



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details and outcome

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	3891/6
Permit type:	Purpose Permit
Applicant name:	Australian Garnet Pty Ltd
Application received:	7 July 2025
Application area:	90 hectares
Purpose of clearing:	Mineral production and associated activities
Method of clearing:	Mechanical Removal
Tenure:	Mining Lease 70/1280 Miscellaneous Licence 70/134
Location (LGA area/s):	Shire of Northampton
Colloquial name:	Lucky Bay Garnet Project

1.2. Description of clearing activities

Australian Garnet Pty Ltd proposes to clear up to 90 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 143.2 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities. The project is located approximately 18 kilometres north of Gregory, within the Shire of Northampton.

Clearing permit CPS 3891/1 was granted by the DMP (now the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration) on 25 November 2010 and was valid from 25 December 2010 to 31 December 2015. The permit authorised the clearing of up to 90 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 142.3 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production.

CPS 3891/2 was granted on 30 July 2015, amending the permit to extend the permit duration by a further five years. The area of clearing authorised and the permit boundaries remained unchanged.

CPS 3891/3 was granted on 29 October 2020, extending the duration of the permit by five years. The area of clearing authorised and the permit boundaries remained unchanged.

CPS 3891/4 was granted on 7 September 2021 increasing the permit boundary by 1.5 hectares, to allow for the construction and installation of a communications tower and infrastructure corridor. The amount of proposed clearing remained unchanged.

CPS 3891/5 was granted on 22 June 2022 in response to the determination of the Minister for Environment that the decision to grant the permit was justified, but allow appeals received to the extent that the permit footprint should be amended to avoid potential impacts on priority flora and minimise impacts on a particular fauna habitat type, and that conditions relating to fauna management should be applied.

On 7 July 2025, the permit holder applied to amend CPS 3891/5 to extend the duration of the permit by five years. The area of clearing authorised and the permit boundaries are to remain unchanged.

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Grant
Decision date:	16 December 2025
Decision area:	90 hectares of native vegetation

1.4. Reasons for decision

This clearing permit application was made in accordance with section 51E of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) and was received by the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE) on 7 July 2025. DMPE advertised the application for public comment for a period of 7 days, and no submissions were received.

In making this decision, the Delegated Officer had regard for the site characteristics, relevant datasets, supporting information provided by the applicant including the results of a flora and vegetation survey and fauna survey, the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act, and any other matters considered relevant to the assessment.

After consideration of the available information, as well as the applicant's minimisation and mitigation measures, the Delegated Officer determined that the proposed five-year extension of the existing permit duration is not expected to result in any additional impact on local ecological values or increases in the likelihood of variances against any of the clearing principles.

2. Assessment of application

2.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

The applicant has advised that the proposed clearing will ensure current mapped Priority flora locations will be avoided by the clearing permit boundary (EMM, 2025).

The applicant adequately demonstrated that reasonable efforts had been taken to avoid and minimise potential impacts of the clearing on environmental values. No further consideration is required to minimise impacts on environmental values.

2.2. Assessment of impacts on environmental values

As of 30 June 2025, a total of 12.05 hectares of native vegetation have been cleared (Australian Garnet, 2024). Multiple ecological surveys have been conducted at the project site historically to inform clearing activities. At the time of the original permit application, the environmental baseline was informed by data and findings from a Level 1 flora and fauna Survey conducted in September 2008 by Ecoscape Environmental Services (Ecoscape, 2009). Level 2 flora and vegetation Survey (Onshore, 2013) and a Level 1 fauna and habitat assessment (Bamford, 2013) were conducted in 2013 to inform the CPS 3891/3 permit amendment (EMM, 2025).

More recently, a detailed flora and vegetation survey was conducted by Onshore Environmental in 2021 (Onshore, 2022), as a follow up to the 2013 survey. A short range endemics (SRE) survey was conducted by Bennelongia Environmental Consultants in 2023 (Bennelongia, 2023), and targeted flora survey was conducted by Botany Lens in 2024 (Botany Lens, 2024).

This proposal was previously considered to be at variance due to potential habitat for *Beyeria cinerea* subsp. *cinerea* (Priority 3); however subsequent survey data (Onshore, 2022) re-examined the specimens and revised the identification of this species to *Beyeria cinerea* subsp. *borealis* which is not a listed flora species. Searches of federal and state threatened flora databases revealed a population of the threatened orchid *Caladenia bryceana* subsp. *cracens* (listed under the BC Act and EPBC Act), located less than 1.5 kilometres from suitable habitat within the survey area (EMM, 2025). The field survey conducted by Botany Lens (2024) found no plants of *C. bryceana* subsp. *cracens*, and no other threatened flora taxa within the survey area. The field survey documented two priority 3 flora taxa within the survey area, one of which had previously been documented in the 2013 flora and vegetation survey (Onshore, 2013). The species recorded were *Bossiaea calcicola* (P3) and *Melaleuca huttensis* (P3), and both were exclusively found within the remnant vegetation that has remained uncleared since at least 1982 (EMM, 2025). The CPS 3891/6 permit boundary avoids this vegetation remnant and both clusters of priority flora recorded by Botany Lens (2024).

Due to the results from new flora and SRE fauna surveys, the variance of principle (a) has changed from 'may be at variance' to 'not likely to be at variance' (Appendix A).

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 clearing principle (a) has changed from the assessment contained in decision report CPS 3891/5. The remainder of the clearing principles remain consistent with the assessment for CPS 3891/5.

2.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The clearing permit amendment application was advertised on 23 September 2025 by the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

There is one native title claim (WCD2020/001) over the area under application (DPLH, 2025). This claim has been determined by the Federal Court on behalf of the claimant group (Yamatji Nation). 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, 2025). 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.

The Lucky Bay Garnet Project was referred to the EPA by a third party in early September 2021 and a Referral submission under Section 38 of the EP Act provided to the EPA on 26 November 2021. A decision was made by the EPA on 7 July 2022 to not assess the Project (Australian Garnet, 2025).

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.

Appendix A. Assessment against the clearing principles		
Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Environmental value: biological values		
<p><u>Principle (a):</u> “Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biodiversity.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u> There are no Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities located within the amendment area (GIS Database). There are no records of Priority flora within the amendment area (GIS Database). The amendment area is not likely to represent significant habitat for conservation significant flora species and none were recorded within the amendment area (Botany Lens, 2024; Onshore, 2022).</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p> <p>Changed from CPS 3891/5</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Refer to Section 2.2</p>
<p><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.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u> Vegetation type VSA 3 within the project, is likely important for supporting the local SRE fauna, with the slater <i>Buddelundia</i> ‘BIS497’, appearing to occur only within this vegetation system (Bennelongia, 2023). Activities such as clearing, loss of habitat, and interruptions in habitat connectivity have the potential to affect the species’ populations, however, the significance of these potential impacts is expected to be minor as VSA 3 appears to be moderately widespread in the region (EMM, 2025).</p> <p>VSA 3 closely corresponds to VA 12 and 13, mapped by Onshore (2013). The clearing permit boundary largely avoids VA 12 and VA 13 (Appendix B) with only a narrow strip of clearing required for an infrastructure corridor and the construction and installation of a communications tower (EMM, 2025).</p> <p>Further sampling is required to determine whether the species occurs beyond the project envelope, and to estimate the effects of the Project development on the species across its range (Bennelongia, 2023).</p>	<p>May be at variance</p> <p>As per CPS 3891/5</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><u>Principle (c):</u> “Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u> The area proposed to be cleared is unlikely to contain habitat for flora species listed under the BC Act.</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p> <p>As per CPS 3891/5</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><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.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u> There are no known Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) located within or in close proximity to the application area (GIS Database). A flora and vegetation survey of the application area did not identify any TECs (Onshore, 2022).</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p> <p>As per CPS 3891/5</p>	<p>No</p>
Environmental value: significant remnant vegetation and conservation areas		
<p><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.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u> The extent of the mapped vegetation type in the local area is consistent with the national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia (Government of Western Australia, 2019). The vegetation proposed to be cleared is considered to be part of a significant ecological linkage in the local area. The proposed amendment is unlikely to sever the ecological linkage. Rehabilitation activities are managed under the approval under the <i>Mining Act 1978</i>.</p>	<p>At variance</p> <p>As per CPS 3891/5</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><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.”</p> <p><u>Assessment:</u> There are no conservation areas within the application area (GIS Database). The nearest DBCA managed land is the Utcha Well Nature Reserve, located approximately 2.5 kilometres south of the application area, at its nearest point (GIS Database). Most of the separating area has been cleared for agriculture and has resulted in the fragmentation of habitat between the application area and the nature reserve (GIS Database). Whilst highly mobile species such as birds may not be</p>	<p>May be at variance</p> <p>As per CPS 3891/5</p>	<p>No</p>

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
disrupted, the proposed clearing may disrupt some ecological linkages to the Utcha Well Nature Reserve.		
Environmental value: land and water resources		
<p><u>Principle (f):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u> According to available databases, there are no watercourses or wetlands within the application area (GIS Database). There is a low surface runoff due to the high infiltration rates associated with the sand and sandy soils present within the application area.</p>	<p>Not at variance</p> <p>As per CPS 3891/5</p>	No
<p><u>Principle (g):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u> The soils of the application area have been broadly described as being calcareous deep sands (GIS Database). As the application area is already within a predominantly cleared agricultural landscape, it is not likely that the proposed clearing will contribute to a rise in groundwater table and salinity (GIS Database). The sandy soils of the amendment area may be at risk of wind erosion.</p>	<p>May be at variance</p> <p>As per CPS 3891/5</p>	No
<p><u>Principle (i):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u> Given no water courses, wetlands or Public Drinking Water Sources Areas are recorded within the application area (GIS Database), the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact surface or ground water quality.</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p> <p>As per CPS 3891/5</p>	No
<p><u>Principle (j):</u> <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding."</i></p> <p><u>Assessment:</u> The proposed clearing is considered unlikely to have any significant impact on surface or groundwater quality, or on the incidence or intensity of flooding.</p>	<p>Not likely to be at variance</p> <p>As per CPS 3891/5</p>	No

Appendix B. Mapping from surveys

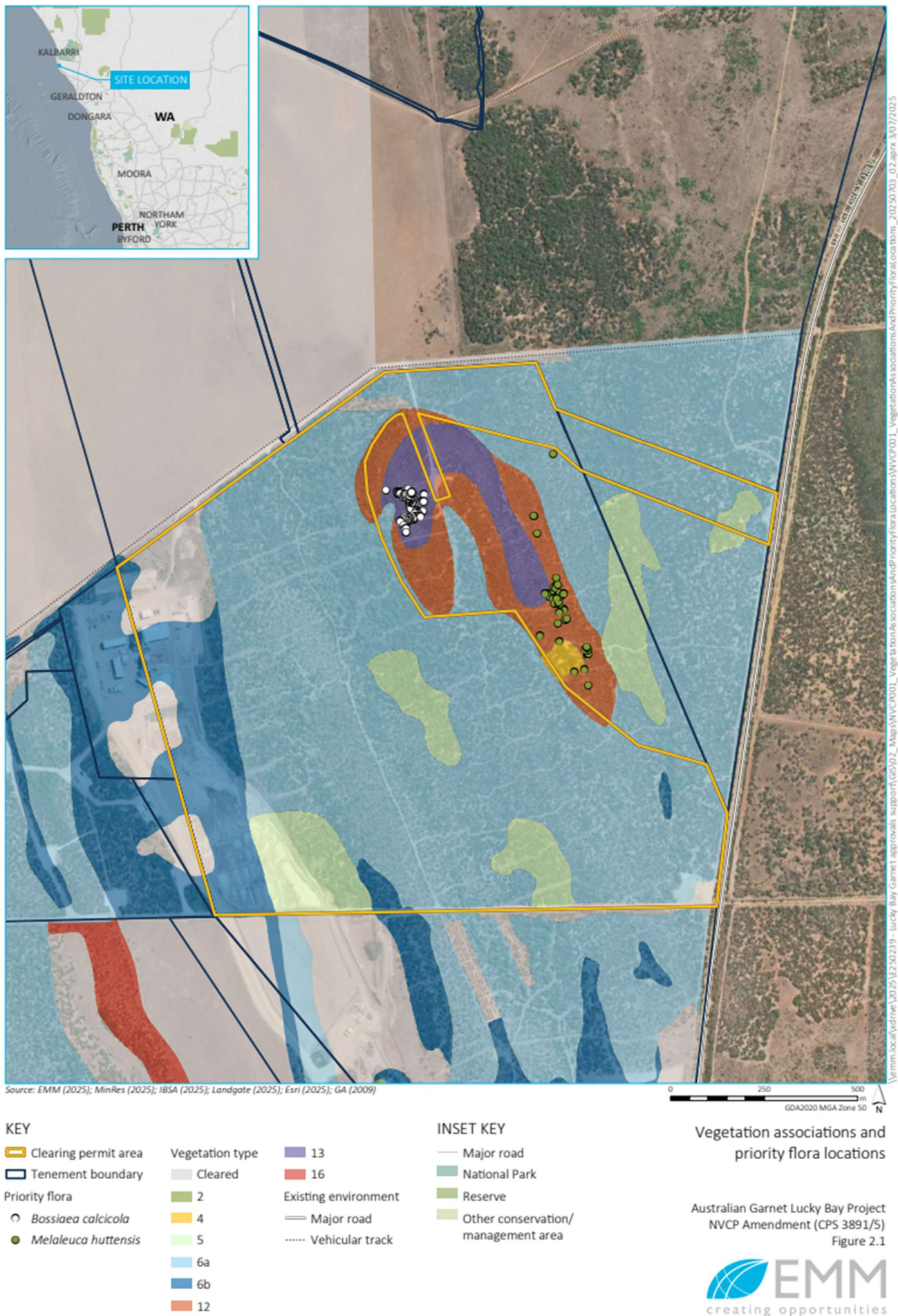


Figure 1. Mapping of vegetation associations and priority flora locations (EMM, 2025).

Appendix C. References and databases

C.1. GIS datasets

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

- 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)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- IBSA Survey Details (DWER-118)
- Local Government Area (LGA) Boundaries (LGATE-233)
- Localities (LGATE-234)
- Native Title (Determination) (LGATE-066)
- Native Vegetation Extent (DPIRD-005)
- Pre-European Vegetation (DPIRD-006)
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (DWER-033)
- 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:

- Black Cockatoo WTBC Breeding
- Black Cockatoo FRTBC Breeding
- Black Cockatoo BC Roosts
- Black Cockatoo BC Feeding SCP
- Black Cockatoo Feeding JF
- Black Cockatoo Carnabys Distribution
- Threatened and Priority Flora (TPFL)
- Threatened and Priority Flora (WAHerb)
- Threatened and Priority Fauna
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities (Buffers)

C.2. References

Australian Garnet Pty Ltd (2025) Clearing permit application form, CPS 3891/6, received 7 July 2025.

Australian Garnet Pty Ltd (2024) *Lucky Bay Garnet Project – Annual Report for Clearing Permit 3891-5 for the 2023/2024 Reporting Period*, June 2024.

Bamford (2013) *Balline Garnet Project – Fauna Assessment*. Unpublished report prepared for Pemaco Services, by Bamford Consulting Ecologists, December 2013.

Bennelongia Environmental Consultants (Bennelongia) (2023) *Balline Garnet Project Short Range Endemics Survey Report*. Bennelongia Environmental Consultants, March 2023.

Botany Lens (2024) *Australian Garnet Lucky Bay Project – Targeted Flora Survey*. Botany Lens, October 2024.

Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) (2025) Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. <https://espatial.dplh.wa.gov.au/ACHIS/index.html?viewer=ACHIS> (Accessed 18 November 2025).

Ecoscape Environmental Service (Ecoscape) (2009) Haddington Resources Balline - Level 1 Flora and Fauna Assessment. Unpublished report for Environ Pty Ltd dated April 2009.

EMM Consulting Pty Ltd (EMM) (2025) *Request to amend Native Vegetation Clearing Permit (CPS 3891/5) – Lucky Bay Garnet Project*. Unpublished report prepared for Australian Garnet Pty Ltd, July 2025.

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>

Onshore Environmental (Onshore) (2013) *Balline Garnet Project, Level 2 Flora and Vegetation Survey*. Unpublished report prepared for Australian Garnet Pty Ltd by Onshore Environmental Consultants Pty Ltd, November 2013.

Onshore Environmental (Onshore) (2022) *Lucky Bay Garnet Detailed Flora and Vegetation Survey*. Onshore Environmental Consultants Pty Ltd, January 2022.

3. 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.