



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 5162/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Barrick (Granny Smith) Pty Limited

1.3. Property details

Property: Miscellaneous Licence 38/209
Local Government Area: Shire of Laverton
Colloquial name: Lake Carey Project

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
0.26		Mechanical Removal	Mine Dewatering Infrastructure

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 16 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 associations have been mapped for the whole of Western Australia and are useful to look at vegetation in a regional context. One Beard vegetation association has been mapped within the application area:

Beard vegetation association 125: Bare areas; salt lakes (Government of Western Australia, 2011; GIS Database).

Native Vegetation Solutions (2011) identified one vegetation community in the application area, describing the vegetation community as follows:

Riparian shrubland: *Tecticornia disarticulate*, *T. indica* subsp. *bidens*, *Cratystylis subspinescens*, *Maireana amoena*, *Sclerolaena fimbriolata*, *Swainsona tenuis*, *Agianthus tomentosus*, *Frankenia pauciflora* and *Zygophyllum compressum*.

Clearing Description

Barrick (Granny Smith) Pty Ltd is proposing to clear up to 0.26 hectares of native vegetation for the construction of a mine dewatering infrastructure.

The vegetation will be mechanically cleared. The vegetation and topsoil will be stockpiled separately for use in rehabilitation.

Vegetation Condition

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

Comment

The application area is located in the East Murchison subregion of Western Australia and is situated approximately 28 kilometres south of the Laverton town site (GIS Database).

The vegetation condition was derived from a vegetation survey conducted by Native Vegetation Solutions (2011).

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 areas occur within the East Murchison subregion of the Murchison Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion (GIS Database). This subregion is characterised by its internal drainage, and extensive areas of elevated red desert sandplains with minimal dune development. Salt lake systems are associated with the occluded Paleodrainage system. Broad plains of red-brown soils and breakaway complexes as well as red sandplains. Vegetation is dominated by Mulga woodlands often rich in ephemerals; hummock grasslands, saltbush shrublands and Halosarcia shrublands (CALM, 2002).

Native Vegetation Solutions (2011) conducted a flora and vegetation survey over the application area during September 2011. The flora and vegetation survey identified one vegetation community within the application area. The area proposed to be cleared is not considered to be remnant vegetation. The vegetation of the wider

Murchison region remains largely undisturbed despite widespread pastoral activities, feral grazing and weed invasion (CALM, 2002). The condition of the vegetation type was classified as 'very good' (Keighery, 1994; GIS Database). The flora survey identified a total of 16 vascular plant taxa from 11 genera and six families within the application area.

A search of the Department of Environment and Conservation's Threatened and Priority Flora databases revealed no record of Priority Flora species within a 20 kilometre radius of the application area (DEC, 2012). No Threatened Flora species were identified (DEC, 2012). Native Vegetation Solutions (2011) identified no Threatened Flora and no Priority Flora species within the application area.

No Threatened Ecological Communities or Priority Ecological Communities were recorded within the application area (Native Vegetation Solutions, 2011; GIS Database).

There was one weed species identified during the survey; Berry Seablite (*Suaeda baccifera*) (Native Vegetation Solutions, 2011). Weeds have the potential to significantly change the dynamics of a natural ecosystem and lower the biodiversity of an area. Potential impacts to the biodiversity as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a weed management condition.

There was one faunal habitat identified within the application area, one of which was considered to be of significance due to the presence of riparian vegetation, however, it is common throughout the local and regional area (Native Vegetation Solutions, 2011). The clearing of 0.26 hectares of native vegetation is unlikely to have a significant impact on faunal diversity in a regional and local context.

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

Methodology CALM (2002)
DEC (2012)
Keighery (1994)
Native Vegetation Solutions (2011)
GIS Database:
- IBRA WA (Regions - Subregions)
- Pre-European vegetation
- Threatened Ecological Sites Buffered
- Laverton 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2006

(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. No fauna were observed during the flora survey conducted by Native Vegetation Solutions (2011). There was one faunal habitat type recorded within the application area by Native Vegetation Solutions (2011); riparian shrubland. This vegetation is in 'very good' condition (Keighery, 1994). The habitat found within the application area is considered as being well represented in the local region (Keith Lindbeck and Associates, 2011). The application area does not contain habitats or faunal assemblages that are ecologically significant.

There is one species of conservation significance which is likely to occur in the application area; the Slender-billed Thornbill (*Acanthiza iredalei* subsp. *iredalei*) (DEC, 2012; Keith Lindbeck and Associates, 2011). This migratory species may use the riparian vegetation for foraging as part of a larger territory area and are considered highly mobile and/or has a wide distribution. The clearing of 0.26 hectares of native vegetation is not likely to contain core habitat for any significant fauna as this riparian vegetation is not limited to the local area, and is extensive around the shoreline of Lake Carey which covers an area of approximately 160,000 hectares (Native Vegetation Solutions, 2011). The proposed clearing of 0.26 hectares of native vegetation is not likely to impact critical feeding or breeding habitat for any conservation significant fauna species as the application area does not contain significant faunal habitats.

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

Methodology DEC (2012)
Keighery (1994)
Keith Lindbeck and Associates (2011)
Native Vegetation Solutions (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 databases, there are no records of Threatened Flora species within the application area (GIS Database). A search of the Department of Environment and Conservation's Threatened and Priority Flora databases identified no Threatened Flora species as occurring within a 20 kilometre radius of the application area (DEC, 2012).

Native Vegetation Solutions (2011) conducted a vegetation and flora survey of the application area on 10 September 2011, during which no Threatened Flora species were recorded within the survey area.

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

Methodology DEC (2012)
Native Vegetation Solutions (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 the available databases shows that there are no Threatened Ecological Communities situated within 100 kilometres of the application area (GIS Database).

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 to this Principle**
The application area falls within the Murchison IBRA bioregion (GIS Database). The vegetation within the application area is recorded as:

Beard vegetation association 125: Bare areas; salt lakes (Government of Western Australia, 2011; GIS Database).

According to the Government of Western Australia (2011), Beard vegetation association 125 retains approximately 99% of its pre-European extent. The local area has been extensively cleared, however the area proposed to be cleared is not a significant remnant of native vegetation.

	Pre-European area (ha)*	Current extent (ha)*	Remaining %*	Conservation Status**	Pre-European % in IUCN Class I-IV Reserves
IBRA Bioregion - Murchison	28,120,587	28,044,823	~99.73	Least Concern	1.05
Beard vegetation associations - State					
125	3,492,381	3,269,266	~93.61	Least Concern	5.00
Beard vegetation associations - Bioregion					
125	711,484	710,255	~99.83	Least Concern	0.55

* Government of Western Australia (2011)

** 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)
Government of Western Australia (2011)
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**
The application area is situated on the banks of Lake Carey (GIS Database). There was one vegetation type identified as riparian vegetation by Native Vegetation Solutions (2011). Johnson et al (1999) describes the main species to dominate the Lake Carey fringing vegetation as belonging to the *Atriplex*, *Maireana* and

Halosarcia genera, however, there has been a slight decline in overall percentage cover of the riparian vegetation in Lake Carey playa since 1999 and the species composition has changed (Keith Lindbeck and Associates, 2012). Native Vegetation Solutions (2011) identified that the dominant species within the application area are *Tecticornia disarticulate*, *Tectifomia indica* subsp. *bidens*, *Cratystylis subspinescens*, *Maireana amoena*, *Sclerolaena fimbriolata*, *Swainsona tenuis*, *Angiathus tomentosus*, *Frankenia pauciflora* and *Zygophyllum compressum*. The condition of the riparian vegetation type is classified as 'very good' (Keighery, 1994; GIS Database).

The proposed mine dewatering infrastructure will require the clearing of 0.26 hectares of riparian vegetation on the shoreline of Lake Carey (Native Vegetation Solutions, 2011). However, the riparian vegetation around the shoreline of Lake Carey is extensive and in the vicinity of the application area, the riparian vegetation extended from the shoreline variably from two metres to 10 metres inland, and extended for approximately two kilometres along the shoreline. This vegetation type also occurs further inland in areas where soils are not water logged (Native Vegetation Solutions, 2011).

Given the nature and scale of the proposed activities, the clearing of 0.26 hectares of native vegetation is not likely to substantially impact this vegetation type.

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

Methodology Johnson et al (1999)
Keighery (1994)
Keith Lindbeck and Associates (2012)
Native Vegetation Solutions (2011)
GIS Database:
- Geodata, Lakes
- Hydrography, Linear
- Laverton 50cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2006

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

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

The application area is predominately within the Carnegie land system and Lake Bed land system (GIS Database).

The Carnegie land system is characterised by salt lakes with extensive fringing saline plains, dunes and sandy banks, supporting low halophytic shrublands and scattered tall acacia shrublands. Lake beds are highly saline, gypsiferous and mainly unvegetated. Sand Dune Shrubland and Wanderrie Bank Grassy Shrubland on sand plain units are moderately productive and generally in a stable condition. The land systems erosion susceptibility is generally low (Curry et al., 1994).

The Lake Bed land system is characterised by bare lake beds which become inundated for short periods after rain. This lake above the ancient drainage system is slowly moving westward, with the westward ends being deflated by wind erosion, and the resulting sand accumulating at the eastern end (Coleman, 2003). This land system can be susceptible to wind erosion, but generally is a low erosion hazard.

Given the nature and scale of the proposed activities, the clearing of 0.26 hectares of native vegetation is not likely to result in any water erosion, waterlogging, wind erosion or salinity.

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

Methodology Coleman (2003)
Curry et al (1994)
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 application area is not located within any conservation area (GIS Database). The nearest conservation area is Yeo Lake Nature Reserve, located approximately 182 kilometres north-east of the application area (GIS Database).

Given the distance of the application area from the Yeo Lake Nature Reserve, the proposed clearing is not likely to provide a significant ecological linkage or fauna movement corridor and is not likely to impact the environmental values of the 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 application area is not located within a Public Drinking Water Source Area (GIS Database). The application area is located within the proclaimed Goldfields groundwater area under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (GIS Database). Any groundwater extraction and/or taking or diversion of surface water for the purpose other than domestic and/or stock watering is subject to licence by the Department of Water.

The application area has a groundwater salinity that is hypersaline (>35,000 milligrams/Litre Total Dissolved solids (TDS) (GIS Database). The proposed clearing of 0.26 hectares of native vegetation is unlikely to further deteriorate the quality of underground water (GIS Database).

The application area encroaches onto a salt lake which is lined by riparian shrubland (GIS Database). This lake is dry for most of the year and holds water following significant rainfall events. If clearing of riparian vegetation is required there may be some localized short term sedimentation during the clearing process however, this is not likely to be an ongoing issue given the small amount of riparian vegetation to be cleared (0.26 hectares).

Given the low impact nature of the proposed clearing activities, and the small amount of native vegetation to be cleared (0.26 hectares) the proposed clearing is not likely to cause any significant 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:
- Geodata, Lakes
- Hydrography, Linear
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas
- Groundwater Salinity, Statewide

(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 an arid climate with mainly winter rainfall, with an annual average rainfall of approximately 232.7 millimetres per year (CALM, 2002; BoM, 2012). Based on an average annual evaporation rate of 2,800 - 3,200 millimetres (BoM, 2012), any surface water resulting from rainfall events is likely to be relatively short lived.

Given the size of the area to be cleared (0.26 hectares) compared to the size of the Lake Carey catchment area (11,378,213 hectares) (GIS Database) it is not likely that the proposed clearing will lead to an appreciable increase in run off, and subsequently cause or exacerbate the incidence or intensity of flooding.

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

Methodology BoM (2012)
CALM (2002)
GIS Database:
- Hydrographic Catchments - Catchments

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

Comments

There is one Native Title claim over the area under application (WC10/18). This claim was registered with the National Native Title Tribunal on 21 January 2011. 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 is no registered Aboriginal Site 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 permit application was advertised on 23 July 2012 by the Department of Mines and Petroleum inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to the proposed clearing.

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

4. References

- BoM (2012) Climate Statistics for Australian Locations. A Search for Climate Statistics for Laverton, Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology, viewed 30 July 2012, <http://reg.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/tables/cw_012045.shtml>.
- CALM (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographical Subregions. Murchison 1 (MUR1 - East Murchison subregion) Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.
- Coleman, M (2003) Salt Lakes in the Western Australian Landscape - with specific Reference to the Yilgarn and Goldfields Region, Actis Environmental Services, viewed 6 August 2012, <http://www.actis.com.au/sallakes_in_the_western_australian_landscape.pdf>.
- Curry, P.J., Payne, A.L., Leighton, K.A., Hennig, P., & Blood, D.A (1994) An Inventory and Condition Survey of the Murchison River Catchment, Western Australia, Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.
- DEC (2012) NatureMap - Mapping Western Australia Biodiversity, Department of Environment and Conservation, viewed 30 July 2012, <<http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au>>.
- 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.
- Government of Western Australia (2011) 2011 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). WA Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth.
- Johnson, S.L, Commander, D.P & O'Boy, C.A (1999) Groundwater resources of the Northern Goldfields, Western Australia: Water and Rivers Commission, Hydrogeological Record Series, Report HG2, p57.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Keith Lindbeck and Associates (2011) Additional Pit Water Discharge Pipeline; Level 1 Fauna Survey. Prepared for Barrick (Granny Smith) Pty Ltd, December 2011.
- Keith Lindbeck and Associates (2012) Granny Smith Open Pit Project - Supporting Document for Clearing Permit Application L38/209. Prepared for Barrick (Granny Smith) Pty Ltd, June 2012.
- Native Vegetation Solutions (2011) Level 1 Flora and Vegetation Survey - Barrick Granny Smith Discharge Pipeline - Laverton. Prepared for Keith Lindbeck and Associates, Environmental Management Consultants, December 2011.

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	Environmental 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:
- is known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalised population well outside its past range; or
 - 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.