



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details and outcomes

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	11286/1
Permit type:	Purpose permit
Applicant name:	IGO Newsearch Pty Ltd
Application received:	6 October 2025
Application area:	2.5 hectares
Purpose of clearing:	Mineral exploration
Method of clearing:	Mechanical removal
Tenure:	Mining Lease 77/329 Mining Lease 77/467
Location (LGA area/s):	Shire of Kondinin
Colloquial name:	Crossroads project

1.2. Description of clearing activities

IGO Newsearch Pty Ltd proposes to clear up to 2.5 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 15.20 hectares, for the purpose of mining related infrastructure. The project is located approximately 77 to 113 kilometres east of nearest town Hyden, within the Shire of Kondinin.

The application is to allow for mineral exploration.

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Grant
Decision date:	30 July 2026
Decision area:	2.5 hectares of native vegetation

1.4. Reasons for decision

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

In making this decision, the Delegated Officer had regard for the site characteristics (Appendix A), relevant datasets (Appendix D), supporting information provided by the applicant (including the results of a flora and vegetation survey, 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 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 conservation significant fauna habitat;
- the loss of native vegetation that is suitable foraging habitat for *Dasyurus geoffroi* (chuditch);
- the potential loss of native vegetation that is suitable habitat for *Leipoa ocellata* (malleefowl);
- the potential loss of native vegetation that is suitable habitat for *Zanda latirostris* (Carnaby's cockatoo); and
- potential land degradation.

After consideration of the available information, as well as the applicant's minimisation and mitigation measures (see Section 3.1), the Delegated Officer determined the proposed 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;
- undertake slow, progressive one-directional clearing to allow terrestrial fauna to move into adjacent habitat ahead of the clearing activity;
- a staged clearing condition to ensure no clearing takes place during rainfall periods;
- commence construction no later than three months after undertaking clearing to reduce the risk of erosion;
- avoid impacts to standing trees with a diameter (measured at 150 centimetres from the base of the tree) of 10 centimetres or greater, for all tree species;
- fauna management condition to survey for *Leipoa ocellata* (malleefowl) mounds in breeding season prior to clearing

2. Legislative context

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

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

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

Other legislation of relevance for this assessment include:

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

The key guidance documents which inform this assessment are:

- *A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation* (DER, December 2014)
- *Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits* (DWER, October 2021)
- Guidance for the Assessment of Environmental Factors – *Terrestrial Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment in Western Australia* (EPA, 2004a)
- Technical guidance – *Terrestrial Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment* (EPA, 2020)

3. Detailed assessment of application

3.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

The proponent has outlined the following avoidance and mitigation measure to reduce impacts on native vegetation (IGO Newsearch Pty Ltd, 2025):

Avoidance measures:

- All disturbed areas will be fully rehabilitated at the completion of the proposed work program;
- Wherever possible, access routes were aligned with existing historic tracks to minimize environmental disturbance for the proposed drill pads;
- Drill pad locations were selected using aerial photography to avoid unnecessary vegetation clearing; and
- All clearing and work activities will be directly supervised by IGO Exploration personnel, under direction from the Exploration Manager and Senior Environmental Advisor.

Mitigation measure:

To mitigate impacts as much as possible to environmental values during clearing activities, IGO Limited will implement the following management measures:

Adherence to the IGO Forresteria Exploration Environmental Management Plan V2. This includes the following measures:

Access and safety

- Suitable access from public roads and existing tracks have been identified within the project area. The following management actions will be undertaken to minimize impact on the surrounding physical and biological environment:
- Vehicle transit will only be via existing roads and tracks, including (but not limited to) paved public roads, unsealed (e.g. gravel roads), minor tracks, fence lines and fire breaks, provided they are in a suitable condition to be passable by an ordinary 4WD vehicle, drill rig and support vehicle.
- Vehicles will be minimised from using unsealed roads during wet weather to ensure that the tracks are not damaged and minimize the risk of dieback spread, soil erosion and drainage siltation.
- Vehicle speed will be regulated along the access tracks within the project areas to minimize risk of injury to animals and human and to reduce dust generation.
- Signage and barricades if deemed necessary, will be posted at the access points and at the entrance to the work areas to prevent unauthorized entry.
- Adequate PPE will be provided to all personnel for visibility and protection.

Weed and dieback management

The following measures will be implemented to minimise and mitigate the potential spread of and invasion by weeds and dieback:

- All vehicles will undergo a full weed and seed wash down at an appropriate facility prior to entry into the project area. A Weed and Seed and Vehicle Hygiene inspection form will be completed for each vehicle that will enter the project area and a new form completed as required on subsequent re-entries.
- Vehicle transit will only be via existing roads and tracks, including (but not limited to) paved public roads, unsealed (e.g. gravel roads), minor tracks, fence lines and fire breaks.
- Access will be minimized during periods of wet soil.
- The number of entry points to the site will be minimised as part of exploration planning.
- A weed species register will be maintained to inform the workers and to maintain records of weeds encountered. A guide detailing weed species that may occur will be made available to enable identification by field staff.
- Weed hygiene will be according to the IGO's standard work procedure for weed and seed and vehicle hygiene

Spill management

The use of fuels, oils, lubricant and other potentially contaminating chemicals during exploration activities have the potential contaminate soil and water, and impact on flora and fauna health. IGO will implement the following management measures to reduce the potential impacts of hydrocarbons and other chemicals on the environment:

- Minimal quantities of chemicals and hydrocarbons will be used during exploration activities and these will be stored within appropriate containers or within vehicle/s, as per Exp-Pro-014 Hazardous Substance Clean up and Disposal.
- All the vehicles and equipment will be inspected daily for leaks of any type of fluid before entering the project area.
- All refuelling or maintenance of vehicles must occur in an area cleared of native vegetation and stripped of topsoil.
- All Exploration activities will have spill kits available and understand proper spill response in conjunction with Exp-Pro-014 and FNO Hydrocarbon Management Plan.
- Drill rigs will have a plastic liner underneath (rig nappy) to contain any minor spills.
- Any spills will be managed as per the Exploration Hazardous
- Substance Clean Up and Disposal procedure reported to the Exploration Environment team and the necessary external regulators where required.

Flora and vegetation

Clearing of native vegetation during exploration activities can impact the environment by reduction of floral diversity and conservation significant species and impact the functioning of ecological communities through increased risk of soil erosion and loss of floral species. It is therefore important to reduce the impact of clearing as much as practical during exploration activities. Clearing may be required for construction of access tracks, drill pads and sumps. To manage impacts on soil and vegetation during exploration activities, IGO will implement the following management measures:

- Prior to any clearing of vegetation or ground disturbance, flora and vegetation surveys will be undertaken for the immediate area.
- A Land Clearing Request Form will be fully executed prior to any clearing taking place, as per IGO Exploration Clearing Procedure (EXP-ENV-GDL-000002).
- The drill site set up will be detailed in the Land Clearing Request.
- Conservation significant flora that may occur in the area will be included in IGO FNO Flora Identification Guide to aid identification by field staff.
- Priority flora, identified from the field survey, will be taken into account during the earthworks planning stage and each individual plant will be avoided from disturbance where-ever possible.
- Where Threatened flora (*BC Act*, *EPBC Act*) has been identified by flora and vegetation surveys, a 50 meter exclusion zone will be established around each individual.
 - Any clearing of vegetation or other potentially damaging activity within this exclusion zone will be subject to a Native Vegetation Clearing Permit application to DEMIRS now DMPE and/or a referral to the Federal Government under the EPBC Act.
- Where possible, clearing will be undertaken with a raised blade to minimise disturbance to roots and soil.
- Where soil and overburden are being removed as part of major ground disturbing activities, the topsoil will be stripped and stockpiled separately, stored and returned to disturbed areas at the completion of exploration activities.
- Cleared vegetation will be stockpiled for respreading at a later date, aiding in rehabilitation.
- Existing tracks, fence lines and firebreaks will be used wherever possible to limit clearing.
- Where practical, branches overhanging tracks which require removal will be pruned, rather than entirely removed, to minimise clearing.
- Areas to be cleared will be clearly pegged or flagged and delineated in the field and marked on the site plan. Persons undertaking clearing activities and the IGO Exploration Representative will walk the area to be cleared prior to commencement of clearing, to confirm the area to be cleared. All persons involved in clearing activities will be inducted on the importance of minimising vegetation clearing and disturbance.
- Significant flora and habitat of significant fauna species will be avoided wherever possible, this will include retaining large trees and those with significant hollows.
- Any suspected sightings of conservation significant species will be reported to the IGO Environment team, GPS location and photographs will be recorded.

Fauna

To reduce the risk of adverse outcome on native fauna species during the exploration activities, the following management measures will be implemented in addition to relevant measures discussed in the above sections:

- All land clearing will be completed to the standard of IGO Exploration Clearing Guideline (EXP-ENV-GDL-000002) and A Land Clearing Request Form will be fully executed prior to any clearing taking place, as per IGO Exploration Clearing Guideline (EXP-ENV-GDL-000002).
- Conservation significant fauna previously recorded, likely to occur or with the potential to occur in the management area will be included in the IGO FNO Fauna Identification Guide, made available to staff to facilitate identification.
- All sightings of conservation significant species will be reported to the Exploration Environment team, GPS location will be recorded.
- All drillholes will be temporarily capped upon the completion of drilling and rehabilitated as soon as practicable.
- Any significant natural structure that are likely to provide habitat for the native fauna, such as hollow bearing trees, large trees and hollow logs will be avoided from disturbance wherever possible.
- Exploration activities will be carried out during the daytime and avoided at night, where possible to reduce disturbance to fauna species.
- Vehicles will travel at reduced speeds within the project area to minimise the likelihood of fauna mortality or morbidity associated with vehicle collisions. Any vehicle collisions involving conservation significant species will be immediately reported to the Exploration Manager and the Exploration Environment team.
- Any significant fauna sighted or injured on collision will be notified to DBCA through Injured or Abandoned Fauna Notification Form pursuant to *Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2018*. All other injured fauna will be released back into wild or handed over to DBCA or suitable facility for rehabilitation.
- Pets will not be allowed within the project area to prevent disturbances to conservation significant species and ensure that fauna are not subjected to predation or injury arising from interactions with domestic animals.
- Staff members will not feed or interact with any native species unless intervention is strictly necessary to prevent injury to personnel or the animal in question.
- All the domestic waste will be stored in container/bins with secure lid to deter fauna attraction.
- Sumps are to be appropriately ramped to allow fauna egress.
- Sumps should be inspected regularly for fauna.

Carnaby's Black Cockatoo impact mitigating measures:

- Clearing activities should, if practicable, be undertaken outside of the August-February breeding season to minimise risks to nesting birds.
- If undertaking the proposed activities during this seasonal period, large trees with hollows (likely nesting trees) will be avoided from clearing with a 50 meter buffer.
- Clearing avoidance, wherever possible, of trees with a suitable diameter at breast height (DBH) to currently have hollows or likely to be able to form hollows used by Carnaby's black cockatoo. For most species of tree used by Carnaby's black cockatoos, this is a DBH of 300-500 millimetres or larger.

Malleefowl impact mitigating measures:

- All areas of proposed clearing will have targeted pre-clearance surveys to ensure that the any Malleefowl mounds within 200m of proposed clearing are identified.
- All Malleefowl mounds will be avoided with a 50 meter buffer.
- Prior to the Malleefowl breeding season (September to March), Malleefowl mounds in proximity to exploration activities will be
- evaluated for signs of activity and avoided with a minimum 200 meter exclusion zone, if signs of activity are detected.

Chuditch impact mitigating measures:

- Suitable Chuditch habitat including hollow bearing trees and burrows will be avoided from clearing or other disturbances
- If suitable Chuditch habitat hollow bearing logs are identified within the proposed disturbance envelope, then they will be retained and moved into adjacent uncleared areas.

Water management

No significant water bodies or rivers coincide with areas of planned work, within the project area. The exploration work program is not anticipated to impact water quality by contamination from hydrocarbon, effluents directly draining onto the land and sediments from vehicle movement. The following management measures will however be implemented to reduce potential impacts on water environments:

- Movement of vehicles on unsealed roads will not be conducted during and after significant rain events, to prevent erosion and silt generation in drainage.
- Hydrocarbon management will be undertaken to prevent the risk of water contamination.
- All drill water and cuttings will be contained in drill sump.
- Polypipe will only be plumbed to the current drill pad/s to minimise the length of active polypipe. Polypipe will be purged before any alterations are made to the line to ensure leakage is eliminated during relocation of the polypipe.
- Water will be transported by a suitably licensed water-cart or polypipe to the drill site.

Fire management

Fire initiated as a result of exploration activities can result in destruction of flora, vegetation, fauna and fauna habitat. The following management measures will be implemented to reduce the risk of fire generation during exploration activities, as well as best manage any fire event not associated with the site activities:

- All vehicles will be fitted with well-maintained exhaust systems to prevent the accumulation of combustible material against heat surfaces.
- All vehicles will be fitted with an appropriate fire extinguisher.
- Fire awareness and education on bush fires, including evacuation routes, in terms of emergency, will be imparted to the project team during induction.
- All relevant fire control legislation, guidelines and instructions will be complied.
- Any cigarette butts will be disposed of appropriately.
- All the fire extinguishers and AFFF devices will be inspected periodically and serviced accordingly, if required.
- Highly flammable substances will be appropriately stored during all exploration activities.
- Total fire bans will be observed according to the advice from Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) and in accordance with the IGO Total Fire Ban Checklist.
- No fires will be deliberately started. If a fire is noticed, DBCA and DFES will be contacted immediately.

Rehabilitation

Appropriate rehabilitation will ensure that the long-term impacts of exploration in the area will be minimal. DEMIRS rehabilitation requirements are that rehabilitated areas are made safe, stable, are non-polluting and have a demonstrated capacity to support a self-sustaining ecosystem similar to surrounding natural environment. IGO will comply with any tenement conditions set regarding rehabilitation and will follow the IGO Exploration Rehabilitation Guideline (EXP_ENV_GDL_000001). Key rehabilitation measures to be implemented include the following:

- Drill holes will be securely capped or plugged immediately at the completion of each drill hole.
- Access routes, survey lines, drill pads, drill holes and sumps will be rehabilitated within twelve months of completion of each exploration program. However, if access routes are likely to be used in the near future to support further exploration, then IGO will approach DEMIRS to discuss the need for retention and will apply to defer the requirements to rehabilitate these areas for a longer period (e.g. 6-12 months).
- Plastic bags, grid pegs and other artificial debris and waste will be removed from site and disposed of appropriately.
- Sump liner to be removed from drill sump.
- Drill spoil will be emptied into sumps, or removed from site and disposed of at appropriately licensed facilities.
- Drill holes will eventually be plugged below ground level (preferably with appropriate conical plastic plug) and rehabilitated in accordance with DMP guidelines.
- Sumps will be backfilled and rehabilitated.
- Compacted areas will be ripped along the original contour.
- Stockpiled soil will be spread over disturbed area.
- Stockpiled vegetation will be respread over finished surfaces.

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. Additionally, further management conditions have been placed on the clearing permit to mitigate and minimise potential impacts to 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 may present a risk to biological values (priority flora, as well as priority fauna and fauna habitat). 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) - Clearing principles (a) and (c)

Assessment

Botanica (2025) completed a Reconnaissance Flora, Vegetation and Basic Fauna Survey in November 2024 across the broader Crossroads survey area, which encompassed the application area. Database searches identified multiple records of Priority flora species within a 20 kilometre radius of the application area. However, despite the presence of these records, only three Priority flora species were recorded during the survey over the application area (Botanica, 2025). The survey was undertaken during the EPA's recommended primary survey period for the South-West and Interzone Botanical Provinces, and Botanica reported no survey constraints that would have limited the detection of Priority flora. Of the three Priority flora species recorded, only *Eutaxia acanthoclada* (Priority 3) was found within vegetation associations that occur within the application area. The fact that no additional Priority flora species were identified during a suitably timed and unconstrained survey provides a high level of confidence that the other Priority flora species known from the surrounding region are not present within the application area, and therefore not considered below.

Two Threatened flora species listed under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act), *Eucalyptus steedmanii* (T) and *Paragoodia crenulata* (T), have previously been recorded within the broader Crossroads survey area. However, neither species is considered likely to be impacted by the proposed clearing.

Eucalyptus steedmanii was not recorded during the survey undertaken by Botanica (2025). Database records of this species date back to early 2000's, with the nearest known population located approximately five kilometres southwest of the application area. Furthermore, database records indicate that occurrences of this species are located in the surrounding area rather than within the application area itself. Given the survey coverage and the absence of any detections during field surveys (Botanica, 2025), it can be concluded with confidence that *Eucalyptus steedmanii* does not occur within the application area and is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed clearing.

Similarly, *Paragoodia crenulata* was not recorded during the Botanica (2025) survey, despite database searches identifying historical records approximately 10 kilometres north of the application area dating back to around 2005. The species was not detected during the unconstrained survey completed by Botanica (2025), which covered the whole of the application area, even though it was outside of the species' primary flowering period (WAH, 2018-) of the application area the Delegated Officer considered that there is a moderate to high level of confidence that *Paragoodia crenulata* is unlikely to occur in the application area and unlikely to be impacted by the proposed clearing.

***Eutaxia acanthoclada* (P3)**

This Priority Three flora species was recorded within vegetation associations CLP-EW1 and CLP-MW1 during the Botanica (2025) survey. Although these vegetation associations occur within the application area, the species is known to occur broadly in the local surrounding area, with numerous records documented within 20 kilometres of the application area. In addition, Botanica (2025) recorded approximately 300 individuals across the broader survey area.

Given the relatively small extent of the proposed clearing, the abundance of the species within the surrounding area, and its occurrence outside the application area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to have a significant impact on the local population of *Eutaxia acanthoclada*. Accordingly, impacts to this Priority flora species are expected to be minimal.

***Lamiaceae Microcorys* sp. *Forrestania* (V. English 2004) (P4)**

Although the vegetation associations within the application area provide potential habitat for *Microcorys* sp. *Forrestania*, the species was not recorded within the application area during the Botanica (2025) survey. The species was recorded within other vegetation associations in the broader survey area, and database searches identified numerous records within 20 kilometre of the application area. Florabase (WAH, 2018-) records also indicate that the species is known from other locations within the surrounding region and is not restricted to the application area itself. Accordingly, the proposed clearing is unlikely to result in a significant impact on the local occurrence or long-term persistence of this species.

***Teucrium diabolicum* (P3)**

Although *Teucrium diabolicum* (P3) is known to occur in vegetation associations represented within the application area, it was not recorded within the application area during the Botanica (2025) survey. The species was recorded elsewhere in the broader survey area, indicating that it is not restricted to the vegetation associations present within the application area itself.

Database searches identified multiple records of *Teucrium diabolicum* within 20 kilometres of the application area, demonstrating that the species is well represented in the local region. Florabase (WAH, 2018-) records also indicate that the species occurs more broadly throughout the Coolgardie bioregion and is not confined to the application area. Therefore, given the absence of the species from the area proposed to be cleared and the availability of suitable habitat in the surrounding landscape, the proposed clearing is unlikely to have a significant impact on the local abundance or persistence of *Teucrium diabolicum*.

Conclusion

The vegetation associations present within the application area are well represented in the surrounding landscape and are not restricted to the application area. The Priority flora species recorded during the survey, and the Priority flora known from the wider area, as well as the Threatened flora species recorded during the database search, occur outside the application area and are not dependent on the vegetation proposed to be cleared. Given the small size of the proposed clearing, the absence of Priority flora species from the application area, and the availability of similar habitat in the surrounding landscape, the proposed clearing is unlikely to have a significant impact on the local populations of Priority flora species, and any impacts to *Eucalyptus steedmanii* and *Paragoodia crenulata* as a result of the proposed clearing are considered unlikely.

Conditions

Nil.

3.2.2. Biological values (fauna) - Clearing principle (b)

Assessment

***Dasyurus geoffroii* (chuditch, western quoll)**

Multiple records of *Dasyurus geoffroii* (chuditch, western quoll) exist within a 20 kilometre radius of the application area, including relatively recent observations from database searches (GIS Database). The species is known to have large home ranges, typically between three and 15 kilometres, and occurs in low overall population numbers, with approximately 75 percent of individuals located in the eucalypt forests, woodlands, mallee heath, and shrublands of south-west and south coastal Western Australia (DCCEEW, 2012).

Chuditch require specific habitat features to survive, including adequate den sites (such as hollow logs, burrows, or rock crevices), sufficient prey resources (particularly large invertebrates), and extensive areas of suitable habitat, generally exceeding 20,000 hectares. The species is most commonly found in jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*) forests and woodlands in the south-west, as well as woodlands, mallee shrublands, and heath along the south coast, with occasional records in drier woodland and mallee habitats in the Wheatbelt and Goldfields regions (DCCEEW, 2012).

The chuditch has previously been recorded within the local area and is therefore considered likely to utilise habitats surrounding the application area (Botanica, 2025). However, no evidence of the species was recorded during the Botanica (2025) survey. Given the relatively small size of the application area compared to the species' large home range requirements and preference for extensive, continuous habitat (DCCEEW, 2012), it is likely the proposed clearing will have some impact on the local population of chuditch, however not on a regional scale or of conservation significance.

***Falco peregrinus* (peregrine falcon)**

The nearest recorded occurrence of the Peregrine Falcon is approximately five kilometres from the application area. This species typically nests in cliff recesses, tree hollows, or abandoned nests of other birds (BirdLife, 2026a). This species may utilise the area for foraging or potentially nest in large hollow-bearing trees; however, the Peregrine falcon occurs across very broad habitat types, which indicates high mobility and adaptability (BirdLife, 2026a). Therefore, the species is unlikely to be dependent on the habitat within the application area for survival.

To minimise any potential impacts on nesting habitat, unauthorised clearing of trees two metres in height or greater is not permitted, thereby reducing the risk of disturbing any nests that may occur within hollow-bearing trees. This species was not observed during the Botanica (2025) survey; however, its absence in the survey does not necessarily indicate that it is not present in the area.

***Idiosoma castellum* (tree-stem trapdoor spider)**

IGO Newsearch Pty Ltd (2025) noted that raised-blade clearing methods will be used, which are generally associated with minimal ground disturbance, as they remove aboveground vegetation while largely retaining root systems and topsoil. This approach reduces the likelihood of impacting tree-stem trapdoor spider habitat because burrows are typically constructed at the base of shrubs and trees and depend on relatively undisturbed soil structure (Atlas of Living Australia, 2026). Although Botanica (2025) did not record the species during the survey, the likelihood of this species was assessed as 'possibly occurring' within the application area. However, given the species' broad geographic distribution (Bennelongia Environmental Consultants, 2023), the low impact nature of the proposed clearing method, and the size of the application area, it is unlikely that the clearing will adversely affect the tree-stem trapdoor spider or its habitat.

***Leipoa ocellata* (malleefowl)**

The closest recorded occurrence of this species is within five kilometres of the application area, with multiple additional records within a 20 kilometre radius (GIS Database). No malleefowl or malleefowl mounds were observed during the survey conducted by Botanica (2025). Botanica (2025) noted that suitable habitat is likely to occur within the application area, nevertheless, given the absence of sightings and the relatively small extent of the proposed clearing, it is unlikely that the activity will have a significant impact on this species. However, due to the presence of malleefowl within the surrounding area, and the presence of suitable habitat, a fauna management condition for malleefowl has been included on the permit.

***Notamacropus irma* (western brush wallaby)**

The western brush wallaby is typically found in habitats associated with dry sclerophyll forest and woodland, including mallee areas with grassy understorey and thickets of shrubs (Botanica, 2025). Botanica (2025) has noted that this species may possibly occur as occasional transient individuals only as there are large expanses of similar habitat in surrounding areas.

This species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed clearing within the application area.

***Paroplocephalus atriceps* (Lake Cronin snake)**

This species is considered unlikely to occur within the application area (Botanica, 2025). Botanica (2025) noted that the available habitat is unsuitable, as the species typically frequents Eucalyptus woodlands and granite outcrops, and the application area is located on Banded Ironstone Formation (GIS Database). The closest known record is approximately five kilometres from the application area; however, this record dates back to 1967. While additional records exist within a 20 kilometre radius, DBCA (2026) advise that more suitable habitat occurs within the surrounding landscape. Given the lack of suitable habitat within the application area, it is unlikely that the proposed clearing will impact this species.

***Platycercus icterotis xanthogenys* (western rosella (inland))**

Western Rosellas are found in open eucalypt forest and timbered areas, including cultivated land and orchards. The inland species occurs in drier woodland, with a heath understorey (Birdlife Australia, 2026b). Botanica (2025) has noted that this species possibly occurs aerially over the application area; however, the habitat appears marginal or unsuitable for breeding.

This species is unlikely to be impacted by the clearing within the application area specifically due to presence of unsuitable habitat.

***Zanda latirostris* (Carnaby's cockatoo)**

Zanda latirostris (Carnaby's cockatoo) has been recorded on multiple occasions within a 20 kilometre radius of the application area (GIS Database). Although these records are dated, they remain relevant and cannot be disregarded. Occurrences have been documented within the Coolgardie to Southern Cross subregion. The presence of Carnaby's cockatoo in this area is seasonal and strongly associated with specific habitat conditions (Johnstone and Kirkby, 2019).

Carnaby's Cockatoo is a migratory species, known to move from inland breeding areas such as Broomehill, Lake Cronin, Hatter Hill (north of the application area), and Lake King toward the south coast (Johnstone and Kirkby, 2019).

Botanica (2025) recorded Carnaby's Cockatoos flying overhead during previous field surveys; however, Botanica (2025) noted that habitat within the application area is marginal and generally unsuitable for breeding. The Carnaby's cockatoo is endemic to the south-west of Western Australia and typically breeds in woodland or forest habitats, nesting in hollows of mature live or dead trees such as *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* (salmon gum), wandoo, tuart, jarrah (*E. marginata*), flooded gum (*E. rudis*), york gum (*E. loxophleba* subsp. *loxophleba*), powderbark (*E. accedens*), karri, and marri (Commonwealth of Australia, 2012; BirdLife, 2026). A small portion of the application area contains *Eucalyptus salmonophloia*, a primary confirmed nesting tree, while *Eucalyptus longicornis*, which has also been recorded within the application area, has confirmed documentation as an active nesting tree (Terrestrial Ecosystems, 2011). Lake Cronin and Forrestania are situated at the absolute eastern boundary of the Carnaby Cockatoo's breeding range (Johnstone and Kirkby, 2019), making these areas specifically important for foraging resources, specifically within close proximity to viable nesting hollows.

The Carnaby's Cockatoo (*Zanda latirostris*) feeds predominantly on the seeds of proteaceous species, including *Banksia*, *Dryandra*, *Hakea* and *Grevillea*, in addition to seeds, nuts and cones from *Eucalyptus* and *Corymbia* species (Kaarakin, 2026). Vegetation within the application area comprises of mid mallee woodland (*Eucalyptus celastroides*, *Eucalyptus cylindrocarpa*, *Eucalyptus tephroclada*) over open heath and mixed shrubland dominated by *Acacia* and *Melaleuca*. While these vegetation types are generally regarded as foraging resources for Carnaby's Cockatoo, higher value foraging habitat is typically associated with proteaceous species such as *Hakea* and *Grevillea* (Johnstone and Kirkby, 2019).

However, the application area occurs in close proximity to Lake Cronin, which lies within the species known breeding range (Johnstone and Kirkby, 2019). Given this spatial context, the potential for the application area to provide supplementary or opportunistic foraging resources cannot be excluded. As such, the foraging habitat value of the application area requires consideration despite the absence of higher quality proteaceous food resources.

Conditions

- avoid impacts to standing trees with a diameter (measured at 150 centimetres from the base of the tree) of 10 centimetres or greater, for all tree species to protect any potential breeding habitat and possible foraging habitat;
- conduct all clearing authorised under this permit in one direction towards adjacent vegetation to allow a reasonable time for fauna present within the area being cleared to move into that adjacent native vegetation; and
- *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) – Inspect the application area for active and inactive malleefowl mounds prior to clearing. Where mounds are identified, implement appropriate avoidance measures and avoid clearing in the vicinity of active mounds during the breeding season to minimise potential impacts to the species.

3.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The clearing permit application was advertised on 23 January 2026 by the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

The permit area is within the South West Native Title Settlement area (DPLH, 2026). This settlement resolves Native Title rights and interests over an area of approximately 200,000 square kilometres within the southwest of Western Australia. The mining tenure has been granted in accordance with the future act regime of the *Native Title Act 1993*, and the nature of the act (i.e. the proposed clearing activity) has been provided for in that process, therefore the granting of a clearing permit is not a future act under the *Native Title Act 1993*.

There are no registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the application area (DPLH, 2026). It is the proponent's responsibility to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* and ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

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

Other relevant authorisations required for the proposed land use include:

- A Programme of Work approved under the *Mining Act 1978*

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

End

Appendix A. Site characteristics

A.1. Site characteristics

Characteristic	Details		
Local context	The area proposed to be cleared is located within the Southern Cross subregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) Coolgardie Bioregion (GIS Database).		
Ecological linkage	The application area does not form part of a formal or informal ecological linkages (GIS Database).		
Conservation areas	The application area is located within the Lake Cronin EPA Redbook (1976–1999) recommended conservation reserves. It is situated approximately three kilometres south of Lake Cronin Nature Reserve.		
Vegetation description	The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation association: 511: Wheatbelt; York gum, salmon gum etc. <i>Eucalyptus loxophleba</i> , <i>E. salmonophloia</i> . Goldfields; gimlet, redwood etc. <i>E. salubris</i> , <i>E. oleosa</i> . Riverine; rivergum <i>E. camaldulensis</i> . Tropical; messmate, woolybush (GIS Database).		
	A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the application area by Botanica Consulting during November 2024. The following vegetation associations were recorded within the application area (Botanica, 2025):		
	Major Vegetation Group	Vegetation Code	Vegetation Association
	Eucalyptus Woodland (MVG 5)	CLP-EW1	Low open forest of <i>Eucalyptus flocktoniae</i> / <i>E. salubris</i> / <i>E. urna</i> on clay-loam plain
	Regrowth, Modified Native Vegetation (MVG 29)	CLP-REW1	Recovering burnt low open forest of <i>Eucalyptus flocktoniae</i> / <i>E. salubris</i> / <i>E. urna</i> on clay-loam plain
	Mallee Woodland and Shrublands (MVG 14)	CLP-MW1	Open low woodland mallee shrubland of <i>E. pileata</i> / <i>E. tephroclada</i> / <i>E. celastroides</i> on clay-loam plain
	Mallee Woodland and Shrublands (MVG 14)	HS-MW2	Mid mallee woodland of <i>Eucalyptus celastroides</i> / <i>E. cylindrocarpa</i> / <i>E. tephroclada</i> over mid open heathland of <i>Acacia</i> / <i>Melaleuca</i> spp. and low mixed open shrubland
Vegetation condition	The vegetation survey (Botanica Consulting, 2025) as well as aerial imagery indicate the vegetation within the proposed clearing area is in “Completely Degraded to “Very Good” condition. The full Keighery (1994) condition rating scale is provided in Appendix C.		
Climate and landform	The application area has an annual average rainfall of 327.3 millimetres (BOM, 2026).		
Soil description	The application area falls within the Greenmount Land System. These land systems are described as rounded low greenstone hills and rolling rises, supporting eucalypt woodlands with non-halophytic understoreys and Allocasuarina thickets (DPIRD, 2026).		
Land degradation risk	The Greenmount Land System is generally not susceptible to wind erosion but is highly susceptible to water erosion if vegetation cover and surface mantle are removed (DPIRD, 2020).		
Waterbodies	The desktop assessment and aerial imagery indicated that no watercourses intersect the application area, however, a small portion of the application area may be subject to inundation (GIS Database). The application area lies approximately five kilometres south of Lake Cronin (GIS Database).		
Hydrogeography	The application area has a mapped groundwater salinity of 14,000 – 35,000 milligrams per litre total dissolved solids which is described as moderately to highly saline (GIS Database).		
Flora	Botanica (2025) recorded approximately 300 individuals of <i>Eutaxia acanthoclada</i> (Priority 3) were within the application area. Two species listed under the BC Act have been recorded in areas surrounding the application area (GIS Database).		
Ecological communities	The application area is situated within a Ironcap Hills vegetation assemblages (Mt Holland, Middle, North and South Ironcap Hills, Digger Rock and Hatter Hill) (greenstone ranges)) Priority Ecological Community in an Environmentally Sensitive area (Botanica, 2025; GIS Database).		
Fauna	Multiple fauna species occur within a 20 kilometre radius of the application area, including Migratory, Vulnerable, Other Specially Protected, Priority Four, and Endangered species.		
Fauna habitat	Six broad scale terrestrial fauna habitats were identified as occurring within the application area (Botanica, 2025).		

Characteristic	Details		
	Landform	Vegetation Code	Description
	Eucalypt Woodland on a clay loam plain	CLP-EW	Eucalyptus woodland over <i>Allocasuarina/Melaleuca</i> shrubland
	Eucalypt woodland/ Mallee woodland on a hillslope and rocky hillslope	CLP- HS/RS-EW/MW	Eucalyptus and Mallee woodland over mixed shrubland
	Mallee woodland on a clay loam plain	CLP-MW	Eucalyptus mallee woodland over <i>Melaleuca</i> shrubland
	Regrowth of eucalypt and mallee woodland on a clay loam plain	CLP-REW/MW	Regrowth Eucalypt and mallee woodland over mixed shrubland

A.2. Flora analysis table

With consideration for the site characteristics set out above, relevant datasets (Appendix D.1), and biological survey information, impacts to the following conservation significant flora required further consideration.

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>Eutaxia acanthoclada</i>	P3	Y	Y	Y	5	300	Y
<i>Acacia asepala</i>	P2	N	Y	N	5	-	Y
<i>Austrostipa everettiana</i>	P1	Y	Y	Y	5	-	Y
<i>Balaustion grandibracteatum</i> subsp. <i>junctiona</i>	P2	N	N	N	5	-	Y
<i>Balaustion</i> sp. North Ironcap (R.J. Cranfield 10580)	P1	Y	Y	Y	5	-	Y
<i>Comesperma calcicola</i>	P3	N	N	N	5	-	Y
<i>Cryptandra polyclada</i> subsp. <i>polyclada</i>	P3	N	N	N	5	-	Y
<i>Cyanothamnus westringioides</i>	P2	Y	Y	Y	5	-	Y
<i>Dampiera scaevolina</i>	P1	N	N	N	5	-	Y
<i>Daviesia implexa</i>	P3	Y	Y	Y	5	-	Y
<i>Elatine macrocalyx</i>	P3	N	N	N	5	-	Y
<i>Eremophila biserrata</i>	P4	N	N	N	5	-	Y
<i>Eremophila inflata</i>	P4	Y	Y	Y	5	-	Y
<i>Eremophila racemosa</i>	P4	Y	Y	Y	5	-	Y
<i>Eucalyptus exigua</i>	P3	Y	Y	Y	5	-	Y
<i>Eucalyptus georgei</i> subsp. <i>fulgida</i>	P4	Y	Y	Y	5	-	Y
<i>Eucalyptus steedmanii</i>	T	Y	Y	Y	5	-	Y
<i>Euchilus daena</i>	P3	N	N	N	5	-	Y
<i>Eutaxia rubricarina</i>	P3	Y	Y	Y	5	-	Y
<i>Frankenia drummondii</i>	P3	N	N	N	5	-	Y
<i>Hibbertia pachyphylla</i>	P3	N	N	N	5	-	Y
<i>Hysterobaeckea pterocera</i>	P1	Y	Y	Y	5	-	Y
<i>Isolepis australiensis</i>	P3	N	N	N	5	-	Y

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>Melaleuca macrorychia</i> subsp. <i>trygonoides</i>	P3	N	Y	N	5	-	Y
<i>Microcorys</i> sp. <i>Forrestania</i> (V. English 2004)	P4	Y	Y	Y	5	-	Y
<i>Olearia laciniifolia</i>	P2	Y	Y	Y	5	-	Y
<i>Paragoodia crenulata</i>	T	Y	Y	Y	10	-	Y
<i>Pityrodia scabra</i> subsp. <i>dendrotricha</i>	P3	Y	Y	Y	5	-	Y
<i>Pterostylis echinulata</i>	P3	N	Y	N	5	-	Y
<i>Rinzia torquata</i>	P3	N	N	N	5	-	Y
<i>Scaevola tortuosa</i>	P1	N	N	N	5	-	Y
<i>Seringia adenogyna</i>	P3	N	N	N	5	-	Y
<i>Stylidium sejunctum</i>	P3	Y	Y	Y	5	-	Y
<i>Teucrium diabolicum</i>	P3	Y	Y	Y	5	-	Y
<i>Verticordia gracilis</i>	P3	N	N	N	5	-	Y

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

A.3. Fauna analysis table

With consideration for the site characteristics set out above, relevant datasets (Appendix D.1), and biological survey information, impacts to the following conservation significant fauna required further consideration.

Species name	Conservation status	Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Suitable vegetation type? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Are surveys adequate to identify? [Y, N, N/A]
<i>Apus pacificus</i> (fork-tailed swift)	MI	N	N	5	Y
<i>Calidris acuminata</i> (sharp-tailed sandpiper)	MI	N	N	10	Y
<i>Dasyurus geoffroyi</i> (chuditch, western quoll)	VU	Y	Y	5	Y
<i>Falco peregrinus</i> (peregrine falcon)	OS	Y	Y	5	Y
<i>Idiosoma castellum</i> (tree-stem trapdoor spider)	P4	Y	Y	10	Y
<i>Leipoa ocellata</i> (malleefowl)	VU	Y	Y	5	Y
<i>Notamacropus irma</i> (western brush wallaby)	P4	N	Y	5	Y
<i>Paroplocephalus atriceps</i> (Lake Cronin snake)	P3	N	N	5	Y
<i>Platycercus icterotis xanthogenys</i> (western rosella (inland))	P4	N	N	5	Y
<i>Zanda latirostris</i> (Carnaby's cockatoo)	EN	Y	Y	5	Y

Appendix B. Assessment against the clearing principles

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Environmental value: biological values		
<u>Principle (a):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biodiversity."	At variance	Yes

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
<u>Assessment:</u> The application area contains Priority flora species and sits within the Priority 3 Priority Ecological Community (PEC) of Ironcap Banded Ironstone Formation (BIF) Hills vegetation assemblages (Mt Holland, Middle, North and South Ironcap Hills, Digger Rock and Hatter Hill) (greenstone ranges). (Botanica, 2025; GIS Database). Multiple records of Priority flora species occur within a 20 kilometre radius of the application area (GIS Database), and one Priority Three flora species has been recorded within the application area during the survey conducted by Botanica in November 2025. The application area does not contain records of conservation significant fauna species however, multiple records of conservation significant species exist within a 20 kilometre radius, some of which are as close as approximately 5 kilometres to the application area (GIS Database; Botanica, 2025).		Refer to Section 3.2.1, above.
<u>Principle (b):</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 significant habitat for fauna."</i> <u>Assessment:</u> The area proposed to be cleared may contain foraging, and breeding habitat for conservation significant fauna.	At variance	Yes Refer to Section 3.2.2, above.
<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> <u>Assessment:</u> The area proposed to be cleared is unlikely to contain habitat for flora species listed under the BC Act. Due to the small size of the application area, the comprehensive survey coverage, as well as the absence of any records during field investigations, impacts to this species as a result of the proposed clearing are considered unlikely.	Not likely to be at variance	Yes Refer to Section 3.2.1, above.
<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> <u>Assessment:</u> Botanica (2025) report that there are no Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) listed under the Commonwealth EPBC Act that occur within the survey area.	May be at variance	No
Environmental value: significant remnant vegetation and conservation areas		
<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> <u>Assessment:</u> The vegetation proposed to be cleared is not considered to be part of a significant ecological linkage in the local area.	Not likely to be at variance	No
<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> <u>Assessment:</u> The proposed clearing is not likely to have an impact on the environmental values of adjacent conservation areas as the proposed clearing represents a very small portion of the broader reserve area, and surveys conducted by Botanica (2025) did not identify any unique environmental values that are restricted to the application area proposed to be cleared. The clearing within the application area is unlikely to have a major impact on the conservation values or ecological function of the broader conservation reserve.	Not at variance	No
Environmental value: land and water resources		
<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> <u>Assessment:</u> Given no water courses or wetlands are recorded within the application area, the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact on- or off-site hydrology and water quality.	Not at variance	No

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
<u>Principle (g):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation." <u>Assessment:</u> The mapped soils are susceptible to water erosion (DPIRD, 2026a). Noting the location of the application area, the proposed clearing is likely to have an appreciable impact on land degradation. This risk can be adequately managed through standard mineral exploration rehabilitation conditions and the applicants' management plan to address impacts on soil and vegetation during clearing (DPIRD, 2026a). Water erosion risk is possible if, during the clearing operations, the surface mantle is removed and the natural path of overland flow is disturbed and becomes concentrated along tracks or track margins by wind rows. Soil compaction along vehicle tracks will also concentrate overland flow and increase the water erosion hazard (DPIRD, 2020).	May be at variance	No
<u>Principle (i):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water." <u>Assessment:</u> There are no watercourses or wetlands within the application area (GIS Database), however, a small part of the application area is subject to inundation (GIS Database), and no clearing should take place during rainfall periods.	Not likely to be at variance	No
<u>Principle (j):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding." <u>Assessment:</u> The mapped topographic contours in the surrounding area indicate the proposed clearing is unlikely to contribute to increased incidence or intensity of flooding (GIS Database). Given no water courses are recorded within the application area and that the application area sits within a semi-arid climate of the region, it is unlikely that the clearing of vegetation will not exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding or contribute to waterlogging.	May be at variance	No

Appendix C. Vegetation condition rating scale

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

Considering its location, the scale below was used to measure the condition of the vegetation proposed to be cleared. This scale has been extracted from 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 Instruments Activities (Areas Approved to Clear) (DWER-076)
- Clearing Instruments Conditions (Areas Subject to Conditions) (DWER-077)
- 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
- IBSA Survey Details (DWER-118)
- Local Government Area (LGA) Boundaries (LGATE-233)
- Localities (LGATE-234)
- Mineral Field Boundaries (DMIRS-005)
- Native Title (Determination) (LGATE-066)
- Native Title (Fed Court) (LGATE-005)
- Native Title (ILUA) (LGATE-067)
- Native Title (NNTT) (LGATE-004)
- 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, Surface Water Areas and Irrigation Districts (DWER-037)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Best Available (DPIRD-027)
- Surface Water Management Areas (DWER-041)
- Townsites (LGATE-248)
- WA Now Aerial Imagery

Restricted GIS Databases used:

- Black Cockatoo Roosting Sites
- Forest Red Tailed Black Cockatoo Breeding Sites
- White-Tailed Black Cockatoo Breeding Sites
- Black Cockatoo BC Feeding SCP
- Black Cockatoo Feeding JF
- Black Cockatoo Feeding Areas Buffered
- Black Cockatoo Baudin's Distribution
- Black Cockatoo Forest Red Tail Distribution
- Black Cockatoo Carnaby's Distribution
- 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

- Atlas of Living Australia (2026) *Zanda latirostris* Carnaby, 1948.
<https://bie.ala.org.au/species/https://biodiversity.org.au/afd/taxa/4072e7ce-7ca4-4112-a9fa-c49a0f0ddd4d#overview>
- Bennelongia Environmental Consultants (2023) Earl Grey Lithium Project Short-Range Endemic Invertebrate Fauna Desktop Assessment. Prepared for Covalent Lithium. September 2023
- BirdLife (2026a) Peregrine Falcon. [Peregrine Falcon - BirdLife Australia](#) (Accessed 9 June 2026).
- BirdLife (2026b) Western Rosella. [Western Rosella - BirdLife Australia](#) (Accessed 9 June 2026).
- Botanica (2025) Reconnaissance Flora-Vegetation and Basic Fauna Survey – Forrestania Project. Prepared for IGO Limited. March 2025
- Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) (2026) Bureau of Meteorology Website – Climate Data Online, Kalgoorlie-Boulder Airport Weather Station. Bureau of Meteorology. <https://reg.bom.gov.au/climate/data/> (Accessed 18 May 2026).

- Commonwealth of Australia (2012) *EPBC Act referral guidelines for three threatened black cockatoo species: Carnaby's cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus latirostris), Baudin's cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus baudinii) and Forest red-tailed black cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus banksii naso)*. Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, Canberra.
- Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) (2012) Chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroii*) National Recovery Plan. [Chuditch \(Dasyurus geoffroii\) National Recovery Plan](#)
- 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 8 June 2026).
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) (2026) NRInfo Digital Mapping. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. Government of Western Australia. <https://dpiird.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=662e8cbf2def492381fc915aaf3c6a0f> (Accessed 27 May 2026).
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) (2020) Advice received in relation to Clearing Permit Application CPS 8822/1. Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia, July 2026.
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) (2026a) Advice received in relation to Clearing Permit Application CPS 11286/1. Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia, May 2020.
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) (2026) Advice received in relation to Clearing Permit Application CPS 112386/1. Office of the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia, July 2026.
- 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>
- 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
- IGO Newsearch Pty Ltd (2025) Application for new permit. Submitted 25 October 2025
- Johnstone, R. E., & Kirkby, T. (2019) *Black cockatoo research project: final report for housing authority 2019*. Western Australian Museum, Perth, Western Australia.
- Kaarakin (2026) Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre. Carnaby's Cockatoo. <https://blackcockatoorecovery.com/wildlife-issues/carnabys-cockatoo/> (Accessed 9 June 2026).
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Western Australian Herbarium (WAH) (1998-) FloraBase - the Western Australian Flora. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia. <https://florabase.dbca.wa.gov.au/> (Accessed July 2026).

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:

DBCAs (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.