

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details and outcomes

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	11093/3
Permit type:	Purpose permit
Applicant name:	Mt Magnet Gold Pty Ltd
Application received:	17 June 2026
Application area:	950 hectares
Purpose of clearing:	Mineral production and associated activities
Method of clearing:	Mechanical removal
Tenure:	General Purpose Lease 58/8 Mining Leases 58/30, 58/60, 58/78, 58/79, 58/80, 58/81, 58/119, 58/120, 58/121, 58/136, 58/147, 58/173, 58/174, 58/180, 58/186, 58/187, 58/192, 58/193, 58/194, 58/201, 58/205, 58/210, 58/233, 58/273 and 58/375
Location (LGA area):	Shire of Mount Magnet
Colloquial name:	Mount Magnet Project

1.2. Description of clearing activities

Mt Magnet Gold Pty Ltd (MMG) proposes to clear up to 950 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 2,670 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities (MMG, 2026b; Ramelius Resources, 2026). The project is located approximately 400 metres from Mount Magnet, within the Shire of Mount Magnet (GIS Database).

The application is to allow for the construction of a tailings storage facility (TSF) to the north west of the existing TSF, by amending the permit to allow the removal of 98 individuals of Priority 3 flora species *Acacia burrowsiana* within the proposed TSF footprint (MMG, 2026b).

Clearing permit CPS 11093/1 was granted by the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE) on 4 November 2025 and was valid from 27 November 2025 to 26 November 2030. The permit authorised the clearing of up to 950 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 2,658 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities.

Clearing permit CPS 11093/2 was granted on 30 April 2026, to increase the permit boundary to approximately 2,670 hectares (increase of 12 hectares), add Mining Lease 58/375 to Condition 1 of the permit, and fix the administrative error of not including General Purpose Lease 58/8 on Condition 1 of the permit. The area of authorised clearing remained unchanged. To date, a total of 11.09 hectares has been cleared under CPS 11093 (Ramelius Resources, 2026).

On 17 June 2026, the permit holder applied to amend CPS 11093/2 to:

- amend Condition 12 (flora management) of the permit to allow the clearing of identified *Acacia burrowsiana*, amend the condition to cover the area that was not surveyed in the 2026 targeted flora survey (Botanica, 2026), and amend the requirement of the condition to conduct a targeted survey for the presence of *Alyxia tetanifolia* and *Ptilotus beardii* species only; and
- remove Condition 13 (flora management) from the permit.

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Grant
Decision date:	1 October 2026
Decision area:	950 hectares of native vegetation

1.4. Reasons for decision

This clearing permit application was submitted, accepted, assessed, and determined in accordance with sections 51KA(1) and 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE) advertised the application for 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 E), supporting information provided by the applicant (Appendix A) including the results of a flora and vegetation survey (Appendix D), 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). A revised assessment against the clearing principles confirmed that no changes to the original assessments were required.

The Delegated Officer decided to grant the clearing permit with the existing management conditions, noting the following:

- amending Condition 12 (flora management) to require surveying the remainder of the application area not covered by the Botanica (2026) targeted survey for the presence of priority flora. However, the Delegated Officer determined that the requested amendment to Condition 12 to allow the survey to target the presence of *Alyxia tetanifolia* (Priority 3) and *Ptilotus beardii* (Priority 3) rather than all priority flora, will not be accepted; and
- retain Condition 13 (flora management).

The assessment remains unchanged from that for CPS 11093/2. The Delegated Officer determined the proposed amendments to Condition 12 (flora management) from clearing permit CPS 11093/2 are not likely to lead to an unacceptable risk to environmental values.

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
- the polluter pays principle

Other legislation of relevance for this assessment include:

- *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (WA) (BC Act)
- *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (WA) (CALM Act)
- *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947* (WA) (CAWS Act)
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act)
- *Mining Act 1978* (WA)

The key guidance documents which inform this assessment are:

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

3. Assessment of application

3.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

Supporting documentation provided by MMG for the application of CPS 11093/1 and 11093/2 indicated acceptable avoidance and mitigation measures. No further avoidance and mitigation measures have been provided by the applicant for CPS 11093/3, as the area of authorised clearing and permit boundary remained unchanged from CPS 11093/2. 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

A review of current environmental information (Appendix B) reveals that the assessment against the clearing principles has not changed significantly from the clearing permit decision report CPS 11093/2.

Amendments related to Condition 12

A targeted survey was conducted over a portion of the application area covering 924 hectares by Botanica (2026) on 15 February and 5 March 2026 to comply with Condition 12 (flora management) of CPS 11093/2. The survey recorded 109 individuals of *Acacia burrowsiana* (Priority 3), and of which 98 individuals occur within the application area (Appendix D; Botanica, 2026). The applicant is proposing to clear these 98 individuals (MMG, 2026a).

Acacia burrowsiana appears to be more common than previously determined. Botanica (2026) identified that the species has an Extent of Occurrence (EOO) of 23,770 square kilometres and an Area of Occupancy (AOO) of 50 square kilometres (Ramelius Resources, 2026). Additionally, the species is known from 28 locations in the Murchison and Gascoyne Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) regions, across three IBRA subregions (WAH, 1998-). Two of the known local populations are within DBCA managed land (Botanica, 2026). Eleven individuals recorded by Botanica (2026) are outside of the application area. The clearing of these 98 *Acacia burrowsiana* individuals within the application area will affect this species on a local level, however, it is not likely to have significant species level impacts (Botanica, 2025; 2026; WAH, 1998-).

Condition 12 can therefore be amended to require surveying the remainder of the application area not covered by the Botanica (2026) targeted survey for the presence of priority flora. However, the Delegated Officer determined that the requested amendment to Condition 12 to allow the survey to target the presence of *Alyxia tetanifolia* (Priority 3) and *Ptilotus beardii* (Priority 3), rather than all priority flora, would not be accepted. This is due to the insufficient survey intensity of the flora and vegetation survey over the application area conducted by Botanica (2025) in May, November and December 2024. The sampling intensity equated to one quadrat for approximately every 210 hectares (Botanica, 2025), which is considered to be low effort for the purpose of a detailed survey (EPA, 2016). Additionally, 109 conservation significant flora individuals being recorded in the Botanica (2026) survey highlights the insufficiency of the survey intensity used in Botanica (2025), which resulted in many individuals not being recorded.

Amendments related to Condition 13

Within the application area, the survey undertaken by Botanica (2025) recorded 19 *Acacia burrowsiana* individuals, 100 *Alyxia tetanifolia* individuals and 100 *Ptilotus beardii* individuals (Appendix D). Of these, 10 *Acacia burrowsiana* individuals, all 100 *Alyxia tetanifolia* individuals and all 100 *Ptilotus beardii* individuals are within the application area (Botanica, 2025). However, the remaining nine records of *Acacia burrowsiana* recorded within the Botanica (2025) survey area are located within the adjacent clearing permit CPS 7445/2, which is active until 31 January 2028, and these *Acacia burrowsiana* locations are not protected under that permit (DMIRS, 2022; GIS Database).

The applicant is not proposing to clear the *Acacia burrowsiana*, *Alyxia tetanifolia* and *Ptilotus beardii* individuals recorded within the Botanica (2025) survey within the permit boundary (MMG, 2026a). None of these individuals are within the proposed TSF footprint.

The requested amendment to remove Condition 13 and address avoidance in Condition 12 will not be amended, as Condition 13 does not refer to the individuals recorded during the 2025 Botanica survey (Botanica, 2025). Condition 13 will therefore be retained.

3.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The amendment application was advertised on 24 July 2026 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 (WCD2015/001 – Badimia People) over the area under application (DPLH, 2026). This claim has been determined by the Federal Court 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 eight registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance (Place 4417, Place 4450, Place 4453, Place 5276, Place 15768, Place 15769, Place 15776 and Place 18155) within the application area (DPLH, 2026). 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 western spiny-tailed skink (*Egernia stokesii badia*; VU), southern whiteface (*Aphelocephala leucopsis*; VU) and malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*; VU), which are protected matters 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 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. Additional information provided by applicant

Summary of comments	Consideration of comment
Additional information was requested from the applicant regarding which individuals from the Botanica (2025) and Botanica (2026) surveys are proposed to be cleared. On 22 September 2026, the applicant confirmed that: - no individuals recorded in the Botanica (2025) survey are proposed to be cleared; and 98 <i>Acacia burrowsiana</i> individuals recorded in the Botanica (2026) survey are proposed to be cleared in this amendment (MMG, 2026a).	This information is considered in the assessment of principles (a) and (b), and as part of Section 3.2.

Appendix B. Site characteristics

B.1. Site characteristics

Characteristic	Details
Flora	There are no records of threatened flora species within the application area or local surrounds (20 kilometres) (Botanica, 2025; GIS Database). Four priority flora species were recorded within the application area; <i>Acacia lapidosa</i> (P1), <i>Alyxia tetanifolia</i> (P3), <i>Ptilotus beardii</i> (P3) and <i>Acacia burrowsiana</i> (P3) (Botanica, 2025; 2026; WAH, 1998-). Mapping of conservation significant flora recorded is provided in Appendix D (Botanica, 2025; 2026). The application area contains potential habitat for other conservation significant flora.
Fauna	No conservation significant fauna species have been recorded within the application area (Botanica, 2025; TE, 2025; 2026; GIS Database). Southern whiteface (<i>Aphelocephala leucopsis</i>; VU) was recorded within three kilometres of the application area by TE (2025) and is likely to occur within the application area. The application area contains potential habitat for several other conservation significant fauna.

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." <u>Assessment:</u> The area proposed to be cleared contains four priority flora species (Appendix B) as well as suitable habitat for additional priority flora species and conservation significant fauna (Botanica, 2025; 2026; TE, 2025; 2026; WAH, 1998-). A portion of the application area is mapped as the 'Austin Land System' (Priority 3) priority ecological community (PEC) (GIS Database).	At variance (as per CPS 11093/2)	Yes <i>Refer to Section 3.2, above.</i>
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." <u>Assessment:</u> The area proposed to be cleared may contain critical habitat for conservation significant fauna, including western spiny-tailed skink (<i>Egernia stokesii badia</i>) and southern whiteface (<i>Aphelocephala leucopsis</i>). Potential impacts on these species may be minimised by the continued implementation of fauna management conditions.	May be at variance (as per CPS 11093/2)	No
Principle (c): "Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora." <u>Assessment:</u> The area proposed to be cleared is unlikely to contain flora species listed under the BC Act (Botanica, 2025; GIS Database).	Not likely to be at variance (as per CPS 11093/2)	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." <u>Assessment:</u>	Not likely to be at variance (as per CPS 11093/2)	No

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
There are no known threatened ecological communities (TECs) located within or in close proximity to the application area (Botanica, 2025; GIS Database).		
Environmental value: significant remnant vegetation and conservation areas		
<u>Principle (e):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared." <u>Assessment:</u> The extent of the mapped vegetation type is consistent with the national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001; Government of Western Australia, 2019). The vegetation proposed to be cleared is not considered to be part of a significant ecological linkage in the local area (GIS Database).	Not at variance <i>(as per CPS 11093/2)</i>	No
<u>Principle (h):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area." <u>Assessment:</u> Given the distance to the nearest conservation area (approximately 38 kilometres), the proposed clearing is not likely to have an impact on the environmental values of nearby conservation areas (GIS Database).	Not likely to be at variance <i>(as per CPS 11093/2)</i>	No
Environmental value: land and water resources		
<u>Principle (f):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland." <u>Assessment:</u> The DD-AFW1 and DD-AOW1 vegetation associations grow in association with watercourses within the application area (Botanica, 2025; GIS Database). Potential impacts to riparian vegetation can be minimised by the continued implementation of a riparian vegetation condition on the permit.	At variance <i>(as per CPS 11093/2)</i>	No
<u>Principle (g):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation." <u>Assessment:</u> Most land systems mapped within the application area are moderately to highly susceptible to water erosion (DPIRD, 2026; Mabbutt et al., 1963; Payne et al., 1998; Pringle et al., 1994). The staged clearing condition will be maintained from CPS 11093/2 to utilise cleared areas within three months of conducting clearing, to prevent cleared areas from being unstable and prone to erosion for extended periods of time.	May be at variance <i>(as per CPS 11093/2)</i>	No
<u>Principle (i):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water." <u>Assessment:</u> The application intercepts areas of the Mount Magnet Water Reserve, a Public Drinking Water Source Area (GIS Database). DWER (2025) indicates that the proposed clearing is unlikely to have major impacts to water quality within this reserve, provided the applicant does not exceed the approved clearing area and all clearing activities are conducted in accordance with DWER and Department of Health guidelines. The watercourse management condition will be maintained from CPS 11093/2 to reduce likelihood of water quality deterioration at a local scale.	May be at variance <i>(as per CPS 11093/2)</i>	No
<u>Principle (j):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding." <u>Assessment:</u> The application area is intersected by several minor, non-perennial watercourses (GIS Database). As soils within the application area are susceptible to erosion when surface water flows are disrupted or vegetation cover is removed, the proposed clearing may contribute to waterlogging or increase the incidence or intensity of flooding (DPIRD, 2026; Mabbutt et al., 1963; Payne et al., 1998; Pringle et al., 1994).	May be at variance <i>(as per CPS 11093/2)</i>	No

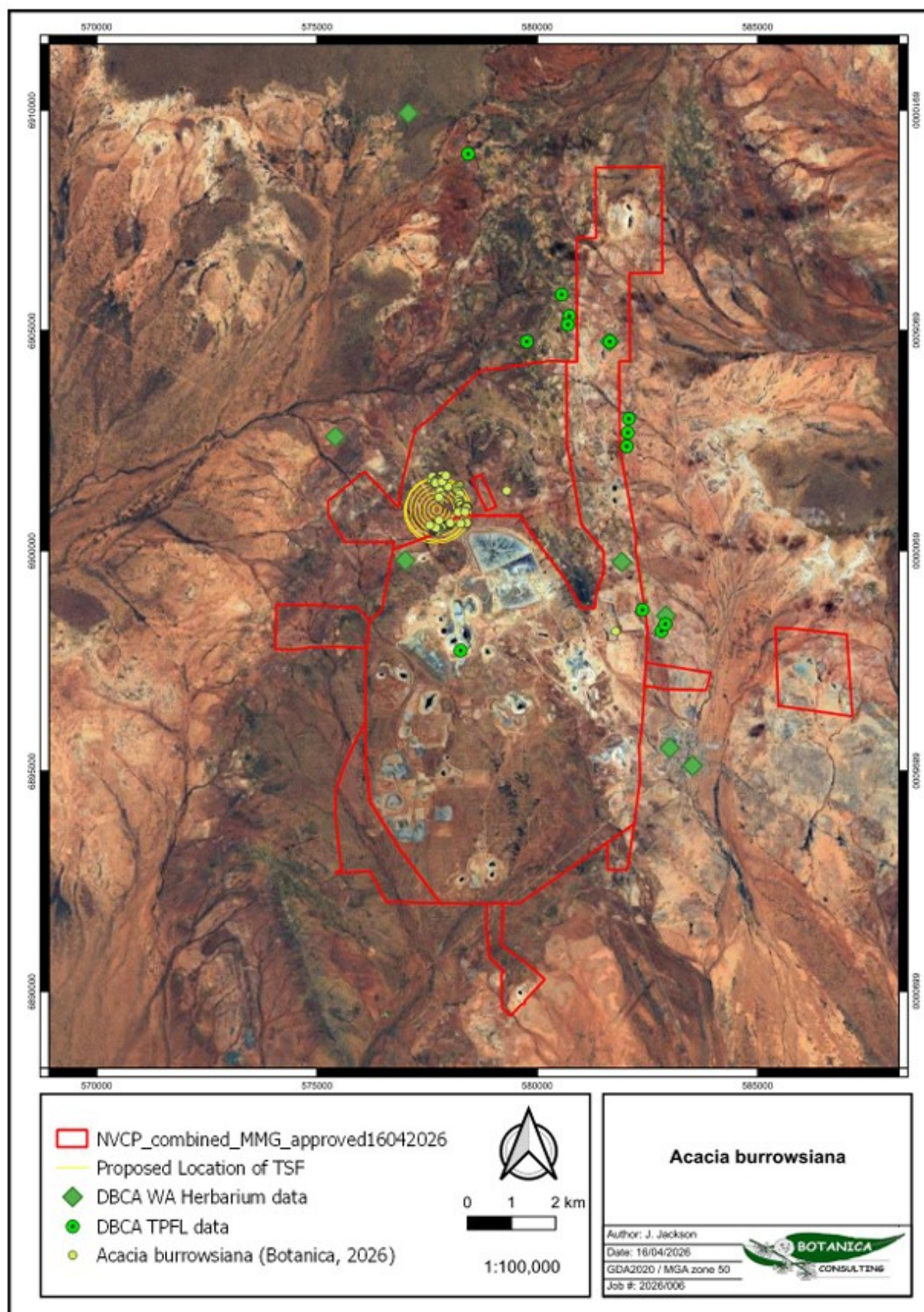


Figure 1. Locations of *Acacia burrowsiana* individuals recorded in the targeted survey by Botanica (2026) in relation to the application area and other records in surrounds (Ramelius Resources, 2026).

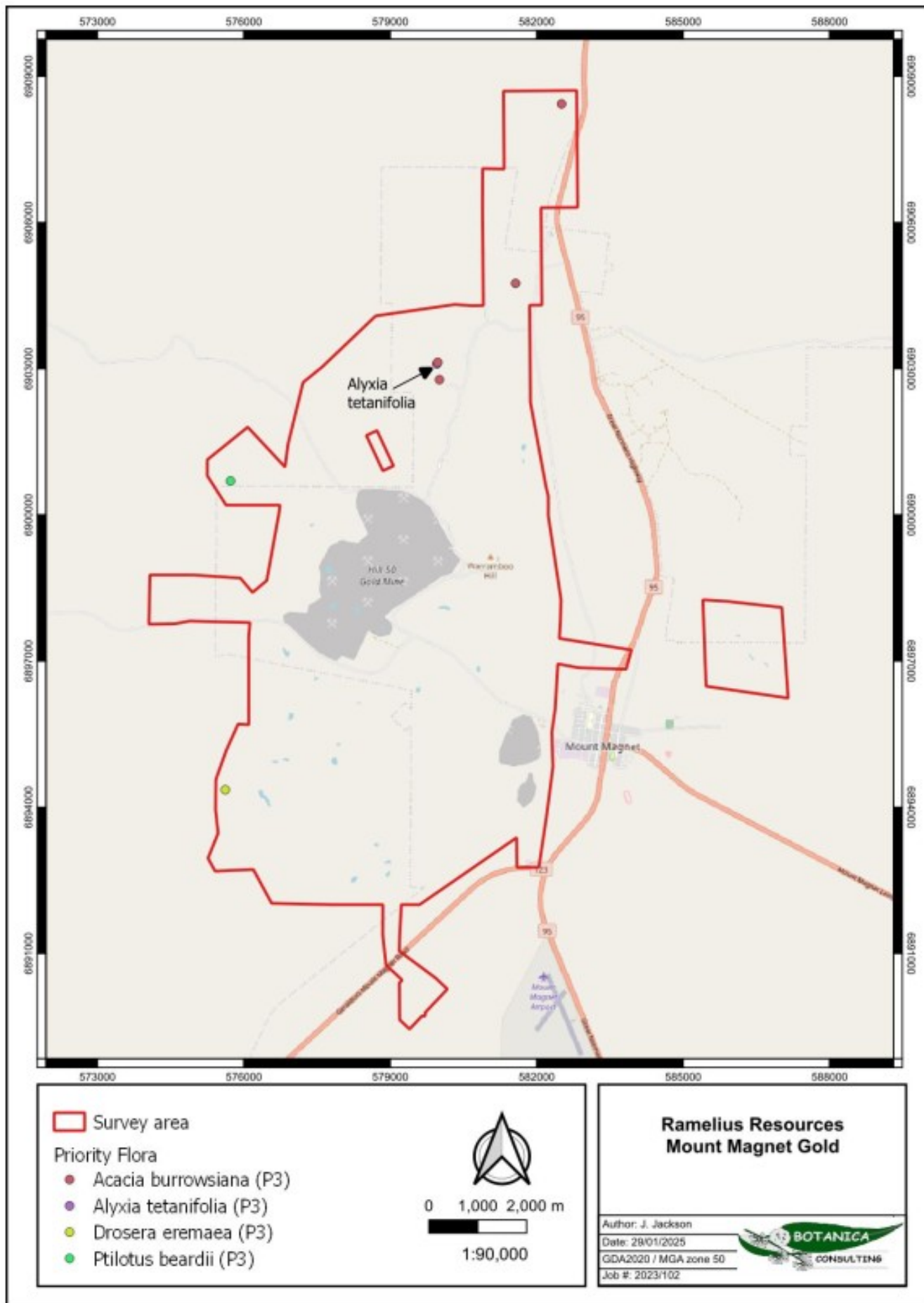


Figure 2. Locations of conservation significant flora recorded in the flora and vegetation survey by Botanica (2025). Note that *Drosera eremaea* is no longer a conservation significant species (WAH, 1998-).

Appendix E. Sources of information

E.1. GIS datasets

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

- 10 metre contours (DPIRD-073)
- Bush Forever Areas 2000 (DPLH-019)
- Cadastre (Polygon) (LGATE-217)
- CAWSA Part 2A Clearing Control Catchments (DWER-004)
- 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)
- Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia - Western Australia (DBCA-045)
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide (DWER-026)
- Hydrographic Catchments - Basins (DWER-027)
- Hydrographic Catchments - Catchments (DWER-028)
- Hydrographic Catchments - Divisions (DWER-029)
- Hydrographic Catchments - Subcatchments (DWER-030)
- Hydrological Zones of Western Australia (DPIRD-069)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- IBSA Survey Details (DWER-118)
- Local Government Area (LGA) Boundaries (LGATE-233)
- Localities (LGATE-234)
- Medium Scale Topo Contour (Line) (LGATE-015)
- Mineral Field Boundaries (DMIRS-005)
- Native Title (Determination) (LGATE-066)
- Native Title (Fed Court) (LGATE-005)
- Native Vegetation Extent (DPIRD-005)
- Pre-European Vegetation (DPIRD-006)
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (DWER-033)
- Ramsar Sites (DBCA-010)
- Regional Parks (DBCA-026)
- Reserves (LGATE-227)
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas (DWER-034)
- RIWI Act, Rivers (DWER-036)
- RIWI Act, Surface Water Areas and Irrigation Districts (DWER-037)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Best Available (DPIRD-027)
- Townsites (LGATE-248)
- WA Now Aerial Imagery
- Wild Rivers (DWER-087)

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)

E.2. References

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Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.

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- Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) (2026) Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. <https://espatial.dplh.wa.gov.au/ACHIS/index.html?viewer=ACHIS> (Accessed 14 September 2026).
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- Mt Magnet Gold Pty Ltd (MMG) (2026b) Clearing permit application form, CPS 11093/3, received 17 June 2026.
- Payne, A. L., van Vreeswyk, A. M., Leighton, K. A., Pringle, H. J. and Hennig, P. (1998) An inventory and condition survey of the Sandstone-Yalgoo-Paynes Find area, Western Australia. Technical Bulletin No. 90. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia. https://library.dpiird.wa.gov.au/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1005&context=tech_bull
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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.