



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4032/2
Permit type: Purpose

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: Iron Ore (Hamersley Range) Agreement Act 1963, Mineral Lease 246SA (AML 70/246)
Iron Ore (Hamersley Range) Agreement Act 1963, Mineral Lease 4SA (AML 70/4)
Local Government Area: Shire of Ashburton
Colloquial name: Eastern Range Project

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
450		Mechanical Removal	Mineral Production and Associated Activities

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 24 October 2013

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description Vegetation within the application areas has been mapped as the following Beard vegetation associations: (GIS Database).

- **82:** Hummock grasslands, low tree steppe; snappy gum over *Triodia wiseana*; and
- **181:** Shrublands; mulga and snakewood scrub.

A total of 53 vegetation associations were identified across the application area (Rio Tinto, 2010).

VEGETATION OF THE NORTH FACE OF THE RANGE INCLUDING FOOTSLOPES AND ADJACENT VALLEY FLOOR HABITATS.

- (1) **NFE-1** *Acacia aneura* and *Acacia tetragonophylla* scattered tall shrubs over *Acacia tetragonophylla* *Eremophila phyllopoda* and *Scaevola acacioides* open shrubland over *Eremophila phyllopoda* and *E. cuneifolia* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland.
- (2) **NFW-1** *Grevillea nematophylla*, *Acacia aneura* and *Acacia tetragonophylla* tall open shrubland over *Acacia tetragonophylla*, *Scaevola acacioides* and *Eremophila cryptothrix* shrubland over *Eremophila cuneifolia* and *Maireana georgei* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland.
- (3) **NFW-2** *Acacia pruinocarpa* and *Acacia aneura* tall open shrubland, over *Acacia tetragonophylla*, *Scaevola acacioides*, *Acacia synchronicia* and *Eremophila cryptothrix* open shrubland, over *Eremophila cuneifolia* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland.
- (4) **NF-Aw1** *Acacia wanyu* and *Acacia aneura* tall shrubland, over *Acacia wanyu* and *Acacia tetragonophylla* shrubland over *Eremophila cuneifolia* and *Senna glutinosa* subsp. *chatelainiana* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* very open hummock grassland.
- (5) **NF-Aw2** *Acacia aneura* low open woodland over *Acacia wanyu* tall shrubland over *Eremophila phyllopoda* shrubland over *Triodia epactia* scattered hummock grasses.
- (6) **P-XIP-HS** *Acacia xiphophylla* tall shrubland over *Acacia xiphophylla*, *Acacia tetragonophylla* and *Senna glutinosa* subsp. *x luerssenii* open shrubland over *Eremophila cuneifolia*, *Scaevola acacioides* and *Maireana georgei* low open shrubland, over *Triodia epactia*, scattered hummock grasses.
- (7) **NFM** *Acacia aneura* low woodland over *A. aneura* and *A. rhodophloia* tall open shrubland, over *A. tetragonophylla*, *Eremophila cuneifolia* open shrubland over *Eremophila cuneifolia*, *Tribulus suberosus*, and *Maireana georgei* low open shrubland.
- (8) **N/S-SIL** *Acacia pruinocarpa* tall shrubland over *Acacia tetragonophylla*, *Scaevola acacioides* and *Eremophila cryptothrix* open shrubland, over *Eremophila cuneifolia* and *E. platycalyx* subsp. *pardalota* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland.
- (9) **P-XIP** *Acacia synchronicia* and *A. aneura* scattered tall shrubs over *Acacia xiphophylla* shrubland over *Frankenia cf. ambita*, *Maireana carnososa* and mixed chenopods low open shrubland.
- (10) **SCREE** Steep scree slopes with little to negligible vegetation. Often positioned below significant breakaway features.
- (11) **NFD-1** *Acacia aneura* low woodland over *A. aneura* and *Acacia tetragonophylla* tall open shrubland over *Acacia tetragonophylla*, *Eremophila latrobei* and *E. cryptothrix* open shrubland over *Corchorus crozophorifolius* and *Ptilotus obovatus* var. *obovatus* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland.

- (12) **NFD-1-EL** *Eucalyptus leucophloia* and *Acacia aneura* low woodland over *Acacia aneura* and *A. tetragonophylla* tall open shrubland over *Acacia tetragonophylla*, *Eremophila latrobei* and *Eremophila cryptothrix* open shrubland *Corchorus crozophorifolius* and *Ptilotus obovatus* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland.
- (13) **NFD-2** *Acacia citrinoviridis* low open woodland over *Acacia wanyu*, *Grevillea nematophylla* and *Acacia tetragonophylla* open scrub, over *Eremophila latrobei* and mixed *Senna* spp. open shrubland (with scattered *Acacia xiphophylla*) over *Eremophila cuneifolia* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland.
- (14) **NFD-3** *Acacia citrinoviridis*, *Grevillea berryana* and *G. nematophylla* low woodland over *Acacia citrinoviridis* and *Grevillea nematophylla* tall shrubland over *Santalum lanceolatum*, *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *oligophylla* and *Acacia xiphophylla* open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* very open hummock grassland.
- (15) **NFD-4** *Acacia pruinocarpa* tall shrubland with scattered *A. tetragonophylla* over *Eremophila cryptothrix*, *Acacia synchronicia* and *Scaevola acacioides* shrubland over *Eremophila cryptothrix*, *Ptilotus obovatus* and *Maireana georgei* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland.

VEGETATION OF THE WEST FACE OF THE RANGE INCLUDING UPPER, MID AND LOWER RANGE STEEP TO MODERATE SLOPES.

- (16) **WF-1** *Acacia pyrifolia* open shrubland (with scattered mixed *Eremophila* spp. and *Senna* spp.) over scattered mixed *Eremophila* and *Senna* spp. low shrubs over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland.
- (17) **WF-2** *Hakea lorea* scattered low trees over *Acacia pyrifolia* and *A. pruinocarpa* scattered tall shrubs over *Acacia pyrifolia* and mixed *Senna* spp. open shrubland (to scattered shrubs) *Scaevola spinescens* and scattered mixed *Eremophila* spp. low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland.
- (18) **WFD-1** *Acacia pyrifolia* open shrubland with scattered *Acacia tetragonophylla* and *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *oligophylla* over *Acacia pyrifolia* and *Ptilotus obovatus* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland over *Eriachne mucronata* and *Cymbopogon ambiguus* very open tussock grassland.
- (19) **WFD-2** *Acacia pyrifolia* and *A. citrinoviridis* tall open shrubland over *Acacia pyrifolia* and *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *oligophylla* shrubland over *Senna helmsii*, *Scaevola spinescens* and *Ptilotus obovatus* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* very open hummock grassland over *Cenchrus ciliaris* open tussock grassland.

VEGETATION OF THE MID TO LOWER SLOPES OF THE SOUTH FACE OF THE RANGE.

- (20) **RLow1** *Acacia pruinocarpa*, *A. aneura* and *Grevillea berryana* tall open shrubland over *Acacia tetragonophylla*, *Eremophila fraseri* and mixed *Senna* spp. open shrubland over *Eremophila phyllopoda* and *E. fraseri* scattered low shrubs over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland.
- (21) **NSHG** *Acacia aneura*, *A. pruinocarpa* and *Grevillea berryana* scattered tall shrubs over *Eremophila exilifolia* and *E. fraseri* low open shrubland, over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland.
- (22) **SF-AcAr** *Grevillea berryana* and *Acacia aneura* low open woodland over *Acacia rhodophloia* and *A. citrinoviridis* tall shrubland over *Acacia tetragonophylla*, *A. rhodophloia* and *Eremophila phyllopoda* open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland.
- (23) **SSEP1** *Acacia aneura*, *A. pruinocarpa* and *Eucalyptus leucophloia* scattered low trees over *Acacia pruinocarpa* tall shrubland over *Eremophila phyllopoda*, *Senna glutinosa*, *Acacia tetragonophylla* and *Eremophila latrobei* open shrubland over *Eremophila exilifolia*, *E. fraseri* and *E. jucunda* low shrubland over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland.
- (24) **SSAC** *Acacia citrinoviridis* and *A. pruinocarpa* tall shrubland, over *Senna glutinosa*, *Acacia tetragonophylla* and *Eremophila latrobei* open shrubland, over *Eremophila exilifolia*, *E. fraseri* and *E. jucunda* low shrubland, over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland.
- (25) **PC-o1** *Acacia pyrifolia* tall open shrubland over *Acacia pyrifolia*, *Corchorus crozophorifolius* and *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *oligophylla* open shrubland over *Indigofera monophylla* and *Jasminum didymum* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland.
- (26) **PC-o2** *Acacia citrinoviridis*, *A. pyrifolia* and *A. aneura* scattered low trees over *Eremophila longifolia*, *Acacia citrinoviridis*, and *Santalum lanceolatum* tall open shrubland over *Eremophila longifolia*, *Jasminum didymum* and *Corchorus crozophorifolius* shrubland, over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland.
- (27) **BigC-2** *Acacia citrinoviridis* and *Eucalyptus leucophloia* open woodland, over *Acacia citrinoviridis* and *A. pruinocarpa* tall shrubland, over *Dodonaea pachyneura*, *Eremophila latrobei* and *Jasminum didymum* shrubland, over *Ptilotus obovatus* and *Corchorus crozophorifolius* low open shrubland, over *Triodia epactia* very open hummock grassland.
- (28) **ML-D** *Acacia citrinoviridis* and *A. aneura* low open woodland over *Acacia citrinoviridis*, *A. rhodophloia* and *A. tetragonophylla* tall shrubland over *Hibiscus haynaldii*, *Eremophila latrobei* and *Dodonaea pachyneura* open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland.

VEGETATION OF THE DETRITALS PLAIN ADJACENT TO THE SOUTHERN SLOPES OF THE RANGE (includes the transition zone from detritals plain to southern footslopes).

- (29) **PM-HG** *Acacia aneura* and *A. rhodophloia* tall shrubland over *Acacia rhodophloia*, *A. tetragonophylla* and *Eremophila latrobei* shrubland over mixed *Eremophila* spp. low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland.
- (30) **PM1** *Acacia aneura* tall shrubland (with scattered *A. rhodophloia* and *Grevillea berryana*) over *Acacia tetragonophylla*, *Eremophila fraseri* and *E. phyllopoda* open shrubland over *Tribulus suberosus* and *Ptilotus schwartzii* low open shrubland, over *Triodia epactia* scattered hummock grasses.
- (31) **BRW-2** *Acacia aneura* and *A. rhodophloia* tall open shrubland, over *Eremophila latrobei*, *Dodonaea petiolaris* and *Acacia tetragonophylla* shrubland over *Dodonaea petiolaris*, *Senna glutinosa* subsp. *chatelainiana* and *Ptilotus obovatus* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* scattered hummock grasses.
- (32) **PC-o3** *Acacia citrinoviridis*, *A. aneura* and *Corymbia ferritcola* low woodland over *Acacia citrinoviridis* tall shrubland over *Eremophila latrobei*, *Senna oligophylla*, and *Jasminum didymum* open shrubland over *Corchorus crozophorifolius* and *Tephrosia rosea* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland over mixed very open tussock grassland.
- (33) **TEV** *Acacia citrinoviridis* tall open shrubland over *A. citrinoviridis* and mixed spp. open shrubland over *Indigofera monophylla* and *Tephrosia rosea* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland.
- (34) **PC2** *Acacia citrinoviridis* and *A. aneura* low woodland over *Acacia citrinoviridis*, *A. aneura* and *A. rhodophloia* tall shrubland over *Dodonaea petiolaris*, *Hibiscus haynaldii* and *Eremophila latrobei* shrubland

- over *Eremophila exilifolia* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland.
- (35) **BigC** *Corymbia ferritcola* and *Acacia citrinoviridis* low woodland over *A. citrinoviridis*, *Clerodendrum floribundum* and *Acacia pyrifolia* tall open scrub over *Corchorus crozophorifolius*, *Rhagodia eremaea* and *Hibiscus haynaldii* shrubland over mixed low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland.

VEGETATION OF THE ROLLING SLOPES, STEEP SLOPES, AND GULLIES OF THE UPPER PARTS OF THE RANGE

- (36) **Hm1** *Acacia aneura* and *A. rhodophloia* tall shrubland (with scattered mixed low trees) over *A. rhodophloia* and *Eremophila fraseri* open shrubland over *E. fraseri*, *Tribulus suberosus*, *Ptilotus schwartzii*, low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* Scattered hummock grasses.
- (37) **UR/RSS-1** *Acacia rhodophloia*, *A. aneura* and *Grevillea berryana*, tall shrubland (with scattered low trees) over *Eremophila fraseri* and *E. latrobei* open shrubland over *Eremophila jucunda* and *E. exilifolia* low shrubland over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland.
- (38) **UR/RS-Ap** *Grevillea berryana* and *Acacia pruinocarpa* scattered low trees over *Acacia pruinocarpa*, *Grevillea berryana* and *Acacia rhodophloia* tall open shrubland over *Acacia pruinocarpa*, *A. rhodophloia*, *A. tetragonophylla* and *Eremophila phyllopoda* open shrubland over mixed *Eremophila* spp. low open shrubland, over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland.
- (39) **UR-RSSG-Aa** *Acacia aneura* low open woodland over *A. aneura*, *A. rhodophloia* and *A. pruinocarpa* tall shrubland over *A. aneura*, *Grevillea berryana* and *Eremophila latrobei* open shrubland over *Eremophila jucunda* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland.
- (40) **UR/RS-ApEI** *Eucalyptus leucophloia* and *Grevillea berryana* scattered low trees over *Acacia citrinoviridis* and *A. pruinocarpa* tall open shrubland over *A. citrinoviridis*, *Grevillea berryana* and *Senna glutinosa* open shrubland over *Eremophila fraseri* and *Eremophila jucunda* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland.
- (41) **UR/RSS-2** *Eucalyptus leucophloia* scattered low trees over *Acacia pruinocarpa*, *A. pyrifolia* and *Petalostylis labicheoides* tall open shrubland over *P. labicheoides*, *Acacia pyrifolia* and *Senna glutinosa* open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland.
- (42) **UR/RS-EI** *Eucalyptus leucophloia* and *Acacia aneura* low woodland over *A. aneura* and *A. pruinocarpa* tall open shrubland over *Eremophila phyllopoda* and *E. latrobei* open shrubland over *Eremophila jucunda* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland.
- (43) **BRW-1** *Acacia pruinocarpa*, *A. citrinoviridis* and *Astrotricha hamptonii* tall open shrubland over *Eremophila cryptothrix*, *Dodonaea pachyneura* and *Eremophila latrobei* open shrubland over *Ptilotus obovatus*, *Scaevola acacioides* and *Eremophila cryptothrix* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* very open hummock grassland
- (44) **SNS-HG-1** *Acacia pruinocarpa* and *Grevillea berryana* scattered tall shrubs over *Eremophila cryptothrix*, *E. phyllopoda* and *Scaevola acacioides* open shrubland over mixed *Eremophila* spp. low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland.
- (45) **SNS-HG-2** *Acacia pruinocarpa* scattered tall shrubs over *A. pruinocarpa*, *Eremophila latrobei* and *E. fraseri* open shrubland over *Eremophila fraseri* and *E. jucunda* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland.
- (46) **CDV1** *Acacia pruinocarpa* and *Acacia citrinoviridis* scattered tall shrubs (to tall open shrubland) over *Eremophila phyllopoda*, *E. fraseri* and *Dodonaea pachyneura* open shrubland over *Eremophila phyllopoda* and *E. fraseri* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland.
- (47) **SSEL** *Acacia aneura* and *Eucalyptus leucophloia* low open woodland over *Acacia citrinoviridis*, *A. rhodophloia* and *A. aneura* tall shrubland over *Eremophila phyllopoda*, *E. latrobei* and *Dodonaea pachyneura* shrubland over *Eremophila phyllopoda* and *Ptilotus obovatus* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland.
- (48) **E/La** *Eucalyptus leucophloia* low open woodland over *Acacia aneura* scattered tall shrubs over *Senna glutinosa*, *Acacia tetragonophylla* and *Scaevola acacioides* open shrubland over *Eremophila fraseri*, *E. phyllopoda*, *E. cuneifolia* and *Ptilotus obovatus* low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland.
- (49) **UR-DG-o1** *Acacia citrinoviridis* low open woodland over *A. citrinoviridis* and *A. pruinocarpa* tall shrubland over *Hibiscus haynaldii*, *Eremophila phyllopoda* and *Dodonaea pachyneura* open shrubland / low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* very open hummock grassland.
- (50) **UR-DG-o2 & UR-DGI-o2** *Acacia citrinoviridis* and *Corymbia ferritcola* low woodland over *Acacia citrinoviridis* tall open shrubland over *Hibiscus haynaldii*, *Dodonaea pachyneura* and *Eremophila latrobei* shrubland over mixed low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland over mixed very open tussock grassland.
- (51) **UR-DG-Aa-o1** *Acacia aneura* and *A. rhodophloia* low woodland over *A. citrinoviridis*, *A. aneura* and *A. rhodophloia* tall shrubland over *Dodonaea pachyneura*, *Eremophila latrobei* and *Hibiscus haynaldii* shrubland over mixed low open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* very open hummock grassland.
- (52) **UR-DG-Elb** *Eucalyptus leucophloia* low open woodland, over *Acacia citrinoviridis* tall open shrubland, over *Santalum lanceolatum*, *Acacia pyrifolia* and *Jasminum didymum* open shrubland, over *Ptilotus obovatus* and *Corchorus crozophorifolius* low open shrubland, over *Triodia epactia* very open hummock grassland.

HEAVILY DISTURBED VEGETATION TYPES - CLEARED OR PREVIOUSLY DISTURBED GROUND

- (53) **HD-BG** Essentially devoid of vegetation. Only scattered low shrubs and tussock grasses present in some places.

Clearing Description Eastern Range Project. Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd proposes to clear up to 450 hectares of native vegetation within a defined boundary of approximately 1,738 hectares for the purpose of mineral production. The project is located approximately 5 kilometres south of Paraburdoo within the Shire of Ashburton.

Vegetation Condition Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994);

To

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

Comment

The vegetation condition was converted from Trudgen (1988) to Keighery (1994).

The proposed clearing will enable the ongoing mining operations at the Eastern Range Project. Vegetation will be cleared for open pits, waste dumps, stockpiles, haul roads and other related infrastructure (Hamersley Iron, 2010). Topsoil and vegetation from cleared areas will be stockpiled for use in later rehabilitation (Hamersley Iron, 2010).

Clearing permit CPS 4032/1 was granted on 17 March 2011 authorising the clearing of 450 hectares within a boundary of 1,738 hectares. Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd applied to amend the definition of local provenance in Condition 6(c)(ii) of the permit to reflect the current standard wording of the definition. The amount of clearing authorised and permit boundary will remain the same.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

The amendment is to update the definition of local provenance on the permit to reflect the current standard wording. As this is an administrative change only, there are no additional environmental impacts and the assessment of the clearing principles is consistent with the assessment in Clearing Permit decision report CPS 4032/1.

Methodology

Planning instrument, Native Title, Previous EPA decision or other matter.

Comments

There are two Native Title Claims (WC2010/011 and WC2010/016) over the area under application (GIS Database). These claims have been registered with the National Native Title Tribunal on behalf of the claimant groups. 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 numerous registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the application area (GIS Database). It is the proponent's responsibility to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* and ensure that no Aboriginal sites of significance are damaged through the clearing process.

It is noted that the proposed clearing may impact on a protected matter under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act). The proponent may be required to refer the project to the (Federal) Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPAC) for environmental impact assessment under the *EPBC Act*. The proponent is advised to contact the SEWPAC for further information regarding notification and referral responsibilities under the *EPBC Act*.

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

Methodology

GIS Database:

- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- Native Title Claims - Registered with the NNTT

4. References

- Hamersley Iron (2010) Application for a Clearing Permit (Purpose Permit) Mining Operations - Tenement AML70/4SA & AML 70/246.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Rio Tinto (2010) Flora and Vegetation Assessment of the Eastern Ranges LOM Study Area (ERSA): Including supporting documentation for a Native Vegetation Clearing Permit Application (SO-10-05940). Unpublished report prepared for Rio Tinto - October 2010.

5. Glossary

Acronyms:

BoM	Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Government
CALM	Department of Conservation and Land Management (now DEC), Western Australia
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia
DEC	Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia
DEH	Department of Environment and Heritage (federal based in Canberra) previously Environment Australia
DEP	Department of Environment Protection (now DEC), Western Australia
DIA	Department of Indigenous Affairs

DLI	Department of Land Information, Western Australia
DMP	Department of Mines and Petroleum, Western Australia
DoE	Department of Environment (now DEC), Western Australia
DoIR	Department of Industry and Resources (now DMP), Western Australia
DOLA	Department of Land Administration, Western Australia
DoW	Department of Water
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
RIWI Act	Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914, Western Australia
s.17	Section 17 of the Environment Protection Act 1986, Western Australia
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community

Definitions:

{Atkins, K (2005). *Declared rare and priority flora list for Western Australia, 22 February 2005. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Como, Western Australia* }:-

- P1** **Priority One - Poorly Known taxa:** taxa which are known from one or a few (generally <5) populations which are under threat, either due to small population size, or being on lands under immediate threat, e.g. road verges, urban areas, farmland, active mineral leases, etc., or the plants are under threat, e.g. from disease, grazing by feral animals, etc. May include taxa with threatened populations on protected lands. Such taxa are under consideration for declaration as 'rare flora', but are in urgent need of further survey.
- P2** **Priority Two - Poorly Known taxa:** taxa which are known from one or a few (generally <5) populations, at least some of which are not believed to be under immediate threat (i.e. not currently endangered). Such taxa are under consideration for declaration as 'rare flora', but are in urgent need of further survey.
- P3** **Priority Three - Poorly Known taxa:** taxa which are known from several populations, at least some of which are not believed to be under immediate threat (i.e. not currently endangered). Such taxa are under consideration for declaration as 'rare flora', but are in need of further survey.
- P4** **Priority Four – Rare taxa:** taxa which are considered to have been adequately surveyed and which, whilst being rare (in Australia), are not currently threatened by any identifiable factors. These taxa require monitoring every 5–10 years.
- R** **Declared Rare Flora – Extant taxa (= Threatened Flora = Endangered + Vulnerable):** taxa which have been adequately searched for, and are deemed to be in the wild either rare, in danger of extinction, or otherwise in need of special protection, and have been gazetted as such, following approval by the Minister for the Environment, after recommendation by the State's Endangered Flora Consultative Committee.
- X** **Declared Rare Flora - Presumed Extinct taxa:** taxa which have not been collected, or otherwise verified, over the past 50 years despite thorough searching, or of which all known wild populations have been destroyed more recently, and have been gazetted as such, following approval by the Minister for the Environment, after recommendation by the State's Endangered Flora Consultative Committee.

{Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2005} [Wildlife Conservation Act 1950] :-

- Schedule 1** **Schedule 1 – Fauna that is rare or likely to become extinct:** being fauna that is rare or likely to become extinct, are declared to be fauna that is need of special protection.
- Schedule 2** **Schedule 2 – Fauna that is presumed to be extinct:** being fauna that is presumed to be extinct, are declared to be fauna that is need of special protection.
- Schedule 3** **Schedule 3 – Birds protected under an international agreement:** being birds that are subject to an agreement between the governments of Australia and Japan relating to the protection of migratory birds and birds in danger of extinction, are declared to be fauna that is need of special protection.
- Schedule 4** **Schedule 4 – Other specially protected fauna:** being fauna that is declared to be fauna that is in need of special protection, otherwise than for the reasons mentioned in Schedules 1, 2 or 3.

{CALM (2005). *Priority Codes for Fauna. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Como, Western Australia* }:-

- P1** **Priority One: Taxa with few, poorly known populations on threatened lands:** Taxa which are known from few specimens or sight records from one or a few localities on lands not managed for conservation, e.g. agricultural or pastoral lands, urban areas, active mineral leases. The taxon needs urgent survey and evaluation of conservation status before consideration can be given to declaration as threatened fauna.
- P2** **Priority Two: Taxa with few, poorly known populations on conservation lands:** Taxa which are known from few specimens or sight records from one or a few localities on lands not under immediate threat of habitat destruction or degradation, e.g. national parks, conservation parks, nature reserves, State forest, vacant Crown land, water reserves, etc. The taxon needs urgent survey and evaluation of conservation status before consideration can be given to declaration as threatened fauna.
- P3** **Priority Three: Taxa with several, poorly known populations, some on conservation lands:** Taxa which

are known from few specimens or sight records from several localities, some of which are on lands not under immediate threat of habitat destruction or degradation. The taxon needs urgent survey and evaluation of conservation status before consideration can be given to declaration as threatened fauna.

P4 **Priority Four: Taxa in need of monitoring:** Taxa which are considered to have been adequately surveyed, or for which sufficient knowledge is available, and which are considered not currently threatened or in need of special protection, but could be if present circumstances change. These taxa are usually represented on conservation lands.

P5 **Priority Five: Taxa in need of monitoring:** Taxa which are not considered threatened but are subject to a specific conservation program, the cessation of which would result in the species becoming threatened within five years.

Categories of threatened species (*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*)

EX **Extinct:** A native species for which there is no reasonable doubt that the last member of the species has died.

EX(W) **Extinct in the wild:** A native species which:
(a) is known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalised population well outside its past range; or
(b) has not been recorded in its known and/or expected habitat, at appropriate seasons, anywhere in its past range, despite exhaustive surveys over a time frame appropriate to its life cycle and form.

CR **Critically Endangered:** A native species which is facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future, as determined in accordance with the prescribed criteria.

EN **Endangered:** A native species which:
(a) is not critically endangered; and
(b) is facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future, as determined in accordance with the prescribed criteria.

VU **Vulnerable:** A native species which:
(a) is not critically endangered or endangered; and
(b) is facing a high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium-term future, as determined in accordance with the prescribed criteria.

CD **Conservation Dependent:** A native species which is the focus of a specific conservation program, the cessation of which would result in the species becoming vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered within a period of 5 years.

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.