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.: 3609/5
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

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

1.3. Property details

Property: *Iron Ore (Mount Newman) Agreement Act 1964,* Mineral Lease 244SA (AML 70/244)
Iron Ore (McCamey's Monster) Agreement Authorisation Act 1972, Mining Lease 266SA (AM 70/266)
Miscellaneous Licence 52/108
Local Government Area: Shire of East Pilbara
Colloquial name: Jimblebar to Orebody 18

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
110		Mechanical Removal	Mineral Production and associated infrastructure

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 22 October 2020

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 (GIS Database).

Several vegetation and flora surveys have been carried out over the permit area. There were 19 vegetation associations recorded within the permit boundary for CPS 3609/3 which are detailed in Decision Report 3609/3.

A flora survey of the additional area added by amendment CPS 3609/4 identified the following vegetation associations (BHP Billiton, 2015):

Acacia Low Open Forest

Low Open Forest of *Acacia aptaneura* over Tussock Grassland of *Aristida inaequiglumis, Chrysopogon fallax* and *Themeda triandra* and Low Open Shrubland of *Rhagodia eremaea, Ptilotus obovatu*s and *Isotropis forrestii* on floodplains, unincised drainage lines and drainage zones;

Acacia Low Woodland

Low Woodland of *Acacia aptanerua*, *Acacia pruinocarpa* and *Acacia catenulata* subsp. *occidentalis* over Open Shrubland of *Eremophila forrestii* subsp. *forrestii*, *Dodonaea petiolaris* and *Sida ectogama* over Open Tussock Grassland of *Aristida contorta*, *Digitaria ammophila* and *Aristida inaequiglumis* on red orange clay loam on floodplains;

Acacia Low Open Woodland

Low Open Woodland of *Acacia aptaneura*, *Acacia rhodophloia* and *Acacia pruinocarpa* over Open Shrubland of *Senna glutinosa* subsp. x *luerssenii* and *Scaevola acacioides* over Low Open Shrubland of *Eremophila cuneifolia* and *Senna stricta* on ironstone hill crests;

Acacia Shrubland

Shrubland of *Acacia monticola*, *Acacia ancistrocarpa* and *Petalostylis labicheoides* with Scattered Low Trees of *Corymbia hamersleyana* and *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia* over Open Tussock Grassland of *Themeda triandra* and *Aristida inaequilatera* on red loamy sand on minor drainage lines;

Acacia Open Scrub

Open Scrub of *Acacia aptaneura*, *Acacia bivenosa*, *Acacia ancistrocarpa* and *Acacia tenuissima* over Hummock Grassland of *Triodia pungens* with Low Open Mallee of Eucalyptus *gamophylla* and *Eucalyptus trivalva* on footslopes and stony plains;

Open Scrub of *Acacia ancistrocarpa*, *Grevillea wickhamii* subsp. *hispidula* and *Eremophila longifolia* over hummock Grassland of *Triodia pungens* and Tussock Grassland of *Themeda triandra* and **Cenchrus ciliaris* on minor drainage lines;

Eremophila Low Open Shrubland

Low Open Shrubland of *Eremophila forrestii*, *Senna glutinosa* subsp. x *luerssenii* and *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *oligophylla* with Scattered Tall Shrubs of *Acacia paraneura*, *Acacia aptaneura* and *Acacia ayersiana* and Very Open Tussock Grassland of *Aristida inaequiglumis*, *Aristida contorta* and *Eragrostis eriopoda* on bare stony plains;

Eucalyptus Low Woodland

Tussock Grassland of *Themeda triandra*, *Eulalia aurea* and *Eriachne tenuiculmis* with High Shrubland of *Acacia pyrifolia* var. *pyrifolia*, *Acacia tumida* var. *pilbarensis* and *Petalostylis labicheoides* and Open Woodland of *Eucalyptus victrix* and *Corymbia hamersleyana* on red brown silty loam on medium drainage lines and flood plains;

Triodia Closed Hummock Grassland

Closed Hummock Grassland of *Triodia angusta* with Open Shrubland of *Acacia tetragonophylla*, *Acacia synchronicia* and *Acacia bivenosa* and Low Open Shrubland of *Eremophila cuneifolia*, *Frankina setosa* and *Senna stricta* on plains;

Triodia Hummock Grassland

Hummock Grassland of *Triodia pungens* and *Triodia* sp. Shovelanna Hill (S. van Leeuwen 3835) with High Open Shrubland of *Acacia trudgeniana*, *Hakea lorea* subsp. *lorea* and *Acacia aptaneura* and Low Open Shrubland of *Eremophila fraseri* subsp. f*raseri, Senna glutinosa* subsp. x *luerssenii* and *Senna glutinosa* subsp. *pruinosa* on dolerite footslopes and stony plains;

Hummock Grassland of *Triodia basedowii* with High Open Shrubland of *Acacia trudgeniana*, *Hakea lorea* subsp. *lorea* and *Grevillea wickhamii* subsp. *hispidula* and Open Shrubland of *Acacia ancistrocarpa*, *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *oligophylla* and *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *helmsii* on sandplains;

Hummock Grassland of *Triodia* sp. Shovelanna Hill (S. van Leeuwen 3835) and *Triodia pungens* with High Open Shrubland of *Grevillea wickhamii* subsp. *hispidula*, *Acacia trudgeniana* and *Acacia aptaneura* and Open Shrubland of *Senna glutinosa* subsp. x *luerssenii* on footslopes and stony plains;

Hummock Grassland of *Triodia brizoides* and *Triodia pungens* with High Open Shrubland of *Acacia bivenosa* over Open Shrubland of Senna *glutinosa* subsp. x *luerssenii* over *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *helmsii* on hillslopes and footslopes;

Hummock Grassland of *Triodia brizoides* and *Triodia pungens* with Low Woodland of *Acacia aptaneura* over Open Shrubland of *Senna stricta* and *Ptilotus obovatus* on hill crests and south facing hill slopes;

Hummock Grassland of *Triodia brizoides* and *Triodia* sp. Shovelanna Hill (S. van Leeuwen 3835) with High Shrubland of *Acacia wanyu*, *Acacia tetragonophylla* and *Acacia synchronicia* over Open Shrubland of *Senna glutinosa* subsp. x *luerssenii*, *Senna glutinosa* subsp. *pruinosa* and *Eremophila cuneifolia* on hill slopes;

Hummock Grassland of *Triodia angusta* ±*Triodia brizoides* with Low Open Shrubland of *Senna glutinosa* subsp. x *luerssenii*, *Eremophila cuneifolia* and *Eremophila latrobei* subsp. *latrobei* and Low Scattered Trees of *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia* on undulating low hills and stony plains;

Hummock Grassland of *Triodia basedowii* with Low Open Woodland of *Acacia aptaneura* and *Acacia pruinocarpa* over Open Shrubland of *Eremophila forrestii* subsp. *forrestii* on red sandy loam on floodplains;

Hummock Grassland of *Triodia pungens* with Very Open Mallee of *Eucalyptus trivalva* and *Eucalyptus gamophylla* over Shrubland of *Acacia bivenosa*, *Acacia ancistrocarpa* and *Petalostylis labicheoides* on red brown loam on uninsised drainage tracts on stony plains;

Hummock Grassland of *Triodia* sp. Shovelanna Hill and *Triodia pungens* with Very Open Mallee of *Eucalyptus kingsmillii* subsp. *kingsmillii* and *Eucalyptus gamophylla* on red sandy loam on hill slopes and hill crests;

Hummock Grassland of *Triodia* sp. Shovelanna Hill (S. van Leeuwen 3835), *Triodia wiseana* and *Triodia pungens* with Low Open Woodland of *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia* and *Corymbia hamersleyana* over Low Open Shrubland of *Acacia hilliana* and *Acacia adoxa* var. *adoxa* on red brown sandy loam on hill slopes;

Hummock Grassland of *Triodia wiseana* with Low Open Woodland of *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia*, *Corymbia hamersleyana* and *Hakea chordophylla* and Open Shrubland of *Acacia ancistrocarpa*, *Acacia bivenosa* and *Acacia aptaneura* on red sandy loam on hill slopes;

Hummock Grassland of *Triodia basedowii* with Low Open Woodland of *Corymbia hamersleyana* and *Eucalyptus gamophylla* over Low Open Shrubland of *Scaevola parvifolia*, *Bonamia erecta* and *Kennedia prorepens* on red loamy sand on sand plains;

Hummock Grassland of *Triodia pungens* and *Triodia basedowii* with Open Mallee of *Eucalyptus gamophylla* and Shrubland of *Petalostylis labicheoides*, *Acacia bivenosa* and *Acacia ancistrocarpa* on red brown loamy sand on stony plains and footslopes;

Hummock Grassland of *Triodia pungens*, *Triodia wiseana* and *Triodia* sp. Shovelanna Hill with Open Shrubland of *Eremophila fraseri*, *Senna glutinosa* subsp. *pruinosa* and *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *oligophylla* on red brown loamy sand on stony plains and hill slopes;

Triodia Open Hummock Grassland

Open Hummock Grassland of *Triodia pungens* with Low Open Woodland of *Acacia paraneura*, *Acacia aptaneura* and *Acacia ayersiana* and Open Shrubland of *Acacia wanyu* on bare stony plains;

Open Hummock Grassland of *Triodia angusta* and Open Tussock Grassland of *Themeda triandra* with Open Shrubland of *Eucalyptus trivalva*, *Melaleuca eleuterostachya* and *Acacia aptaneura* on minor drainage lines;

Open Hummock Grassland of *Triodia* sp. Shovelanna Hill, *Triodia pungens* and *Triodia basedowii* with Low Open Woodland of *Acacia aptaneura, Acacia pruinocarpa* and *Acacia wanyu* and Open Shrubland of *Acacia tetragonophylla*, *Eremophila exilifolia* and *Eremophila latrobei* subsp. *latrobei* on red sandy loam on hill slopes;

Open Hummock Grassland of *Triodia lanigera* with Open Shrubland of *Acacia ancistrocarpa* and *Acacia pachyacra* and Scattered Low Trees of *Acacia paraneura*, *Acacia pruinocarpa* and *Corymbia hamerselyana* on red sandy loam on stony plains;

Tussock Grassland of *Themeda triandra* and *Aristida inaequiglumis* with Low Open Woodland of *Corymbia hamersleyana* and *Acacia aptaneura* and High Open Shrubland of *Acacia ancistrocarpa*, *Acacia bivenosa* and *Eremophila longifolia* on medium drainage lines;

Aristida Open Tussock Grassland

Open Tussock Grassland of *Aristida latifolia*, *Eriachne benthamii* and *Chrysopogon fallax* with Low Open Shrubland of *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *oligophylla* and *Sida fibulifera* and Scattered Tall Shrubs of *Acacia aptaneura* and *Acacia tetragonophylla* on gilgai floodplains and drainage zones;

Aristida Open Bunch Grassland

Open Bunch Grassland of *Aristida contorta* with Low Open Shrubland of *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *oligophylla* and Scattered Low Trees of *Acacia aptaneura* and *Acacia paraneura* on bare stony plains.

*denotes introduced species.

Clearing Description

Jimblebar to Orebody 18 Project.
BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd proposes to clear up to 110 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 611 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated infrastructure. The project is located approximately 30 kilometres east of Newman, within the Shire of East Pilbara.

Vegetation Condition

Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994).

To

Pristine: No obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994).

Comment

The vegetation condition was derived from a vegetation survey conducted by ENV Australia (2009).

Clearing permit CPS 3609/1 was granted by the Department of Mines and Petroleum (now the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety) on 8 April 2010 and was valid from 8 May 2010 to 8 May 2015. The permit authorised the clearing of up to 80 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 210 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production.

CPS 3609/2 was granted on 3 November 2011, amending the permit to increase the amount of clearing authorised to 83 hectares, and increase the permit boundary to 216.9 hectares.

CPS 3609/3 was granted on 23 April 2015, amending the authorised purpose of clearing to mineral production and associated infrastructure, and extending the permit duration to 30 November 2025. There was no change to the amount of clearing authorised or the permit boundary.

CPS 3609/4 was granted on 29 October 2015, increasing the amount of clearing authorised from 83 hectares to 110 hectares and increasing the permit boundary from 216.9 hectares to 611 hectares.

On 19 August 2020, the Permit Holder applied to amend CPS 3609/4 to extend the period in which clearing is authorised and the permit duration by 10 years. The amount of clearing authorised and the permit boundary are to remain unchanged.

3. Assessment of application against Clearing Principles

Comments

The permit holder has applied to amend the clearing permit to extend the period in which clearing is authorised and the permit duration by 10 years, as the project is ongoing. The size of the area approved to clear (110 hectares), and the permit boundaries remain unchanged. 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 previous versions of the decision report.

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 native title claim (WC2005/006) over the area under application (DPLH, 2020). 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 no registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the application area (DPLH, 2020). 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 7 September 2020 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 (2020)

4. References

BHP Billiton (2015) Jimblebar to Orebody 18 Native Vegetation Clearing Permit 3609/3 Amendment Application. BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd, May 2015.

DPLH (2020) Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. http://maps.daa.wa.gov.au/AHIS/ (Accessed 13 October 2020).

ENV Australia (2009) Construction water supply pipeline and Ammonium Nitrate Storage Facility - Flora and vegetation assessment. Unpublished report for BHP Billiton Iron Ore.

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

5. Glossary

Acronyms:

BC Act	*Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016,* Western Australia
BoM	Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Government
DAA	Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Western Australia (now DPLH)
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia (now DPIRD)

DAWE	Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Australian Government
DBCA	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia
DEC	Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (now DBCA and DWER)
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)
DoE	Department of the Environment, Australian Government (now DAWE)
DoEE	Department of the Environment and Energy (now DAWE)
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
DSEWPaC	Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (now DAWE)
DWER	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Western Australia
EP Act	*Environmental Protection Act 1986*, Western Australia
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia
EPBC Act	*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (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.