



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 4841/2
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Independence Jaguar Limited

1.3. Property details

Property: Mining Lease 37/44
Mining Lease 37/1132
Mining Lease 37/1153
Mining Lease 37/1230
Mining Lease 37/1257
Mining Lease 37/1290
Exploration Licence 37/258
Local Government Area: Shire of Leonora
Colloquial name: Jaguar Base Metals Project

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
100		Mechanical Removal	Mineral Production and Mineral Exploration

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 30 July 2015

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
<p>Beard vegetation associations have been mapped for the whole of Western Australia and are useful to look at vegetation in a regional context. The following Beard vegetation associations are located within the application area (GIS Database):</p> <p>18: Low woodland; Mulga (<i>Acacia aneura</i>); and 28: Open low woodland; Mulga.</p> <p>Several vegetation surveys have been conducted within the application area. These were conducted by Jims Seeds, Weeds & Trees (2004), Ecotec (2007a) and Outback Ecology Services (2009).</p> <p>Outback Ecology Services (2009) states that the survey area was dominated by Mulga woodlands, shrubs and ephemeral creek lines. Typical vegetation would be described as: "Low (Open) Woodland of <i>Acacia aneura</i> over Open Shrubland of <i>Acacia</i> and <i>Eremophila</i> spp. over Low Open Shrubland of <i>Eremophila</i> spp.". <i>Acacia aneura</i> and <i>Eremophila</i> species were present in virtually every quadrat and relevé with <i>Eremophila margarethae</i> dominating the understorey over much of the survey area (Outback Ecology Services, 2009).</p> <p>Ecotec (2007a) described the main vegetation type as acacia shrubland associated primarily with clay-loam soils which tends toward acacia</p>	<p>Jaguar Base Metals Project Jabiru Metals Limited (Jabiru) has applied to clear up to 100 hectares of native vegetation within a total boundary of approximately 3,882 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and mineral exploration. The project is located approximately 45 kilometres north, north west of Leonora, in the Shire of Leonora.</p>	<p>Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery, 1994);</p> <p>To</p> <p>Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).</p>	<p>The vegetation condition is based on aerial photography and the flora and vegetation surveys conducted by Jims Seeds Weeds & Trees (2004) and Outback Ecology Services (2009).</p> <p>The application area includes the former Teutonic Bore mine site and Jabiru's Jaguar and Bentley mine sites. According to Jabiru (2012a), the area in the vicinity of these mines has been impacted by rangeland grazing of livestock and feral animals plus a long history of exploration and extractive industry activities (Jabiru, 2012a).</p> <p>Ecotec (2007a) notes that due to the timing of the survey there were very few annual species apparent and the survey area would also support a range of annual species in spring and summer, most of which would not have been recorded during the survey (conducted 29 January to 1 February 2007).</p> <p>Clearing Permit CPS 4841/1 was granted on 8 March 2012</p>

woodland where deep clay-loam soils are present (Ecotec, 2007a). In addition to many of the flora species found elsewhere in the study area, the creek lines support *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* and often a dense understorey of predominately *Acacia* species (Ecotec, 2007b). Smaller creek lines and drainage channels tend to be densely vegetated with acacias (Ecotec, 2007b). Rocky hills in the area characteristically have very little topsoil and sparse vegetation with flora species present generally consistent with the surrounding low lying areas, comprising predominately *Acacia* and *Eremophila* species. Ecotec (2007a) also noted the presence of mulga "groves" at the foot of drainage lines descending from the hills.

and authorised the clearing of 100 hectares within a boundary of approximately 3,882 hectares.

On 2 June 2015, Jabiru Metals Limited requested the name of the Permit holder be changed to Independence Jaguar Limited, due to a company name change.

3. Assessment of application against clearing principles

Comments **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**
The amendment to change the name of the permit holder will not result in any significant change to the environmental impacts of the proposed clearing. The size of the area approved to clear (100 hectares) and the permit boundaries remain unchanged.

The assessment against the clearing Principles remains consistent with the assessment contained in decision report CPS 4841/1.

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

Comments

There are no native title claims over the area under application (DAA, 2015). 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*.

According to available databases, there are 12 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 Regulation, the Department of Parks and Wildlife, 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 DAA (2015)
GIS Database:
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance

4. References

- DAA (2015) Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System, Government of Western Australia, Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Perth, viewed 6 July 2015 < <http://maps.dia.wa.gov.au/AHIS2/> >.
- Ecotec (WA) Pty Ltd (2007a) Flora and Vegetation Assessment of the Teutonic Bore Area. Unpublished report for Jabiru Metals Limited dated January 2007.
- Ecotec (WA) Pty Ltd (2007b) Fauna Assessment of the Teutonic Bore Area. Unpublished report for Jabiru Metals Limited dated January 2007.
- Jabiru (2012a) Jaguar Operations Clearing Permit Application. Unpublished report dated January 2012.
- Jims Seeds, Weeds & Trees (2004) Flora Survey – Jaguar/Teutonic Bore. Unpublished report for Pilbara Mines Limited dated September 2004.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Outback Ecology Services (2009) Jabiru Metals Bentley Stage 1, Vegetation and Flora survey. Unpublished report for Jabiru Metals Limited dated October 2009.

5. Glossary

Acronyms:

BoM	Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Government
DAA	Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Western Australia
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia
DEC	Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (now DPaW and DER)
DER	Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia
DMP	Department of Mines and Petroleum, Western Australia
DRF	Declared Rare Flora
DotE	Department of the Environment, Australian Government
DoW	Department of Water, Western Australia
DPaW	Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia
DSEWPaC	Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (now DotE)
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> , Western Australia
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (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
PEC	Priority Ecological Community, Western Australia
RIWI Act	<i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i> , Western Australia
s.17	Section 17 of the <i>Environment Protection Act 1986</i> , Western Australia
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community

Definitions:

{DPaW (2013) Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora and Fauna. Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia}:-

T	Threatened species: Specially protected under the <i>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</i> , listed under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Threatened Fauna or the Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Threatened Flora (which may also be referred to as Declared Rare Flora). Threatened Fauna and Flora are further recognised by the Department according to their level of threat using IUCN Red List criteria. For example Carnaby's Cockatoo <i>Calyptorhynchus latirostris</i> is specially protected under the <i>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</i> as a threatened species with a ranking of Endangered. <u>Rankings:</u> CR: Critically Endangered - considered to be facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild. EN: Endangered - considered to be facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild. VU: Vulnerable - considered to be facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.
X	Presumed Extinct species: Specially protected under the <i>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</i> , listed under Schedule 2 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Presumed Extinct Fauna and Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Presumed Extinct Flora (which may also be referred to as Declared Rare Flora).
IA	Migratory birds protected under an international agreement: Specially protected under the <i>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</i> , listed under Schedule 3 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice. Birds that are subject to an agreement between governments of Australia and Japan, China and The Republic of Korea relating to the protection of migratory birds and birds in danger of extinction.
S	Other specially protected fauna: Specially protected under the <i>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</i> , listed under Schedule 4 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice.
P1	Priority One - Poorly-known species: Species that are known from one or a few collections or sight records (generally less than five), all on lands not managed for conservation, e.g. agricultural or pastoral lands, urban areas, Shire, rail reserves and Main Roads WA road, gravel and soil reserves, and active mineral leases and under threat of habitat destruction or degradation. Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from one or more localities but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and appear to be under immediate threat from known threatening processes.
P2	Priority Two - Poorly-known species: Species that are known from one or a few collections or sight records, some of which are on lands not under imminent threat of habitat destruction or degradation, e.g. national parks, conservation parks, nature reserves, State forest, unallocated Crown land, water reserves, etc. Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from one or more localities but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and appear to be under threat from known threatening processes.

P3

Priority Three - Poorly-known species:

Species that are known from collections or sight records from several localities not under imminent threat, or from few but widespread localities with either large population size or significant remaining areas of apparently suitable habitat, much of it not under imminent threat. Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from several localities but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and known threatening processes exist that could affect them.

P4

Priority Four - Rare, Near Threatened and other species in need of monitoring:

- (a) Rare. Species that are considered to have been adequately surveyed, or for which sufficient knowledge is available, and that are considered not currently threatened or in need of special protection, but could be if present circumstances change. These species are usually represented on conservation lands.
- (b) Near Threatened. Species that are considered to have been adequately surveyed and that do not qualify for Conservation Dependent, but that are close to qualifying for Vulnerable.
- (c) Species that have been removed from the list of threatened species during the past five years for reasons other than taxonomy.

P5

Priority Five - Conservation Dependent species:

Species that are not threatened but are subject to a specific conservation program, the cessation of which would result in the species becoming threatened within five years.