



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details and outcomes

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	11220/1
Permit type:	Purpose permit
Applicant name:	Doublebell Resources Wealth Pty Ltd
Application received:	8 August 2025
Application area:	120 hectares
Purpose of clearing:	Mineral production
Method of clearing:	Mechanical removal
Tenure:	Mining Lease 63/677
Location (LGA area):	Shire of Dundas
Colloquial name:	Kaolin Project

1.2. Description of clearing activities

Doublebell Resources Wealth Pty Ltd proposes to clear up to 120 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 194 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production. The project is located approximately 33 kilometres southwest of Norseman, within the Shire of Dundas.

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Grant
Decision date:	26 February 2026
Decision area:	120 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 one submission was 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 flora and vegetation survey (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 into adjacent vegetation, which could impact on the quality of the adjacent vegetation and its habitat values;
- potential impacts to riparian vegetation and waterflows; and
- potential land degradation in the form of wind and water erosion.

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;
- avoid clearing riparian vegetation where possible; where drainage lines are impacted, maintain waterflows; and
- commence mineral production no later than three months after undertaking clearing to reduce the risk of erosion.

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)
- *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* (BAM Act)
- *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (WA) (CALM Act)
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act)
- *Mining Act 1978* (WA)
- *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (RIWI Act)

Relevant agreements (treaties) considered during the assessment include:

- Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement
- China-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement
- Republic of Korea-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement

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, 2016)
- Technical guidance – *Terrestrial Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment* (EPA, 2020)

3. Detailed assessment of application

3.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

The application area has been designed to avoid Crown Reserve R 19587 (Doublebell, 2025). The Permit Holder has stated that efforts to control and minimise weed and feral animal populations will be implemented as required (Doublebell, 2025). 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 (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 (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 staged clearing conditions, as well as a vegetation management condition.

3.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The clearing permit application was advertised on 24 October 2025 by the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration inviting submissions from the public. One submission was received in relation to this application.

There is one native title claim (WCD2014/004) over the area under application (DPLH, 2026). This claim has been determined by the Federal Court on behalf of the claimant group (Ngadju). 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, 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.

Other relevant authorisations required for the proposed land use include:

- 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. Details of public submissions

Summary of comments	Consideration of comment
Biodiversity survey transparency	The detailed flora and basic fauna assessment conducted by Botanica Consulting (2023) was used to inform the assessment of potential impacts from the proposed clearing (Appendix B and Appendix C).
Demonstration of avoidance and minimisation in mine design	Demonstration of best design for mine layouts, haul road alignments, or other mining infrastructure are assessed under the <i>Mining Act 1978</i> via a Mining Development and Closure Proposal (MDCP) approval
Offset requirements	Given the assessment determined the potential impacts from the proposed clearing can be managed by conditions placed on the clearing permit, the Permit Holder is not required to provide an offset proposal.
Rehabilitation and closure integration	Rehabilitation targets and post-mining land use are assessed under the <i>Mining Act 1978</i> via a Mining Development and Closure Proposal (MDCP) approval.
Cultural heritage due diligence	Considered in the planning and other matters section (Section 3.3).

(Submission, 2025)

Appendix B. Site characteristics

B.1. Site characteristics

Characteristic	Details
Local context	The area proposed to be cleared is part of an expansive tract of native vegetation in the extensive land use zone of Western Australia. It is surrounded by native vegetation and landscape of the Coolgardie Bioregion. Most of the application area has been impacted by a 2015 fire event (Botanica Consulting, 2023). There is a salt lake system approximately 5 kilometres to the East of the application area (GIS Database).
Ecological linkage	According to available databases, the application area does not contain any known or mapped ecological linkages (GIS Database).
Conservation areas	The application area falls within the Ngadju Indigenous Protection Area and it is located within 8 kilometres of an unnamed Nature Reserve listed for the conservation of flora and fauna (GIS Database).
Vegetation description	<p>The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation association:</p> <p>1413: Shrublands; <i>Acacia</i>, <i>Casuarina</i> & <i>Melaleuca</i> thicket (GIS Database).</p> <p>A targeted flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the application area by Botanica Consulting during November 2022 and August 2023. The following vegetation communities were recorded within the application area (Botanica Consulting, 2023):</p> <p>SCLP-MW1 (<i>Eucalyptus</i> low open mallee woodland): <i>Eucalyptus grossa</i> low open mallee woodland over <i>Melaleuca eleuterostachya</i> and <i>Santalum acuminatum</i> tall open shrubland over <i>Halgania andromedifolia</i>, <i>Eremophila ionantha</i> and <i>Scaevola spinescens</i> open shrubland over <i>Westringia cephalantha</i> low sparse shrubland.</p> <p>SCLP-MW2 (<i>Eucalyptus</i> low open mallee woodland): <i>Eucalyptus grossa</i> low sparse mallee woodland over <i>Melaleuca eleuterostachya</i>, <i>Acacia burkittii</i> and <i>Allocasuarina campestris</i> tall open shrubland over <i>Westringia cephalantha</i>, <i>Seringia cacaobrunnea</i> and <i>Leptospermum subtenuis</i> low sparse shrubland over <i>Lepidosperma sanguinolentum</i> isolated sedges.</p> <p>SP-MW3 (<i>Eucalyptus</i> low open mallee woodland): <i>Eucalyptus cylindriflora</i> low sparse mallee woodland over <i>Melaleuca lateriflora</i> and <i>Allocasuarina acutivalvis</i> tall open shrubland over <i>Eremophila dempsteri</i> and <i>E. violacea</i> sparse shrubland over <i>Cooperookia strophiolata</i>, <i>Sclerolaena diacantha</i> and <i>Schoenus brevisetis</i> low sparse shrubland/sedgeland.</p>
Vegetation condition	<p>The vegetation survey (Botanica Consulting, 2023) and aerial imagery indicate the vegetation within the proposed clearing area is in Good to Very Good (Trudgen, 1991) condition.</p> <p>The full Trudgen (1991) condition rating scale is provided in Appendix D.</p>
Climate and landform	The climate for the Eastern Goldfields subregion is arid to semi-arid with an annual rainfall average of approximately 282.9 millimetres (BoM, 2026; CALM, 2002). The application area is mapped within elevations of 280 to 260 meters Australian Height Datum (GIS Database).
Soil description	The soil within the application area is mapped as deep sandy gravel, alkaline red shallow loamy duplex (DPIRD, 2026), sand clay-loam plain and sand plain (Botanica Consulting, 2023).

Characteristic	Details
Land degradation risk	The application area falls within the Hyden Land System and Johnston Land System (DPIRD, 2026). These areas are moderately susceptible to wind and water erosion if vegetation cover is disturbed (Waddell and Galloway, 2023).
Waterbodies	The desktop assessment and aerial imagery indicated that one minor non-perennial watercourse transects the area proposed to be cleared (GIS Database).
Hydrogeography	The nearest Public Drinking Water Source Area is located approximately 50 kilometres South of the application area (GIS Database). The application area is located within the Goldfields Groundwater Area proclaimed under the <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i> (GIS Database). The groundwater salinity is mapped as 14,000 to 35,000 milligrams per litre total dissolved solids which is described as saline (BoM, 2019; GIS Database).
Flora	The field survey (Botanica Consulting, 2023) and GIS Database did not record any Threatened, Priority, or otherwise significant flora species in the application area.
Ecological communities	The application area does not fall within any known or mapped Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities (Botanica Consulting, 2023; GIS Database).
Fauna	There are no records of conservation significant fauna in the application area (GIS Database). Opportunistic observations during the field survey did not record any conservation significant fauna species in the application area (Botanica Consulting, 2023).
Fauna habitat	Based on vegetation and associated landforms identified during the flora and vegetation assessment, one broad scale terrestrial fauna habitat. <i>Eucalyptus low open mallee woodland on sand-loam plain:</i> <i>Eucalyptus</i> woodland over <i>Melaleuca</i> and <i>Acacia</i> shrubland. Ground is moderately suited to burrowing species. Moderate diversity vegetation strata supporting avifauna assemblage. Low to moderate vegetation density and low leaf litter.

B.1. Flora analysis table

The following conservation significant flora species have been identified with a likelihood of possible to occur in the application area (Botanica, 2023; WAH, 1998-; GIS Database).

Species name	Conservation status	Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Suitable vegetation type? [Y/N]	Suitable soil type? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Number of known records (total)	Are surveys adequate to identify? [Y, N, N/A]
<i>Acacia ancistrophylla</i> var. <i>perarcuata</i>	P3	Y	Y	Y	< 5 km	28	N
<i>Acacia hystrix</i> subsp. <i>continua</i>	P1	Y	N	Y	< 15 km	6	N
<i>Bossiaea aurantiaca</i>	P1	Y	Y	Y	< 20 km	13	N
<i>Cryptandra exserta</i>	P1	Y	N	Y	< 5 km	3	N
<i>Eucalyptus jimberlanica</i>	P1	Y	Y	N	< 20 km	30	N

T: threatened, CR: critically endangered, EN: endangered, VU: vulnerable, MI: migratory, CD: conservation dependent, OS: other specially protected, P: priority

B.2. Fauna analysis table

The following conservation significant fauna species have been recorded within 20 kilometres of the application area (GIS Database).

Species name	Conservation status	Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Suitable vegetation type? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Number of known records (total)	Are surveys adequate to identify? [Y, N, N/A]
Blue-billed duck (<i>Oxyura australis</i>)	P4	N	N	< 20 km	2,371	N
Common sandpiper (<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>)	MI	N	N	< 15 km	3,556	N
Hooded plover (<i>Charadrius cucullatus</i>)	P4	N	N	< 20 km	4,611	N

Species name	Conservation status	Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Suitable vegetation type? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Number of known records (total)	Are surveys adequate to identify? [Y, N, N/A]
Malleefowl (<i>Leipoa ocellata</i>)	VU	N	Y	5 km	30,003	N
Peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>)	OS	Y	Y	< 20 km	1,815	N
Red-necked stint (<i>Calidris ruficollis</i>)	MI	N	N	< 20 km	5,605	N
Western brush wallaby (<i>Notamacropus irma</i>)	P4	Y	N	< 10 km	6,288	N
Western rosella (<i>Platycercus icterotis xanthogenys</i>)	P4	Y	Y	< 15 km	155	N

T: threatened, CR: critically endangered, EN: endangered, VU: vulnerable, MI: migratory, CD: conservation dependent, OS: other specially protected, P: priority

Appendix C. 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>Twenty-three conservation significant flora species have been recorded within 20 kilometres of the application area. Five of these species were identified as possible to occur in the application area (Appendix B.1). No Threatened, Priority, or otherwise significant flora or ecological communities were identified in the application area (Botanica Consulting, 2023; GIS Database). Although native vegetation is regenerating from a 2015 fire, it is still in the initial stages of recovery and numerous species may not have been identifiable at the time of survey, including potentially occurring significant flora (Botanica Consulting, 2023). Suitable habitat for these species may be present after recovery from a fire event but it is unlikely to be critical for their survival, as it has already been impacted by fire. Better quality habitat is present outside of the application area. Vegetation in the application area is considered to be of low biological diversity and is well represented outside the survey area (Botanica Consulting, 2023).</p> <p>A total of three introduced (weed) species were recorded adjacent to the application area. None of the recorded weed species are listed as a Declared Pest on the Western Australian Organism List (WAOL) under the <i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007</i> or as a Weed of National Significance. The weeds were not present on quadrats but found on tracks in disturbed areas (Botanica Consulting, 2023). Weeds 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 management condition.</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>The fauna habitat present in the application area is suitable for three conservation significant species (Appendix B.2). One inactive malleefowl mound was found during the survey 2 kilometres outside of the application area (Botanica Consulting, 2023). Habitat is currently unsuitable for breeding due to recent fire impacts; however, occasional transients could potentially occur (Botanica Consulting, 2023). Apart from the one inactive mound observed, no other evidence of malleefowl activity (tracks, feathers or bird observations etc.) was observed within the application area (Botanica Consulting, 2023).</p> <p>Vegetation within the survey area may comprise part of the home range of peregrine falcon and western rosella but is unlikely to represent critical habitat and is well represented outside of the survey area (Botanica Consulting, 2023).</p>	Not likely to be at variance	No

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
<p><u>Principle (c):</u> <i>“Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora.”</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>There are three records of the Threatened flora species <i>Bossiaea arcuata</i> within 20 kilometres of the application area (GIS Database). The area proposed to be cleared is unlikely to contain suitable habitat for this species (Botanica Consulting, 2023).</p>	Not likely to be at variance	No
<p><u>Principle (d):</u> <i>“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.”</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>No Threatened Ecological Communities were identified as potentially occurring within the survey area (Botanica Consulting, 2023; GIS Database).</p>	Not likely to be at variance	No
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 application area falls within the Coolgardie Bioregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (GIS Database). Over 97 per cent of the pre-European vegetation still exists in the Coolgardie Bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2019). The application area is broadly mapped as Beard vegetation association 1413, which retains over 76 per cent of pre-European levels of vegetation at the state level and over 98 per cent at the bioregion level (Government of Western Australia, 2019). This is above the 30 per cent threshold level recommended in the National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation below which, species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001).</p>	Not 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>The application area is not located within any known or mapped conservation area. The Ngadju Indigenous Protection Area (IPA) is a voluntary agreement between the Traditional Owners and the Commonwealth. This IPA contains a portion of the Great Western Woodlands (Gondwana Link, 2026). The application area has been impacted by a fire from 2015 (Botanica Consulting, 2023). Vegetation representative of the Great Western Woodlands of better quality is present outside the application area. The proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact vegetation in a mapped or known conservation area.</p>	Not likely to be 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>Given one drainage line is recorded within the application area (GIS Database), the proposed clearing may impact vegetation growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.</p>	May be 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 is located across the land systems described below (Waddell and Galloway, 2023):</p> <p>Hyden Land System: Gently undulating gravelly sandplains with occasional granite, supporting mixed shrublands and scattered eucalypts. Lack of slope, sandy soils and dense vegetation make most of it resistant to erosion. However, Hyden is prone to fire, which can cause temporary loss of stabilising perennial vegetation and exacerbate wind erosion of sandy surfaces, though emergence of regrowth following rain usually restores stability.</p>	At variance	No.

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
<p>Johnston Land System: Gently undulating plains with occasional granite rises, supporting eucalypt woodlands and nonhalophytic shrublands. Alluvial fans and drainage tracts are moderately susceptible to erosion and loamy sheetwash plains are mildly susceptible. Obstruction of natural water flows can cause water starvation and consequent loss of vigour in vegetation downslope. Soil surface disturbance on these landforms may initiate erosion.</p> <p>Noting the location of the application area, the proposed clearing is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.</p>		
<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 permanent 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.</p>	Not likely to be 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 the application area (GIS Database), the proposed clearing is unlikely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.</p>	Not likely to be at variance	No

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 Trudgen, M.E. (1991) *Vegetation condition scale* in National Trust (WA) 1993 Urban Bushland Policy. National Trust of Australia (WA), Wildflower Society of WA (Inc.), and the Tree Society (Inc.), Perth.

Measuring vegetation condition for the Eremaean and Northern Botanical Provinces (Trudgen, 1991)

Condition	Description
Excellent	Pristine or nearly so, no obvious signs of damage caused by human activities since European settlement.
Very good	Some relatively slight signs of damage caused by human activities since European settlement. For example, some signs of damage to tree trunks caused by repeated fire, the presence of some relatively non-aggressive weeds, or occasional vehicle tracks.
Good	More obvious signs of damage caused by human activity since European settlement, including some obvious impact on the vegetation structure such as that caused by low levels of grazing or slightly aggressive weeds.
Poor	Still retains basic vegetation structure or ability to regenerate it after very obvious impacts of human activities since European settlement, such as grazing, partial clearing, frequent fires or aggressive weeds.
Very poor	Severely impacted by grazing, very frequent fires, clearing or a combination of these activities. Scope for some regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive management. Usually with a number of weed species present including very aggressive species.
Completely degraded	Areas that are completely or almost completely without native species in the structure of their vegetation; i.e. areas that are cleared or ‘parkland cleared’ with their flora comprising weed or crop species with isolated native trees or shrubs.

Appendix E. Photographs of the vegetation



Figure 1. Vegetation present in the application area (Botanica Consulting, 2023).

Appendix F. Sources of information

F.1. GIS datasets

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

- Cadastre (Polygon) (LGATE-217)
- 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)
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide (DWER-026)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- Local Government Area (LGA) Boundaries (LGATE-233)
- Localities (LGATE-234)
- Medium Scale Topo Contour (Line) (LGATE-015)
- Native Title (Determination) (LGATE-066)
- Native Vegetation Extent (DPIRD-005)
- Pre-European Vegetation (DPIRD-006)
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (DWER-033)
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas (DWER-034)
- RIWI Act, Rivers (DWER-036)
- RIWI Act, Surface Water Areas and Irrigation Districts (DWER-037)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Best Available (DPIRD-027)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Systems (DPIRD-064)
- Townsites (LGATE-248)

- WA Now Aerial Imagery

Restricted GIS Databases used:

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

F.2. References

- Botanica Consulting (2023) Detailed Flora and Basic Fauna Assessment. Report prepared for Doublebell Resource Wealth Pty Ltd, November 2023.
- Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) (2019) Bureau of Meteorology Website – Groundwater Information – Average Salinity. Bureau of Meteorology. <https://www.bom.gov.au/water/groundwater/insight/metadata.shtml> (Accessed 18 February 2026).
- Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) (2026) Bureau of Meteorology Website – Climate Data Online, Norseman Aero (Number 12009). Bureau of Meteorology. <https://reg.bom.gov.au/climate/data/> (Accessed 17 February 2026).
- 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.
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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 18 February 2026).
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- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) (2021) Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits. Joondalup. <https://www.wa.gov.au/system/files/2024-11/procedure-native-vegetation-clearing-permits.pdf>
- Doublebell Resources Wealth Pty Ltd (Doublebell) (2025) Clearing permit application form, CPS 11220/1, received 8 August 2025.
- Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) (2016) Technical Guidance - Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment. http://www.epa.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/Policies_and_Guidance/EPA%20Technical%20Guidance%20-%20Flora%20and%20Vegetation%20survey_Dec13.pdf
- 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
- Gondwana Link Ltd (2026) Ngadjju IPA announcement <https://gondwanalink.org/ngadjju-ipa-announcement/>
- 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>
- Submission (2025) Public submission in relation to clearing permit application CPS 11220/1, received 13 November 2025.
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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.