Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details and outcomes

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	10886/1
Permit type:	Purpose Permit
Applicant name:	DBNGP (WA) Nominees Pty Ltd
Application received:	10 December 2024
Application area:	0.314 hectares
Purpose of clearing:	Building supporting infrastructure for meter station
Method of clearing:	Mechanical Removal
Tenure:	Pipeline Licence 40
	Lot 5314 on Deposited Plan 220209
Location (LGA area/s):	Shire of Collie
Colloquial name:	South West Cogen Meter Station

1.2. Description of clearing activities

DBNGP (WA) Nominees Pty Ltd proposes to clear up to 0.314 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 0.314 hectares, for the purpose of building supporting infrastructure for meter station. The project is located approximately 13 kilometres northwest of Collie, within the Shire of Collie.

The application is to allow for expansion of the existing meter station to increase supply capacity to South 32's Multi Fuel Cogeneration plant (DBNGP, 2024).

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Grant
Decision date:	11 March 2025
Decision area:	0.314 hectares of native vegetation

1.4. Reasons for decision

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

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

The assessment identified that the proposed clearing may result in:

- the potential introduction and spread of weeds and dieback into adjacent vegetation, which could impact on the quality of the adjacent vegetation and its habitat values; and
- permanent loss of native vegetation.

After consideration of the available information, as well as the applicant's minimisation and mitigation measures (see 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 and dieback; and
- retain cleared vegetation and topsoil and respread this on a cleared area within 12 months of clearing to ensure native vegetation is not permanently lost.

1.5. Site map

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

Figure 1. Map of the application area. The yellow area indicates the area within which conditional authorised clearing can occur under the granted clearing permit.

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 (see Section 1.4), the Delegated Officer has also had regard to the objects and principles under section 4A of the EP Act, particularly:

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

Other legislation of relevance for this assessment include:

- *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (WA) (BC Act)
- *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (WA) (CALM Act)
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act)
- *Mining Act 1978* (WA)
- *The Petroleum Pipelines Act 1969* (WA)

The key guidance documents which inform this assessment are:

- *A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation* (DER, December 2014)
- *Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits* (DWER, October 2021)

3. Detailed assessment of application

3.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

The Permit Holder stated that the proposal is designed to avoid environmental impacts, including clearing native vegetation, where possible. Potential impacts have primarily been avoided through the design of the infrastructure during the planning phase of the proposal. The proposed clearing area is largely already cleared around the gas facilities, therefore it is of limited value to native fauna (DBNGP, 2024).

The existing DBNGP Environmental Plan is in place to manage and minimise the potential impacts associated with vegetation clearing and construction of the proposal. This includes direct and indirect impacts to the environment associated with weeds, increased dust deposition, contamination of surface or groundwater, increased erosion, and impacts to heritage (DBNGP, 2024).

The Delegated Officer was satisfied that the applicant has made a reasonable effort to avoid and minimise potential impacts of the proposed clearing on environmental values.

3.2. Assessment of impacts on environmental values

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

The assessment against the clearing principles (see Appendix C) identified the impacts of the proposed clearing are limited and able to be managed to be environmentally acceptable with standard avoid and minimise, hygiene, and non-standard restricted clearing management conditions.

3.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The clearing permit application was advertised on 14 February 2025 by the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

The permit area is within the South West Native Title Settlement area (DPLH, 2025). This settlement resolves Native Title rights and interests over an area of approximately 200,000 square kilometres within the south west of Western Australia. 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.

Other relevant authorisations required for the proposed land use include:

- An Environment Plan approved under the *Petroleum Pipelines Act 1969*.

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. Additional information provided by applicant

Summary of comments	Consideration of comment
The Assessing Officer requested further information about the results of the inspection in regard to the presence of quenda in the application area, as well as the presence of suitable foraging trees for black cockatoos present in the application area.	The Permit Holder provided an updated version of the memorandum prepared by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd (2025) including conclusions of potential impacts to quendas and presence of foraging trees for black cockatoos. These impacts have been assessed under principle (b).

Appendix B. Site characteristics

B.1. Site characteristics

Characteristic	Details
Local context	The area proposed to be cleared is part of a 9 hectare isolated patch of native vegetation in the intensive land use zone of Western Australia. It is surrounded by small patches of native vegetation, and it is adjacent to the Worsley Alumina Refinery (GIS Database).
Ecological linkage	The application area is not located within any known or formal ecological linkages. However, based on aerial imagery, the application area can connect to a larger expanse of native vegetation (GIS Database).
Conservation areas	The application area is located within the Harris River State Forest which is legislated by the *CALM Act 1984* (GIS Database).
Vegetation description	The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following South West forest region of Western Australia: **Dwellingup, D1 (78)**: Open forest of *Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata-Corymbia calophylla* on lateritic uplands in mainly humid and subhumid zones (GIS Database). A site inspection was conducted over the application area by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd during September, 2024. The residual occurrence of a few species on the proposed clearing areas on the boundaries of the gas pipeline would not constitute a native vegetation association (Mattiske, 2025).
Vegetation condition	The site inspection (Mattiske, 2025) and aerial imagery indicate the vegetation within the proposed clearing area is in completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition. The full Keighery (1994) condition rating scale is provided in Appendix D. Representative photos are available in Appendix E.
Climate and landform	The application area is located within a winter dominant zone which is marked wet winters and dry summers (BoM, 2016), with an annual average rainfall (Collie) of 925.7 millimetres (BoM, 2025).
Soil description	The soils mapped within the application area are listed as duplex sandy gravel, loamy gravel, deep sandy gravel, and shallow gravel (DPIRD, 2025).
Land degradation risk	The land degradation risk of the application area has been mapped by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) and have been described in Appendix B.3 (DPIRD, 2025).
Waterbodies	The desktop assessment and aerial imagery indicated that no watercourses transect the area proposed to be cleared (GIS Database).
Hydrogeography	The application area does not fall within any legislated groundwater areas, but it falls within the Collie River Irrigation District legislated by the RIWI Act 1914-. The mapped groundwater salinity is 500-1,000 milligrams per litre total dissolved solids which is described as marginal (GIS Database).
Flora	There are no records of Threatened or Priority flora species within the application area (Mattiske, 2025; GIS Database).
Ecological communities	The application area does is not located within any known or mapped Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities (GIS Database).
Fauna	There are no known records of any Threatened or Priority fauna species within the application area (Mattiske, 2025; GIS Database).

B.2. Vegetation extent

	Pre-European area (ha)	Current extent (ha)	Extent remaining (%)	Current extent in all DBCA managed land (ha)	Current extent in all DBCA Managed Land (proportion of pre-European extent) (%)

IBRA Bioregion* - Jarrah Forest	4,506,660	2,399,838	~53	1,673,614	~37
Southwest Forest vegetation complex					
Dwellingup	208,491	181,039	~87	13,937	~7

*Government of Western Australia (2019a)
Government of Western Australia (2019b)

B.3. Land degradation risk table

Risk categories	*Land Unit 1*
Wind erosion	H2: 95% of the map unit has a high to extreme hazard
Water erosion	L1: 1% of the map unit has a very high to extreme hazard
Salinity	L1: 0% of the map unit has a moderate hazard or is presently saline
Subsurface Acidification	H2: 100% of the map unit has a high susceptibility
Flood risk	L1: 0% of the map unit has a moderate to high hazard
Water logging	L1: 1% of the map unit has a moderate to very high risk
Phosphorus export risk	M1: 10-30% of the map unit has a high to extreme hazard

(DPIRD, 2025)

Appendix C. Assessment against the clearing principles

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Environmental value: biological values		
Principle (a): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biodiversity."* Assessment: There are no records of Priority flora, fauna, or Ecological Communities within the application area (Mattiske, 2025; GIS Database). The site inspection conducted by Mattiske (2025) recorded seven introduced species in the application area. The application area is located within a mapped dieback risk zone. Weeds and dieback have the potential to significantly change the dynamics of a natural ecosystem and lower the biodiversity of an area. Potential impacts to the biodiversity as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a weed and dieback management condition.	Not likely to be at variance	No
Principle (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."* Assessment: The application area is largely cleared already around the gas facilities and therefore is of limited value to native fauna. There was no evidence of foraging by Black Cockatoos on the planted interstate *Eucalyptus resinifera* trees (Mattiske, 2025). No other suitable foraging habitat occurs within the application area (Appendix E, GIS database). Although quenda species may utilise the application area, there was no evidence of usage in the area and given the general lack of understorey species, any usage would be minimal or short term and transitory in nature. The proposed clearing of 0.314 hectares of clearing is unlikely to impact the quenda (Mattiske, 2025).	Not likely to be at variance	No
Principle (c): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora."* Assessment: The area proposed to be cleared does not contain any records of Threatened flora species and is unlikely to contain habitat for Threatened flora species (Mattiske, 2025; GIS Database).	Not likely to be at variance	No
Principle (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."* Assessment:	Not likely to be at variance	No

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
The area proposed to be cleared does not contain vegetation that can indicate a threatened ecological community (Mattiske, 2025; GIS Database).		
Environmental value: significant remnant vegetation and conservation areas		
Principle (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."* Assessment: The application area falls within the Jarrah Forest Bioregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (GIS Database). Over 53 per cent of the pre-European vegetation still exists in the Jarrah Forest Bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2019a). The application area is broadly mapped as the Dwellingup Southwest Forest vegetation complex (GIS Database). This vegetation complex has not been extensively cleared as over 87 per cent of the pre-European extent of this vegetation association remains uncleared at both the state and bioregional level (Government of Western Australia, 2019b). Although, the vegetation around the application area could potentially form part of an ecological linkage, the vegetation condition within the application area is completely degraded due to the development of a meter station in the area. Due to the small scale of the proposed clearing and the disturbance of the application area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact an ecological linkage.	Not likely to be at variance	No
Principle (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."* Assessment: The application area is located within the Harris River State Forest (GIS Database). However, given the completely degraded condition of the vegetation, the high level of disturbance already present in the State Forest, and the small scale of the clearing, the proposed clearing is not likely to have a significant impact on the environmental values of the Harris River State Forest.	Not likely to be at variance	No
Environmental value: land and water resources		
Principle (f): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland."* Assessment: Given no water courses or wetlands are recorded within the application area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact vegetation growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland (GIS Database).	Not likely to be at variance	No
Principle (g): *"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation."* Assessment: The soils mapped within the application area are highly susceptible to wind erosion and subsurface acidification (DPIRD, 2025). The proposed clearing is only likely to impact the topsoil and it is not likely to increase the subsurface acidification risk. Noting the location of the application area and the completely degraded condition of the vegetation, the proposed clearing is not likely to have an appreciable impact on land degradation (Mattiske, 2025; GIS Database).	Not likely to be at variance	No
Principle (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."* Assessment: Given no water courses, wetlands or Public Drinking Water Source Areas are recorded within the application area (GIS Database), the proposed clearing is unlikely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.	Not likely to be at variance	No
Principle (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."* Assessment:	Not likely to be at variance	No

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Given no water courses or wetlands are recorded within the application area (GIS Database), the proposed clearing is unlikely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.		

Appendix D. 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 E. Photographs of the vegetation

Figure 1. Planted *Eucalyptus resinifera* on road verges northwest of the current gas facilities with gas pipeline alignment behind the road plantings (Mattiske, 2025).

Figure 2. Looking westward along current gas pipeline; note some local waterlogging (Mattiske, 2025).

Figure 3. Looking eastwards along current gas pipeline alignment towards the current gas facility (Mattiske, 2025).

Figure 4. Looking south-eastwards from gas pipeline towards southwest corner of the current gas facility (Mattiske, 2025).

Figure 5. Looking southwards along eastern fringes of the current gas facility (Mattiske, 2025).

Figure 6. Stands of *Acacia saligna* on eastern sides of the current gas facility (Mattiske, 2025).

Figure 7. Looking north along eastern fringes of the current gas facility (Mattiske, 2025).

Figure 8. Large *Corymbia calophylla* (left of *Eucalyptus resinifera*) on the north-eastern corner of proposed clearing area on eastern side – flagged to avoid during clearing activities (Mattiske, 2025).

Appendix F. Sources of information

F.1. GIS databases

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

- Aboriginal Heritage Places (DPLH-001)
- 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)
- Esri World Imagery
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide (DWER-026)
- Hydrographic Catchments – Catchments (DWER-028)
- Hydrography – Inland Waters – Waterlines
- Hydrography, Linear (DWER-031)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- Native Title (ILUA) (LGATE-067)
- Pre-European Vegetation (DPIRD-006)
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas (DWER-034)
- RIWI Act, Surface Water Areas and Irrigation Districts (DWER-037)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Flood Risk (DPIRD-007)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Phosphorus Export Risk (DPIRD-010)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Subsurface Acidification Risk (DPIRD-011)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Water Erosion Risk (DPIRD-013)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Water Repellence Risk (DPIRD-014)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Waterlogging Risk (DPIRD-015)
- Soil Landscape Land Quality – Wind Erosion Risk (DPIRD-016)
- Soil Landscape Mapping – Best Available (DPIRD-027)
- Soil Landscape Mapping – Rangelands (DPIRD-064)
- WA Now Aerial Imagery

Restricted GIS Databases used:

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

F.2. References

Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) (2016) Bureau of Meteorology Website – Climate classification maps. Bureau of Meteorology. http://www.bom.gov.au/jsp/ncc/climate_averages/climate-classifications/ (Accessed 17 February 2025).

Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) (2025) Bureau of Meteorology Website – Climate Data Online, Collie. Bureau of Meteorology. https://reg.bom.gov.au/climate/data/ (Accessed 17 February 2025).

DBNGP (WA) Nominees Pty Ltd (DBNGP) (2024) Clearing permit application form, CPS 10886/1, received 10 December 2024.

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 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 18 February 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://dpird.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=662e8cbf2def492381fc915aaf3c6a0f (Accessed 17 February 2025).

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

Government of Western Australia (2019a) 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

Government of Western Australia. (2019b) 2018 South West Vegetation Complex Statistics. Current as of March 2019. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Perth, https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca

Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd (Mattiske) (2025) MEMORANDUM: Proposed Expansion Area associated with the Gas Facility to the south of the South 32 Collie Refinery.

4. Glossary

Acronyms:

BC Act	*Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016,* Western Australia
BoM	Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Government
DAA	Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Western Australia (now DPLH)
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia (now DPIRD)

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

T **Threatened species:**

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:

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:

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.

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.