Government of Western Australia
Department of Mines and Petroleum

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4676/2
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

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

1.3. Property details

Property: *Iron Ore (Mount Newman) Agreement Act 1964*, Mineral Lease 244SA (AML 70/244)
Iron Ore (Mount Goldsworthy) Agreement Act 1964, Mineral Lease 281SA (AML 70/281)
Miscellaneous Licence 47/92
Miscellaneous Licence 52/99
Local Government Area: Shire of East Pilbara
Colloquial name: Jinidi Village Substation

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
15		Mechanical Removal	Geotechnical Investigations, Power Line Construction and Associated Infrastructure

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 19 July 2012

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description Beard vegetation asociations have been mapped for the whole of Western Australia. Three Beard vegetation associations have been mapped within the application area (GIS Database):

18: Low woodland; mulga (*Acacia aneura*);
29: Sparse low woodland; mulga, discontinuous in scattered groups; and
82: Hummock grasslands, low tree steppe; snappy gum over *Triodia wiseana.*

A flora and vegetation survey of the application area was conducted by ENV (2009) in May 2009. The following 30 vegetation communities were recorded as occuring within the application area:

COTG - Open Tussock Grassland of **Cenchrus ciliaris* with High Shrubland of *Acacia citrinoviridis* on Red- brown Loam on Disturbed Drainage Lines;

AHOS - High Open Shrubland of *Acacia aneura*, *Acacia catenulata* subsp. *occidentalis* and *Acacia pruinocarpa* over Very Open Hummock Grassland of *Triodia wiseana* and *Triodia melvillei* with Low Open Shrubland *Eremophila forrestii* subsp. *forrestii and Ptilotus obovatus* on Red-brown Loam on Plains/Low Undulations;

AHS01 - High Shrubland of *Acacia aneura*, *Petalostylis labicheoides* and *Rulingia luteiflora* over (Very Open) Hummock / Tussock Grassland of *Themeda triandra, Triodia pungens* and *Chrysopogon fallax* with Low Open Woodland of *Eucalyptus xerothermica*, *Corymbia hamersleyana* and (mallee) *Eucalyptus gamophylla* on Red-brown Loam (some clay) on Floodplains/Drainage Lines.

AHS02 - High (Open) Shrubland of *Acacia aneura* with Open Tussock Grassland of *Aristida contorta*, *Chrysopogon fallax* and *Enneapogon polyphyllus* on Red-brown Loam with Clay Surface on Plains;

AOS01 - Open Scrub of *Acacia elachantha* and *Acacia ancistrocarpa* with Very Open Hummock Grassland of *Triodia pungens* and *Triodia Basedowii* with Low Open Shrubland of *Senna glutinosa* subsp. *glutinosa* x *glaucifolia, Scaevola parvifolia* subsp. *pilbarae* and *Acacia adoxa* var. *adoxa* on Red-brown Loam with on Low Rises/Undulations;

AOS02 - Open Scrub of *Acacia monticola, Acacia elachantha* and *Dodonaea lanceolata var. lanceolata* with Open hummock Grassland of *Triodia wiseana* and *Triodia pungens* with Low Open Woodland of *Corymbia hamersleyana* on Red-brown Loam on Drainage Lines;

AOS03 - Open Scrub of *Acacia catenulata* subsp. *occidental*, *Acacia pruinocarpa* and *Acacia aneura* over Hummock Grassland of *Triodia melvillei* with Scattered Low Trees of *Corymbia deserticola* subsp. *deserticola* and *Corymbia hamersleyana* on Red-brown Sandy Loam on Plains;

AS - (Open) Shrubland of *Acacia ancistrocarpa, Rulingia luteiflora* and *Acacia inequilatera* over Hummock / Tussock Grassland of *Triodia pungens, Triodia brizoides* and *Themeda triandra* with Low Open Woodland of (mallee) *Eucalyptus gamophylla* and *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia* on Red-brown Loam on Minor Drainage Line;

ACS - Closed Scrub of *Acacia catenulata* subsp. *occidentalis* over Very Open Hummock Grassland of *Triodia pungens* with Scattered Low Trees of *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia* on Red- brown loam on Floodplain/Drainage lines;

ETG - Tussock Grassland of *Eulalia aurea* and *Themeda triandra* with Open Shrubland of *Petalostylis labicheoides, Rulingia luteiflora* and *Acacia pyrifolia* var. *pyrifolia* with Low Open Woodland of *Eucalyptus camaldulensis, Eucalyptus victrix* and *Eucalyptus xerothermica* on Red-brown Clay on Major Drainage Lines;

TTG01 - Tussock Grassland of *Themeda triandra*, **Cenchrus ciliaris* and *Sorghum plumosum* (with very open sedges of *Cyperus vaginatus*) with Low Open Shrubland of *Rulingia luteiflora, Acacia inaequilatera* and *Tephrosia rosea* var. *glabrior* with Open Woodland of *Eucalyptus victrix* on Red-brown Clayey Loam with on Drainage Lines;

TTG02 - Open to Closed Hummock / Tussock Grassland of *Themeda triandra, Triodia pungens* and *Eriachne tenuiculmis* with High Shrubland of *Acacia citrinoviridis, Acacia bivenosa* and *Rulingia luteiflora* with Low Woodland of *Eucalyptus victrix* and *Eucalyptus xerothermica* on Alluvial Red-brown Sand and Loam (some clay) on Drainage Lines;

TTGH03 - Open Tussock / Hummock Grassland of *Themeda triandra, Triodia wiseana* and **Cenchrus ciliaris* (sedges of *Cyperus vaginatus*) with Open Shrubland of *Acacia bivenosa* and *Melaleuca glomerata* with Open Woodland of *Eucalyptus victrix* and *Corymbia hamersleyana* on Alluvial Red-brown Loam with on Minor Drainage Lines/Floodplains;

TCHG - Closed Hummock Grassland of *Triodia basedowii* and *Triodia pungens* with Very Open Mallee of *Eucalyptus gamophylla* with High Open Shrubland *Acacia inaequilatera, Acacia bivenosa* and *Acacia pruinocarpa* on Skeletal Red-brown Loam on Low Hillslopes;

THG01 - Hummock Grassland of *Triodia wiseana* with Open Shrubland of *Acacia bivenosa, Rulingia luteiflora* and *Petalostylis labicheoides* with Very Open Mallee of *Eucalyptus socialis* subsp. *eucentrica, Corymbia hamersleyana* and *Eucalyptus trivalva* on Red-brown Loam on Calcrete Rises / Outcrops;

THG02 - Hummock Grassland of *Triodia pungens* and *Triodia brizoide*s with High Open Shrubland of *Acacia aneura, Acacia catenulata* subsp. occidentalis and *Astrotricha hamptonii* with Scattered Low Trees of *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia* and *Corymbia ferriticola* subsp. *ferriticola* with Scattered Tussock Grass of *Eriachne mucronata* on Red-brown Loam on Outcrops/Cliff Faces;

THG03 - Tussock / Hummock Grassland of *Triodia pungens*, *Eriachne mucronata* and *Themeda triandra* with High Open Shrubland of *Acacia citrinoviridis, Acacia tumida* var. *pilbarensis* and *Acacia pruinocarpa* with Low Open Woodland of *Corymbia deserticola* subsp. *deserticola, Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia* and *Corymbia candida* subsp. *dipsodes* on Skeletal Red-brown Loam on Major Gullies;

THG04 - Hummock Grassland of *Triodia wiseana* with Open Shrubland of *Acacia inaequilatera* and *Acacia bivenosa* (with Scattered *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia)* on Skeletal Red-brown Loam on Hills;

THG05 - (Closed) Hummock Grassland of *Triodia* sp. Shovelanna Hill (S. van Leeuwen 3835), *Triodia basedowii* and *Triodia brizoides* with High to Low Open Shrubland to Scattered of *Acacia hilliana, Acacia pruinocarpa* and *Hakea chordophylla* with Low Open Woodland of *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia* on Skeletal Red brown Loam on Hills;

THG06 - Hummock Grassland of *Triodia* sp. Shovelanna Hill (S. van Leeuwen 3835) and *Triodia wiseana* and with High Open Shrubland of *Acacia ancistrocarpa*, *Acacia bivenosa and Acacia inaequilatera* with Very Open Mallee of *Eucalyptus gamophylla* on Red-brown Loam on Low Hillslopes;

THG07 - Hummock / Tussock Grassland of *Triodia pungens* and *Themeda triandra* with Shrubland of *Acacia ancistrocarpa, Acacia bivenosa* and *Rulingia luteiflora* with Low Open Woodland of *Eucalyptus xerothermica, Eucalyptus gamophylla* and *Corymbia hamersleyana* on Red-brown Loam on Drainage Lines/Floodplains;

THG08 - Hummock Grassland of *Triodia* sp. Shovelanna Hill (S. van Leeuwen 3835) with (High) Shrubland of *Acacia ayersiana, Acacia aneura* and *Acacia catenulata* subsp. *occidentalis* with Scattered Mallees of *Eucalyptus gamophylla* on Red- brown Loam on Plains/Floodplains;

THG09 - Hummock / Tussock Grassland of *Triodia angusta, Triodia pungens* and **Cenchrus ciliaris* with (Open) Shrubland of *Acacia aneura*, *Acacia pruinocarpa* and *Acacia tetragonophylla* on Red-brown Loam on Plains/Floodplains;

THG10 - Hummock / Tussock Grassland of *Triodia angusta, Triodia wiseana* and *Themeda triandra* with High Open Shrubland of *Acacia bivenosa, Petalostylis labicheoides* and *Rulingia luteiflora* with *Eucalyptus xerothermica, Eucalyptus trivalva* and *Eucalyptus gamophylla* on Red-brown Sandy and Clayey loams on Minor Drainage Lines;

THG11 - Tussock / Hummock Grassland of *Triodia pungens*, *Eriachne mucronata* and *Themeda triandra* with High Open Shrubland of *Acacia citrinoviridis, Acacia tumida* var. *pilbarensis* and *Acacia pruinocarpa* with Low Open Woodland of *Corymbia deserticola* subsp. *deserticola, Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia* and *Corymbia candida* subsp. *dipsodes* on Skeletal Red-brown Loam on Major Gullies;

THG12 - Hummock / Tussock Grassland of *Triodia pungens* and *Themeda triandra* with Low Open Shrubland of *Acacia adoxa* var. *adoxa* and *Tephrosia rosea* on Skeletal Red-brown Clayey Loam on Minor Drainage Lines;

THG13 - Hummock Grassland of *Triodia wiseana* and *Triodia pungens* with Shrubland of *Acacia ancistrocarpa, Stylobasium spathulatum and Acacia aneura* with Low Open Woodland *of Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp*. leucophloia and Eucalyptus xerothermica* on Red- brown Loam on Minor Drainage Lines;

EOF - Open Tussock / Hummock Grassland of *Themeda triandra, Triodia wiseana* and **Cenchrus ciliaris* (sedges of *Cyperus vaginatus*) with Open Shrubland of *Acacia bivenosa* and *Melaleuca glomerata* with Open Woodland of *Eucalyptus victrix* and *Corymbia hamersleyana* on Alluvial Red-brown Loam with on Minor Drainage Lines/Floodplains;

EOTG02 - Open Tussock Grassland of *Eragrostis eriopoda, Paraneurachne muelleri* and *Chrysopogon fallax* with Low Shrubland of *Sida* sp. verrucose glands (F.H. Mollemans 2423), *Eremophila margarethae* and *Hibiscus sturtii* var. *platychlamys* with Open Shrubland of *Acacia pruinocarpa* and *Hakea chordophylla* on Red-brown Loam on Floodplains; and

EOTG01 - Open Tussock Grassland of *Enneapogon intermedius*, *Tripogon loliiformis* and *Bothriochloa ewartiana* with High Open Shrubland of *Acacia pruinocarpa* with Scattered Mallee of *Eucalyptus socialis* subsp. *eucentrica* on White-Brown Loam on Low Calcrete Rise.

Clearing Description

BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd has applied to clear up to 15 hectares of native vegetation, within a broader area of approximately 1,422 hectares, for the purpose of geotechnical investigations, construction of a Jinidi Village Substation and 33kv Transmission Line.

Clearing will be conducted by mechanical means.

Vegetation Condition

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 2.5 kilometres north west of Newman and extends approximately 82 kilometres north west towards Area C.

Clearing permit CPS 4676/1 was granted by the Department of Mines and Petroleum on 12 January 2012 and allowed for the clearing of 15 hectares of native vegetation within a 1,422 hectare permit area. An application to amend this permit was received by the Department of Mines and Petroleum on 11 June 2012. The application requested an amendment to the permit boundary. The amount of clearing and permit area will remain at 15 hectares and 1,422 hectares, respectively.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments

BHP Billiton Iron Ore Pty Ltd (BHPBIO) has applied to amend the permit boundary. The amendment is required to move the proposed Jinidi Village substation location to an adjacent area of which approximately 13 hectares

is located outside the permit boundary for CPS 4676/1. The amendment involves altering the permit boundary to incorporate the new proposed location and omit the previous location so that overall there is no change in the permit area of 1,422 hectares (BHPBIO, 2012). The amount of clearing permitted within the permit boundary will remain at 15 hectares.

A review of aerial imagery and topography indicates the vegetation and landforms within the amended permit boundary are mostly consistent with those in the adjacent CPS 4676/1 application area (GIS Database). A change in vegetation occurs towards the south-eastern boundary of the amended permit boundary, where a small patch or grove of dense vegetation or trees crosses into it. Aerial imagery indicates similar patches occur in the local area (GIS Database). The vegetation communities are therefore unlikely to be of higher diversity than those within the CPS 4676/1 application area and the vegetation communities are not considered to be a significant remnant locally or regionally.

A wide range of fauna habitat types were identified within the CPS 4676/1 application area. Given the abovementioned similarity in vegetation and landforms, fauna habitats within the amended permit boundary are considered to be consistent with those identified in the CPS 4676/1 application area.

Available databases (GIS Database) show no Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities and no Threatened or Priority Flora have been recorded within the amended permit area that occurs outside of the CPS 4676/1 application area. According to BHPBIO (2012), the revised location does not impact known locations of Threatened or Priority Flora or conservation significant species or habitat.

Based on the above, the assessment of the proposed clearing against Principles (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) is consistent with the assessment in Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 4676/1.

Current environmental information has been reviewed and the assessment of clearing principles (f), (g), (h), (i) and (j) is consistent with the assessment in Clearing Permit Decision Report CPS 4676/1 (GIS Database).

Methodology

BHPBIO (2012)
GIS Database:
- DEC Tenure
- Hydrography, linear
- IBRA WA (Regions - Sub Regions)
- Ophthalmia 50cm Orthomosaic – Landgate 2004
- Pre-European Vegetation
- Rangeland Land System Mapping
- Rivers
- Topographic Contours, Statewide
- Threatened Ecological Sites Buffered
- Threatened and Priority Flora

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

Comments

There are five Native Title Claims (WC10/15, WC10/17, WC05/6, WC96/61 and WC98/62)) over the area under application (GIS Database). These claims have been registered with the 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 four 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.

Clearing permit application CPS 4676/1 was advertised on 7 November 2011 by the Department of Mines and Petroleum inviting submissions from the public. One submission related to this permit was received regarding the cumulative impacts of clearing within the Pilbara. A letter of response was sent outlining the processes followed during the assessment and cumulative impacts were assessed under Principle (e).

The clearing permit amendment CPS 4676/2 was advertised on 25 June 2012 by the Department of Mines and Petroleum inviting submissions from the public. There were no submissions received.

Methodology

GIS Database:
- Aboriginal Sites of Signficance
- Native Title Claims – Registered with the NNTT

4. References

BHPBIO (2012) BHP Billiton Iron Ore: Jinidi Village Substation Amendment to Native Vegetation Clearing (Purpose) Permit CPS 4676/1. Letter from BHP Billiton Iron Pty Ltd to Department of Mines and Petroleum dated 5 June 2012.

ENV (2009) Newman to Yandi Transmission Line - Flora and Vegetation Assessment. Unpublished Report prepared for Worley Parsons Services Pty Ltd dated November 2009.

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

5. Glossary

Acronyms:

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.