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	734857.9991	7486776.001	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	735337.0005	7487388.999	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	735426.9997	7488195.001	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	735603.0005	7492113.001	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	735647.0513	7493001.444	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	735686.9997	7492939	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	735750	7490954.001	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	736222.0004	7488215.001	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	736242.9996	7490560	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	736276.0009	7492359.001	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	736326.999	7487302	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	737152.999	7486061	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	737487.0008	7487958.001	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	737676.9992	7491712	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	737704.9999	7489525	50

Genus	Species	Easting m	Northing m	MGA Zone
Cenchrus	ciliaris	737883.9997	7490825.999	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	738815.0002	7490413	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	738910.222	7490166.325	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	739022.9998	7488299	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	739380	7489421	50
Cenchrus	ciliaris	739846.0001	7490112.001	50
Cenchrus	setiger	724469.0001	7500620	50
Cenchrus	setiger	735686.9997	7492939	50
Cenchrus	setiger	737676.9992	7491712	50
Cenchrus	setiger	737883.9997	7490825.999	50
Cenchrus	setiger	738815.0002	7490413	50
Cenchrus	setiger	739380	7489421	50
Cenchrus	setiger	739846.0001	7490112.001	50
Setaria	verticillata	729920	7490171	50
Sisymbrium	orientale	739022.9998	7488299	50