



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4551/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: DBNGP (WA) Nominees Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: Dampier to Bunbury Pipeline Act 1997, Crown Reserve 38616, Reserve Document G741547 XE, Lot 176 on Deposited Plan 185971
Local Government Area: Shire of Roebourne
Colloquial name: Karratha Borrow Pit Project

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
34.85		Mechanical Removal	Borrow Pit

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 6 October 2011

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description	Clearing Description	Vegetation Condition	Comment
Beard vegetation associations have been mapped for the whole of Western Australia. Two Beard vegetation associations have been mapped within the application area (GIS Database). 117: Hummock grasslands, grass steppe; soft spinifex. 127: Bare areas; mud flats.	DBNGP (WA) Nominees Pty Ltd (DBP) has applied to clear up to 34.85 hectares of native vegetation for the purpose of a borrow pit. The borrow material will be used for the Dampier to Bunbury natural gas pipeline project. The application area is located approximately 3 kilometres south-east of Dampier.	Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994).	The vegetation condition was assessed by botanists from Mattiske (2011).
Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd (Mattiske) conducted a flora and vegetation survey over the application area in July 2009. One vegetation type was identified: Scrub of <i>Acacia ampliceps</i> , <i>Acacia bivenosa</i> , <i>Acacia stellaticeps</i> and <i>Senna artemisioides</i> subsp. <i>oligophylla</i> over mixed herbs over <i>Triodia epactia</i> and <i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i> on red sandy loam on flats (Mattiske, 2011).	Vegetation will be cleared by slashing and grading.		

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 Roebourne subregion of the Pilbara Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion (GIS Database). This subregion is generally described as quaternary alluvial and older colluvial coastal and sub-coastal plains with a grass savannah of mixed bunch and hummock grasses, and dwarf shrub steppe of *Acacia stellaticeps* or *A. inaequilatera* (CALM, 2002). Uplands are dominated by *Triodia* hummock grasslands. Ephemeral drainage lines support *Eucalyptus victrix* or *Corymbia hamersleyana* woodlands. Samphire, *Sporobolus* and mangal occur on marine alluvial flats and river deltas (CALM, 2002).

The vegetation within the application area is broadly mapped as Beard vegetation associations 117 and 127, which are common within the Pilbara region and have approximately 94.8% and 96.6% of their pre-European

vegetation extent remaining (Shepherd, 2009; GIS Database). A flora and vegetation survey of the application area conducted in July 2009 recorded a total of 23 native vascular plant taxa from 16 genera belonging to nine families (Mattske, 2011). Floristic diversity for the application area is low to normal when compared to other areas in the Pilbara (Mattske, 2011).

No Declared Rare Flora, Priority Flora, Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) or Priority Ecological Communities (PECs) have been identified within the application area (Mattske, 2011; GIS Database).

One introduced flora species, Buffel Grass (*Cenchrus ciliaris*), was recorded within the application area (Mattske, 2011). The presence of weed species lowers the biodiversity value of the application area. Care must be taken to ensure that the proposed clearing activities do not spread or introduce weed species to non-infested areas. Potential impacts to biodiversity as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a weed management condition.

A search of the Department of Environment and Conservation's NatureMap revealed records of one amphibian, 35 bird, five mammal and 30 reptile species within a 5 kilometre radius (DEC, 2011). The high number of bird species for a search area of this size reflects the application area's proximity to the coastline, while the high number of reptile species is typical of the Pilbara.

The application area is adjacent to major infrastructure facilities and there are existing tracks and previously disturbed areas within the application area (Mattske, 2011; GIS Database). Considering the amount of disturbance already present and the wide availability of the vegetation associations, the application area is not likely to comprise a greater diversity than similar areas either locally or at a bioregional scale.

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

Methodology CALM (2002)
DEC (2011)
Mattske (2011)
Shepherd (2009)
GIS Database:
- Dampier and Extensions 50 cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2008
- IBRA WA (Regions - Sub Regions)
- Pre-European Vegetation
- Threatened and Priority Flora
- 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

No targeted fauna surveys have been conducted over the application area. A desktop survey of the Department of Environment and Conservation's NatureMap was conducted by Mattske (2011).

The vegetation within the application area was described as 'Scrub of *Acacia ampliceps*, *Acacia bivenosa*, *Acacia stellaticeps* and *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *oligophylla* over mixed herbs over *Triodia epactia* and *Cenchrus ciliaris* on red sandy loam on flats' (Mattske, 2011). The vegetation within the application area may be utilised by a variety of fauna but the lack of specialised fauna habitats means it is unlikely to provide core habitat for any fauna species. No significant habitat features such as caves, waterholes, significant creeklines, coastal dunes, gorges or large tree hollows were identified within the application area (Mattske, 2011; GIS Database).

One Threatened terrestrial fauna species, the Pilbara Olive Python (*Liasis olivaceus* subsp. *barroni*), has been recorded within 5 kilometres of the application area (DEC, 2011). The Pilbara Olive Python is a mobile species that usually inhabits rock piles and crevices near water sources and the application area is not known to contain this habitat (Mattske, 2011). The application area is not considered to provide significant habitat for this species.

The application area is adjacent to existing major infrastructure (DBP, 2011) and this disturbance diminishes the quality of the fauna habitat provided.

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

Methodology DBP (2011)
DEC (2011)
Mattske (2011)
GIS Database:
- Dampier and Extensions 50 cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2008

(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 databases there are no known records of Declared Rare Flora (DRF) within the application area (GIS Database). The nearest known DRF is located approximately 215 kilometres south of the application area (GIS Database).

A flora and vegetation survey of the application area was conducted by Matiske botanists in July 2009. No DRF species were recorded during the survey (Matiske, 2011).

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

Methodology Matiske (2011)

GIS Database:
- Threatened and Priority 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.

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

A search of available databases revealed there are no known Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) within the application area (GIS Database). The nearest recorded TEC, *Themeda* grasslands on cracking clays, is located 175 kilometres south-east of the application area (GIS Database).

No TECs were identified during the flora and vegetation survey by the Matiske botanists (Matiske, 2011).

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

Methodology Matiske (2011)

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 to this Principle

The clearing application area falls within the Pilbara Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) region in which approximately 99.9% of the pre-European vegetation remains (see table) (Shepherd, 2009; GIS Database). This gives it a conservation status of 'Least Concern' according to the Bioregional Conservation Status of Ecological Vegetation Classes (Department of Natural Resources and Environment, 2002).

The vegetation of the clearing application area has been mapped as the following Beard vegetation associations:

117: Hummock grasslands, grass steppe; soft spinifex; and

127: Bare areas; mud flats (GIS Database).

	Pre-European Area (ha)*	Current Extent (ha)*	Remaining %*	Conservation Status**	Pre-European % in IUCN Class I-IV Reserves
IBRA Bioregion – Pilbara	17,804,193	17,785,000	~99.9	Least Concern	6.3
Beard Veg Assoc. – State					
117	919,161	871,011	~94.8	Least Concern	12.9
127	742,644	717,069	~96.6	Least Concern	8.0
Beard Veg Assoc. – Bioregion					
117	74,557	60,912	~81.7	Least Concern	12.0
127	180,401	177,739	~98.5	Least Concern	-

* Shepherd (2009)

** Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002)

According to Shepherd (2009) approximately 94.8% and 96.6% of Beard vegetation associations 117 and 127 remain at the state level, respectively. Approximately 81.7% and 98.5% remain at a bioregional level (Shepherd, 2009). These vegetation associations would be given a conservation status of 'Least Concern' at both a state and bioregional level (Department of Natural Resources and Environment, 2002).

The vegetation under application is not a remnant of vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.

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 - Sub Regions)
- 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 not likely to be at variance to this Principle**
According to available databases, there are no watercourses or wetlands within the application area (GIS Database). The application area is located near the coast but it is not part of a contiguous coastal vegetation strip (Mattiske, 2011). The vegetation within the application area is not considered to be growing in association with any watercourse or wetland.

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

Methodology Mattiske (2011)
GIS Database:
- Geodata, Lakes
- 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 datasets the application area intersects the Cheerawarra and Granitic Land Systems (GIS Database).

The Cheerawarra Land System is characterised by sandy coastal plains and saline clay plains supporting soft and hard spinifex grasslands and minor tussock grasslands (Van Vreeswyk et al., 2004). The single vegetation type described for the application area occurred on red sandy loam on flats (Mattiske, 2011), which is likely to correspond to the 'sandplains' landform unit. Most of the landform units within the system are highly susceptible to wind erosion if vegetation cover is depleted (Van Vreeswyk et al., 2004).

The Granitic Land System is characterised by rugged granitic hill supporting shrubby hard and soft spinifex grasslands (Van Vreeswyk et al., 2004). The red sandy loam on flats described for the application area (Mattiske, 2009) is likely to correspond to the 'stony plains' landform unit. This land system is not susceptible to erosion (Van Vreeswyk et al., 2004).

The proposed clearing will undertaken so that drainage can be managed and any erosion that occurs will be reinstated from the borrow pits where possible (DBP, 2011).

A broad scale map of acid sulfate soil (ASS) risk for the Pilbara coast indicates a small part of the application area is located within an ASS risk area (GIS Database). DBP has conducted their own desktop study of the area and it indicates that there are no actual or potential ASS within the application area (DBP, 2011),

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

Methodology DBP (2011)
Mattiske (2011)
Van Vreeswyk et al. (2004)
GIS Database:
- Acid Sulfate Soil Risk Map, Pilbara Coastline
- 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 areas are on islands off the Western Australian coast (GIS Database) and the application area is unlikely to provide any ecological linkage to these. The nearest mainland conservation area is Millstream Chichester National Park, located approximately 60 kilometres south-east of the application area (GIS Database). At this distance the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact on the environmental values of the National Park.

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

Methodology GIS Database:
- DEC Tenure
- Register of National Estate (Status)

(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

According to available databases the application area is not located within a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA). The nearest PDWSA is Roebourne Water Reserve, which is approximately 43 kilometres east-south-east of the application area (GIS Database). The small area of the proposed clearing is unlikely to cause deterioration in the quality of underground water.

There are no creeklines, wetlands or watercourses within the application area (GIS Database). There are salt evaporation ponds approximately 600 metres south of the application and there are also several minor ephemeral drainage lines in the vicinity (GIS Database). The drainage lines would only flow for short periods following heavy rainfall. DBP will be undertaking the proposed clearing so that drainage and nutrients can be managed (DBP, 2011). The proposed clearing is unlikely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface water in the local area.

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

Methodology DBP (2011)
GIS Database:
- Dampier and Extensions 50 cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2008
- 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

The application area experiences variable annual rainfall with most precipitation occurring during the summer cyclone season (CALM, 2002). The average annual rainfall is 248.7 millimetres, recorded from the weather station at nearby Dampier Salt (BOM, 2011). Local flooding occurs after large seasonal rainfall events, however, clearing within the application area is not likely to exacerbate or increase the incidence or intensity of flooding (Mattiske, 2011).

The application area is located within the Coastal catchment area of the Port Hedland Coast basin (GIS Database). Given the size of the area to be cleared (34.85 hectares) in relation to the size of the catchment area (744,301 hectares) (GIS Database), the proposed clearing is not likely to increase the potential of flooding on a catchment scale.

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

Methodology BOM (2011)
CALM (2002)
Mattiske (2011)
GIS Database:
- Hydrographic Catchments - Catchments

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

Comments

The clearing permit application was advertised on 29 August 2011 by the Department of Mines and Petroleum inviting submissions from the public. A submission was received from the Shire of Roebourne regarding rehabilitation of the site and dust emissions. These issues were discussed with DBP and the company will be undertaking dust suppression activities as needed to control dust emissions resulting from the proposed activities. A rehabilitation condition has been recommended for the clearing permit to address the concerns about rehabilitation of the site.

There is one Native Title Claim (WC99/14) over the area under application (GIS Database). This claim has been registered with the National Native Title Tribunal on behalf of the claimant group. However, the mining tenure has been granted in accordance with the future act regime of the *Native Title Act 1993* and the nature of

the act (i.e. the proposed clearing activity) has been provided for in that process, therefore the granting of a clearing permit is not a future act under the *Native Title Act 1993*.

There are several registered Aboriginal Site of Significance in the vicinity of 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.

Methodology GIS Database:
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance
- Native Title Claims - Determined by the Federal Court

4. References

- BOM (2011) Bureau of Meteorology Website - Climate Statistics for Australian Locations, Summary Statistics DAMPIER SALT. <http://www.bom.gov.au/> (Accessed 29 September 2011).
- CALM (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographical Subregions. Pilbara 4 (PIL4 - Roebourne Synopsis). Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.
- DBP (2011) Karratha Borrow Pit Clearing Permit Supporting Documents. Report Prepared by DBNGP (WA) Nominees Pty Ltd.
- DEC (2011) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Environment and Conservation. <http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au/default.aspx> (Accessed 30 September 2011).
- 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.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Mattiske (2011) Flora and Vegetation Survey of the Proposed Borrow Pits Within the Burrup Peninsula. Report Prepared by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd for DBP, June 2011.
- 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., Leighton K.A. and Hennig P. (2004) Technical Bulletin - An Inventory and Condition Survey of the Pilbara Region, Western Australia, No. 92. Department of Agriculture, Perth, 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.