



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4297/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: **The Pilbara Infrastructure Pty Ltd**

1.3. Property details

Property: Miscellaneous Licence 45/222
Miscellaneous Licence 45/223
Local Government Area: Shire of East Pilbara
Colloquial name: Solomon Rail Camp (Airey) Project

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
19.13		Mechanical Removal	Rail Camp Construction

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 28 April 2011

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description Beard vegetation associations have been mapped at a 1:250,000 scale for the whole of Western Australia. Two Beard vegetation associations have been mapped within the application area (GIS Database; Shepherd, 2009).

93: Hummock grasslands, shrub steppe; kanji over soft Spinifex; and
173: Hummock grasslands, shrub steppe; kanji over soft Spinifex & *Triodia wiseana* on basalt.

A flora and vegetation survey of the application area was conducted by staff from Ecoscape (2010a) on 12 and 13 May 2010. This survey identified the following three vegetation types within the application area:

ChLOW: *Corymbia hamersleyana* low open woodland over *Triodia wiseana* open hummock grassland;
EvLOW: *Eucalyptus victrix* low open woodland over *Melaleuca glomerata* open shrubland over *Cyperus vaginatus* very open sedgeland; and
TeOHG: *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland (Ecoscape, 2010a).

Clearing Description The Pilbara Infrastructure Pty Ltd has applied to clear up to 19.13 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of constructing a temporary rail camp for construction of the Solomon rail line.

Vegetation Condition Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994);
To
Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery, 1994).

Comment The application area is located within the Pilbara region of Western Australia and is situated approximately 58 kilometres north-east of Wittenoom.

The clearing application is related to EPA Assessment No. 1841. The EPA has given consent for minor or preliminary works related to this application.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

(a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.

Comments **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

The application area occurs within the Hamersley (PIL3) sub-region of the Pilbara Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) bioregion (GIS Database). This sub-region is characterised by Mulga low woodland over bunch grasses on fine textured soils in valley floors, and *Eucalyptus leucophloia* over *Triodia brizoides* on skeletal soils of the ranges (CALM, 2002).

The application is to clear 19.13 hectares of native vegetation in very good to excellent condition (Keighery, 1994) for the purpose of a temporary construction camp. The mapped Beard vegetation associations within the application area have 100% of their pre-European extent remaining (Shepherd, 2009). The flora and vegetation of the Solomon Project area is typical of the Eastern Pilbara region (Fortescue Metals Group, 2011).

A flora and vegetation survey conducted by Ecoscape (2010a) on 12 and 13 May 2010 identified a total of 46 plant taxa from 29 plant genera and 18 plant families within the application area. The assessing officer notes that this is quite a low number of species to be found within an area of this size. Ecoscape (2010a) identified recent drought and grazing within the application area which may attribute to this low species count. However, it is considered unlikely that the application area holds greater biodiversity than the surrounding areas.

The application area lies within the buffer zone of the Priority Ecological Community (PEC) "Four plant assemblages of the Wona Land System". The Wona land system does not occur within the application area. It is therefore unlikely that the proposed clearing will have an impact on this PEC.

Three introduced species, *Cucumis melo* (Ulcardo Melon), *Cenchrus ciliaris* (Buffel Grass) and *Cynodon dactylon* (Couch) were recorded within the application area (Ecoscape, 2010a). Weeds have the potential to alter the biodiversity of an area, competing with native vegetation for available resources and making areas more fire prone. This can in turn lead to greater rates of infestation and further loss of biodiversity if the area is subject to repeated fires. Neither of these species are listed as 'Declared Plant' species under the *Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Act 1976* by the Department of Agriculture and Food. Potential impacts to biodiversity as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a weed management condition.

Vertebrate fauna surveys have been conducted in association with the formal assessment of the Solomon Project conducted by the EPA. A reconnaissance survey to verify the findings from a desktop search was conducted by Ecoscape (2010b) between 12 and 14 May 2010. From this survey two conservation significant fauna species, Australian Bustard and Rainbow Bee-eater have been observed within the application area and the one conservation significant species, Bush Stone-curlew, was assessed as having a high potential of occurring (Fortescue Metals Group, 2011). It is considered highly likely that these bird species will move into similar habitat adjacent to the application area (Fortescue Metals Group, 2011).

The fauna habitats present within the application area are considered to be similar to those in the adjacent areas (Fortescue Metals Group, 2011). It is therefore considered unlikely that the application area contains greater species diversity than the surrounding areas.

There are no records of Declared Rare Flora, Priority Ecological Communities or Threatened Ecological Communities within the application area (GIS Database) and it is not likely that the area to be cleared represents an area of increased biological diversity.

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology CALM (2002)
Ecoscape (2010a)
Ecoscape (2010b)
Fortescue Metals Group (2011)
Keighery (1994)
Shepherd (2009)
GIS Database:
- Declared Rare and Priority Flora List
- IBRA WA (regions – subregions)
- Pre-European Vegetation
- Threatened Ecological Sites Buffered

(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.

Comments **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

Ecoscape (2010b) conducted a desktop and reconnaissance survey of the application area between 12 and 14 May 2010. This survey identified the following three habitat types as occurring within the application area:

- Creek line / Drainage lines;
- Shrubland over Spinifex grassland / Spinifex grassland; and
- Acacia shrubland (Ecoscape, 2010b).

During the fauna survey Ecoscape (2010b) identified permanent water pools. The assessing officer notes that vegetation associated with this water is located approximately 20 metres west of the application area at its closest point. It is not likely that the proposed clearing will directly impact on this fauna habitat, however there is potential for some impacts to fauna due to the segregation of this core habitat.

The fauna habitats present within the application area are considered to be similar to those in the adjacent areas (Fortescue Metals Group, 2011). Although there is potential for the fauna within the application area to be adversely affected by this clearing, it is unlikely that the loss of this habitat will have a significant impact on the vertebrate fauna in a regional context (Ecoscape, 2010b).

A desktop survey performed by Ecoscape (2010b) identified the potential for the following eight species to occur within the application area:

- Australian Bustard: Priority 4, *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*;
- Bush Stone-curlew: Priority 4, *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*;
- Western Pebble-mound Mouse: Priority 4, *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*;
- Cattle Egret: Migratory, *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*;
- Great Egret: Migratory, *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*;
- Peregrine Falcon: Migratory, *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*;
- Rainbow Bee-eater: Migratory, *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*;
- Star Finch: Migratory, *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*;and

Of these the Australian Bustard and the Rainbow Bee-eater were both recorded within the application area and the Bush-stone Curlew was assessed as having a high potential to occur (Ecoscape, 2010b). These are all highly mobile species and as such it is likely that they will move into the similar, un-disturbed habitat adjacent to the application area when clearing commences. It is considered unlikely that the proposed clearing will impact on the conservation status of any of these species.

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology Ecoscape (2010b)
Fortescue Metals Groups (2011)

(c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

According to available GIS Databases there are no known records of Declared Rare Flora (DRF) within the application area (GIS Database).

A flora survey was conducted over the application area by staff from Ecoscape (2010a) on 12 and 13 May 2010. No DRF or species listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* were recorded within the application area (Ecoscape, 2010a).

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology Ecoscape (2010a)
GIS Database:
- Declared Rare and Priority Flora List

(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.

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

According to available GIS Databases there are no known records of Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC's) within the application area (GIS Database). The nearest known TEC is located approximately 95 kilometres south-west of the application area (GIS Database). At this distance there is little likelihood of any impact to the TEC as a result of the proposed clearing.

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology GIS Database:
- Threatened Ecological Sites Buffered

(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.

Comments Proposal is not at variance with this Principle

The application area falls within the Pilbara Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) bioregion (GIS Database). Shepherd (2009) reports that approximately 99.89% of the pre-European vegetation remains in the bioregion.

The vegetation within the application area is recorded as Beard vegetation associations:

93: Hummock grasslands, shrub steppe; kanji over soft Spinifex; and
173: Hummock grasslands, shrub steppe; kanji over soft Spinifex & *Triodia wiseana* on basalt.

According to Shepherd (2009) approximately 100% of these Beard associations remain within the Pilbara bioregion (see table below).

	Pre-European area (ha)*	Current extent (ha)*	Remaining %*	Conservation Status**	Pre-European % in IUCN Class I-IV Reserves
IBRA Bioregion - Pilbara	17,804,193	17,785,001	~99.89	Least Concern	~6.32
Beard vegetation associations - State					
93	3,044,308	3,044,249	~100	Least Concern	~0.42
173	1,421,376	1,421,376	~100	Least Concern	~4.82
Beard vegetation associations - Bioregion					
93	3,042,113	3,042,064	~100	Least Concern	~0.42
173	1,420,793	1,420,793	~100	Least Concern	~4.82

* Shepherd (2009)

** Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002)

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not at variance to this Principle.

Methodology Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002)
Shepherd (2009)
GIS Database:
- IBRA WA (regions – subregions)
- Pre-European Vegetation

(f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.

Comments Proposal is at variance to this Principle

According to available GIS Databases, there are no permanent wetlands or watercourses within the application area, however there are several minor, non-perennial watercourses within the application area (GIS Database).

A flora and vegetation survey of the application area conducted by Ecoscape (2010a) identified one vegetation community occurring in association with these minor non-perennial watercourses:

EvLOW - *Eucalyptus victrix* low open woodland over *Melaleuca glomerata* open shrubland over *Cyperus vaginatus* very open sedgeland.

Clearing of this vegetation community will be limited to a maximum of 1 hectare and effective design and management measures will be implemented to ensure that existing surface water hydrology is maintained within the area (Fortescue Metals Group, 2011).

The assessing officer notes that minor, non-perennial watercourses are common throughout the Pilbara bioregion and that the proposed clearing of 1 hectare of vegetation associated with these drainage lines is not likely to have a significant impact.

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is at variance to this Principle.

Methodology Ecoscape (2010a)
Fortescue Metals Group (2011)
GIS Database:
- Hydrography, linear

(g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.

Comments Proposal may be at variance to this Principle

According to available GIS Databases, the application area intersects the Macroy, McKay and Rocklea land systems (GIS Database).

The Macroy land system is characterised by stony plains and occasional tor fields based on granite supporting hard and soft Spinifex grasslands (Van Vreeswyk et al., 2004). According to Van Vreeswyk et al. (2004) this land system has a low or very low erosion hazard, however without vegetation cover for prolonged periods of time there may be some erosion risk.

The McKay land system is characterised by hills, ridges, plateaux remnants and breakaways of meta sedimentary and sedimentary rocks supporting hard Spinifex grasslands (Van Vreeswyk et al., 2004). This land system is not prone to degradation or soil erosion (Van Vreeswyk et al., 2004).

The Rocklea land system is characterised by basalt hills, plateaux, lower slopes and minor stony plains supporting hard Spinifex (and occasionally soft Spinifex) grasslands (Van Vreeswyk et al., 2004). This land system has very low erosion hazard (Van Vreeswyk et al., 2004).

Based on the above the proposed clearing may be at variance to this Principle. Potential land degradation impacts as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a staged clearing condition.

Methodology Van Vreeswyk et al (2004)
GIS Database:
- Rangeland Land System Mapping

(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.

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The proposed clearing is not located within a conservation reserve (GIS Database). The nearest known conservation reserve is Mungaroo Range Nature Reserve located approximately 25 kilometres north-west of the application area (GIS Database). At this distance the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on the environmental values of this conservation area.

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology GIS Database:
- DEC Tenure

(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.

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The area under application is not located within a Public Drinking Water Source Area. The Pilbara is an arid environment. The drainage lines which cross the area under application are ephemeral and surface water runoff is only likely to occur during and immediately following significant rainfall events. Groundwater within the application area has low salinity levels of between 500 to 1000 milligrams per litre Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (GIS Database).

Considering the above it is not likely that the removal of native vegetation will cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology GIS Database:
- Groundwater Salinity
- Hydrography, linear
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas

(j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.

Comments Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

There are no permanent watercourses mapped within the areas under application however there are several

minor ephemeral drainage lines which cross the area under application (GIS Database).

Local flooding occurs seasonally in the Pilbara region as a result of cyclonic activity and sporadic thunderstorms and it is likely that the drainage lines within the area under application would experience seasonal flooding during high rainfall periods. However, it is not likely that the clearing of 19.13 hectares of native vegetation will increase the incidence or intensity of this flooding.

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology Hydrography, linear

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

Comments

There are two Native Title Claims (WC 99/16 and WC99/3) over the area under application (GIS Database). 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 (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 the proponent's responsibility to liaise with 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.

The clearing application is related to EPA Assessment No. 1841. The EPA has given consent for minor or preliminary works related to this application.

Methodology GIS Database
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- Native Title Claims – Registered with the NNTT

4. References

- Department of Conservation and Land Management (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographical Subregions.
- Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002) Biodiversity Action Planning. Action planning for native biodiversity at multiple scales; catchment bioregional, landscape, local. Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Victoria.
- Ecoscope (2010a) Solomon Project Rail Camp 1G Flora and Vegetation Assessment. Prepared for Fortescue metals Group Limited. North Fremantle, Western Australia.
- Ecoscope (2010b) Solomon Project - Rail Camp Sites 1, 2 and 3, Fauna Assessment. Prepared for Fortescue Metals Group Limited. North Fremantle, Western Australia.
- Fortescue Metals Group (2011) Native Vegetation Clearing Permit - Solomon Rail Camp (Airey). Clearing Permit Application Supporting Documents. Western Australia.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Shepherd, D.P. (2009) Adapted from: Shepherd, D.P., Beeston, G.R., and Hopkins, A.J.M. (2001), Native Vegetation in Western Australia. Technical Report 249. Department of Agriculture Western Australia, South Perth.
- Van Vreeswyk, A.M.E., Payne, A.L., Hennig, P., and Leighton, K.A. (2004) An Inventory and Condition Survey of the Pilbara Region, Western Australia, Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.

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.