

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details and outcomes

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	11527/1
Permit type:	Purpose permit
Applicant name:	Everest Metals Corporation Ltd
Application received:	28 March 2026
Application area:	7.8 hectares
Purpose of clearing:	Mineral production and associated activities
Method of clearing:	Mechanical removal
Tenure:	Mining Lease 59/714
Location (LGA area/s):	Shire of Yalgoo
Colloquial name:	Mt Edon Project

1.2. Description of clearing activities

Everest Metals Corporation Ltd (Everest) (2026a) proposes to clear up to 7.8 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 192.25 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities. The project is located approximately 75 kilometres east of Rothsay, within the Shire of Yalgoo (GIS Database).

The application is to allow for small scale mining (Everest, 2026a).

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Grant
Decision date:	10 September 2026
Decision area:	7.8 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 fauna survey, the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act (Appendix B), proposed avoidance and minimisation measures (Section 3.1), relevant planning instruments and any other matters considered relevant to the assessment (Section 3.3).

The assessment identified that the proposed clearing may result in:

- the potential introduction and spread of weeds into adjacent vegetation, which could impact on the quality of the adjacent vegetation and its habitat values;
- potential significant impact to *Calandrinia kalanniensis*;
- potential loss of denning habitat of *Dasyurus geoffroii*; and
- the loss of foraging and burrowing habitat of *Idiosoma clypeatum*.

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;
- slow directional clearing to allow fauna to move into adjacent vegetation ahead of the clearing activity;

- prior to any clearing, a botanist shall be engaged to conduct a targeted flora survey *Calandrinia kalanniensis*. These plants will be flagged and a 10 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 (*Dasyurus geoffroyi*) condition requiring areas proposed to be cleared to be surveyed for signs of *Dasyurus geoffroyi*; and to relocate identified individuals;
- a fauna management (*Idiosoma clypeatum*) condition requiring areas proposed to be cleared to be surveyed to identify the burrows of *Idiosoma clypeatum*; and no clearing occurs with 10 metres of the identified burrows; 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.



Figure 1. Map of the application area. The area cross hatched yellow indicates the area within which conditional authorised clearing can occur under the granted clearing permit.

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)
- *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, December 2014)
- *Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits* (DWER, October 2021)
- Technical guidance – *Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment* (EPA, 2016)
- Technical guidance – *Terrestrial Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment* (EPA, 2020)

3. Detailed assessment of application

3.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

Everest Metals (2026a; 2026b) have outlined the following avoidance and mitigation measures:

- The small open pit expansion footprint is dictated by the resource location and new drilling and mineral resource results.
- The infrastructure footprint clearance is required for the practical and safe operation of the mine.
- Over 95% of the mining lease area of 192.25 hectares remains undisturbed by existing or new vegetation clearance.
- All trucks will be cleared of vegetation matter (seeds etc) before entering the mining lease.
- Impacts to the drainage lines can be effectively avoided or minimised through micro-siting of the pit and waste dump, coupled with diversion bunds, contour drains, and sediment controls to ensure that any overland flow is safely managed around the disturbance area.
- Erosion management will be put into place.
- Annual monitoring, reporting and removal of invasive weeds are planned.
- All personnel will receive a basic environmental induction including fauna awareness and reporting requirements.
- Clearing will not intentionally target areas with visible high-density burrow fields unless operationally required.
- Ground disturbance footprint will be minimised as far as practical.
- Waste will be managed to reduce attraction of feral predators and scavengers.

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

3.2. Assessment of impacts on environmental values

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

The assessment against clearing principles identified that the impacts of the proposed clearing present a risk to biological values (fauna, flora 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 principle (a)

Assessment

A detailed flora and vegetation and basic fauna survey was undertaken by Natural Area (2025) over part of the application area between 12 and 14 November 2025. A total of 76 flora species (taxa) were recorded from 28 families during the field survey, comprising of 6 introduced (weeds) and 70 native species within the broad survey area (Natural Area, 2025). No Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities were identified within the survey and application area (Natural Area, 2025; GIS Database).

The flora and vegetation survey did not record known conservation significant flora species within the application area; however, a species of *Calandrinia* sp. was recorded within the application area but could not be identified to species level due to lack of identifiable features at the time of the survey (Natural Area, 2025). Whilst no *Calandrinia* sp. was identified in the desktop survey as occurring within 50 kilometres of the site, *Calandrinia kalanniensis* (Priority 2) has been previously recorded approximately

70 kilometres to the northeast of the site, 240 kilometres west and 150 kilometres south (Natural Area, 2025). All previous records of *Calandrinia kalanniensis* have been recorded near drainage lines near granite outcrops, similar to the habitat of the *Calandrinia* sp. recorded within the application area (Natural Area, 2025). It is highly likely that the species can occur given the presence of suitable habitat within the application area (DBCA, 2026a). This species is only known from seven subpopulations with an extent of occurrence of approximately 30,738 square kilometres (DBCA, 2026a). The subpopulations are scattered across the Avon Wheatbelt, Yalgoo and southern Murchison regions (DBCA, 2026a). If *Calandrinia kalanniensis* is found within the application area this would be a new subpopulation and location recorded for the species. Considering the low number of records for this species, any newly confirmed population within the application area would be a significant subpopulation (DBCA, 2026a). For accurate identification of *Calandrinia* to species level, fertile specimens containing characteristics such as seeds are required (Natural Area, 2025). The flowering period for this species is between December and January (DBCA, 2026b). A targeted survey for *Calandrinia kalanniensis* is required to determine the presence of this species within the application area (DBCA, 2026a).

The desktop assessment done by Natural Area (2025), determined that the application area provides suitable habitat for conservation significant flora species; *Acacia cerastes*, *Acacia formidabilis*, *Baeckea* sp. Paynes Find (S. Patrick 1095), *Cyanicula fragrans*, *Grevillea subtiliflora* and *Micromyrtus acuta*. However, none of these flora species were recorded during the flora survey (Natural Area, 2025). The proposed clearing is unlikely to have significant impacts on these conservation significant flora species.

Conclusion

Based on the above assessment, the proposed clearing will result in potential significant impacts to *Calandrinia* sp..

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

Conditions

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

- avoid, minimise to reduce the impacts and extent of clearing;
- take hygiene steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds; and
- prior to any clearing, a botanist shall be engaged to conduct a targeted flora survey for *Calandrinia kalanniensis*. These plants will be flagged and a 10 metre buffer will be erected to ensure the preservation of identified individuals.

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

The fauna habitats present within the application area provide foraging habitat for conservation significant fauna species (Natural Area, 2025). The fauna survey and desktop assessment identified *Falco peregrinus*, *Leipoa ocellata*, *Idiosoma clypeatum* and *Dasyurus geoffroyi* as species likely to utilise the application area for foraging, movement and burrowing (Natural Area, 2025; GIS Database).

Idiosoma clypeatum (Northern Shield-Backed Trapdoor Spider), Priority 3, is a trapdoor spider species known from Murchison and Yalgoo regions (ALA, 2026; DBCA, 2026a). The *Idiosoma clypeatum* prefers habitat in upper slopes and drainage lines within semi-arid landscapes, including mulga shrubland, open plains and creek beds where leaf litter is present to support burrowing (DBCA, 2026a; Invertebrate Solutions, 2020). The basic fauna survey conducted over the application area recorded suitable habitat for *Idiosoma clypeatum* within the application area, particularly under the taller trees and dense shrubs where there was a higher accumulation of leaf litter which is critical for their foraging and burrows (Natural Area, 2025). As the proposed clearing impacts the habitat suitable for *Idiosoma clypeatum*, a targeted fauna survey is required to determine the presence of this species within the application area.

Dasyurus geoffroyi (Chuditch), Vulnerable, are known to be present across a variety of habitats including forest, mallee shrublands, woodland and desert, however, these species require adequate numbers of suitable den and refuge sites (horizontal hollow logs or earth burrows) and sufficient prey biomass (large invertebrates, reptiles and small mammals) to survive (DEC, 2012). *Dasyurus geoffroyi* was recorded within 5 kilometres of the survey area in November 2024 (Natural Area, 2025). These species are known to occupy home ranges over 15 square kilometres for males and 3 to 4 square kilometres for females (DEC, 2012). The application area provides suitable denning habitat for *Dasyurus geoffroyi* within the granite outcrop fauna habitat (Natural Area, 2025). Therefore, *Dasyurus geoffroyi* is considered to occur within the application area, even though they were not detected in the Natural Area (2025) survey (DBCA, 2026a). As proposed clearing impacts the habitat suitable for *Dasyurus geoffroyi*, a targeted survey is required to determine the presence of this species within the application area.

Leipoa ocellata (Malleefowl), 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). This habitat was not recorded within the application area (Natural Area, 2025). However, the dense vegetation type AcAuOW present within the drainage fauna habitat across the application area may support movement across landscapes as they are known to utilise thick corridors of vegetation when traversing across open landscapes (Natural Area, 2025). However, Everest Metals (2026b) has planned to avoid and minimise significant impact on the drainage lines. Therefore, the proposed clearing is unlikely to have significant impact to this species.

Falco peregrinus (Peregrine Falcon) (OS), is a wide-ranging bird species that is expected to only utilise the application area occasionally to forage (Natural Area, 2025). It is unlikely that they utilise the application area for breeding, with the application area lacking very tall trees and cliff faces between 25 to 50 metres higher (Natural Area, 2025). More suitable habitat for *Falco peregrinus* were present in the surrounding landscape (Natural Area, 2025). Therefore, the application area is unlikely to represent critical habitat for peregrine falcon.

Conclusion

Based on the above assessment, the proposed clearing will result in the loss of significant *Dasyurus geoffroii* habitat and the loss of *Idiosoma clypeatum* foraging and burrowing 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.

Conditions

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

- slow directional clearing in one direction to allow fauna to move into adjacent vegetation ahead of the clearing activities;
- avoid riparian vegetation and maintain existing surface water flow;
- a fauna management (*Dasyurus geoffroii*) condition requiring areas proposed to be cleared to be surveyed for signs of *Dasyurus geoffroii*; and to relocate identified individuals; and
- a fauna management (*Idiosoma clypeatum*) condition requiring areas proposed to be cleared to be surveyed to identify the burrows of *Idiosoma clypeatum*; and no clearing occurs with 10 metres of the identified burrows.

3.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The clearing permit application was advertised on 12 May 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.

Other relevant authorisations required for the proposed land use include:

- A Mining Development and Closure Proposal approved under the *Mining Act 1978*

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

End

Appendix A. Site characteristics

A.1. Site characteristics

Characteristic	Details												
Local context	The area proposed to be cleared is part of an expansive tract of native vegetation in the extensive land use zone of Western Australia (GIS Database). It is surrounded by the landscape and vegetation of Talling subregion within the Yalgoo bioregion as described in Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) (GIS Database). The predominant land use in the region is grazing (CALM, 2002).												
Ecological linkage	Based on areal imagery, the application area does not form part of any formal or informal ecological linkages (GIS Database).												
Conservation areas	The application area does not form part of known or mapped conservation area (GIS Database). The nearest conservation area is the Gurdurdu Conservation Park located approximately 8 kilometres southeast of the application area (GIS Database).												
Vegetation description	The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation association: 18: Low woodland, open low woodland or sparse woodland (GIS Database). The following vegetation associations were recorded within the application area (Natural Area, 2025): <table><tr><th>Vegetation Type</th><th>Description</th><th>Photograph</th></tr><tr><td><i>Acacia umbraculiformis</i> open woodland (AuOW)</td><td>An open <i>Acacia umbraculiformis</i> woodland over a sparse shrubland of <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i> and <i>Abutilon oxycarpum</i> over a sparse chenopod shrubland of <i>Sclerolaena densiflora</i> and <i>Sclerolaena diacantha</i> over a herbland of <i>Gnephosis arachnoidea</i> and <i>Enneapogon caerulescens</i>. Occurring on stony crests and slopes.</td><td></td></tr><tr><th>Vegetation Type</th><th>Description</th><th>Photograph</th></tr><tr><td><i>Acacia caesaneura</i> and <i>Acacia umbraculiformis</i> open woodland (AcAuOW)</td><td>An open woodland of <i>Acacia caesaneura</i> and <i>Acacia umbraculiformis</i> over a shrubland of <i>Senna artemisioides</i> subsp. <i>xartemisioides</i> and <i>Senna artemisioides</i> subsp. <i>xsturtii</i> over a herbland of <i>Panaetia lessonii</i>, and <i>Euphorbia tannensis</i> subsp. <i>eremophila</i> over <i>Cheilanthes sieberi</i> and <i>Cheilanthes lasiophylla</i>. Occurring on open depressions and seasonally inundated creek lines.</td><td></td></tr></table>	Vegetation Type	Description	Photograph	<i>Acacia umbraculiformis</i> open woodland (AuOW)	An open <i>Acacia umbraculiformis</i> woodland over a sparse shrubland of <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i> and <i>Abutilon oxycarpum</i> over a sparse chenopod shrubland of <i>Sclerolaena densiflora</i> and <i>Sclerolaena diacantha</i> over a herbland of <i>Gnephosis arachnoidea</i> and <i>Enneapogon caerulescens</i> . Occurring on stony crests and slopes.		Vegetation Type	Description	Photograph	<i>Acacia caesaneura</i> and <i>Acacia umbraculiformis</i> open woodland (AcAuOW)	An open woodland of <i>Acacia caesaneura</i> and <i>Acacia umbraculiformis</i> over a shrubland of <i>Senna artemisioides</i> subsp. <i>xartemisioides</i> and <i>Senna artemisioides</i> subsp. <i>xsturtii</i> over a herbland of <i>Panaetia lessonii</i> , and <i>Euphorbia tannensis</i> subsp. <i>eremophila</i> over <i>Cheilanthes sieberi</i> and <i>Cheilanthes lasiophylla</i> . Occurring on open depressions and seasonally inundated creek lines.	
Vegetation Type	Description	Photograph											
<i>Acacia umbraculiformis</i> open woodland (AuOW)	An open <i>Acacia umbraculiformis</i> woodland over a sparse shrubland of <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i> and <i>Abutilon oxycarpum</i> over a sparse chenopod shrubland of <i>Sclerolaena densiflora</i> and <i>Sclerolaena diacantha</i> over a herbland of <i>Gnephosis arachnoidea</i> and <i>Enneapogon caerulescens</i> . Occurring on stony crests and slopes.												
Vegetation Type	Description	Photograph											
<i>Acacia caesaneura</i> and <i>Acacia umbraculiformis</i> open woodland (AcAuOW)	An open woodland of <i>Acacia caesaneura</i> and <i>Acacia umbraculiformis</i> over a shrubland of <i>Senna artemisioides</i> subsp. <i>xartemisioides</i> and <i>Senna artemisioides</i> subsp. <i>xsturtii</i> over a herbland of <i>Panaetia lessonii</i> , and <i>Euphorbia tannensis</i> subsp. <i>eremophila</i> over <i>Cheilanthes sieberi</i> and <i>Cheilanthes lasiophylla</i> . Occurring on open depressions and seasonally inundated creek lines.												
Vegetation condition	The vegetation survey (Natural Area, 2025) of the application area found the vegetation to be in very good to completely degraded (Keighery, 1994) condition. The full Keighery (1994) condition rating scale is provided in Appendix C.												
Climate and landform	The Talling subregion has arid to semi-arid warm Mediterranean climate with winter dominant rainfall (CALM, 2002). The application area receives an average annual rainfall of approximately 299.5 millimetres (BoM, 2026).												
Soil description and Land degradation risk	The soils of the application area are broadly mapped as the following land systems (DPIRD, 2026; GIS Database): Gabanintha Land system: This land system is described as greenstone ridges and hills supporting sparse acacia shrublands. Stone mantles afford protection against soil erosion.												

Characteristic	Details
	the exception being narrow drainage tracts which are mildly susceptible to water erosion (Payne et al., 1998).
Waterbodies	The desktop assessment and aerial imagery indicated that no watercourses intersect the area proposed to be cleared (GIS Database).
Hydrogeography	No Public Drinking Water Source Area is recorded within 100 kilometres radius of the application area (GIS Database). The application area is located within the East Murchison Ground Water Area proclaimed under the <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i> (GIS Database). The groundwater salinity is mapped as 3,000 to 7,000 milligrams per litre total dissolved solids which is described as saline (BoM, 2019; GIS Database).
Flora	There are 15 records of Priority flora species within a 20 kilometre radius of the application area (Appendix A.3) (GIS Database). A total of 76 flora species were identified in the broad survey area, which comprised of 6 (7.9%) introduced (weeds) and 70 (92.1%) native species (Natural Area, 2025).
Ecological communities	There are no known records of Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities within the application area (Natural Area, 2025; GIS Database).
Fauna	The desktop assessment of the application area recorded 19 conservation significant fauna within a 50 kilometre radius of the application area (GIS Database). Four conservation significant fauna have possibility to occur within the application area (Appendix A.4) (Natural Area, 2025; GIS Database).
Fauna habitat	A fauna survey was conducted over the application area by Natural Area (2025). The following fauna habitats were recorded within the application area (Natural Area, 2025): • Drainage • Open woodland; and • Outcrops / Breakaways

A.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 - Yalgoo	5,057,325	4,923,840	~97	1,576,718	31.18
IBRA Subregion - Talling	3,498,943	3,387,092	~96	827,723	23.66
Local Government - Shire of Yalgoo	2,794,946	2,733,268	~97	628,939	22.50
Beard vegetation associations - State					
Veg Assoc No. - 18	19,892,306	19,843,148	~99	1,317,179	6.62
Beard vegetation associations - Bioregion					
Veg Assoc No. - 18	101,331	101,232	~99	19,687	19.43
Beard vegetation associations - subregion					
Veg Assoc No. - 18	101,278	101,180	~99	19,635	19.39

Government of Western Australia (2019)

A.3. Flora analysis table

The following conservation significant flora species have records within a 20 kilometre radius of the application area (GIS Database). Habitat suitability and likelihood of occurrence was determined utilising biological survey information (Natural Area, 2025; WA Herbarium, 1998-; GIS Database).

Species name	Conservation status	Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Likelihood of occurrence	Number of known records (total)	Are surveys adequate to identify? [Y, N, N/A]
<i>Acacia cerastes</i>	3	Y	<20	Possibly	24	N
<i>Acacia formidabilis</i>	3	Y	<5	Possibly	15	N
<i>Austroparmelina macrospora</i>	3	N	<15	Unlikely	54	Y
<i>Baeckea</i> sp. Paynes Find (S. Patrick 1095)	1	Y	<15	Possibly	11	N
<i>Cyanicula fragrans</i>	3	Y	<15	Possibly	13	N
<i>Eucalyptus crucis</i> subsp. <i>praecipua</i>	T	N	<20	Unlikely	13	N
<i>Eucalyptus educta</i>	2	N	<20	Unlikely	46	N
<i>Grevillea subtiliflora</i>	3	Y	<10	Possibly	44	N
<i>Hemigenia tichbonii</i>	1	N	<10	Unlikely	10	N
<i>Isotropis petrensis</i>	1	N	<15	Unlikely	12	N
<i>Lymphoria humistrata</i>	1	N	<15	Unlikely	-	N
<i>Micromyrtus acuta</i>	3	Y	<15	Possibly	19	N
<i>Persoonia pentasticha</i>	3	N	<20	Unlikely	51	N
<i>Pterostylis arida</i>	3	N	<20	Unlikely	12	N

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

A.4. Fauna analysis table

The following conservation significant fauna species have records within a 50 kilometres radius of the application area (GIS Database). Habitat suitability, likelihood of occurrence and impact was determined utilising biological survey information (Commonwealth of Australia, 2008; Natural Area, 2025; GIS Database).

Species name	Common name	Conservation status		Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Likelihood of occurrence	Are surveys adequate to identify? [Y, N, N/A]
		EPBC	WA				
<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	common sandpiper	MI	MI	N	<25	Unlikely	N
<i>Bettongia penicillata ogilbyi</i>	woylie, brush-tailed bettong	EN	CR	N	<45	Unlikely	N
<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	sharp-tailed sandpiper	MI	MI	N	<20	Unlikely	N
<i>Charadrius cucullatus</i>	hooded plover	-	P4	N	<45	Unlikely	N
<i>Dasyurus geoffroii</i>	western quoll, chuditch	VU	VU	Y	<50	Possibly	N
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	peregrine falcon		OS	Y	<10	Possibly	Y
<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	gull-billed tern	MI	MI	N	<30	Unlikely	N
<i>Idiosoma clypeatum</i>	northern shield-backed trapdoor spider	-	P3	Y	<10	Likely	N
<i>Idiosoma formosum</i>	ornate shield-backed trapdoor spider	-	EN	N	<50	Unlikely	N
<i>Lagostrophus fasciatus fasciatus</i>	banded hare-wallaby	VU	VU	N	<50	Unlikely	N
<i>Leipoa ocellata</i>	malleefowl	VU	VU	Y	<10	Possibly	N
<i>Leporillus conditor</i>	greater stick-nest rat, wopilkara	VU	CD	N	<45	Unlikely	N
<i>Macrotis lagotis</i>	greater bilby	VU	VU	N	<50	Unlikely	N
<i>Myrmecobius fasciatus</i>	numbat	EN	EN	N	<50	Unlikely	N
<i>Oxyura australis</i>	blue-billed duck	-	P4	N	<50	Unlikely	N

Species name	Common name	Conservation status		Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Likelihood of occurrence	Are surveys adequate to identify? [Y, N, N/A]
		EPBC	WA				
<i>Perameles bougainville</i>	Shark Bay bandicoot	EN	VU	N	<45	Unlikely	N
<i>Phascogale calura</i>	red-tailed phascogale, kenngoor	VU	CD	N	<50	Unlikely	N
<i>Pseudomys fieldi</i>	Shark Bay mouse, djoongari	VU	VU	N	<50	Unlikely	N/A
<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	common greenshank	MI	MI	N	<15	Unlikely	N

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

Appendix B. Assessment against the clearing principles

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Environmental value: biological values		
<u>Principle (a):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biodiversity." <u>Assessment:</u> The area proposed to be cleared may contains regionally significant flora, fauna and habitats (Natural Area, 2025; GIS Database).	May be at variance	Yes <i>Refer to Section 3.2.1, above.</i>
<u>Principle (b):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna." <u>Assessment:</u> The area proposed to be cleared contains suitable habitat for conservation significant fauna (Natural Area, 2025; GIS Database).	May be at variance	Yes <i>Refer to Section 3.2.1, above.</i>
<u>Principle (c):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora." <u>Assessment:</u> The area proposed to be cleared is unlikely to contain habitat for flora species listed under the BC Act (Natural Area, 2025; GIS Database).	Not at variance	No
<u>Principle (d):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a threatened ecological community." <u>Assessment:</u> The area proposed to be cleared does not contain species that can indicate a threatened ecological community (Natural Area, 2025; GIS Database).	Not at variance	No
Environmental value: significant remnant vegetation and conservation areas		
<u>Principle (e):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared." <u>Assessment:</u> The extent of the mapped vegetation type is consistent with the national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001; Government of Western Australia; 2019). The vegetation proposed to be cleared is not considered to be part of a significant ecological linkage in the local area (GIS Database).	Not at variance	No
<u>Principle (h):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area." <u>Assessment:</u>	Not likely to be at variance	No

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Given the distance to the nearest conservation area (approximately 8 kilometres), the proposed clearing is not likely to have an impact on the environmental values of nearby conservation areas (GIS Database).		
Environmental value: land and water resources		
Principle (f): <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> The application area does not contain permanent watercourses. However, there are inundated minor drainage lines, and the proposed clearing is likely to impact on vegetation growing in association with the drainage lines (Natural Area, 2025; GIS Database). The vegetation type that is associated with seasonally inundated drainage lines is AcAuOW (Natural Area, 2025). Potential impacts to vegetation associated with the drainage lines can be minimised by the implementation of a watercourse management condition.	May be at variance	No
Principle (g): <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation."</i> <u>Assessment:</u> The Gabanintha land system mapped within the application area is not susceptible to soil erosion except the narrow drainage tracts which are mildly susceptible to water erosion (DPIRD, 2026; Payne et al., 1998). Noting the extent of the application area and the condition of the vegetation, the proposed clearing is not likely to have an appreciable impact on land degradation.	Not likely to be at variance	No
Principle (i): <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> <u>Assessment:</u> Given no watercourses, wetlands or Public Drinking Water Sources Areas are recorded within the application area (GIS Database), the proposed clearing is unlikely to cause deterioration in surface or ground water quality.	Not likely to be at variance	No
Principle (j): <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> <u>Assessment:</u> The climate of the region is arid, with a low average rainfall of approximately 299.5 millimetres per year (BoM, 2026; CALM, 2002). There are no permanent watercourses or waterbodies within the application area (GIS Database). Therefore, the proposed clearing is unlikely to contribute to waterlogging or increase the incidence or intensity of flooding (GIS Database).	Not likely to 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 Keighery, B.J. (1994) *Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community*. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

Measuring vegetation condition for the South West and Interzone Botanical Province (Keighery, 1994)

Condition	Description
Pristine	Pristine or nearly so, no obvious signs of disturbance.
Excellent	Vegetation structure intact, with disturbance affecting individual species; weeds are non-aggressive species.
Very good	Vegetation structure altered, with obvious signs of disturbance. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by repeated fires, the presence of some more aggressive weeds, dieback, logging and/or grazing.

Condition	Description
Good	Vegetation structure significantly altered by very obvious signs of multiple disturbances. Retains basic vegetation structure or ability to regenerate it. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by very frequent fires, the presence of some very aggressive weeds at high density, partial clearing, dieback and/or grazing.
Degraded	Basic vegetation structure severely impacted by disturbance. Scope for regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive management. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by very frequent fires, the presence of very aggressive weeds, partial clearing, dieback and/or grazing.
Completely degraded	The structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species. These areas are often described as 'parkland cleared' with the 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):

- Cadastre (Polygon) (LGATE-217)
- Clearing Regulations - Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046)
- Clearing Regulations - Schedule One Areas (DWER-057)
- DBCA - Lands of Interest (DBCA-012)
- DBCA - Legislated Lands and Waters (DBCA-011)
- DBCA Fire History (DBCA-060)
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide (DWER-026)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- IBSA Survey Details (DWER-118)
- Local Government Area (LGA) Boundaries (LGATE-233)
- Localities (LGATE-234)
- Native Title (Determination) (LGATE-066)
- 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)
- Townsites (LGATE-248)
- WA Now Aerial Imagery

Restricted GIS Databases used:

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

D.2. References

Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) (2026) [Idiosoma clypeatum : Northern Shield-Backed Trapdoor Spider | Atlas of Living Australia](#) (Accessed 9 June 2026).

Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) (2019) Bureau of Meteorology Website – Groundwater Information – Average Salinity. Bureau of Meteorology. <https://www.bom.gov.au/water/groundwater/insight/metadata.shtml> (Accessed 28 May 2026).

Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) (2026) Bureau of Meteorology Website – Climate Data Online, Wanarra. Bureau of Meteorology. <https://reg.bom.gov.au/climate/data/> (Accessed 28 May 2026).

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

Conservation and Land Management (CALM) (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographic Subregions in 2002. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.

- Commonwealth of Australia (2008) Species Profile and Threats Database. Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Australia. <https://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/sprat.pl> (Accessed 28 May 2026).
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) (2026a) Advice received in relation to Clearing Permit Application CPS 11527/1. Species and Communities Branch, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia, August 2026.
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) (2026b) Threatened and Priority Flora List - July 2026. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. Available from: <https://www.dbca.wa.gov.au/management/threatened-species-and-communities>
- Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) (2024) National Recovery Plan for the malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*), Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Canberra. <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/national-recovery-plan-malleefowl.pdf>
- Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) (2012) Chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroii*) Recovery Plan. Wildlife Management Program No. 54. Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth, Western Australia. <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/dasyurus-geoffroii-2012.pdf>
- Department of Environment Regulation (DER) (2014) *A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation*. Perth. https://www.der.wa.gov.au/images/documents/your-environment/native-vegetation/Guidelines/Guide2_assessment_native_veg.pdf
- 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 12 May 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 28 May 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
- Everest Metals (Everest) (2026a) Clearing permit application form, CPS 11527/1, received 28 March 2026.
- Everest Metals (Everest) (2026b) Additional information received via email, 8 June 2026.
- Government of Western Australia (2019) 2018 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of March 2019. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. <https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca-statewide-vegetation-statistics>
- Invertebrate Solutions (2020) Desktop assessment for Short Range Endemic invertebrates for the Dalgarranga Gold Project, Gascoyne Resources, Murchison, Western Australia. Unpublished report to Western Ecological Pty Ltd on behalf of Gascoyne Resources Ltd, March 2020.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Natural Area (2025) Mt Edon Project Flora and Fauna Survey. Prepared for Everest Metals, by Natural Area Consulting Management Services, Spring 2025.
- Payne, A L, van Vreeswyk, A M, Leighton, K A, Pringle, H J, and Hennig, P. (1998) An inventory and condition survey of the Sandstone-Yalgoo-Paynes Find area, Western Australia. Technical Bulletin 90. Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia.
- Western Australian Herbarium (WA Herbarium) (1998-) FloraBase - the Western Australian Flora. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia. <https://florabase.dbca.wa.gov.au/> (Accessed 28 May 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:

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.