

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details and outcomes

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	10818/1
Permit type:	Purpose Permit
Applicant name:	Everest Metals Corporation Ltd
Application received:	24 October 2025
Application area:	10.32 hectares
Purpose of clearing:	Mineral Production and Associated Activities
Method of clearing:	Mechanical Removal
Tenure:	Mining Lease 77/515
Location (LGA area/s):	Shire of Yilgarn
Colloquial name:	Mt Dimer Taipan Gold Project

1.2. Description of clearing activities

Everest Metals Corporation Ltd proposes to clear up to 10.32 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 100.7 hectares, for the purpose of mining related infrastructure. The project is located approximately 90 kilometres in a north easterly direction from Koolyanobbing, within the Yilgarn Shire.

The application is to allow for mineral production and associated activities.

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Grant
Decision date:	16 December 2025
Decision area:	10.32 hectares of native vegetation

1.4. Reasons for decision

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

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

The assessment identified that the proposed clearing may result in:

- the potential introduction and spread of weeds into adjacent vegetation, which could impact on the quality of the adjacent vegetation and its habitat values; and
- potential direct impacts to fauna of the region

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

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

- avoid, minimise to reduce the impacts and extent of clearing;
- take hygiene steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds;
- slow one-directional clearing to allow fauna to move into adjacent vegetation ahead of the clearing activity minimising the impact to individuals.

2. Legislative context

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

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

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

Other legislation of relevance for this assessment include:

- *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (WA) (BC Act)
- *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (WA) (CALM Act)
- *Mining Act 1978* (WA)
- *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (RIWI Act)

The key guidance documents which inform this assessment are:

- *A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation* (DER, December 2014)
- *Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits* (DWER, October 2021)
- Technical guidance – *Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment* (EPA, 2016b)
- Technical guidance – *Terrestrial Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment* (EPA, 2020)

3. Detailed assessment of application

3.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

The Delegated Officer was satisfied that the applicant has made a reasonable effort to avoid and minimise potential impacts of the proposed clearing on environmental values. The proponent has outlined the following management measure to minimise impacts to native vegetation (Everest Metals Corporation Limited, 2024):

- the open pit expansion footprint is dictated by the resource location and is located over historical mined, disturbed areas with existing exploration tracks, drillhole pads;
- infrastructure and mine residue deposits are planned to be located over historical cleared and disturbed areas;
- access road is to be widened to 12 metres to allow compliance with mining haul road safety regulations;
- all trucks will be cleared of vegetation matter (seeds etc.) before entering the mining lease;
- no impact to drainage lines are planned;
- erosion management will be put into place; and
- annual monitoring, reporting and removal of invasive weeds is planned.

3.2. Assessment of impacts on environmental values

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

The Delegated Officer determined that the impacts associated with the proposed clearing would be minimal, as most of the area is already disturbed (GIS Database).

Grevillea erectiloba (Priority 4) was recorded within the application area, however, records from WAM (1998) indicate multiple additional records of this species outside the application area, including within the nearby conservation areas. Therefore, the proposed clearing is unlikely to have a significant impact on this species.

Conservation significant fauna have been recorded in nearby conservation areas which contain better quality native vegetation than that within the application area. While the application area includes vegetation associations generally suitable for *Leipoa ocellata* (malleefowl) foraging, extensive mining disturbance and soil conditions result in low suitability for mound building or foraging. As these species depend on relatively undisturbed vegetation with minimal clearing (DCCEEW, 2024), the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact this species. However, due to the presence of *Leipoa ocellata* (malleefowl) recorded within close proximity to the application area it can not be ruled out that this species may move through the application area, therefore, the implementation of slow-one directional clearing condition will be considered to allow fauna to move into adjacent vegetation ahead of the clearing activity in order to minimise the impact on individuals

The assessment against the clearing principles (Appendix B) identified the impacts of the proposed clearing are limited and able to be managed to be environmentally acceptable with the following conditions applied in line with sections 51H and 51I of the EP Act :

- avoid, minimise to reduce the impacts and extent of clearing;
- take hygiene steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds; and
- slow one-directional clearing to allow fauna to move into adjacent vegetation ahead of the clearing activity minimising the impact to individuals.

3.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The clearing permit application was advertised on 11 February 2025 by the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

There is one native title claim over the area under application (DPLH, 2025). This claim has been registered with the National Native Title Tribunal on behalf of the claimant group. The mining tenure has been granted in accordance with the future act regime of the *Native Title Act 1993* and the nature of the act (i.e. the proposed clearing activity) has been provided for in that process, therefore, the granting of a clearing permit is not a future act under the *Native Title Act 1993*.

There are no registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the application area (DPLH, 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.

It is noted that the proposed clearing may impact on *Leipoa ocellata* (malleefowl), which is a protected matter under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act). The proponent may be required to refer the project to the (Commonwealth) Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water for environmental impact assessment under the EPBC Act. The proponent is advised to contact the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water for further information regarding notification and referral responsibilities under the EPBC Act.

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 / Mining Development and Closure Proposal approved under the *Mining Act 1978*

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

End

Appendix A. Site characteristics

A.1. Site characteristics

Characteristic	Details						
Local context	The area proposed to be cleared is in the Coolgardie Bioregion (GIS Database) and is part of an expansive tract of native vegetation in the extensive land use zone of Western Australia.						
Ecological linkage	There are no formal ecological linkages within the application area (GIS Database).						
Conservation areas	Mount Manning Nature Reserve lies approximately 15 kilometres north of the application area and Mt Manning Conservation Park is situated approximately 10 kilometres west of the application area (GIS Database).						
Vegetation description	<p>The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation association: 141: <i>Eucalyptus</i> woodland (GIS Database).</p> <p>A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the application area by Plantecology Consulting during April, 2024. The following vegetation associations were recorded within the application area (Plantecology, 2024):</p> <table> <tr> <th>Vegetation Association</th><th>Description</th></tr> <tr> <td><i>Eucalyptus salmonophloia</i> – <i>Eucalyptus griffithsii</i> Woodland</td><td>Open woodland of <i>Eucalyptus salmonophloia</i> – <i>Eucalyptus griffithsii</i> over tall shrubland of <i>Acacia acuminata</i>, <i>Allocasuarina campestris</i> and <i>Santalum spicatum</i> on red clay loam flats.</td></tr> <tr> <td><i>Eucalyptus loxophleba</i> subsp. <i>loxophleba</i> Mallee Woodland</td><td>Mallee woodland of <i>Eucalyptus loxophleba</i> subsp. <i>loxophleba</i> over shrubland of <i>Acacia acuminata</i> and <i>Philotheca brucei</i> subsp. <i>brucei</i> over very sparse understorey of <i>Amphipogon</i> sp. on red clay loam flats.</td></tr> </table>	Vegetation Association	Description	<i>Eucalyptus salmonophloia</i> – <i>Eucalyptus griffithsii</i> Woodland	Open woodland of <i>Eucalyptus salmonophloia</i> – <i>Eucalyptus griffithsii</i> over tall shrubland of <i>Acacia acuminata</i> , <i>Allocasuarina campestris</i> and <i>Santalum spicatum</i> on red clay loam flats.	<i>Eucalyptus loxophleba</i> subsp. <i>loxophleba</i> Mallee Woodland	Mallee woodland of <i>Eucalyptus loxophleba</i> subsp. <i>loxophleba</i> over shrubland of <i>Acacia acuminata</i> and <i>Philotheca brucei</i> subsp. <i>brucei</i> over very sparse understorey of <i>Amphipogon</i> sp. on red clay loam flats.
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Vegetation condition	<p>The vegetation survey (Plantecology, 2024) and aerial imagery indicate most of the vegetation within the proposed clearing area is rated as 'Completely Degraded'. Disturbances were predominantly associated with mining activity and associated infrastructure (Plantecology, 2024). Locations within the survey area with intact vegetation were rated as 'Very Good' to 'Excellent' condition (Plantecology, 2024).</p> <p>The full Keighery (1994) condition rating scale is provided in Appendix C.</p>						
Climate and landform	<p>The climate of the region is semi-arid to arid (Everest Metals Corporation Ltd, 2024). The total annual rainfall recorded at Southern Cross Airfield is approximately 306.4 millimetres (BOM, 2025).</p> <p>The landform within the application is relatively flat with elevations ranging between 480 and 500 metres Australian Height Datum (mAHD) (GIS Database).</p>						
Soil description	Majority of the application area consists of level to gently undulating loamy plains with fine ironstone gravel mantles supporting dense acacia shrublands (DPIRD, 2025).						
Land degradation risk	<p>The application area falls within the Tealtoo landsystem (GIS Database, DPIRD, 2025).</p> <p>According to Waddell and Galloway (2023), both wind erosion and water erosion hazards are considered low, specifically in areas of red-brown hardpan shallow loam soil within the Tealtoo system.</p>						
Waterbodies	<p>There are no permanent water courses or waterbodies within the application area (GIS Database).</p> <p>The nearest non-perennial unnamed lake is situated approximately seven kilometres in a northwest direction to the application area.</p>						
Hydrogeography	The application area falls within the Goldfields groundwater area which is legislated by the RIWI Act (GIS Database). The groundwater salinity is measured to be hypersaline, ranging from 20,000 to 31,000 milligrams per litre total dissolved solids (Everest Metals Corporation Ltd, 2024).						
Flora	One priority four flora species was potentially recorded during the survey in moderate numbers (Plantecology, 2024). Several Priority flora records occur within a 20 kilometre radius of the application area.						
Ecological communities	No Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) or Priority Ecological Communities (PECs) have been recorded within the application area itself (Plantecology, 2024; GIS Database). However, the buffer zones of the Finnerty Range, Mt Dimer, and Yendilberin Hills vegetation complexes - associated with banded ironstone formations - overlap the application area, which includes some remaining vegetation. These Priority One PECs are linked to banded ironstone formation (BIF) ranges (Plantecology, 2024).						
Fauna	Fauna records indicate that multiple protected fauna species have been recorded within a 20 kilometre radius of the application area (AEMCO, 2024; GIS Database). One fauna species listed as vulnerable has been recorded less than 5 kilometres from the application area (GIS Database).						

Characteristic	Details
	No sightings of this vulnerable fauna species were recorded by AEMCO (2024) during the field survey.

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>The majority of the application area has already been disturbed, with vegetation condition of most of the site rated as ‘Completely Degraded’ (Plantecology, 2024). The application area is surrounded by Nature Reserves and Conservation Parks to the north and northwest (GIS Database, Plantecology 2024), and the buffer zone for the Finnerty Range/Mt Dimer/Yendilberin Hills vegetation complexes (banded ironstone formation) intercepts much of the site, specifically the eastern half of the native vegetation stand (Plantecology, 2024). However, the native vegetation found in this buffer zone does not contain the key characteristics that define and sustain the Priority Ecological Community associated with the Finnerty Range/Mt Dimer/Yendilberin Hills vegetation complexes, and any proposed clearing is unlikely to impact the Priority Ecological Community bordering the application area.</p> <p>A potential occurrence of <i>Grevillea erectiloba</i> (Priority 4) was recorded within the application area; however, identification could not be confirmed due to sterile material. Although the species is recorded in nearby locations (Plantecology, 2024) the application area where this species was recorded, does not match its typical habitat of lateritic rises (Plantecology, 2024). Multiple records of <i>Grevillea erectiloba</i> (Priority 4) have also been recorded in the nearby conservation parks and nature reserves (WAM, 1998). Given the uncertainty of identification and habitat inconsistency, combined with multiple records of <i>Grevillea erectiloba</i> (Priority 4) found within the nearby Helena Aurora Ranges National Park, Mount Manning Conservation Park and Mount Manning Range Nature Reserve, the proposed clearing is unlikely to have a significant impact on this species.</p>	Not likely to be at variance	No
<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>No significant fauna was observed within the application area, and therefore no long-term impacts from clearing have been identified (AEMCO, 2024). While no <i>Leipoa ocellata</i> (malleefowl) were recorded during the AEMCO (2024) survey, a desktop assessment noted previous sightings in the surrounding areas to the application area, which was supported by database records. Although the application area contains vegetation associations generally suitable for malleefowl foraging, the application area is largely disturbed by mining activities. Combined with soil type and level of disturbance, the area is considered to have low suitability for mound building and foraging. Given that malleefowl require relatively undisturbed vegetation with minimal clearing (DCCEEW, 2024), it is unlikely that the proposed clearing will have significant impact on this species.</p>	Not likely to be at variance	No
<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>The area proposed to be cleared is unlikely to contain habitat for flora species listed under the BC Act.</p>	Not at variance	No
<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>There are no known Threatened Ecological Communities within the application area (Plantecology, 2024; GIS Database).</p>	Not at variance	No

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Environmental value: significant remnant vegetation and conservation areas		
<p><u>Principle (e):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The vegetation proposed to be cleared is not considered to be part of a significant ecological linkage in the local area (Plantecology, 2024, GIS database).</p> <p>Approximately 97% of the pre-European extent of this vegetation association remains uncleared at both the state and bioregional level (Government of Western Australia, 2019).</p>	Not likely to be at variance	No
<p><u>Principle (h):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>Given the distance to the nearest conservation area – Mount Manning Range Nature Reserve and the Mount Manning Conservation Park – of approximately 10 kilometres to the West and North of the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to have an impact on the environmental values of these nearby conservation areas.</p>	Not at variance	No
Environmental value: land and water resources		
<p><u>Principle (f):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>There are no permanent watercourses, drainage lines (minor or major) or wetlands within the application area (GIS Database). The proposed clearing is unlikely to impact on- or off-site hydrology and water quality.</p>	Not at variance	No
<p><u>Principle (g):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The application area falls within the Tealoo landsystem (DPIRD, 2025; GIS Database). The mapped soils are considered to have low susceptibility to both wind and water erosion (Waddell and Galloway, 2023). Noting the location of the application area and the condition of the vegetation, the proposed clearing is not likely to have an appreciable impact on land degradation.</p>	Not likely to be at variance	No
<p><u>Principle (i):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>Given no water courses, wetlands, and Public Drinking Water Sources Areas are recorded within or within close proximity to the application area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact surface or ground water quality.</p>	Not at variance	No
<p><u>Principle (j):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>Given no permanent water courses or wetlands are recorded within or close proximity to the application area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to contribute to waterlogging or increase the incidence or intensity of flooding.</p>	Not at variance	No

Appendix C. Vegetation condition rating scale

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

Considering its location, the scale below was used to measure the condition of the vegetation proposed to be cleared. This scale has been extracted from Keighery, B.J. (1994) *Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community*. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

Measuring vegetation condition for the South West and Interzone Botanical Province (Keighery, 1994)

Condition	Description
Pristine	Pristine or nearly so, no obvious signs of disturbance.
Excellent	Vegetation structure intact, with disturbance affecting individual species; weeds are non-aggressive species.
Very good	Vegetation structure altered, with obvious signs of disturbance. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by repeated fires, the presence of some more aggressive weeds, dieback, logging and/or grazing.
Good	Vegetation structure significantly altered by very obvious signs of multiple disturbances. Retains basic vegetation structure or ability to regenerate it. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by very frequent fires, the presence of some very aggressive weeds at high density, partial clearing, dieback and/or grazing.
Degraded	Basic vegetation structure severely impacted by disturbance. Scope for regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive management. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by very frequent fires, the presence of very aggressive weeds, partial clearing, dieback and/or grazing.
Completely degraded	The structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species. These areas are often described as 'parkland cleared' with the flora comprising weed or crop species with isolated native trees or shrubs.

Appendix D. Sources of information

D.1. GIS datasets

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

- 10 metre contours (DPIRD-073)
- Clearing Instruments Activities (Areas Approved to Clear) (DWER-076)
- Clearing Instruments Conditions (Areas Subject to Conditions) (DWER-077)
- Clearing Instruments Proposals (Areas Applied to Clear) (DWER-075)
- Clearing Regulations - Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046)
- Clearing Regulations - Schedule One Areas (DWER-057)
- DBCA - Lands of Interest (DBCA-012)
- DBCA - Legislated Lands and Waters (DBCA-011)
- DBCA Fire History (DBCA-060)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- Local Government Area (LGA) Boundaries (LGATE-233)
- Localities (LGATE-234)
- Native Title (Determination) (LGATE-066)
- Native Title (Fed Court) (LGATE-005)
- Native Title (NNTT) (LGATE-004)
- Native Vegetation Extent (DPIRD-005)
- Pre-European Vegetation (DPIRD-006)
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (DWER-033)
- Regional Parks (DBCA-026)
- Reserves (LGATE-227)
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas (DWER-034)
- RIWI Act, Surface Water Areas and Irrigation Districts (DWER-037)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Best Available (DPIRD-027)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Project Areas (DPIRD-070)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Rangelands (DPIRD-063)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Soil Sites (DPIRD-071)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Systems (DPIRD-064)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Western Australia attributed by WA Soil Group (DPIRD-076)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Zones (DPIRD-017)
- Townsites (LGATE-248)
- WA Now Aerial Imagery
- WRIMS - Groundwater Areas (DWER-085)

Restricted GIS Databases used:

- Threatened and Priority Flora (TPFL)
- Threatened and Priority Flora (WAHerb)

- Threatened and Priority Fauna
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities (Buffers)

D.2. References

- The Australian Environmental and Mining Company (AEMCO) (2024) Mt Dimer – Taipan Pit Fauna Assessment Report. Prepared for Everest Metals Corporation Limited, June 2024.
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- Conservation and Land Management (CALM) (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographic Subregions in 2002. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.
- Department of Environment Regulation (DER) (2014) *A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation*. Perth. https://www.der.wa.gov.au/images/documents/your-environment/native-vegetation/Guidelines/Guide2_assessment_native_veg.pdf
- Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) (2024) National Recovery Plan for the Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*). <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/national-recovery-plan-malleefowl.pdf>
- 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 8 October 2025).
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) (2025) NRInfo Digital Mapping. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. Government of Western Australia. <https://dpiird.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=662e8cbf2def492381fc915aaf3c6a0f> (Accessed 9 October 2025).
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- Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) (2020) Technical Guidance – Terrestrial Fauna Surveys. https://www.epa.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/Policies_and_Guidance/2020.09.17%20-%20EPA%20Technical%20Guidance%20-%20Vertebrate%20Fauna%20Surveys%20-%20Final.pdf
- Everest Metals Corporation Limited (2024) Mt Dimer Taipan Gold Project Mining Proposal, Version B
- Government of Western Australia (2019) 2018 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of March 2019. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. <https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca-statewide-vegetation-statistics>
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Plantecology Consulting (2024), M77/0515 Mt Dimer Flora and Vegetation Survey. Prepared for Everest Metals Corporation Limited, June 2024.
- Waddell, P.J and Galloway P. (2023) Land systems, soils and vegetation of the southern Goldfields and Great Western Woodlands of Western Australia – Volume 1. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.
- 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 19 November 2025).

4. Glossary

Acronyms:

BC Act	<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> , Western Australia
BoM	Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Government
DAA	Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Western Australia (now DPLH)
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia (now DPIRD)
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Australian Government
DBCA	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia
DEMIRS	Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (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.