



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details and outcomes

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	11358/1
Permit type:	Purpose permit
Applicant name:	Gold Valley Yilgarn Pty Ltd
Application received:	25 November 2025
Application area:	68.5 hectares
Purpose of clearing:	Mineral production and associated activities
Method of clearing:	Mechanical removal
Tenure:	General Purpose Lease 29/23 Mining Lease 29/408-I
Location (LGA area):	Shire of Menzies
Colloquial name:	Mount Mason DSO Hematite Project

1.2. Description of clearing activities

Gold Valley Yilgarn Pty Ltd (GVY) proposes to clear up to 68.5 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 780 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities (Clark Lindbeck, 2026b; GVY, 2025a). The project is located approximately 87 kilometres northwest of Menzies, within the Shire of Menzies (GIS Database).

The application is to allow for the development of the Mount Mason Project, which involves the mining of high grade hematite ore and the construction of associated mine infrastructure (GVY, 2025b).

The area proposed to be cleared has been previously assessed as part of CPS 9379/1 (DMIRS, 2022a; 2022b; GVY, 2025b; GIS Database). This Permit is held by Juno Minerals Limited (Juno) (DMIRS, 2022a; GVY, 2025b). General Purpose Lease 29/23 and Mining Lease 29/408-I have recently been sold by Juno to GVY (DMPE, 2026; 2026b; GVY, 2025b; GIS Database). Juno has applied to amend CPS 9379/1 to reduce the permit boundary to exclude General Purpose Lease 29/23 and Mining Lease 29/408-I (GVY, 2025b; Juno, 2025). Additionally, the amendment is to reduce the amount of clearing authorised from 141 hectares to 69 hectares (Juno, 2025). This means that the total area authorised to clear (under CPS 11358/1 and CPS 9379/2) will remain the same as what was authorised under CPS 9379/1 (Clark Lindbeck, 2026b; 2026c; DMIRS, 2022a).

Based on the most recent annual clearing report (reporting period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025), a total of 3.5 hectares of native vegetation was cleared under CPS 9379/1 during this period (Clark Lindbeck, 2026c). This clearing was undertaken on General Purpose Lease 29/23 and Mining Lease 29/408-I for the purpose of a water bore access track (Clark Lindbeck, 2026c). See Appendix E for a map of the clearing conducted. No clearing had been conducted under CPS 9379/1 prior to this reporting period (Juno, 2024).

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Grant
Decision date:	26 May 2026
Decision area:	68.5 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 B), relevant datasets (Appendix H), supporting information provided by the applicant (Appendix A) including the results of a flora and vegetation survey (Appendix F) and the results of fauna surveys (Appendix E), the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act (Appendix B), proposed avoidance and minimisation measures (Section 3.1), 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;
- potentially significant impacts to priority flora species *Hibiscus* sp. Perrinvale Station and *Calytrix hislopii*;
- impacts to the Perrinvale/Walling vegetation complexes (banded ironstone formation) priority ecological community (PEC);
- the loss of significant habitat for long-tailed dunnart;
- the loss of malleefowl breeding habitat;
- increased risk of terrestrial fauna injury or mortality from mechanical clearing;
- the loss of habitat potentially critical for arid bronze azure butterfly (ABAB);
- the loss of potential southern whiteface breeding habitat;
- impacts to vegetation associated with a watercourse;
- potential land degradation in the form of erosion and water starvation.

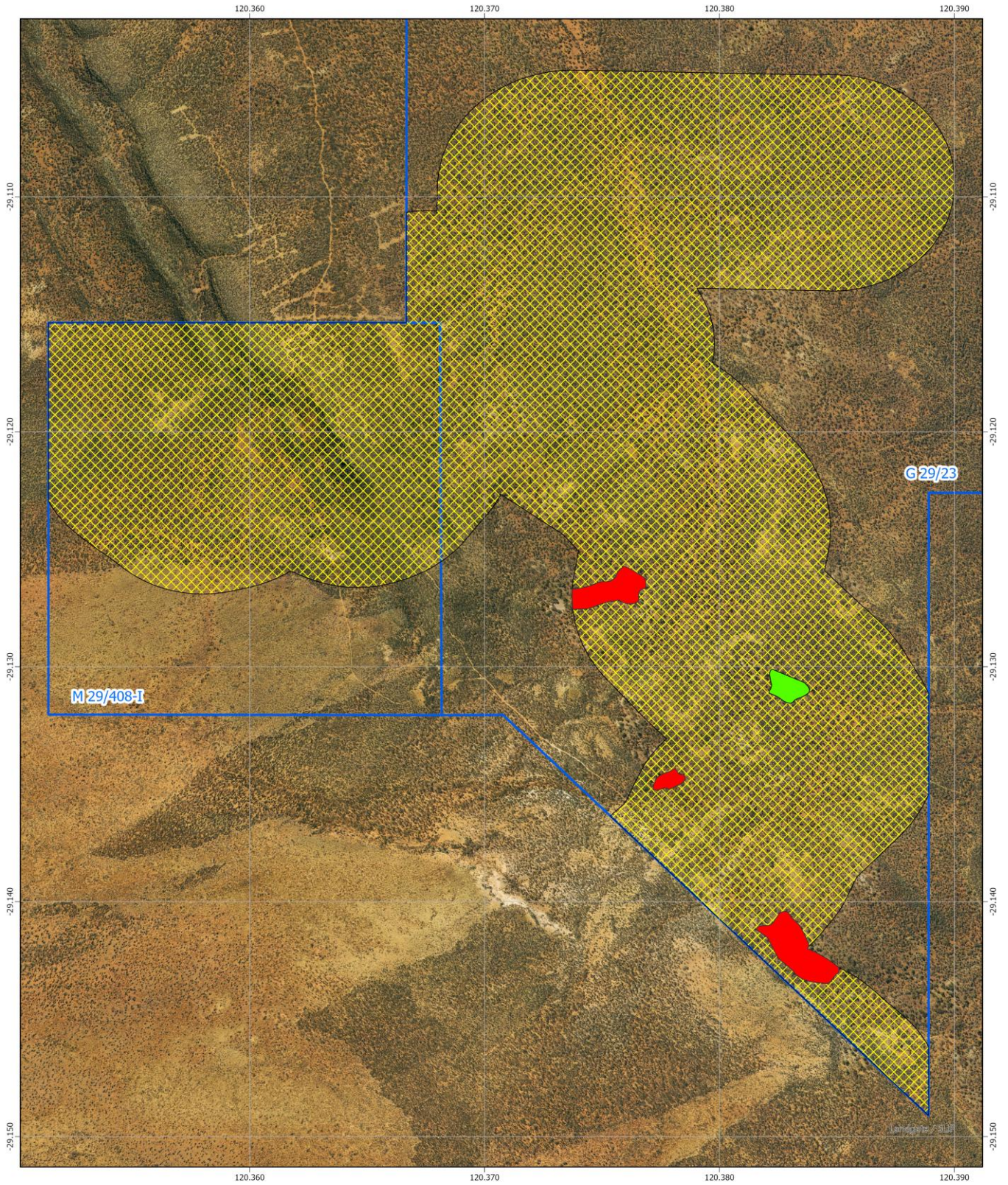
After consideration of the available information, as well as the applicant's minimisation and mitigation measures (Section 3.1), the Delegated Officer determined the proposed clearing can be minimised and managed to be unlikely to lead to an unacceptable risk to environmental values.

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;
- a flora management condition where no clearing of identified *Calytrix hislopii*, or within 10 metres, is permitted;
- prior to any clearing, a botanist shall be engaged to conduct a targeted flora survey *Hibiscus* sp. Perrinvale Station. These plants will be flagged and a ten metre buffer will be erected to ensure the preservation of identified individuals;
- avoid, minimise to reduce the impacts and extent of clearing;
- a fauna management (long-tailed dunnart) condition requiring areas proposed to be cleared to be surveyed for signs of long-tailed dunnart; and to relocate identified individuals;
- a fauna management (malleefowl) condition within potentially suitable breeding habitat requiring areas proposed to be cleared between 1 September and 31 January are inspected to identify active (in use) malleefowl mounds, and to maintain a 200 metre buffer around identified active mounds;
- slow directional clearing to allow fauna to move into adjacent vegetation ahead of the clearing activity;
- restricted clearing within ABAB habitat (shall not clear within areas shaded red in Figure 1 of Section 1.5);
- a fauna management (ABAB) condition requiring areas shaded green in Figure 1 of Section 1.5 to be surveyed to identify potential critical habitat, ant colonies and ABAB individuals, and no clearing within 100 metres of ant colonies;
- a fauna management (southern whiteface) condition requiring areas proposed to be cleared between 1 July and 31 October are inspected to identify active (in use) southern whiteface nests, and to maintain a 50 metre buffer around identified active nests;
- a staged clearing condition to minimise erosion; and
- a watercourse management condition requiring that surface water flows are not impacted by the proposed clearing, and the clearing of riparian vegetation is avoided, where practicable.

1.5. Site map

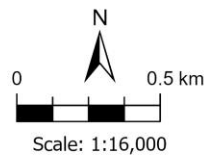
A site map of proposed clearing is provided in Figure 1 below.



LEGEND

-  CPS 11358/1
-  Areas subject to Condition 4
-  Mining Act Tenure
-  Area subject to Condition 14

GCS: GDA2020
Datum: GDA2020
Map Units: Degree



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Figure 1. Map of the application area. The yellow and green areas indicate the areas within which conditional authorised clearing can occur under the granted clearing permit. Clearing cannot occur within the areas shaded red.

2. Legislative context

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

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

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

Other legislation of relevance for this assessment include:

- *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (WA) (BC Act)
- *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* (BAM Act)
- *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (WA) (CALM Act)
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act)
- *Mining Act 1978* (WA)
- *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (RIWI Act)

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)
- Guidance for the Assessment of Environmental Factors – Terrestrial Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment in Western Australia (EPA, 2004)
- Technical guidance – Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment (EPA, 2016)
- Technical guidance – Terrestrial Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment (EPA, 2020)
- Guideline for Cumulative Impact Assessment (EPA, 2026)

3. Detailed assessment of application

3.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

The applicant states that clearing has been limited to only that required and has been designed to avoid significant flora and fauna as much as practicable (GVY, 2025a). During the assessment, the applicant reduced the area applied to clear by 3.5 hectares, from 72 hectares to 68.5 hectares, to account for the clearing conducted under CPS 9379/1 (Clark Lindbeck, 2026b).

The applicant has submitted the following mitigation strategies:

- With the exception of open pits, all areas will be rehabilitated at the completion of mining activities in accordance with the approved Mine Closure Plan;
- all equipment and vehicles involved in clearing activities will be cleaned before arriving at site; and
- pre-clearance malleefowl surveys will be undertaken in accordance with the current conditions on CPS 9379/1 (GVY, 2025a).

During the assessment, the applicant committed to avoiding clearing within the areas shaded red in Figure 1 of Section 1.5, to reduce potential impacts to arid bronze azure butterfly (ABAB) (Clark Lindbeck, 2026d). The applicant was unable to avoid clearing the area shaded green, which was also determined to be suitable habitat for ABAB, but has committed to conducting ABAB surveys in this area prior to clearing (Clark Lindbeck, 2026d).

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

3.2. Assessment of impacts on environmental values

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

The assessment against the clearing principles identified that the impacts of the proposed clearing present a risk to biological values (flora, ecological communities and fauna). 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 ecological communities) - Clearing principle (a)

Assessment

Priority flora

Calytrix hislopii (Priority 3) occurs on ridges, breakaways and rocky areas (WAH, 1998-). Within the application area, approximately 121 *Calytrix hislopii* individuals have been recorded in 29 locations (Western Botanical, 2021b). None of these locations are anticipated to be impacted, based on the proposed clearing footprint submitted by the applicant (GVY, 2025b; Western Botanical, 2021b). To ensure *Calytrix hislopii* is not significantly impacted by the proposed clearing, a condition to avoid impacts to this species will be applied to the clearing permit.

Calotis sp. Perrinvale Station (Priority 3) has been recorded in rocky areas, usually on BIF (banded iron formation) or lateritised ridges and outcrops on yellow or red-brown soils (WAH, 1998-). Within the application area, approximately 20 *Calotis* sp. Perrinvale Station plants were recorded in two locations within the Mt Mason orebody area (Western Botanical, 2021b). *Calotis* sp. Perrinvale Station is known from 24 Western Australian Herbarium (1998-) records within the Murchison, Coolgardie and Yalgoo bioregions (GIS Database). The proposed clearing will result in an impact to 7.7 percent of the known populations of *Calotis* sp. Perrinvale Station. The proposed clearing is unlikely to result in a significant impact to *Calotis* sp. Perrinvale Station at a species or regional scale (Western Botanical, 2021b).

Drosera eremaea was recorded in the survey by Western Botanical (2021b) as Priority 1. However, at the time of assessment, this species has been delisted and is no longer a species of conservation concern (WAH, 1998-).

Hibiscus sp. Perrinvale Station (Priority 1) inhabits banded ironstone formation (BIF) hill slopes, rocky areas and within drainage lines (WAH, 1998-). *Hibiscus* sp. Perrinvale Station is considered likely to occur on the upper and lower BIF slopes within the application area (Western Botanical, 2021a). This species was not observed in the Western Botanical (2021a) survey, but the dry seasonal conditions during April 2021 were not conducive to detect this species. Additionally, a survey conducted by Native Vegetation Solutions in 2013 identified a *Hibiscus* taxon to only genus level (Western Botanical, 2021a). As *Hibiscus* sp. Perrinvale Station was not recognised as a new species until 2019, it is unlikely that *Hibiscus* sp. Perrinvale Station was considered in previous surveys of the application area (Western Botanical, 2021a). Further surveys are required to determine whether *Hibiscus* sp. Perrinvale Station occurs within the application area, given surveys have been inadequate to detect this species (Western Botanical, 2021a).

Priority ecological communities (PECs)

The application area is located within the mapped extent of the Perrinvale/Walling vegetation complexes (banded ironstone formation) (Priority 1) priority ecological community (PEC) (GIS Database). This PEC has three mapped occurrences, occurring at Mt Ida/Mt Mason, Mt Hope and Lake Barlee (GIS Database). The application area is within the Mt Ida/Mt Mason occurrence (GIS Database). The Perrinvale/Walling vegetation complexes (banded ironstone formation) PEC has a total mapped extent of approximately 13,623 hectares, and the Mt Ida/Mt Mason occurrence has a mapped extent of approximately 7,366 hectares (GIS Database).

The below table summarises potential impacts to the Perrinvale/Walling vegetation complexes (banded ironstone formation) PEC from the proposed clearing, including cumulative impacts (Clark Lindbeck, 2026b; 2026c; DMIRS, 2022a; 2022b; GIS Database):

	Within CPS 9379/1	Within CPS 11358/1	Within CPS 9379/2	Within cumulative impact area (same area as CPS 9379/1)
Area mapped as the Perrinvale/Walling vegetation complexes (banded ironstone formation) PEC (hectares)	766	613	163	766
Area authorised to clear (hectares)	141	68.5	69	141
Maximum impact to the Perrinvale/Walling vegetation complexes (banded ironstone formation) PEC (percent of total mapped extent)	1.04	0.50	0.51	1.04
Maximum impact to the Mt Ida/Mt Mason occurrence (percent of total mapped extent)	1.91	0.93	0.94	1.91

The maximum proposed cumulative impact to the Mt Ida/Mt Mason occurrence of the Perrinvale/Walling vegetation complexes (banded ironstone formation) PEC would result in a loss of less than two percent of this occurrence. Therefore, the proposed clearing is unlikely to result in a significant impact to the continued existence of the PEC.

Conclusion

Based on the above assessment, the proposed clearing will result in potentially significant impacts to *Hibiscus* sp. Perrinvale Station. *Calytrix hislopilii* is not within the proposed impact area, however, a condition to avoid clearing of this taxon, and within ten metres of this taxon is recommended, to ensure that this species is not impacted by the proposed clearing.

Impacts to the Perrinvale/Walling vegetation complexes (banded ironstone formation) PEC are unlikely to be significant.

For the reasons set out above, it is considered that the impacts of the proposed clearing on priority flora and priority ecological communities (PECs) can be managed by implementing flora management conditions and avoiding, minimising and reducing the impacts and extent of clearing.

Conditions

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

- a flora management condition where no clearing of identified *Calytrix hislopilii*, or within 10 metres, is permitted;
- prior to any clearing, a botanist shall be engaged to conduct a targeted flora survey for *Hibiscus* sp. Perrinvale Station. These plants will be flagged and a ten metre buffer will be erected to ensure the preservation of identified individuals; and
- avoid, minimise to reduce the impacts and extent of clearing.

3.2.2. Biological values (fauna) - Clearing principles (a) and (b)

Assessment

Long-tailed dunnart (*Antechinomys longicaudata*), Priority 4, is a small carnivorous marsupial found in arid Western Australia and the Northern Territory, where it inhabits rocky areas (IUCN, 2025; van Dyck & Strahan, 2008; WAM, n.d.; Young, 1981). Long-tailed dunnarts were captured twice in the survey by Keith Lindbeck and Associates (2012) at Site 3, within the application area. The Site 3 habitat is described as mulga over *Eremophila forrestii* (Keith Lindbeck, 2012). A photograph of Site 3 is provided in Appendix E. Five baited camera traps were placed out for four nights in suitable habitat in the Mount Mason Project area (Western Ecological, 2021). An example of the camera trap setup and a map of the camera trap locations are provided in Appendix E. The Western Ecological (2021) survey for long-tailed dunnart consisted of camera trapping, and did not include capture trapping as recommended for species such as the long-tailed dunnart (DBCA, 2025a; EPA, 2020). This current survey is considered inadequate for the detection of long-tailed dunnarts (DBCA, 2025a; EPA, 2020). Therefore, long-tailed dunnarts are still considered to occur within the application area, even though they were not detected in the Western Ecological (2021) survey. Known populations are considered significant for long-tailed dunnart conservation, as gene flow between populations is likely limited because populations occur on isolated rocky landforms across the arid zone (DBCA, 2025a; IUCN, 2025; van Dyck & Strahan, 2008; WAM, n.d.).

Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*), Vulnerable, occurs in a range of habitat types and is primarily found in semi-arid to arid shrublands and low woodlands dominated by mallee and associated habitats, such as broombush (*Melaleuca uncinata*) and native pine (*Callitris* spp.) scrub (DCCEEW, 2024). Their nests are constructed in sandy soil and leaf litter as large mounds for egg incubation (DCCEEW, 2024). During the survey by Western Ecological (2021) evidence of malleefowl breeding (incubator nest mounds) was located within the application area. Western Ecological (2021) also observed a malleefowl individual approximately 800 metres from the application area. A map of malleefowl records is provided in Appendix E. The applicant has committed to undertaking pre-clearance surveys for malleefowl mounds and avoiding active mounds with a buffer of 50 metres, in accordance with the condition on CPS 9379/1 (GVY, 2025a). Impacts to malleefowl breeding habitat can be reduced by implementing the malleefowl management condition with an increased buffer of 200 metres to align with current best practice.

Arid bronze azure butterfly (ABAB) (*Ogyris petrina*), Critically Endangered, is threatened by clearing and habitat degradation (DBCA, 2026). The ABAB has an obligate association with sugar ant *Camponotus* sp. nr. *terebrans*, so critical breeding habitat for ABAB are areas which have colonies of the host ant (DBCA, 2020; 2026). As the application area is within the potential distribution of *Camponotus* sp. nr. *terebrans*, further consideration is required (DBCA, 2020). The host ant creates nests at the base of smooth-barked *Eucalyptus* trees (DBCA, 2026). Western Ecological (2021) has mapped two *Eucalyptus* woodland habitats within the application area, the first being *Eucalyptus salubris* open woodland and the second being *Eucalyptus lesouefii* open woodland. *Eucalyptus lesouefii* is not known to host *Camponotus* sp. nr. *terebrans*, and is not smooth-barked (DBCA, 2020; 2026; WAH, 1998-). *Eucalyptus salubris* is a smooth-barked species and is known to be suitable for *Camponotus* sp. nr. *terebrans* (DBCA, 2020; 2026; WAH, 1998-). Based on the Western Ecological (2021) mapping, there is approximately 3.9 hectares of suitable *Eucalyptus salubris* open woodland habitat within the application area. However, approximately 588 hectares (75 percent) of the application area was not included in the survey by Western Ecological (2021). The Western Botanical (2021b) survey identified four *Eucalyptus* woodland vegetation associations, with dominant species being *Eucalyptus salubris*, *Eucalyptus lesouefii* and *Eucalyptus oleosa*. *Eucalyptus oleosa* is not smooth-barked at the base and is therefore unsuitable as habitat for *Camponotus* sp. nr. *terebrans* (DBCA, 2026; WAH, 1998-). Based on the Western Botanical (2021b) mapping, the application area contains approximately 11 hectares of habitat suitable for ABAB, in four patches (see Figure 1, Section 1.5). The applicant has committed to avoiding three of these patches, but clearing is required within the fourth patch (Clark Lindbeck, 2026d). As the proposed clearing impacts habitat suitable for ABAB, surveys are required to determine whether this habitat is critical for the conservation of ABAB.

Inland hairstreak (*Jalmenus aridus*), Priority 2, is a butterfly species known from the Goldfields region (DBCA, 2025b). Preferred habitat for inland hairstreak consists of open woodland with *Senna*, *Eremophila*, *Scaevola* and *Maireana* shrubs (Eastwood et al., 2023). Inland hairstreak caterpillars feed on *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia*, and the butterfly forms an obligate association with ant species *Froggattella kirbii* (Eastwood et al., 2023). This species is data deficient, previously only being known from two locations near Kalgoorlie, and since has been recorded from an additional 10 locations within an area extending approximately 121 kilometres north to south by 42 kilometres east to west (Eastwood et al., 2023). Western Botanical (2021b) recorded *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia* at four quadrats located within the application area. However, *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia* was not listed as a dominant species in any of the vegetation associations occurring within the application area (Western Botanical, 2021b). The only vegetation association listing *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia* as a dominant species is E5, which is only mapped to occur approximately 21 kilometres south of the application area (Western Botanical, 2021b). As preferred habitat for the inland hairstreak includes a large stand of *Senna* shrubs, it is unlikely that the application area includes preferred habitat (Eastwood et al., 2023; Western Botanical, 2021b). Therefore, the application area is unlikely to represent critical habitat for the inland hairstreak.

Southern whiteface (*Aphelocephala leucopsis*), Vulnerable, occurs across most of mainland Australia, within open woodlands and shrublands where there is an understorey of grasses, shrubs or both (DBCA, 2025b; DCCEEW, 2023). As suitable habitat occurs within the application area, and the application area is within the species' distribution, southern whiteface may occur within the application area (Commonwealth of Australia, 2008; DBCA, 2025b; Western Ecological, 2021). Habitat used for breeding is considered critical for southern whiteface conservation, and should not be cleared (DCCEEW, 2023). Southern whiteface constructs large bulky domed-shaped nests made out of grass, bark and roots within hollows or crevices in trees, and low bushes (DCCEEW, 2023). As potentially suitable breeding habitat occurs, the proposed clearing may have a significant impact on southern whiteface, if active nests are cleared.

Conclusion

Based on the above assessment, the proposed clearing will result in the loss of significant long-tailed dunnart habitat, the loss of malleefowl breeding habitat, increased risk of terrestrial fauna injury or mortality from mechanical clearing, the loss of habitat potentially critical for ABAB, and loss of southern whiteface breeding habitat.

For the reasons set out above, it is considered that the impacts of the proposed clearing on conservation significant fauna can be managed by implementing fauna management conditions on the granted permit.

The applicant may have notification responsibilities under the EPBC Act for impacts to malleefowl, arid bronze azure butterfly (ABAB), southern whiteface and their habitats, as set out in the EPBC Act. The applicant has been advised to contact the federal Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) to discuss EPBC Act referral requirements

Conditions

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

- a fauna management (long-tailed dunnart) condition requiring areas proposed to be cleared to be surveyed for signs of long-tailed dunnart; and to relocate identified individuals;
- a fauna management (malleefowl) condition within potentially suitable breeding habitat requiring areas proposed to be cleared between 1 September and 31 January are inspected to identify active (in use) malleefowl mounds, and to maintain a 200 metre buffer around identified active mounds;
- slow directional clearing to allow fauna to move into adjacent vegetation ahead of the clearing activity;
- restricted clearing (shall not clear within areas shaded red in Figure 1 of Section 1.5);
- a fauna management (ABAB) condition requiring areas shaded green in Figure 1 of Section 1.5 to be surveyed to identify potential critical habitat, ant colonies and ABAB individuals, and no clearing within 100 metres of ant colonies; and
- a fauna management (southern whiteface) condition requiring areas proposed to be cleared between 1 July and 31 October are inspected to identify active (in use) southern whiteface nests, and to maintain a 50 metre buffer around identified active nests.

3.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The clearing permit application was advertised on 13 February 2026 by the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

There are no native title claims over the area under application (DPLH, 2026). 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 malleefowl, arid bronze azure butterfly (ABAB), southern whiteface and their habitats, 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 Mining Development and Closure Proposal approved under the *Mining Act 1978*

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

End

Appendix A. Additional information provided by applicant

Summary of comments	Consideration of comment
On 19 March 2026, information was provided regarding clearing conducted under CPS 9379/1 (Clark Lindbeck, 2026c).	This information provided contextual information about the site, and was considered throughout assessment. A map of the clearing is provided in Appendix E.
On 2 April 2026, the applicant provided updated vegetation mapping from the Western Botanical (2021b) survey (Clark Lindbeck, 2026a).	This information has been considered throughout the assessment, and is referenced as Western Botanical (2021b).
On 7 April 2026, the applicant committed to reducing the area of clearing from 72 hectares to 68.5 hectares, to account for the clearing conducted under CPS 9379/1 (Clark Lindbeck, 2026b).	This information was considered as an avoidance and minimisation measure (Section 3.1).
On 24 April 2026, the applicant committed to ABAB management measures (Clark Lindbeck, 2026d).	This information was considered as an avoidance and minimisation measure, and was considered in the assessment of principles (a) and (b) (Section 3.1; Section 3.2.2).

Appendix B. Site characteristics

B.1. Site characteristics

Characteristic	Details
Local context	<p>The area proposed to be cleared is part of an expansive tract of native vegetation in the extensive land use zone of Western Australia (GIS Database). It is located within the Eastern Murchison subregion of the Murchison bioregion (GIS Database).</p> <p>The proposed clearing area is within the Perrinvale Station Pastoral Lease (GIS Database). It is also surrounded by predominantly gold and iron mining operations (GIS Database). Approximately 99% of the local area (50 kilometre radius from the application area) remains uncleared (GIS Database).</p>
Ecological linkage	According to available databases, the application area does not contain any known or mapped ecological linkages (GIS Database).
Conservation areas	The nearest conservation area is the Bulga Downs and Cashmere Downs pastoral lease portions located approximately 45 kilometres north of the application area (GIS Database).
Vegetation description	<p>The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation associations:</p> <p>18: Low woodland; mulga (<i>Acacia aneura</i>); and</p> <p>202: Shrublands; mulga & <i>Acacia quadrimarginea</i> scrub (GIS Database).</p> <p>A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the application area by Western Botanical (2021b) during April 2021. The following vegetation associations were recorded within the application area (Western Botanical, 2021b):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A1 – <i>Acacia</i> (mulga) woodlands on banded ironstone outcrop and subcrop; • A2 – <i>Acacia</i> (mulga) woodlands on drainage foci, hardpan and clay soils; • A3 – <i>Acacia</i> (mulga) woodlands on colluvial sandy BIF (banded iron formation) and laterite gravel; • A4 – <i>Acacia</i> (mulga, <i>Acacia sibirica</i>) woodlands on weathered basalt, calcrete; • A5 – <i>Acacia</i> (mulga) woodlands on aeolian sandplain over gravel; • A5 (fire) – <i>Acacia</i> (mulga) woodlands on aeolian sandplain over gravel, impacted by recent fire; • A6 – <i>Acacia</i> (mulga) woodlands on exfoliating granite outcrop and subcrop; • A9 – <i>Acacia</i> (mulga) woodlands on hardpan plains, sheet wash; • A10 – <i>Acacia</i> (mulga) woodlands on drainage foci, hardpan and clay soils; • C1 – <i>Casuarina pauper</i> woodland on weathered basalt and calcrete; • E1 – Eucalypt woodlands on weathered basalt and calcrete; • E2 – Eucalypt woodlands on drainage foci and clay soils; • E3 – Eucalypt woodlands on colluvial plains, sandy clay soils; • E4 – Eucalypt woodlands on colluvial plains, sandy clay soils; • S1 - Low shrublands with emergent <i>Acacia</i> and <i>Allocasuarina</i> on lateritised duricrust, minor BIF and quartz outcrop. <p>The full descriptions and representative photographs of the above vegetation associations are provided in Appendix F.</p>

Characteristic	Details												
Vegetation condition	<p>Surveys of the application area found the vegetation to be in excellent and very good condition (Keith Lindbeck, 2012; Western Botanical, 2021a; Trudgen, 1991).</p> <p>The full Trudgen (1991) condition rating scale is provided in Appendix D.</p>												
Climate and landform	<p>The climate of the Eastern Murchison subregion is described as arid, with the nearest weather station recording an average rainfall of approximately 270 millimetres per year (BoM, 2026; CALM, 2002).</p> <p>The application area is mapped at elevations of 490-560 metres Australian Height Datum (GIS Database).</p>												
Soil description	<p>The soils within the application area are broadly mapped as the following (DPIRD, 2026):</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>System</th> <th>Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Bevon system (279Bv)</td> <td>Irregular low ironstone hills with stony ironstone slopes supporting mulga shrublands</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brooking system (279Br)</td> <td>Prominent ridges of banded iron formation supporting mulga shrublands and occasional minor halophytic communities</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Marmion system (279Ma)</td> <td>Gently undulating sandplains with mixed tall shrublands and hummock grasslands</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rainbow system (279Rb)</td> <td>Hardpan plains supporting mulga tall shrublands</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Waguin system (279Wg)</td> <td>Sandplains and stripped granite or laterite surfaces with low fringing breakaways and lower plains; supports bowgada and mulga shrublands with wanderrie grasses and minor halophytic shrublands</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	System	Description	Bevon system (279Bv)	Irregular low ironstone hills with stony ironstone slopes supporting mulga shrublands	Brooking system (279Br)	Prominent ridges of banded iron formation supporting mulga shrublands and occasional minor halophytic communities	Marmion system (279Ma)	Gently undulating sandplains with mixed tall shrublands and hummock grasslands	Rainbow system (279Rb)	Hardpan plains supporting mulga tall shrublands	Waguin system (279Wg)	Sandplains and stripped granite or laterite surfaces with low fringing breakaways and lower plains; supports bowgada and mulga shrublands with wanderrie grasses and minor halophytic shrublands
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Land degradation risk	<p>The Bevon land system is susceptible to soil erosion if perennial shrub cover is substantially reduced or the soil surface is disturbed (Pringle, 1994).</p> <p>The Marmion and Waguin land systems may be susceptible to erosion if vegetation cover is removed (Pringle et al., 1994).</p> <p>Disruption of natural water flows within the Rainbow land system can result in erosion and water starvation (Pringle, 1994).</p> <p>The Brooking land system is not generally susceptible to erosion (Pringle et al., 1994).</p>												
Waterbodies	<p>The desktop assessment and aerial imagery indicated that several minor, non-perennial watercourses transect the area proposed to be cleared (GIS Database).</p>												
Hydrogeography	<p>The nearest Public Drinking Water Source Area is the Menzies Water Reserve located approximately 88 kilometres southeast of the application area (GIS Database).</p> <p>The application area is located within the Goldfields Groundwater Area proclaimed under the <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i> (GIS Database).</p> <p>The groundwater salinity is mapped as 1,000 to 3,000 milligrams per litre total dissolved solids which is described as brackish (BoM, 2019; GIS Database).</p>												
Flora	<p>There are records of 22 threatened and priority flora species within 50 kilometres of the application area (GIS Database).</p> <p>One threatened flora species; <i>Ricinocarpos brevis</i>; is known from the local area (50 kilometre radius of the application area) (GIS Database).</p> <p>One priority flora species; <i>Calytrix hislopii</i>; has been recorded within the application area (Western Botanical, 2021a).</p>												
Ecological communities	<p>No threatened ecological communities (TECs) are known from the local area (50 kilometre radius of the application area), and flora and vegetation surveys did not detect and vegetation representative of a TEC (Western Botanical, 2021b; GIS Database).</p> <p>The application area is located within the mapped extent of the Perrinvale/Walling vegetation complexes (banded ironstone formation) (Priority 1) priority ecological community (PEC) (GIS Database).</p> <p>Vegetation associations which are associated with banded iron formations and associated laterite-capped low hills and erosion products may be regionally restricted and potentially representative of the above PEC (Western Botanical, 2021b).</p>												
Fauna	<p>There are records of six conservation significant fauna within 50 kilometres of the application area (GIS Database). Evidence of two species, long-tailed dunnart (<i>Antechinomys longicaudata</i>) and malleefowl (<i>Leipoa ocellata</i>) has been recently recorded within the application area (GVY, 2025b; Keith Lindbeck, 2012; Western Ecological, 2021; GIS Database).</p>												

Characteristic	Details
Fauna habitat	<p>A fauna survey was conducted over approximately 193 hectares (25 percent) of the application area by Western Ecological (2021) during April 2021. The following fauna habitats were recorded within the application area (Western Ecological, 2021):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mulga shrubland; • <i>Eucalyptus lesouefii</i> open woodland; • <i>Eucalyptus salubris</i> open woodland; and • <i>Acacia</i> shrubland (Western Ecological, 2021). <p>Based on the flora and vegetation survey by Western Botanical (2021b), the following fauna habitats can be inferred to occur over the remaining application area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mulga woodlands; • <i>Acacia</i> woodlands; • low shrublands; • mulga drainage line; • rocky outcrop (banded ironstone formation, quartz or granite); • <i>Casuarina</i> woodland; and • <i>Eucalypt</i> woodlands.

B.2. Vegetation extent

	Pre-European area (ha)	Current extent (ha)	Extent remaining (%)	Current extent in all DBCA managed land (ha)	Current extent in all DBCA Managed Land (proportion of pre-European extent) (%)
IBRA Bioregion - Murchison	28,120,587	28,044,823	~99	293,505	1.04
Beard vegetation associations - State					
18	19,892,306.46	19,843,148.07	~99	1,317,179.00	6.62
202	448,529.31	448,343.80	~99	102,759.63	22.91
Beard vegetation associations - Bioregion (Murchison)					
18	12,403,172.30	12,363,252.47	~99	614,964.13	4.96
202	339,742.69	339,641.41	~99	72,202.97	21.25

Government of Western Australia (2019)

B.3. Flora analysis table

The following conservation significant flora species have been recorded within 50 kilometres of the application area (GIS Database).

The likelihood of occurrence for these species were determined by potentially suitable habitat within the application area and known regional records (DPIRD, 2026; Halford & Henderson, 2007; Nicolle & French, 2021; Shepherd, 2007; Short, 2016; WAH, 1998-; WANOSCG, 2025; Western Botanical, 2021a; 2021b; Wilson, 2016; GIS Database).

Species name	Conservation status	Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Likelihood of occurrence
<i>Calytrix hislopii</i>	P3	Y	0	Recorded – discussed in Section 3.2.1
<i>Calotis</i> sp. Perrinvale Station	P3	Y	0	Recorded – discussed in Section 3.2.1
<i>Hibiscus</i> sp. Perrinvale Station	P1	Y	<50	Likely – discussed in Section 3.2.1
<i>Jacksonia lanicarpa</i>	P1	Y	<5	Possible
<i>Hemigenia exilis</i>	P4	Y	<10	Possible
<i>Homalocalyx grandiflorus</i>	P3	Y	<10	Possible
<i>Philotheca coateana</i>	P3	Y	<25	Possible
<i>Hyalosperma stoveae</i>	P2	Y	<30	Possible
<i>Notisia intonsa</i>	P3	Y	<30	Possible

Species name	Conservation status	Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Likelihood of occurrence
<i>Eucalyptus formanii</i> subsp. <i>circulata</i>	P4	Y	<35	Possible
<i>Stackhousia muricata</i> subsp. Perennial	P3	Y	<35	Possible
<i>Lysiandra baeckeoides</i>	P3	Y	<50	Possible
<i>Chrysocephalum apiculatum</i> subsp. <i>norsemanense</i>	P3	Y	<20	Unlikely
<i>Philotheca deserti</i> subsp. <i>brevifolia</i>	P3	Y	<20	Unlikely
<i>Pterostylis virens</i>	P3	Y	<20	Unlikely
<i>Pterostylis xerampelina</i>	P1	N	<35	Unlikely
<i>Eucalyptus educta</i>	P2	N	<35	Unlikely
<i>Banksia arborea</i>	P4	N	<35	Unlikely
<i>Minuria</i> sp. Murchison	P1	N	<40	Unlikely
<i>Ricinocarpus brevis</i>	T	Y	<40	Unlikely
<i>Tecticornia mellarium</i>	P1	N	<40	Unlikely
<i>Micromyrtus serrulata</i>	P3	N	<50	Unlikely

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

B.4. Fauna analysis table

The following conservation significant fauna species have been recorded within 50 kilometres of the application area or have been considered possibly occurring based on species distribution and habitat (DBCA, 2026; DCCEE, 2023; 2025; Eastwood et al., 2023; Western Botanical, 2021b; Western Ecological, 2021; GIS Database).

The likelihood of occurrence for these species were determined by potentially suitable habitat within the application area and known regional records (Birdlife Australia, 2026; Commonwealth of Australia, 2008; 2020; DBCA, 2026; DCCEE, 2023; 2024; 2025; Eastwood et al., 2023; Keith Lindbeck, 2012; NESP, 2021; van Dyck & Strahan, 2008; Western Botanical, 2021b; Western Ecological, 2021; GIS Database).

Species name		Conservation status		Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Likelihood of occurrence
Common	Scientific	WA	EPBC			
Long-tailed dunnart	<i>Antechinomys longicaudata</i>	P4	-	Y	0	Recorded – discussed in Section 3.2.2
Malleefowl	<i>Leipoa ocellata</i>	VU	VU	Y	0	Recorded – discussed in Section 3.2.2
Arid bronze azure butterfly	<i>Ogyris petrina</i>	CR	CR	Y	~130	Possible – discussed in Section 3.2.2
Inland hairstreak	<i>Jalmenus aridus</i>	P2	-	Y	~130	Possible – discussed in Section 3.2.2
Southern whiteface	<i>Aphelocephala leucopsis</i>	VU	VU	Y	~205	Possible – discussed in Section 3.2.2
Streaked shearwater	<i>Calonectris leucomelas</i>	MI	MI	N	7.8	Unlikely
Brush-tailed mulgara	<i>Dasyercus blythi</i>	P4	-	N	14.7	Unlikely
Hooded plover	<i>Charadrius cucullatus</i>	P4	-	N	38.8	Unlikely
Common greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	MI	MI	N	40.3	Unlikely
Night parrot	<i>Pezoporus occidentalis</i>	CR	CR	N	~70	Unlikely

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

Appendix C. Assessment against the clearing principles

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Environmental value: biological values		
<p><u>Principle (a):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biodiversity."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The proposed clearing may result in potentially significant impacts to priority flora species <i>Hibiscus</i> sp. Perrinvale Station and <i>Calytrix hislopii</i>.</p> <p>Impacts to the priority ecological community (PEC) occurring within the application area are unlikely to be significant.</p> <p>The area proposed to be cleared contains significant habitat for conservation significant fauna.</p>	May be at variance	Yes <i>Refer to Section 3.2.1 and 3.2.2, above.</i>
<p><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></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The area proposed to be cleared contains significant habitat for conservation significant fauna.</p>	At variance	Yes <i>Refer to Section 3.2.2, above.</i>
<p><u>Principle (c):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>One threatened flora species is known from the local area (50 kilometre radius of the application area), being <i>Ricinocarpos brevis</i> (GIS Database). Although suitable habitat for <i>Ricinocarpos brevis</i> occurs within the application area, the application area has been extensively surveyed to detect the species (Halford & Henderson, 2007; WAH, 1998-; Western Botanical, 2021). It is unlikely this species occurs undetected within the application area (Halford & Henderson, 2007; Western Botanical, 2021).</p>	Not likely to be at variance	No
<p><u>Principle (d):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a threatened ecological community."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>No threatened ecological communities (TECs) are known from the local area (50 kilometre radius of the application area) and flora and vegetation surveys did not detect and vegetation representative of a TEC (Western Botanical, 2021b; GIS Database).</p> <p>It is therefore unlikely a TEC will be impacted by the proposed clearing.</p>	Not likely to be at variance	No
Environmental value: significant remnant vegetation and conservation areas		
<p><u>Principle (e):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The application area falls within the Murchison Bioregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) (GIS Database). Approximately 99% of the pre European vegetation still exists in the IBRA Murchison Bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2019).</p> <p>Approximately 99% of the pre-European extent of the Beard vegetation association present within the application area remains uncleared at both the state and bioregional level (Government of Western Australia, 2019; GIS Database).</p> <p>The extent of the native vegetation in the local area is consistent with the national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001; Appendix B.2).</p>	Not at variance	No
<p><u>Principle (h):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p>	Not likely to be at variance	No

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
<p>Given the distance to the nearest conservation area (approximately 45 kilometres), the proposed clearing is not likely to have an impact on the environmental values of nearby conservation areas (GIS Database).</p>		
<p>Environmental value: land and water resources</p>		
<p><u>Principle (f):</u> <i>“Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.”</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>Several minor, non-perennial watercourses transect the application area (GIS Database). The drainage line mulga shrubland vegetation association (A10) is associated with drainage foci (Western Botanical, 2021b; GIS Database). Therefore, the proposed clearing is likely to impact vegetation associated with a watercourse.</p> <p><u>Condition:</u></p> <p>To address the above impact, the following management measure will be required as a condition on the clearing permit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a watercourse management condition requiring that surface water flows are not impacted by the proposed clearing, and the clearing of riparian vegetation is avoided, where practicable. 	<p>At variance</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><u>Principle (g):</u> <i>“Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.”</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The mapped soils may be susceptible to erosion if vegetation cover is reduced (DPIRD, 2026; Pringle, 1994; Pringle et al., 1994). Additionally, disturbance of water flows within the Rainbow system may result in erosion or water starvation (Pringle, 1994). Noting the extent and location of the application area, the proposed clearing may have an appreciable impact on land degradation.</p> <p><u>Conditions:</u></p> <p>To address the above impact, the following management measure will be required as a condition on the clearing permit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a staged clearing condition to minimise erosion; and • a watercourse management condition requiring that surface water flows are not impacted by the proposed clearing, and the clearing of riparian vegetation is avoided, where practicable. 	<p>May be at variance</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><u>Principle (i):</u> <i>“Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.”</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>Given no permanent watercourses, wetlands, or Public Drinking Water Sources Areas are recorded within the application area (GIS Database), the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact surface or ground water quality.</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><u>Principle (j):</u> <i>“Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.”</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u></p> <p>The climate of the region is arid, with a low average rainfall of approximately 270 millimetres per year (BoM, 2026; CALM, 2002). There are no permanent watercourses or waterbodies within the application area (GIS Database). Surface water flow, including sheet flow and creek flow, occurs following significant rainfall (Juno, 2021).</p> <p>Although temporary localised flooding may occur briefly following heavy rainfall events, the proposed clearing is unlikely to increase the incidence or intensity of natural flooding events.</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p>	<p>No</p>

Appendix D. Vegetation condition rating scale

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

Considering its location, the scale below was used to measure the condition of the vegetation proposed to be cleared. This scale has been extracted from Trudgen, M.E. (1991) *Vegetation condition scale* in National Trust (WA) 1993 Urban Bushland Policy. National Trust of Australia (WA), Wildflower Society of WA (Inc.), and the Tree Society (Inc.), Perth.

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

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

Appendix E. Map of clearing conducted under CPS 9379/1

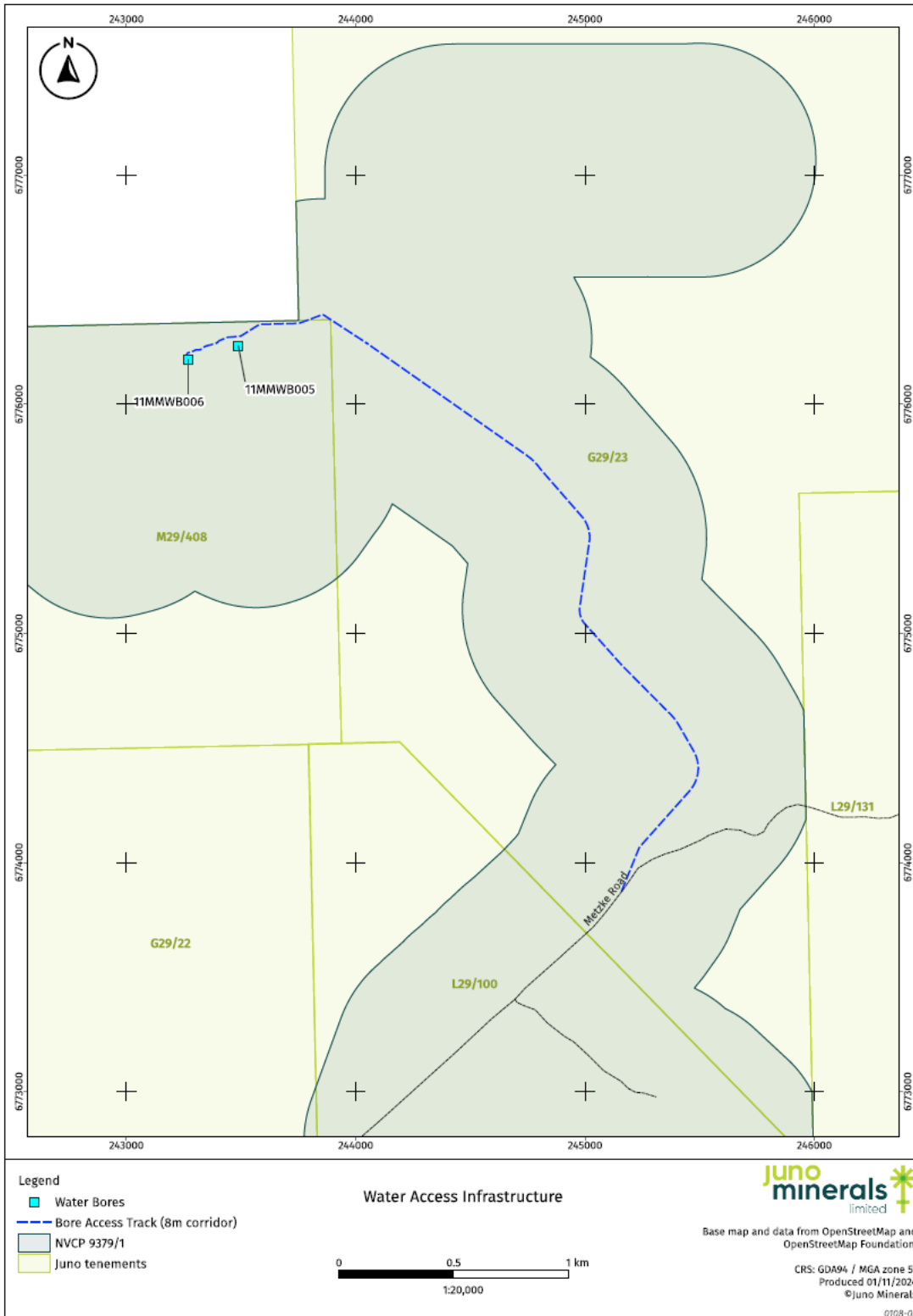














Figure 2. Map of clearing conducted under CPS 9379/1 (Clark Lindbeck, 2026c).



Appendix F. Vegetation associations

The below table is adapted from Western Botanical (2021b):

Vegetation Association Code	Structural formation	Vegetation Association	Influencing geology/soil	Area (hectares) within application area	Representative photograph

A1	<i>Acacia</i> (mulga) woodlands	<i>Acacia quadrimarginea</i> , <i>A. incurvaneura</i> , <i>A. mulganeura</i> , <i>A. caesaneura</i> (narrow phyllode form) woodland over <i>Thryptomene decussata</i> , <i>Prostanthera althoferi</i> subsp. <i>althoferi</i> , <i>Hibbertia arcuata</i> , <i>Olearia humilis</i> shrubland on BIF (banded iron formation) outcrop and upper slopes.	Banded ironstone outcrop and subcrop	18.5	
A2	<i>Acacia</i> (mulga) woodlands	<i>Acacia incurvaneura</i> and <i>Acacia quadrimarginea</i> , <i>Acacia cockertoniana</i> over <i>Philotheca brucei</i> , <i>Hibbertia arcuata</i> , <i>Prostanthera althoferi</i> subsp. <i>althoferi</i> and <i>Dodonaea rigida</i> on BIF outcrop and upper slopes.	Lateritised duricrust, minor banded ironstone	118.7	
A3	<i>Acacia</i> (mulga) woodlands	<i>Acacia incurvaneura</i> , <i>A. mulganeura</i> , <i>A. caesaneura</i> over <i>Eremophila forrestii</i> subsp. <i>forrestii</i> on sandy gravelly mid to lower slopes.	Colluvial sandy BIF and laterite gravel	284.7	
A4	<i>Acacia</i> (mulga, <i>Acacia sibirica</i>) woodlands	<i>Acacia sibirica</i> woodland over <i>Dodonaea lobulata</i> , <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i> (Upright form, G Cockerton et. al. 15206) on weathered basalt and calcrete.	Weathered basalt, calcrete	39.7	
A5	<i>Acacia</i> (mulga) woodlands	<i>Acacia effusifolia</i> with emergent <i>Eucalyptus leptopoda</i> , <i>E. ewartiana</i> mallees on orange-brown sandplain.	Aeolian sandplain over gravel	62.2	
A5 (fire)	<i>Acacia</i> (mulga) woodlands	<i>Acacia effusifolia</i> with emergent <i>Eucalyptus leptopoda</i> , <i>E. ewartiana</i> mallees on orange-brown sandplain – impacted by recent fire.	Aeolian sandplain over gravel	6.9	

A6	<i>Acacia</i> (mulga) woodlands	<i>Thryptomene costata</i> , <i>T. decussata</i> shrubland with emergent <i>Acacia</i> <i>quadrimarginea</i> , <i>Acacia ramulosa</i> subsp. <i>ramulosa</i> , <i>A.</i> <i>cockertoniana</i> small trees on granite sheets and exfoliating outcrop.	Exfoliating granite outcrop and subcrop	2.35	
A9	<i>Acacia</i> (mulga) woodlands	<i>Acacia incurvaneura</i> , <i>A. ramulosa</i> subsp. <i>ramulosa</i> , <i>A.</i> <i>tetragonophylla</i> , <i>A.</i> <i>mulganeura</i> over <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i> (typical Goldfields form) on hardpan plains, colluvium and alluvium.	Hardpan plain, sheet wash	86.5	
A10	<i>Acacia</i> (mulga) woodlands	Drainage line mulga shrublands.	Drainage focus, hardpan and clay soil	12.4	
C1	<i>Casuarina</i> <i>pauper</i> woodland	<i>Casuarina pauper</i> woodland over <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i> (Upright form, G Cockerton et. al. 15206) shrubland on weathered basalt and abundant calcrete.	Weathered basalt, calcrete	1.4	
E1	Eucalypt woodlands	<i>Eucalyptus lesouefii</i> woodland over <i>Eremophila pantonii</i> shrubland on weathered basalt and abundant calcrete.	Weathered basalt, calcrete	92.9	
E2	Eucalypt woodlands	<i>Eucalyptus salubris</i> woodland on red- brown clay, alluvium.	Drainage focus, clay soil	11.0	
E3	Eucalypt woodlands	<i>Eucalyptus oleosa</i> emergent over <i>Acacia</i> <i>incurvaneura</i> and <i>Acacia cockertoniana</i> woodland.	Colluvial plains, sandy clay soils	3.5	No image.

E4	Eucalypt woodlands	<i>Eucalyptus oleosa</i> , <i>Acacia caesaneura</i> over <i>Acacia ramulosa</i> subsp. <i>ramulosa</i> over <i>Eremophila forrestii</i> subsp. <i>forrestii</i> , on shallow sandy profiles over hardpan plains, colluvium and alluvium.	Colluvial plains, sandy clay soils	3.7	
S1	Low shrublands with emergent <i>Acacia</i> , <i>Allocasuarina</i>	<i>Hibbertia arcuata</i> , occasional <i>Calytrix</i> spp. shrubland with emergent <i>Acacia cockertoniana</i> , <i>A. quadrimarginea</i> , <i>Allocasuarina acutivalvis</i> tall shrubs on lateritic duricrust outcrop.	Lateritised duricrust, minor BIF and quartz outcrop	36.3	

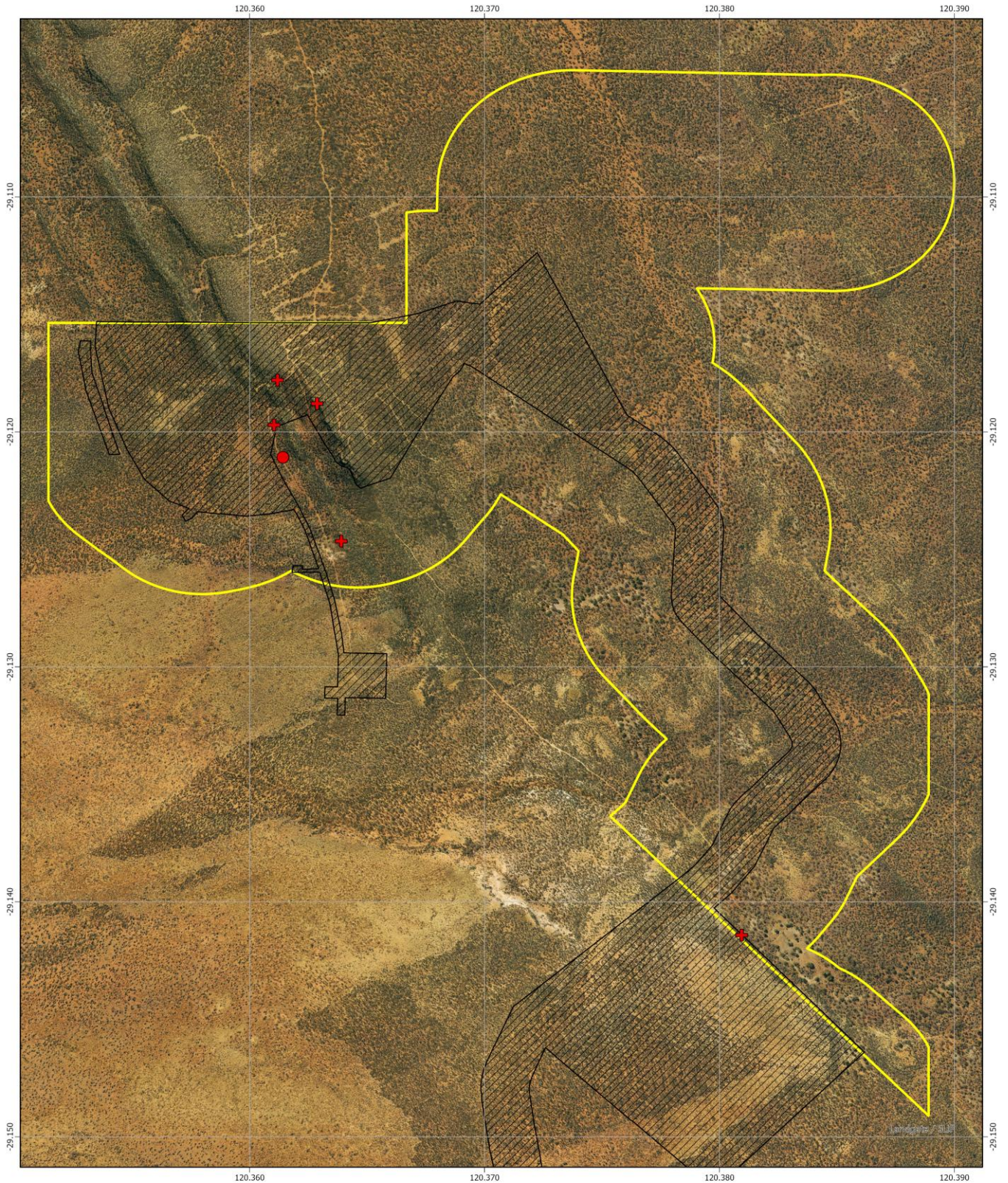
Appendix G. Photographs and maps from fauna surveys







Figure 3. Photograph of Site 3 (mulga over *Eremophila forrestii*) (Keith Lindbeck, 2012).



Figure 4. Example of camera trap setup in the project area to detect the long-tailed dunnart (bait station on the left and camera on right side of the image) (Western Ecological, 2021).



LEGEND

-  CPS 11358/1 application area
-  Western Ecological (2021) survey area
-  Long-tailed dunnart records
-  Camera traps

GCS: GDA2020
Datum: GDA2020
Map Units: Degree

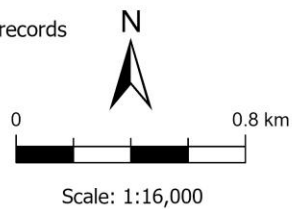


Figure 5. Map of the application area including information relevant to long-tailed dunnart. The yellow outline represents the application area. The red circle indicates the location (Site 3) at which long-tailed dunnart has been previously recorded (Keith Lindbeck, 2012; GIS Database). The red crosses represent the locations of camera traps
CPS 11358/1

deployed during the Western Ecological (2021) survey. The extent of the Western Ecological (2021) survey area is hatched in black.

Appendix H. Sources of information

H.1. GIS datasets

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

- Cadastre (Polygon) (LGATE-217)
- Clearing Instruments Activities (Areas Approved to Clear) (DWER-076)
- 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)
- EPA Redbook Recommended Conservation Reserves 1976-1991 (DBCA-029)
- EPA Referred Schemes Pending (DWER-121)
- EPA Referred Significant Proposals (DWER-120)
- EPA Referred Significant Proposals Pending (DWER-103)
- Geographic Names (GEONOMA) (LGATE-013)
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide (DWER-026)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- Local Government Area (LGA) Boundaries (LGATE-233)
- Localities (LGATE-234)
- Medium Scale Topo Contour (Line) (LGATE-015)
- 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)

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Glossary

Acronyms:

BC Act	<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> , Western Australia
BoM	Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Government
DAA	Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Western Australia (now DPLH)
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia (now DPIRD)
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Australian Government

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

Definitions:

DBCA (2023) Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora and Fauna. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia:

Threatened species

T Listed by order of the Minister as Threatened in the category of critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable under section 19(1), or is a rediscovered species to be regarded as threatened species under section 26(2) of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (BC Act).

Threatened fauna is the species of fauna that are listed as critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable threatened species.

Threatened flora is the species of flora that are listed as critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable threatened species.

The assessment of the conservation status of threatened species is in accordance with the BC Act listing criteria and the requirements of [Ministerial Guideline Number 1](#) and [Ministerial Guideline Number 2](#) that adopts the use of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) [Red List of Threatened Species Categories and Criteria](#), and is based on the national distribution of the species.

CR Critically endangered species

Threatened species considered to be “*facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future, as determined in accordance with criteria set out in the ministerial guidelines*”.

Listed as critically endangered under section 19(1)(a) of the BC Act in accordance with the criteria set out in section 20 and the ministerial guidelines.

EN Endangered species

Threatened species considered to be “*facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future, as determined in accordance with criteria set out in the ministerial guidelines*”.

Listed as endangered under section 19(1)(b) of the BC Act in accordance with the criteria set out in section 21 and the ministerial guidelines.

VU Vulnerable species

Threatened species considered to be “*facing a high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium-term future, as determined in accordance with criteria set out in the ministerial guidelines*”.

Listed as vulnerable under section 19(1)(c) of the BC Act in accordance with the criteria set out in section 22 and the ministerial guidelines.

Extinct species

Listed by order of the Minister as extinct under section 23(1) of the BC Act as extinct or extinct in the wild.

EX Extinct species

Species where “*there is no reasonable doubt that the last member of the species has died*”, and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 24 of the BC Act).

EW Extinct in the wild species

Species that “*is known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalised population well outside its past range; and it has not been recorded in its known habitat or expected habitat, at appropriate seasons, anywhere in its past range, despite surveys over a time frame appropriate to its life cycle and form*”, and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 25 of the BC Act).

Currently there are no threatened fauna or threatened flora species listed as extinct in the wild.

Specially protected species

SP Specially protected species

Listed by order of the Minister as specially protected under section 13(1) of the BC Act. Meeting one or more of the following categories: species of special conservation interest; migratory species; cetaceans; species subject to international agreement; or species otherwise in need of special protection.

Species that are listed as threatened species (critically endangered, endangered, or vulnerable) or extinct species under the BC Act cannot also be listed as specially protected species.

MI Migratory species

Fauna that periodically or occasionally visit Australia or an external Territory or the exclusive economic zone; or the species is subject of an international agreement that relates to the protection of migratory species and that binds the Commonwealth; and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 15 of the BC Act).

Migratory species include birds that are subject to an agreement between the government of Australia and the governments of Japan (JAMBA), China (CAMBA) or The Republic of Korea (ROKAMBA), and fauna subject to the *Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals* (Bonn Convention), an environmental treaty under the United Nations Environment Program. Migratory species listed under the BC Act are a subset of the migratory animals, that are known to visit Western Australia, protected under the international agreements or treaties, excluding species that are listed as Threatened species.

CD Species of special conservation interest (conservation dependent fauna)

Species of special conservation need that are dependent on ongoing conservation intervention to prevent it becoming eligible for listing as threatened, and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 14 of the BC Act).

Currently only fauna are listed as species of special conservation interest.

OS Other specially protected species

Species otherwise in need of special protection to ensure their conservation, and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 18 of the BC Act).

Currently only fauna are listed as species otherwise in need of special protection.

Priority species

P Priority species

Priority is not a listing category under the BC Act. The Priority Flora and Fauna lists are maintained by the department and are published on the department’s website.

All fauna and flora are protected in WA following the provisions in Part 10 of the BC Act. The protection applies even when a species is not listed as threatened or specially protected, and regardless of land tenure (State managed land (Crown land), private land, or Commonwealth land).

Species that may possibly be threatened species that do not meet the criteria for listing under the BC Act because of insufficient survey or are otherwise data deficient, are added to the Priority Fauna or Priority Flora Lists under Priorities 1, 2 or 3. These three categories are ranked in order of prioritisation for survey and evaluation of conservation status so that consideration can be given to potential listing as threatened.

Species that are adequately known, meet criteria for near threatened, or are rare but not threatened, or that have been recently removed from the threatened species list or conservation dependent or other specially protected fauna lists for other than taxonomic reasons, are placed in Priority 4. These species require regular monitoring.

Assessment of priority status is based on the Western Australian distribution of the species, unless the distribution in WA is part of a contiguous population extending into adjacent States, as defined by the known spread of locations.

P1 Priority One - Poorly-known species – known from few locations, none on conservation lands

Species that are known from one or a few locations (generally five or less) which are potentially at risk. All occurrences are either: very small; or on lands not managed for conservation, for example, agricultural or pastoral lands, urban areas, road and rail reserves, gravel reserves and active mineral leases; or otherwise under threat of habitat destruction or degradation.

Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from one or more locations but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements for threatened listing and appear to be under immediate threat from known threatening processes. These species are in urgent need of further survey.

P2 Priority Two - Poorly-known species – known from few locations, some on conservation lands

Species that are known from one or a few locations (generally five or less), some of which are on lands managed primarily for nature conservation, for example, national parks, conservation parks, nature reserves and other lands with secure tenure being managed for conservation.

Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from one or more locations but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements for threatened listing and appear to be under threat from known threatening processes. These species are in urgent need of further survey.

P3 Priority Three - Poorly-known species – known from several locations

Species that are known from several locations and the species does not appear to be under imminent threat or from few but widespread locations with either large population size or significant remaining areas of apparently suitable habitat, much of it not under imminent threat.

Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from several locations but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and known threatening processes exist that could affect them. These species need further survey.

P4 Priority Four - Rare, Near Threatened and other species in need of monitoring

- (a) Rare. Species that are considered to have been adequately surveyed, or for which sufficient knowledge is available, and that are considered not currently threatened or in need of special protection but could be if present circumstances change. These species are usually represented on conservation lands.
- (b) Near Threatened. Species that are considered to have been adequately surveyed and that are close to qualifying for vulnerable but are not listed as a conservation dependent specially protected species.
- (c) Species that have been removed from the list of threatened species or lists of conservation dependent or other specially protected species, during the past five years for reasons other than taxonomy.
- (d) Other species in need of monitoring.

Principles for clearing native vegetation:

- (a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.
- (b) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna.
- (c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora.
- (d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.
- (e) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.
- (f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.
- (g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.
- (h) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.
- (i) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.
- (j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.