Government of Western Australia
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 2527/5
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: **BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd**

1.3. Property details

Property: *Iron Ore (Mt Newman) Agreement Act 1964*, Mineral Lease 244SA (AML 70/244)
Local Government Area: Shire of East Pilbara
Colloquial name: Orebody 17 Exploration Project

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
100		Mechanical Removal	Mineral exploration, construction of access tracks, water pipelines and ammonium nitrate storage facility

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 17 October 2019

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description

The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation associations:
82: Hummock grasslands, low tree steppe; snappy gum over *Triodia wiseana*; and
216: Low woodland; mulga (with spinifex) on rises.

Vegetation mapping which compiled the findings of previous flora surveys in the area was conducted by Onshore Environmental (2013). A total of nine broad floristic communities with 17 vegetation associations were mapped to occur within the application area:

***Triodia* Hummock Grassland**

- **DL2:** *Eucalyptus trivalva* low open woodland over *Acacia bivenosa*, *Acacia ancistrocarpa*, *Acacia adsurgens*, *Acacia dictyophleba*, *Acacia tenuissima* shrubland over *Triodia pungens* hummock grassland.
- **FP5:** *Corymbia hamersleyana* scattered low trees over *Acacia ancistrocarpa*, *Acacia dictyophleba* open shrubland over *Triodia basedowii* hummock grassland.
- **FS2:** *Triodia basedowii* hummock grassland.
- **HC1:** *Corymbia hamersleyana*, *Eucalyptus kingsmillii* low open woodland over *Acacia maitlandii*, *Petalostylis labicheoides*, *Mirbelia viminalis*, *Eremophila exilifolia* shrubland over *Acacia hilliana*, *Acacia adoxa*, *Waltheria virgata* low shrubland over *Triodia pungens* hummock grassland.
- **HC4:** *Eucalyptus leucophloia* scattered low trees over *Eremophila latrobei* subsp. *filiformis*, *Eremophila latrobei* subsp. *glabra*, *Senna stricta*, *Senna glutinosa* subsp. *pruinosa* open shrubland over *Acacia hilliana*, *Acacia adoxa*, *Dodonaea coriacea* low shrubland over *Triodia basedowii* open hummock grassland.
- ***HS3:*** *Acacia aneura*, *Acacia pruinocarpa*, *Acacia wanyu* low open woodland over *Senna glutinosa* subsp. *glutinosa*, *Dodonaea viscosa*, *Eremophila forrestii* × *latrobei* open shrubland over *Sida* sp. Excedentifolia (J.L. Egan 1925), *Gompholobium oreophilum* low open shrubland over *Triodia basedowii* open hummock grassland over *Eriachne mucronata* open grassland.

***Corymbia* Low Woodland**

- **DL3:** *Corymbia hamersleyana*, *Eucalyptus gamophylla* low woodland over *Petalostylis labicheoides*, *Gossypium robinsonii* open scrub over *Acacia monticola*, *Senna glutinosa* subsp. *glutinosa* shrubland over *Scaevola parvifolia*, *Isotropis atropurpurea* low open shrubland.

***Eucalyptus* Low Woodland**

- **GG3:** *Eucalyptus leucophloia*, *Acacia aneura* low woodland over *Senna artemisioides* subsp. ×*artemisioides*, *Eremophila latrobei*, *Dodonaea pachyneura* open shrubland over *Sida* sp. Excedentifolia (J.L. Egan 1925), *Eremophila cuneifolia* low shrubland over *Eriachne mucronata* open grassland over *Triodia pungens* open hummock grassland.

***Goodenia* Low Shrubland**

- **FS4:** *Eucalyptus gamophylla*, *Corymbia hamersleyana* scattered low trees over *Hakea lorea* subsp. *lorea* scattered shrubs over *Goodenia* sp. Sandy Creek (R.D. Royce 1653) low shrubland over *Fimbristylis simulans* open herbland.

- **HS1:** *Eucalyptus leucophloia*, *Corymbia hamersleyana*, *Corymbia deserticola* low open woodland over *Petalostylis labicheoides* open shrubland over *Goodenia stobbsiana*, *Dampiera candicans* low shrubland over *Eriachne lanata* open grassland over *Triodia basedowii* open hummock grassland.

- **HS4:** *Eucalyptus leucophloia*, *Corymbia hamersleyana* low open woodland over *Halgania solanacea*, *Goodenia* sp. Sandy Creek (R.D. Royce 1653), *Gompholobium oreophilum* low shrubland over *Eriachne lanata*, *Eriachne mucronata* open grassland over *Triodia basedowii* open hummock grassland over *Fimbristylis simulans* open herbland.

***Themeda* Closed Grassland**

- **FP3:** *Corymbia hamersleyana* low open woodland over *Androcalva luteiflora*, *Acacia* spp. open shrubland over *Bonamia rosea*, *Indigofera georgei*, *Isotropis* sp. Arid zone (G. Byrne 2775), *Scaevola parvifolia* subsp. *pilbarae* low open shrubland over *Themeda triandra*, *Aristida holathera*, *Paraneurachne muelleri*, *Chrysopogon fallax* closed grassland.

***Aristida* Grassland**

- **FP4:** *Corymbia hamersleyana* scattered low trees over *Acacia ancistrocarpa*, *Acacia dictyophleba*, *Acacia monticola*, *Androcalva luteiflora* open shrubland over *Scaevola parvifolia*, *Sida cardiophylla*, *Bonamia rosea*, *Isotropis atropurpurea* low shrubland over *Paraneurachne muelleri*, *Aristida holathera*, *Eragrostis eriopoda*, **Cenchrus ciliaris* grassland.

- **FS5:** *Corymbia hamersleyana* low open woodland over *Hakea lorea* subsp. *lorea* scattered shrubs over *Grevillea wickhamii*, *Ptilotus calostachyus* shrubland over *Goodenia* sp. Sandy Creek (R.D. Royce 1653), *Gompholobium oreophilum*, *Acacia hilliana*, *Acacia adoxa* low shrubland over *Paraneurachne muelleri*, *Aristida holathera* grassland.

***Aristida* Closed Grassland**

- **FP6:** *Corymbia hamersleyana* low open woodland over *Acacia ancistrocarpa*, *Acacia dictyophleba*, *Grevillea wickhamii*, *Gossypium robinsonii* open shrubland over *Bonamia rosea*, *Indigofera georgei*, *Ptilotus obovatus*, *Scaevola parvifolia* subsp. *pilbarae* low open shrubland over *Paraneurachne muelleri*, *Aristida holathera*, *Themeda triandra* closed grassland.

***Senna* Low Shrubland**

- **FS7:** *Acacia aneura*, *Acacia wanyu* low open woodland over *Senna stricta*, *Eremophila cuneifolia* low shrubland over *Triodia basedowii* open hummock grassland over *Aristida contorta* open grassland.

***Sida* Low Shrubland**

- **GG1:** *Eucalyptus leucophloia*, *Ficus brachypoda*, *Acacia aneura* (+/- *Eucalyptus kingsmillii*) low open woodland over *Petalostylis labicheoides*, *Gossypium robinsonii* tall open shrubland over *Grevillea wickhamii*, *Acacia monticola* open shrubland over *Sida* sp. Excedentifolia (J.L. Egan 1925), *Triumfetta maconochieana*, *Ptilotus obovatus*, *Acacia maitlandii*, *Stemodia grossa*, *Goodenia stobbsiana*, *Dampiera candicans*, *Gompholobium oreophilum* low shrubland over *Cymbopogon ambiguus*, *Eriachne mucronata*, *Eriachne lanata* open grassland over *Triodia pungens* open hummock grassland.

In another portion of the application area, Syrinx (2012) mapped five broad floristic communities with six vegetation associations within the application area:

***Acacia* Low Woodland**

- **2c:** Low woodland of *Acacia aptaneura* and *Corymbia hamersleyana* over very open shrubland of *Acacia wanyu*, *Acacia ancistrocarpa* and *Eremophila forrestii* over very open hummock grassland of *Triodia epactia* and *Triodia lanigera.*

***Acacia* Tall Shrubland**

- **4a:** Tall shrubland of *Acacia monticola*, *Androcalva luteiflora* and *Gossypium robinsonii* with low woodland of *Corymbia hamersleyana*, *Eucalyptus victrix* and *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia* over very open tussock grassland of *Themeda triandra*, **Cenchrus ciliaris* and *Cymbopogon procerus.*

***Triodia* Hummock Grassland**

- **5e:** Hummock grassland of *Triodia vanleeuwenii*, *Triodia angusta* and *Triodia epactia* with scattered shrubs of *Acacia tenuissima*, *Acacia melleodora* and *Eremophila cuneifolia* with scattered low trees of *Acacia aptaneura* and *Acacia pruinocarpa.*

- **5f:** Hummock grassland of *Triodia lanigera* and *Triodia epactia* with tall open shrubland of *Acacia bivenosa*, *Acacia ancistrocarpa* and *Acacia tenuissima* with very open mallee of *Eucalyptus gamophylla*.

Mixed Tussock Grassland

- **8a:** Tussock grassland of *Eulalia aurea*, *Themeda triandra* and *Aristida inaequiglumis* with low open woodland of *Corymbia hamersleyana*, *Acacia aptaneura* and *Acacia citrinoviridis* over open shrubland of *Acacia ancistrocarpa*, *Gossypium robinsonii* and *Acacia pyrifolia*.

Mixed Open Tussock Grassland

- **9a:** Open tussock grassland of *Themeda triandra*, *Aristida inaequiglumis* and *Aristida contorta* with open shrubland of *Acacia monticola, Acacia ancistrocarpa* and *Grevillea wickhamii* subsp. *aprica* with scattered low trees of *Corymbia hamersleyana*.

In addition, Syrinx (2011) mapped four broad floristic communities with four vegetation associations within a further portion of the application area:

***Acacia* Closed Scrub**

- **3a:** Closed scrub of *Acacia monticola* over open shrubland of *Santalum lanceolatum*, *Acacia maitlandii* and *Grevillea wickhamii* with scattered low trees of *Corymbia deserticola*, *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia* and *Corymbia hamersleyana*.

***Triodia* Closed Hummock Grassland**

- **9a:** Closed hummock grassland of *Triodia vanleeuwenii* with low scattered shrubs of *Acacia adoxa* var. *adoxa*, *Halgania solanacea* var. Mt Doreen (G.M. Chippendale 4206) and *Senna glutinosa* subsp. x *luerssenii* with scattered tall shrubs of *Grevillea wickhamii*.

***Triodia* Hummock Grassland**

- **10a:** Hummock grassland of *Triodia vanleeuwenii* with low open shrubland of *Acacia hilliana*, *Acacia adoxa* var. *adoxa* and *Halgania solanacea* var. Mt Doreen (G.M. Chippendale 4206) with tall open shrubland of *Acacia bivenosa*, *Grevillea wickhamii* and *Acacia trudgeniana*.

***Triodia* Open Hummock Grassland**

- **11b:** Open hummock grassland of *Triodia lanigera* and *Triodia epactia* with open shrubland of *Acacia ancistrocarpa*, *Acacia atkinsiana* and *Acacia tetragonophylla* with scattered trees of *Corymbia hamersleyana.*

Clearing Description

Orebody 17 Exploration Project.
BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd (BHPBIO) proposes to clear up to 100 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 612.9 hectares, for the purpose of mineral exploration, construction of access tracks, water pipelines and ammonium nitrate storage facility. The project is located approximately 32 kilometres east, north east of Newman, in the Shire of East Pilbara.

Vegetation Condition

Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery, 1994).

To:

Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994).

Comment

Vegetation condition was derived from flora and vegetation assessments conducted by Syrinx (2011;2012) and Onshore (2013).

Clearing permit CPS 2527/1 was granted by the Department of Mines and Petroleum (now the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety) on 5 February 2009 and was valid from 7 March 2009 to 30 September 2014. The permit authorised the clearing of up to 50 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximatley 612 hectares, for the purpose of mineral exploration.

CPS 2527/2 was granted on 6 December 2012, amending the permit to include the construction of access tracks and ammonium nitrate storage facility in the purpose for which clearing may be conducted, and to extend the duration of the permit until 30 September 2019. The area of clearing authorised and the permit boundaries remained unchanged.

CPS 2527/3 was granted on 15 May 2014, amending the permit to increase the area to be cleared from 50 hectares to 100 hectares within the existing boundary, extend the duration of the permit from 30 September 2019 to 1 October 2024, and extend the period in which clearing is authorised from 30 September 2014 to 1 October 2019.

CPS 2527/4 was granted 30 July 2015, amending the permit to include construction of water pipelines in the purpose for which clearing may be done, extend the duration of the permit to 30 November 2024. The area of clearing authorised and the permit boundaries remained unchanged.

On 19 August 2019, the Permit Holder applied to amend CPS 2527/4 to extend the permit duration and to extend the period in which clearing is authorised.

3. Assessment of application against Clearing Principles

Comments

The Permit Holder has applied to amend the clearing permit to extend the permit duration and period in which clearing is authorised by ten years to 30 November 2034 and 30 November 2029, respectively. The size of the area approved to clear (100 hectares) and permit boundary remain the same. The amendment is unlikely to result in any significant change to the environmental impacts of the proposed clearing (GIS Database).

The amendment application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with s.51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. Environmental information has been reviewed, and the assessment of the proposed clearing against the clearing principles remains consistent with the assessment contained in decision reports CPS 2527/1, CPS 2527/2, CPS 2527/3 and 2527/4.

Methodology GIS Database:
- DPaW Tenure
- Hydrography, Lakes
- Hydrography, Linear
- IBRA Australia
- Imagery
- Landsystem Rangelands
- Pre-European Vegetation
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities boundaries
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities buffers
- Threatened and Priority Flora
- Threatened Fauna

Planning Instrument, Native Title, previous EPA decision or other matter.

Comments

There is one (WC2005/006) native title claim over the area under application (DPLH, 2019). This claim has been determined by the Federal Court on behalf of the claimant group. However, 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 three registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the application area (DPLH, 2019). 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 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.

The amendment application was advertised on 2 September 2019 by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

Methodology DPLH (2019)

4. References

DPLH (2019) Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. http://maps.daa.wa.gov.au/AHIS/ (Accessed 24 September 2019).

Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

Onshore Environmental (2013) Orebody 17/18 Derived Vegetation Association Mapping. Consultants report prepared for BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd, January 2013.

Syrinx (2011) Orebody 31 Flora and Vegetation Assessment. Consultants report prepared for BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd, September 2011.

Syrinx (2012) Wheelarra Hill North Flora and Vegetation Assessment. Consultants report prepared for BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd, February 2012.

5. Glossary

Acronyms:

BoM	Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Government
DAA	Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Western Australia (now DPLH)
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia (now DPIRD)
DBCA	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia
DEC	Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (now DBCA and DWER)
DEE	Department of the Environment and Energy, Australian Government

DER	Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia (now DWER)
DMIRS	Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Western Australia
DMP	Department of Mines and Petroleum, Western Australia (now DMIRS)
DPIRD	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia
DPLH	Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, Western Australia
DRF	Declared Rare Flora
DoE	Department of the Environment, Australian Government (now DEE)
DoW	Department of Water, Western Australia (now DWER)
DPaW	Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia (now DBCA)
DSEWPaC	Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (now DEE)
DWER	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Western Australia
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia
EP Act	*Environmental Protection Act 1986*, Western Australia
EPBC Act	*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Federal Act)
GIS	Geographical Information System
ha	Hectare (10,000 square metres)
IBRA	Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources – commonly known as the World Conservation Union
PEC	Priority Ecological Community, Western Australia
RIWI Act	*Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*, Western Australia
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community

Definitions:

{DBCA (2019) Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora and Fauna. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia}:-

T **Threatened species:**

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 that subset of 'Specially Protected Fauna' listed under schedules 1 to 3 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018* for Threatened Fauna.

Threatened flora is that subset of 'Rare Flora' listed under schedules 1 to 3 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2018* for Threatened Flora.

The assessment of the conservation status of these species is based on their national extent and ranked according to their level of threat using IUCN Red List categories and criteria as detailed below.

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. Published under schedule 1 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018* for critically endangered fauna or the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2018* for critically endangered flora.

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. Published under schedule 2 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018* for endangered fauna or the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2018* for endangered flora.

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. Published under schedule 3 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018* for vulnerable fauna or the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2018* for vulnerable flora.

Extinct Species:

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).

Published as presumed extinct under schedule 4 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018* for extinct fauna or the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2018* for extinct flora.

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. If listing of a species as extinct in the wild occurs, then a schedule will be added to the applicable notice.

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).

Includes birds that are subject to an agreement between the government of Australia and the governments of Japan (JAMBA), China (CAMBA) and 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.

Published as migratory birds protected under an international agreement under schedule 5 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018*.

CD **Species of special conservation interest (conservation dependent fauna)**
Fauna of special conservation need being species 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).

Published as conservation dependent fauna under schedule 6 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018*.

OS **Other specially protected species**
Fauna 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).

Published as other specially protected fauna under schedule 7 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018*.

P **Priority species:**

Possibly threatened species that do not meet survey criteria, 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 priority for survey and evaluation of conservation status so that consideration can be given to their declaration as threatened fauna or flora.

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

Assessment of Priority codes 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**
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, e.g. 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 and appear to be under immediate threat from known threatening processes. Such species are in urgent need of further survey.

P2 **Priority Two - Poorly-known species**
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, e.g. 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 and appear to be under threat from known threatening processes. Such species are in urgent need of further survey.

P3 **Priority Three - Poorly-known species**
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. Such species are in need of 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 Conservation Dependent.
(c) Species that have been removed from the list of threatened species during the past five years for reasons other than taxonomy.

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 indigenous to Western Australia.

(c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare 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 clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.