

## **Clearing Permit Decision Report**

## 1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.:

5173/1

Permit type:

Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name:

Rocla Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property:

40.95

Mining Lease 70/1283 Mining Lease 70/1284

Local Government Area:

City of Wanneroo Jandabup Project

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

Colloquial name:

No. Trees

Method of Clearing Mechanical Removal For the purpose of: Sand Mining

1.5. Decision on application
Decision on Permit Application:

**Decision Date:** 

## 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 949: Low woodland; banksia (Government of Western Australia, 2011; GIS Database).

EnviroWorks Consulting (2012) surveyed the application area on 26 and 30 May 2012, and described one vegetation community within the application area as self-sown scattered individual plants of *Nuytsua floribunda*, *Xanthorrhoea preissii*, *Jacksonia* spp. and low woody shrubs which occur sporadically. There is some recruitment of native species from seeds likely dispersed from adjacent Banksia woodlands. Weeds (especially grasses) are common.

Clearing Description

Rocla Pty Ltd is proposing to clear up to 40.95 hectares of native vegetation within a 40.95 hectare application area for the purpose of sand mining. The vegetation will be cleared using a bulldozer or similar machinery. The pine stumps will be removed and burnt. The vegetation and topsoil will be stockpiled separately for use in rehabilitation.

**Vegetation Condition** 

Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery,1994);

To:

Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).

Comment

The application area is located in the Perth subregion of Western Australia and is situated approximately 25 kilometres north of Perth city (GIS Database). The vegetation condition was derived from a vegetation survey conducted by EnviroWorks Consulting (2012).

## 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 Perth (SWA2) Interim Biogeographical Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) subregion (GIS Database). This subregion is comprised of colluvial and Aeolian sands, alluvial river flats, and coastal limestone. It is characterised by Heath and/or Tuart woodlands on limestone, Banksia and Jarrah- Banksia woodlands on Quaternary marine dunes of various ages, and Marri on colluvial and alluvials (CALM, 2002).

The vegetation that occurs within the application area is regrowth from a Pine (*Pinus pinaster*) plantation (managed by DEC) that had been cleared in 2007 and again during 2010. The original native vegetation was cleared approximately 85 years ago to establish the Gnangara Pine Plantation. A flora and vegetation survey of the application area was undertaken by EnviroWorks Consulting (2012) on 26 and 30 May 2012. The flora searches identified a total of 47 plant taxa from 35 genera and 18 families within the application area (EnviroWorks Consulting, 2012). No vegetation units within the application area were considered to be of high conservation significance and habitat diversity was very low within the application area despite being within the Gnangara-Moore River State Forest (EnviroWorks Consulting, 2012).

No Threatened Flora, Priority Flora, Threatened Ecological Communities or Priority Ecological Communities were recorded during the botanical survey or have previously been recorded within the application area (EnviroWorks Consulting, 2012; GIS Database).

The condition of the vegetation types ranged from a 'degraded' condition to a 'completely degraded' condition (Keighery, 1994). The application area is abundant in dumped litter (broken glass, couches, rubbish etc) and infested with weeds (EnviroWorks Consulting, 2012). Weeds have the potential to significantly change the dynamics of a natural ecosystem and lower the biodiversity of an area. Potential impacts to biodiversity as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a weed management condition.

There was one faunal habitat type was identified within the application area and is considered to be of low ecological significance (EnviroWorks Consulting, 2012; GIS Database). This habitat type is considered to be well represented within the local area (GIS Database). The clearing of 40.95 hectares of native vegetation is unlikely to have a significant impact 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)

EnviroWorks Consulting (2012)

Keighery (1994)

GIS Database:

- Perth Metropolitan North 20cm Orthomosaic Landgate 2009
- IBRA WA (Regions Subregions)
- Pre-European vegetation
- Threatened Ecological Sites Buffered

## (b) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

## Comments

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

No targeted fauna surveys have been conducted over the application area. Fauna habitat within the application area is limited due to the sparse nature of the understorey and small stature of the re-growth/rehabilitated vegetation. The application area is almost completely degraded and unlikely to provided habitat or a food source specific for any conservation significant fauna (EnviroWorks Consulting, 2012; Keighery, 1994). Aerial imagery identified nearby vegetation in the local area that is in significantly healthier condition in which fauna species are more likely to inhabit (GIS Database).

Fauna habitats within the application area are limited due to the lack of vegetative cover and landforms, and the existing level of disturbance. No fauna of conservation significance were recorded during opportunistic sightings during the flora and vegetation survey (EnviroWorks Consulting, 2012). The ecological values of the potential fauna habitats are therefore considered to be low.

The proposed clearing of 40.95 hectare 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

EnviroWorks Consulting (2012)

Keighery (1994) GIS Database:

- Perth Metropolitan North 20cm Orthomosaic Landgate 2009
- (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 Conservations Threatened and Priority Flora databases identified no Threatened Flora species as occurring within a 20 kilometre radius of the application area (DEC, 2012).

EnviroWorks Consulting (2012) conducted a vegetation and flora survey of the application area on 26 and 30 May 2012 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)

EnviroWorks Consulting (2012)

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 50 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 likely to be at variance to this Principle

The application area falls within the Pilbara IBRA bioregion (GIS Database). The vegetation within the application area is recorded as:

Beard vegetation association 949: Low woodland; banksia (Government of Western Australia, 2011; GIS Database).

Beard vegetation association 949 retains approximately 56% of its pre-European extent which is more than the 30% threshold level recommended in the National Objectives Targets for Biodiversity Conservation below which, species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001). According to the Government of Western Australia (2011), Beard vegetation association 949 retains approximately 57% of its pre-European extent in the Swan Coastal Plain bioregion and Perth subregion. 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 (and post clearing %)
IBRA Bioregion - Swan Coastal Plain	1,501,209	587,833	~39.16	Depleted	10.78 (25.86)
IBRA Subregion - Perth	1,117,744	473,998	~42.41	Depleted	11.96 (26.20)
Local Government - Wanneroo	47,698	31,541	~46.59	Depleted	8.32 (16.66)
Beard vegetation as: - State	sociations	en 1987 hands			
949	218,194	124,120	~56.89	Least Concern	14.02 (24.21)
Beard vegetation ass - Bioregion	sociations		b g elegar	Telegraphy and	
949	209,983	121,248	~57.74	Least Concern	14.17 (24.10)
Beard vegetation ass - subregion	sociations				
949	184,476	105,109	~56.98	Least Concern	15.17 (26.13)

<sup>\*</sup> Government of Western Australia (2011)

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

<sup>\*\*</sup> Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002)

#### Methodology

Commonwealth of Australia (2001)

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 not at variance to this Principle

According to available databases, there are no permanent watercourses or wetlands within the application area (GIS Database). EnviroWorks Consulting (2012) did not identify any riparian vegetation within the application area.

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

#### Methodology

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 is at variance to this Principle

The application area is associated with subdued dune-swale terrain by limestone at depth (Northcote et al, 1968; GIS Database). Chief soils are white sandy soils (Northcote et al, 1968). Generally, these soils have a high risk of wind erosion and a low risk of water erosion due to the high infiltration rates associated with sands. The majority of the area under application has a low risk of salinity. The proposed clearing has a high risk of wind erosion given the sandy soils associated with the area under application, and without appropriate management for exposed surfaces the proposal may cause appreciable land degradation. Potential land degradation impacts as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a staged clearing condition.

The application area intercepts areas categorised as 'low' to 'moderate' Acid Sulphate Soil (ASS) risk (GIS Database). ASS are likely to occur at depths of three metres or greater. The soil exposed from clearing native vegetation is not likely to form acid on exposure to air. On this basis, the proposed clearing activities are not likely to pose a significant ASS risk.

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

## Methodology

Northcote et al (1986)

GIS Database:

- Acid Sulfate Soils Risk Map, 50K
- Soils, Statewide

## (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 located within a Department of Environment and Conservation managed conservation area (GIS Database). The conservation area is Gnangara-Moore River State Forest (GIS Database).

The Gnangara-Moore River State Forest is over 7,000 hectares in area (GIS Database). The application area is a cleared Pine (*Pinus pinaster*) plantation, where the native vegetation was cleared approximately 85 years ago to establish the Pine plantation (EnviroWorks Consulting, 2012). The condition of the native vegetation proposed to be cleared was classified as 'degraded' to 'completely degraded' (Keighery, 1994), with degradation due to the high numbers of weeds, vehicles tracks present, previous clearing and no rehabilitation of the land attempted (EnviroWorks Consulting, 2012; GIS Database).

Given the degraded condition of the application area and the sparse nature of the native vegetation to be cleared, 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

EnviroWorks Consulting (2012)

Keighery (1994)

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 located within the Priority One Gnangara Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA) (GIS Database). The Department of Water (DoW) have considered the proposal and offer no comment as Rocla Pty Ltd have submitted a mining proposal and an associated water management plan to the DoW for assessment (DoW, 2012). The application area is located within the proclaimed Gnangara 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 purposes other than domestic and/or stock watering is subject to licence by the DoW.

There are no permanent or ephemeral water bodies located within the application area (GIS Database). Given that the annual evaporation rate (1,800 - 2,000 millimetres) greatly exceeds the rainfall (775.1 millimetres per year) and that any surface water resulting from rainfall events is likely to be relatively short lived, the proposed clearing is not likely to cause sedimentation or deteriorate the quality of surface water in the nearby areas (BoM, 2012; GIS Database).

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

## Methodology

BoM (2012)

DoW (2012)

GIS Database:

- Geodata, Lakes
- 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 is predominately comprised of leached Bassendean sands, which are generally considered to have high infiltration rates and therefore a low risk of water logging (Churchward & McArthur, 1980). Given the soils are well drained and that average annual evaporation rate (1,800 - 2,000 millimetres) is well above the annual rate of rainfall (775.1 millimetres), the risk of flooding is low (BoM, 2012).

Given the size of the area to be cleared (40.95 hectares) compared to the size of the Swan Avon catchment area (396,685 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)

Churchward & McArthur (1980)

GIS Database:

- Hydrographic Catchments Catchments
- Hydrography, Linear

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

## Comments

There are three Native Title claims over the area under application. The claim WC11/9 was registered at the National Native Title Tribunal on 11 October 2011. The claim WC03/6 was determined by the Federal Court on 6 October 2003. The claim WC11/2 was determined by the Federal Court on 1 February 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 are no registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the application area (GIS Database). It is the proponent's responsibility to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* and ensure that no Aboriginal sites of significance are damaged through the clearing process.

It is the proponent's responsibility to liaise with the Department of Environment and Conservation and the Department of Water, to determine whether a Works Approval, Water Licence, Bed and Banks Permit, or any other licences or approvals are required for the proposed works.

The clearing permit application was advertised on 13 August 2012 by the Department of Mines and Petroleum inviting submissions from the public. One submission was received in relation to this application regarding aboriginal heritage issues. A written response was provided on the matters raised.

#### 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 Perth Airport, Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology, viewed 5 September 2012,

<a href="http://reg.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/tables/cw">http://reg.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/tables/cw</a> 009021.shtml>.

CALM (2002) À Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographical Subregions. Swan Coastal Plain 2 (SWA2 - Swan Coastal Plain subregion) Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.

Churchward H. M. & McArthur W.M (1980) 'Landforms and Soils of the Darling System' in Atlas of Natural Resources, Darling System, Western Australia. Government of Western Australia.

Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation 2001-2005. Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra, ACT.

DEC (2012) NatureMap - Mapping Western Australia Biodiversity, Department of Environment and Conservation, viewed 5 September 2012, <a href="http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au">http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au</a>.

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.

Department of Water (DoW) (2012) Advice regarding CPS 5173/1 Application to Clear Native Vegetation under the Environmental Protection Act 1986, September 2012.

EnviroWorks Consulting (2012) Level 1 Flora Survey and Fauna Habitat Assessment, Proposed Sand Quarry, Jandabup. Prepared for Rocla Quarry Products, June 2012.

Government of Western Australia (2011) 2011 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). WA Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth.

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

Northcote, K. H., Beckmann G G, Bettenay E., Churchward H. M., van Dijk D. C., Dimmock G. M., Hubble G. D., Isbell R. F., McArthur W. M., Murtha G. G., Nicolls K. D., Paton T. R., Thompson C. H., Webb A. A. and Wright M. J. (1960-68): 'Atlas of Australian Soils, Sheets 1 to 10, with explanatory data'. CSIRO and Melbourne University Press: Melbourne.

## 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 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.

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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.
- 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.
- 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 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 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 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}:-

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.