Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details and outcomes

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	11252/1
Permit type:	Purpose permit
Applicant name:	Dreadnought Resources Ltd
Application received:	5 September 2025
Application area:	120 hectares
Purpose of clearing:	Mineral production and associated activities
Method of clearing:	Mechanical removal
Tenure:	General Purpose Lease 09/30
	Mining Lease 09/91
	Mining Lease 09/147
	Mining Lease 09/174
	Mining Lease 09/175
	Miscellaneous Licence 09/115
	Miscellaneous Licence 09/116
Location (LGA area):	Shire of Upper Gascoyne
Colloquial name:	Star of Mangaroon Gold Project

1.2. Description of clearing activities

Dreadnought Resources Ltd proposes to clear up to 120 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 478.7 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities. The project is located approximately 207 kilometres southwest of Paraburdoo, within the Shire of Upper Gascoyne.

The application is for the development of a gold mining operation (Dreadnought Resources Ltd, 2025). The operation will involve the construction of an open pit, waste rock dump, roads, laydown areas, accommodation camp, and workshop (Dreadnought Resources Ltd, 2025).

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Grant
Decision date:	7 May 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 no submissions were received.

In making this decision, the Delegated Officer had regard for the site characteristics (Appendix A), relevant datasets (Appendix D), supporting information provided by the applicant including the results of a flora and vegetation and fauna survey, the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act (Appendix B), proposed avoidance and minimisation measures (Section 3.1), relevant planning instruments and any other matters considered relevant to the assessment (Section 3.3). The Delegated Officer also took into consideration the purpose of the clearing to facilitate the replacement of drainage culverts along a haul road.

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;

- impacts to vegetation growing in association with a wetland and watercourses;
- potential land degradation in the form of water and wind 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;
- commence construction no later than three months after undertaking clearing to reduce the risk of erosion; and
- avoid clearing vegetation growing in association with a wetland or watercourse where practicable, and maintain existing surface flows.

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)
- *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, 2014)
- Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits (DWER, 2021)
- Environmental Factor Guideline - Flora and Vegetation (EPA, 2016a)
- Environmental Factor Guideline - Terrestrial Fauna (EPA, 2016c)
- Technical Guidance - Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment (EPA, 2016d)
- Technical Guidance - Terrestrial vertebrate fauna surveys for environmental impact assessment (EPA, 2020)
- Statement of environmental principles, factors, objectives and aims of EIA (EPA, 2023)

3. Detailed assessment of application

3.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

The proponent provided the following avoidance and mitigation measures will be implemented to manage impacts (Botanica Consulting, 2026; Dreadnought Resources Ltd, 2025):

- site infrastructure is located in areas of existing disturbances (Star of Mangaroon Camp, historic lead mine and pastoral track)
- the size and scale of clearing is proportional to the mine design i.e. footprint of waste rock landforms
- haul roads were designed for dump trucks and semi-trailers
- the site access/haul road(s) initially intersected several priority flora species identified within the application area, the road was realigned and the permit area modified to ensure all priority flora species remain outside the permit area (refer to map below)
- the proposed western access route was discounted as a viable option to avoid direct impact to priority flora and a 20 metre buffer was applied to all priority flora when redesigning the permit area

- where possible, trees will be left to provide shade near offices, workshops, parking areas, along road verges and between facilities
- no watercourses or drainage lines will be changed or diverted
- topsoil stockpiles will be inspected to ensure stockpiles are weed free
- weeds found will be removed by (clipping, spraying or hand pulling)
- all weeds found will be recorded in the site weed register
- rehabilitation will be undertaken in accordance with the site's mine closure plan
- all hazardous materials and hydrocarbons contained in designated storage areas (e.g., storage tanks, bunded areas, bunded pallets etc.).
- any hazardous materials or hydrocarbon spills/leaks outside of containment areas are controlled, contained, and cleaned up within 7 days
- following disturbance, cleared areas and topsoil stockpiles will be surveyed, and local provenance seed sourced and ordered during operations in quantities required for rehabilitation
- observation of surface water flows during and/or after significant rainfall events to determine if there has been any sedimentation deposited outside of the disturbance envelope
- areas will be adequately survey marked to ensure only the approved and required clearing is undertaken
- declared weeds are removed prior to stripping of topsoil or overburden so that material is clean and stockpiled for later reuse on site
- driving restricted to marked/cleared roads
- education of employees/contractors at site inductions

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 A) and the extent to which the impacts of the proposed clearing present a risk to biological, conservation, or land and water resource values.

The assessment against the clearing principles identified that the impacts of the proposed clearing present a potential risk to biological values (priority flora and a priority ecological community). The consideration of these impacts, and the extent to which they can be managed through conditions applied in line with sections 51H and 51I of the EP Act, is set out below.

3.2.1. Biological values (flora and priority ecological communities) - Clearing principle (a)

Assessment

Flora

A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the application area and surrounds by Onshore Environmental (2025a). The survey recorded the following priority flora species adjacent to the application area:

- *Acacia curryana* (P1)
- *Euphorbia inappendiculata* var. *inappendiculata* (P3)
- *Goodenia berringbinensis* (P4)
- *Harnieria* sp. Gascoyne (J.P. Bull ONS-2721.04) (P1)
- *Swainsona longipilosa* (P1)

***Acacia curryana* (P1)**

The survey recorded 89 individual plants from 23 clustered locations approximately 3.3 kilometres outside the application area, within vegetation type *GR EeAc* (Appendix A.1; Appendix A.3; Onshore Environmental, 2025a). Given this species and vegetation were not recorded within the application area, the proposed clearing will not result in any impacts to the species (Onshore Environmental, 2025a).

***Euphorbia inappendiculata* var. *inappendiculata* (P3)**

The survey recorded 25 individual *Euphorbia inappendiculata* var. *inappendiculata* plants approximately 20 metres outside the application area (Onshore Environmental, 2025a). The species was recorded within vegetation type FP AkAcuAt Eff, within a seasonally wet flat (Appendix A.1; Onshore Environmental, 2025a). Approximately 4.1 hectares of this vegetation type was mapped within the application area (Appendix A.1; Onshore Environmental, 2025a).

Given the survey did not record any individuals within the application area, and the vegetation type is limited, the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact this species at a local or regional level.

***Goodenia berringbinensis* (P4)**

More than 575 *Goodenia berringbinensis* individuals were recorded from six point observations approximately 20 metres outside the application area (Onshore Environmental, 2025a). The species was recorded within vegetation type GP Mh, on brown heavy clay within seasonally inundated gilgai depressions on stony plains (Appendix A.1; Onshore Environmental, 2025a).

Approximately 9.8 hectares of this vegetation type was mapped within the application area (Appendix A.1; Onshore Environmental, 2025a).

Given the survey did not record any individuals within the application area, and the vegetation type is limited, the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact this species at a local or regional level.

***Harnieria* sp. Gascoyne (J.P. Bull ONS-2721.04) (P1)**

The survey recorded 15 individual plants approximately 20 metres outside the application area (Onshore Environmental, 2025a). This species was recorded within vegetation type ME AcAsAk (Appendix A.1; Onshore Environmental, 2025a). Approximately 3.3 hectares of this vegetation type was mapped within the application area (Appendix A.1; Onshore Environmental, 2025a).

Given the survey did not record any individuals within the application area, and the vegetation type is limited, the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact this species at a local or regional level.

***Swainsona longipilosa* (P1)**

More than 175 *Swainsona longipilosa* individuals were recorded approximately 30 metres outside the application area (Onshore Environmental, 2025a). The species was recorded in areas of variable vegetation and landforms, on red and orange silty loam and light medium clay on stony plains, gilgai plains and minor drainage lines (Onshore Environmental, 2025a).

Given the flora and vegetation survey did not record any individuals within the application area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to result in direct impacts to this species (Onshore Environmental, 2025a). While there is extensive suitable habitat within the application area, the landforms and vegetation types present are common and widespread in the surrounds (Onshore Environmental, 2025a). It is unlikely that the proposed clearing will significantly impact or reduce the extent of suitable habitat for this species (Onshore Environmental, 2025a).

Priority ecological community

The southern portion of the haul road is mapped within priority 1 ecological community '*Gifford Creek, Mangaroon, Wanna calcrete groundwater assemblage type on Lyons palaeodrainage on Gifford Creek, Lyons and Wanna Stations*' (GIS Database). The occurrence of this PEC has not been confirmed as the mapping is very broad scale, however approximately 122 hectares, and 219 hectares when including the 2,000 metre buffer occurs within the application area (GIS Database).

The PEC is described as a 'unique assemblages of invertebrates in groundwater calcretes' (DBCA, 2023). This PEC corresponds to the Lyons palaeodrainage channel mapped within this area (GIS Database). No subterranean fauna surveys have been conducted to determine whether this area is representative of the PEC.

The main threat to this PEC has been identified as hydrological changes associated with mining (DBCA, 2023). The proposed clearing will not result in any direct impacts to this PEC, such as excavation, groundwater extraction, or dewatering (EPA, 2016b). Indirect impacts to this PEC and subterranean fauna from clearing may include changes to hydrology, siltation, and alteration to nutrient balance (EPA, 2016b). Indirect impacts may result in changed surface topography due to compaction or creation of hard surfaces resulting in altered groundwater flow paths, increased runoff, and reduced infiltration and aquifer recharge; clearing of surface vegetation leading to sedimentation and changed nutrient inputs (EPA, 2016b).

The proposed clearing within the southern section of the proposed haul road is minimal and does not significantly intersect any watercourses (GIS Database). Bed level crossings rather than culverts will be utilised where clearing for the haul road will intersect watercourses (MWES Consulting, 2025).

Given the PEC has not been confirmed as occurring within the application area, and under the assumption that the proposed clearing within the mapped area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact the PEC.

Conclusion

Based on the above assessment, the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact priority flora or the mapped priority ecological community.

Conditions

No flora or priority ecological community management conditions required.

To address the above impacts, the following management measures will be required as conditions on the clearing permit:

- avoid, minimise to reduce the impacts and extent of clearing
- take hygiene steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds.

3.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The clearing permit application was advertised on 7 October 2025 by the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

There is one native title claim (WCD2009/002 - Thudgari 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 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. Site characteristics

A.1. Site characteristics table

<table>
<tr><th>Characteristic</th><th>Details</th></tr>
<tr><td>Local context</td><td>The area proposed to be cleared is located within the Augustus subregion of the Gascoyne bioregion (GIS Database). It is surrounded by large areas of uncleared land, native pasture grazing, and mining operations targeting copper, lead, zinc, or gold, or construction material quarries (GIS Database). The application area is located within Mangaroon pastoral (cattle) station (GIS Database).

Approximately 99% of the local area (50 kilometre radius from the area proposed to be cleared) remains uncleared (GIS Database).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ecological linkage</td><td>The application area is not considered a significant ecological linkage. The vegetation immediately surrounding the application area and the majority of the region remains uncleared (GIS Database).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Conservation areas</td><td>The application area is not located within any legislated conservation areas (GIS Database). The nearest legislated conservation area is the Barlee Range Nature Reserve, located approximately 45 kilometres north-northeast of the application area (GIS Database).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Vegetation description</td><td>The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation associations (GIS Database):

18: Low woodland; mulga (Acacia aneura)

165: Low woodland; mulga & snakewood (Acacia eremaea)

A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the application area by Onshore Environmental during 22-29 March 2023, 2-7 August 2024, and 7-12 May 2025. The following vegetation types were recorded within the application area (Onshore Environmental, 2025a):
<table>
<tr><th>Code</th><th>Description</th><th>Area [ha]</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Acacia high open shrubland</td></tr>
<tr><td>SP Ax</td><td>High open shrubland of Acacia xiphophylla and Acacia synchronicia over scattered shrubs of Senna artemisioides subsp. x luerssenii over low open shrubland of Eremophila cuneifolia on brown silty loam on stony plains and foot slopes</td><td>54.5</td></tr>
<tr><td>SP AkAsyAcAt</td><td>High open shrubland of Acacia kempeana (Acacia tetragonophylla, Acacia synchronicia) over open shrubland of Eremophila fraseri over low open shrubland of Senna artemisioides subsp. helmsii (Eremophila exilifolia, Ptilotus obovatus) on brown sandy loam on hillslopes and stony plains</td><td>49.5</td></tr>
<tr><td>HS EppSah AkAp</td><td>High open shrubland of Acacia kempeana, Acacia synchronicia and Acacia tetragonophylla over shrubland of Eremophila fraseri, Eremophila phyllopoda subsp. phyllopoda and Senna glutinosa subsp. x luerssenii over low open shrubland of Senna artemisioides subsp. helmsii (Eremophila exilifolia, Ptilotus obovatus) over very open bunch grassland of Aristida contorta on brown sandy loam on rocky hillslopes</td><td>28.1</td></tr>
<tr><td>CP AxAmAsy Ec LdEs</td><td>High open shrubland of Acacia xiphophylla (Acacia macraneura, Acacia synchronicia) over open low shrubland of Eremophila cuneifolia (Senna artemisioides subsp. helmsii, Senna sp. Meekatharra (E. Bailey 1-26), Senna artemisioides subsp. oligophylla) over open low shrubland of Eremophea spinosa and Lawrencia densifolia on brown silty loam on calcrete plains</td><td>17.6</td></tr>
<tr><td>GR AkAtAc</td><td>High open shrubland of Acacia kempeana, Grevillea berryana and Psydrax latifolia (Acacia tetragonophylla) over open shrubland of Eremophila phyllopoda subsp. phyllopoda and Eremophila latrobei subsp. latrobei (Senna glutinosa subsp. x luerssenii) over low open shrubland of Ptilotus obovatus and Tribulus suberosus over very open tussock grassland of Paspalidium clementii and Aristida contorta over very open herbs of Trachymene pilbarensis, Trichodesma zeylanicum and Lepidium oxytrichum on red brown silty loam on granite hills (domes, crests and upper slopes)</td><td>6.8</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Acacia low open woodland</td></tr>
<tr><td>FP AkAcuAt Eff</td><td>Low open woodland of Acacia macraneura over high open shrubland of Acacia cuthbertsonii and Acacia tetragonophylla over low open shrubland of Eremophila fraseri and Senna artemisioides subsp. helmsii (Ptilotus obovatus) on red loamy sand on floodplains</td><td>4.1</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Acacia low woodland</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
</table>

Characteristic	Details		
	MI AcAa AmAccAk Cm	Low woodland of *Acacia citrinoviridis* and *Acacia* sp. Mulga Paraburdoo (B.R. Maslin et al. BRM 9201) over high shrubland of *Acacia cuthbertsonii*, *Acacia tetragonophylla* and *Acacia sclerosperma* over open tussock grassland of **Cenchrus ciliaris* and **Cenchrus setiger* over open herbs of *Trichodesma zeylanicum*, *Boerhavia coccinea*, *Pterocaulon sphacelatum* and *Crotalaria medicaginea* on brown loamy sand on medium drainage lines	23.2
	MI AsAa	Low woodland of *Acacia subtessarogona* over high shrubland of *Acacia cuthbertsonii* (*Acacia sclerosperma* subsp. *sclerosperma*, *Acacia tetragonophylla*) over open shrubland of *Scaevola spinescens*, *Senna glutinosa* subsp. x *luerssenii* and *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *helmsii* over open tussock grassland of **Cenchrus ciliaris* and **Cenchrus setiger* (*Digitaria brownii*) on red orange loamy sand on minor and medium drainage lines	18.1
	***Acacia* open scrub**		
	MI A94	Open scrub of *Acacia kempeana*, *Acacia cuthbertsonii* and *Acacia tetragonophylla* (*Acacia synchronicia*) with low open woodland of *Acacia macraneura* over open shrubland of *Eremophila fraseri* over low open shrubland of *Eremophila cuneifolia*, *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *helmsii* and *Ptilotus obovatus* over very open bunch grassland of *Aristida contorta* on red brown sandy loam on minor drainage lines	10.0
	***Eremophila* low open shrubland**		
	SP HpAcc Ec	Low open shrubland of *Eremophila cuneifolia* (*Senna artemisioides* subsp. *helmsii*) over very open tussock grassland of *Aristida contorta* on red orange silty loam on stony plains	86.6
	***Eremophila* low shrubland**		
	SP GbAap Epp	Scattered tall shrubs of *Grevillea berryana* over open shrubland of *Eremophila phyllopoda* subsp. *phyllopoda* (*Senna glutinosa* subsp. x *luerssenii*) over low shrubland of *Eremophila phyllopoda* subsp. *phyllopoda*, *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *helmsii* and *Ptilotus obovatus* over open tussock grassland of *Aristida contorta* on red orange silty loam on undulating low hills and stony plains	99.6
	***Eucalyptus* open woodland**		
	ME AcAsAk	Open woodland of *Eucalyptus victrix* and Acacia citrinoviridis over low woodland of Acacia citrinoviridis over high open shrubland of Acacia pyrifolia var. pyrifolia and Acacia cuthbertsonii subsp. cuthbertsonii over low open shrubland of Indigofera monophylla (*Tephrosia rosea* var. Fortescue Creeks (M.I.H.Brooker 2186)) over open tussock grassland of **Cenchrus ciliaris* (**Cenchrus setiger*) on brown loamy sand on major drainage lines	3.3
	***Hakea* high open shrubland**		
	SP EfrEc Sao HpAsy	High open shrubland of *Hakea preissii* (*Acacia xiphophylla*) over open shrubland of *Senna glutinosa* subsp. x *luerssenii* over low open shrubland of *Eremophila cuneifolia* (*Senna artemisioides* subsp. *oligophylla*) on red silty loam on orange clay loam on stony plains	52.1
	***Marsilea* herbs**		
	GP Mh	Herbs of *Marsilea hirsuta*, *Marsilea costulifera*, *Ptilotus gomphrenoides*, *Ptilotus fusiformis*, *Alternanthera nodiflora* and *Centipeda minima* subsp. *macrocephala* with high open shrubland of *Acacia synchronicia* and *Acacia tetragonophylla* and open tussock grassland of *Eriachne benthamii* and *Eragrostis xerophila* on brown light to medium clay on gilgain depressions and stony plains	9.8
	Disturbed, road, mine		15.2
Vegetation condition	The application area is considered to be in very good, good, poor, degraded, and completely degraded condition (Onshore Environmental, 2025a; Trudgen, 1991). The majority of the application area was considered to be in very good condition (approximately 92%) (Onshore Environmental, 2025a; Trudgen, 1991). The vegetation structure and composition has been altered by previous mining activities, and grazing of domestic stock which is pronounced along drainage lines and floodplains (Onshore Environmental, 2025a; GIS Database). The full Trudgen (1991) condition rating scale is provided in Appendix C. The following introduced species have been recorded within the application area (Onshore Environmental, 2025a; GIS Database): • *Asphodelus fistulosus* • *Bidens bipinnata* • *Cenchrus ciliaris* • *Cenchrus setiger*		

Characteristic	Details
	• *Datura leichhardtii* • *Datura leichhardtii* subsp. *leichhardtii* • *Malvastrum americanum* • *Rumex vesicarius* • *Setaria verticillata* • *Sisymbrium* sp. indet. In addition to the above species, the following introduced species were recorded outside the application area as part of the broader surveyed area (all within 20 to 550 metres of the application area) (Onshore Environmental, 2025a; GIS Database): • *Citrullus colocynthis* • *Echinochloa colona* • *Vachellia farnesiana* None of the above introduced species are listed as Declared Pests under the BAM Act or as Weeds of National Significance (WONS) (Cth) (DPIRD, 2026b; Weeds Australia, 2026).
Climate and landform	The climate of the Augustus subregion is described as arid, with the nearest weather station recording an average rainfall of approximately 217.3 millimetres per year (BoM, 2026; CALM, 2002). The application area is mapped at elevations of 270-310 metres Australian height datum (GIS Database). The dominant landform within the application area are stony plains, however there are also areas of hillcrests and hillslopes, and calcrete plains (DPIRD, 2026a; Onshore Environmental, 2025a; Onshore Environmental, 2025b; Payne et al., 1987; Wilcox & McKinnon, 1972; GIS Database). These landforms are regularly intersected by drainage lines, floodplains, and some areas of flat gilgai/water inundation (DPIRD, 2026a; Onshore Environmental, 2025a; Onshore Environmental, 2025b; Payne et al., 1987; Wilcox & McKinnon, 1972; GIS Database).
Soil description	The soils within the application area are broadly mapped as (DPIRD, 2026a; Onshore Environmental, 2025a; Payne et al., 1987; Wilcox & McKinnon, 1972; GIS Database): • stony soil • red shallow loamy duplex • red shallow loam • red deep sandy duplex • calcareous loamy earth • friable non-cracking clay • red shallow sandy duplex
Land degradation risk	The application area is mapped within the Phillips (273.4 ha), James (86.3 ha), Durlacher (61.2 ha), and Nadarra (57.8 ha) land systems (DPIRD, 2026a; Payne et al., 1987; Wilcox & McKinnon, 1972; GIS Database). **Phillips land system**: slopes with interfluves (30%) are mildly susceptible to water erosion and drainage lines/flats (15%) are locally susceptible to erosion by wind and water when vegetation cover is removed. **James land system**: lower plains (10%) and drainage floors (15%) are moderately susceptible to accelerated water erosion when their perennial vegetation cover is reduced. **Durlacher land system**: when perennial vegetation cover is reduced the stony plains (40%) are mildly susceptible to water erosion, the tributary drainage fans and plains (20%) are moderately susceptible to water erosion, and the creeklines and flow zones interfluves (10%) are locally susceptible to accelerated water erosion. There is evidence of serious erosion by sheeting and gullying within this land system. **Nadarra land system**: when perennial vegetation cover is reduced the gently sloping plains and plateaux (60%) are mildly susceptible to water erosion, drainage floors (10%) are moderately susceptible to water erosion, with evidence of some gutters and gullies, and creeklines (10%) locally susceptible to accelerated water erosion.
Waterbodies	Several minor non-perennial watercourses intersect the application area, all flowing south into the greater Lyons River system (GIS Database). Pritchard Creek intersects the northern section of the application area, which then flows into Mangaroon Creek before joining the greater Lyons River system. Murilee Creek intersects the southern section of the application area and flow directly into the greater Lyons River system (GIS Database).

Characteristic	Details
	There is also a small non-perennial lake that forms part of the greater Lyons River system that intersects the application area (GIS Database).
Hydrogeography	The application area is not located within any Public Drinking Water Source Areas (GIS Database). The nearest Public Drinking Water Source Area is the Gascoyne Junction Water Reserve, located approximately 136 kilometres south-southwest of the application area (GIS Database). The application area is located within both the Pilbara Surface Water Area and Gascoyne River and Tributaries, and the Gascoyne Groundwater Area and Pilbara Groundwater Area, proclaimed under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (GIS Database). The mapped groundwater salinity is 1,000-3,000 total dissolved solids milligrams per litre, which is described as brackish water quality (GIS Database).
Flora	There are records of 23 priority flora species within 60 kilometres of the application area (Appendix A.3; GIS Database). These consist of 12 priority 1, five priority 2, five priority 3, and one priority 4 flora species (GIS Database).
Ecological communities	The following priority ecological communities (PEC) have records within a 50 kilometre radius of the application area (GIS Database): • Gifford Creek, Mangaroon, Wanna calcrete groundwater assemblage type on Lyons palaeodrainage on Gifford Creek, Lyons and Wanna Stations [P1] (mapped within application area) • Jingle Land System [P3(iii)] (12 km away) • Frederick Land System [P3(iii)] (29 km away) • Gneudna Land System [P3(iii)] (41 km away) The Gifford Creek/Mangaroon/Wanna Calcrete PEC is mapped within the application area (GIS Database). Approximately 122 hectares, and 219 hectares when including the 2,000 metre buffer occurs within the application area (GIS Database). The occurrence of the above PECs have not been confirmed (GIS Database).
Fauna	There are records of 13 conservation significant fauna species within 100 kilometres of the application area (Appendix A.4; GIS Database). There are five bird, seven mammal and one reptile conservation significant fauna species (Appendix A.4; GIS Database). One of these species is listed as critically endangered, five vulnerable, two migratory, one other specially protected, and four priority 4 (Appendix A.4; GIS Database).
Fauna habitat	Three broad fauna habitats were mapped within the study area on the basis of vegetation, landforms, and microhabitat availability for fauna species (Onshore Environmental, 2025b): • stony plains (441.1 hectares) • drainage lines (19.0 hectares) • low rocky hills (3.3 hectares) In addition to the above habitats, approximately 15.2 hectares were mapped as either disturbed, mine, or road (Onshore Environmental, 2025b).

A.2. Vegetation extent table

	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 - Gascoyne	18,075,219	18,067,441	~99	1,855,508	10.27
Beard vegetation associations - State					
18	19,892,306	19,843,148	~99	1,317,179	6.62
165	732,343	732,341	~99	14,266	1.95
Beard vegetation associations					

- Gascoyne bioregion					
18	3,273,579	3,271,339	~99	316,154	9.66
165	697,447	697,445	~99	14,266	2.05

Government of Western Australia (2019)

A.3. Flora analysis table

The following conservation significant flora species have records within 60 kilometres of the application area (GIS Database). Habitat suitability and likelihood of occurrence was determined utilising biological survey information, online databases, and available literature (Macfarlane & Case, 2011; Maslin & Wilson, 2025; Maslin, 2014; Onshore Environmental, 2025a; WAH, 1998-; Wilson & Rowe, 2015; GIS Database)

Species name	Conservation status	Closest record to application area (km)	Likelihood	Habitat suitability	Surveys adequate to identify? [Y, N, N/A]
Acacia curryana	P1	14	Recorded 3.29 km from the application area	No suitable habitat	Y, discussed further in section 3.2.1
Acacia yinnetharra	P1	50	Possible	Suitable habitat present	Y
Elacholoma sp. Showy flowers (C.P. Campbell 1762)	P1	43	Possible	Some suitable habitat	Y
Eremophila sp. Pingandy dentate (B. Buirchell BB 331)	P1	44	Possible	Some suitable habitat	Y
Euphorbia inappendiculata var. *inappendiculata*	P3	51	Recorded 0.02 km from the application area	Suitable habitat present	Y, discussed further in section 3.2.1
Goodenia berringbinensis	P4	47	Recorded 0.02 km from the application area	Suitable habitat present	Y, discussed further in section 3.2.1
Goodenia sp. Wanna (S. Kern & A.I. Craigie 3397-15091-4)	P1	44	Possible	Some suitable habitat	Y
Gymnanthera cunninghamii	P3	47	Possible	Some suitable habitat	Y
Harnieria sp. Gascoyne (J.P. Bull ONS-2721.04)	P1	27	Recorded 0.02 km from the application area	Suitable habitat present	Y, discussed further in section 3.2.1
Indigofera eriophylla	P1	52	Unlikely	Some suitable habitat	Y
Indigofera fractiflexa subsp. *augustensis*	P2	31	Possible	Some suitable habitat	Y
Indigofera rotula	P3	48	Possible	Some suitable habitat	Y
Isotropis forrestii	P2	48	Possible	Some suitable habitat	Y
Josephinia sp. Woodstock (A.A. Mitchell PRP 989)	P1	39	Unlikely	Limited suitable habitat	Y
Nymphoides walshiae	P1	52	Unlikely	No suitable habitat	Y
Rhodanthe frenchii	P2	35	Unlikely	Limited suitable habitat	Y
Senna sp. Barlee Range (S. van Leeuwen 1520)	P3	51	Possible	Some suitable habitat	Y
Solanum octona	P2	22	Possible	Some suitable habitat	Y
Sporobolus blakei	P3	50	Possible	Suitable habitat present	Y
Swainsona ecallosa	P1	55	Unlikely, this record is from 1981	Suitable habitat present	Y
Swainsona longipilosa	P1	46	Recorded 0.03 km from the application area	Suitable habitat present	Y, discussed further in section 3.2.1
Tephrosia sp. Kennedy Range (J.S. Beard 4392)	P1	57	Unlikely	No suitable habitat	Y
Wurmbea fluviatilis	P2	46	Unlikely	No suitable habitat	Y

T: threatened, CR: critically endangered, EN: endangered, VU: vulnerable, P: priority

A.4. Fauna analysis table

The following conservation significant fauna species have records within a 100 kilometre radius of the application area (GIS Database). Habitat suitability and likelihood of occurrence was determined utilising biological survey information, online databases, and available literature (Commonwealth of Australia, 2008; Debus & Davies, 2019; Debus & Whelan, 2022; DBCA, 2024; DCCEEW, 2023; Onshore Environmental, 2025b; TSSC, 2019; TSSC, 2020; GIS Database).

Species name	Conservation status		Closest record to application area (km)	Likelihood	Habitat suitability	Surveys adequate to identify [Y, N, N/A]
	WA	EPBC				
BIRD						
Apus pacificus fork-tailed swift	MI	MI	37	Possible, occurrence likely to be infrequent	Suitable habitat present, but not significant	Y
Falco hypoleucos grey falcon	VU	VU	49	Possible, occurrence likely to be infrequent	Suitable habitat present, but not significant	Y
Falco peregrinus peregrine falcon	OS		4	Possible, occurrence likely to be infrequent	Suitable habitat present, but not significant	Y
Pezoporus occidentalis night parrot	CR	CR	54	Unlikely, this record is from 1985	No suitable habitat	Y
Tringa nebularia common greenshank	MI	EN & MI	38	Possible, occurrence likely to be infrequent	Suitable habitat present, but not significant	Y
MAMMAL						
Antechinomys longicaudatus long-tailed dunnart	P4		41	Possible	Some suitable habitat	
Dasycercus blythi brush-tailed mulgara	P4		93	Unlikely	No suitable habitat	Y
Dasycercus cristicauda crest-tailed mulgara, minyiminyi	P4		100	Unlikely, this record is from 1900	No suitable habitat	Y
Macroderma gigas ghost bat	VU	VU	69	Unlikely, outside the current known range	Limited suitable habitat	Y
Macrotis lagotis bilby, dalgyte, ninu	VU	VU	55	Unlikely, this record is from 1969 and outside the current known range	Some suitable habitat	Y
Pseudomys chapmani western pebble-mound mouse, ngadji	P4		37	Possible	Suitable habitat present	Y
Rhinonicteris aurantia (Pilbara form) Pilbara leaf-nosed bat	VU	VU	57	Unlikely, outside the current known range	Limited suitable habitat	Y
REPTILE						
Ctenophorus yinnietharra Yinnietharra rock dragon	VU	VU	17	Possible	Some suitable habitat	Y

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

Appendix B. 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: The area proposed to be cleared contains some habitat for conservation significant flora (Onshore Environmental, 2025a; GIS Database).	Not likely to be at variance	Yes *Refer to Section 3.2.1, above.*

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
A portion of the application area is mapped within priority 1 ecological community '*Gifford Creek, Mangaroon, Wanna calcrete groundwater assemblage type on Lyons palaeodrainage on Gifford Creek, Lyons and Wanna Stations*' (GIS Database).		
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 area proposed to be cleared contains some habitat for conservation significant fauna, however these habitats were either limited within the application area, or common and widespread throughout the region (Appendix A.1; Onshore Environmental, 2025b; GIS Database). The fauna survey of the application area and surrounds did not observe any conservation significant fauna species (Onshore Environmental, 2025b).	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: There are no known records of threatened flora within the application area or within a 60 kilometre radius (GIS Database). The flora and vegetation survey of the application area and surrounds did not identify any species of threatened flora or habitats that may support threatened flora (Onshore Environmental, 2025a; WAH, 1998-).	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: There are no known BC Act or EPBC Act listed threatened ecological communities (TECs) located within or in close proximity to the application area (GIS Database). The nearest known TEC is the BC Act listed '*Themeda grasslands (Themeda sp. Hamersley Station (M.E. Trudgen 11431)) on cracking clays (Hamersley Station, Pilbara)*' ecological community (CR), located approximately 228 kilometres northeast of the application area (GIS Database). Flora and vegetation, and fauna surveys of the application area and surrounds did not record any assemblages of flora, fauna, or microorganisms that would be representative of a TEC (Onshore Environmental, 2025a; Onshore Environmental, 2025b; GIS Database).	Not likely to be at variance	No
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 Gascoyne bioregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) (GIS Database). Approximately 99% of the pre-European vegetation still exists in the IBRA Gascoyne bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2019). The application area is broadly mapped as Beard vegetation associations 18: Low woodland; mulga (*Acacia aneura*); and 165: Low woodland; mulga & snakewood (*Acacia eremaea*) (GIS Database). Approximately 99% of the pre-European extent of these vegetation associations remain uncleared at both the state and bioregional level (Government of Western Australia, 2019). The application area does not represent a significant remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.	Not 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:	Not likely to be at variance	No

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
The application area is not located within any legislated conservation areas (GIS Database). The nearest legislated conservation area is the Barlee Range Nature Reserve, located approximately 45 kilometres north-northeast of the application area (GIS Database). Given the distance to the nearest conservation area, the proposed clearing is unlikely have an impact on the environmental values of any conservation areas.		
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: There is a small wetland and a significant number of watercourses that intersect the application area (Appendix A.1; Onshore Environmental, 2025a; GIS Database). The flora and vegetation survey of the application area and surrounds recorded six vegetation types that grow in association with these watercourses and wetland (Appendix A.1; Onshore Environmental, 2025a; GIS Database). Approximately 68.6 hectares of the application area is mapped within these vegetation types (Appendix A.1; Onshore Environmental, 2025a; GIS Database). These vegetation types are: FP AkAcuAt Eff, GP Mh, ME AcAsAk, MI A94, MI AcAa AmAccAk Cm, and MI AsAa. Potential impacts from the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a watercourse management condition.	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: Drainage lines and floodplains within the application area are moderately susceptible to water erosion and are locally susceptible to accelerated water erosion if vegetation cover is reduced (Appendix A.1; DPIRD, 2026a; Payne et al., 1987; Wilcox & McKinnon, 1972; GIS Database). Some areas within these drainage lines/floodplains are also moderately susceptible to wind erosion (Appendix A.1; DPIRD, 2026a; Payne et al., 1987; Wilcox & McKinnon, 1972; GIS Database). Some of the plains and slopes within the application area are also mildly to moderately susceptible to water erosion when vegetation cover is removed (Appendix A.1; DPIRD, 2026a; Payne et al., 1987; Wilcox & McKinnon, 1972; GIS Database). Given the significant number of drainage lines within the application area, the proposed clearing is likely to result in appreciable land degradation in the form of primarily water erosion, however there may also be areas impacted by wind erosion (Appendix A.1; DPIRD, 2026a; Payne et al., 1987; Wilcox & McKinnon, 1972; GIS Database). Potential impacts from the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a staged clearing condition and a watercourse management condition.	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 there are Public Drinking Water Sources Areas within the application area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact groundwater quality (GIS Database). None of the watercourses or wetland that intersects the application area are permanent waterbodies (GIS Database). Clearing within watercourses will be primarily limited to haul road crossings, which is unlikely to impact surface water quality.	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: The application area is prone to temporary localised flooding following significant rainfall events (Botanica Consulting, 2026), however the mapped soils and	Not likely to be at variance	No

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
topographic contours in the surrounding area do not indicate the proposed clearing is likely to contribute to increased incidence or intensity of flooding (GIS Database).		

Appendix C. Vegetation condition rating scale

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

Considering its location, the scale below was used to measure the condition of the vegetation proposed to be cleared. This scale has been extracted from 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 D. Sources of information

D.1. GIS datasets

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

- 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)
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide (DWER-026)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- Local Government Area (LGA) Boundaries (LGATE-233)
- Medium Scale Topo Contour (Line) (LGATE-015)
- Medium Scale Topo Water (Line) (LGATE-018)
- Medium Scale Topo Water (Polygon) (LGATE-016)
- 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)
- 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)

D.2. References

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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)
DBCA	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Australian Government
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	*Environmental Protection Act 1986*, Western Australia
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia
EPBC Act	*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (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	*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:

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.