



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 5765/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: **Jupiter Mines Limited**

1.3. Property details

Property: General Purpose Lease 29/21
Miscellaneous Licences 29/116, 29/117, 29/123
Local Government Area: Shire of Menzies
Colloquial name: Yunndaga Rail Siding project

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 17 October 2013

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>The clearing permit application area has been broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation associations:</p> <p>18: Low woodland; mulga (<i>Acacia aneura</i>); 20: Low woodland; mulga mixed with <i>Allocasuarina cristata</i> and <i>Eucalyptus</i> sp.; 251: Low woodland; mulga and <i>Allocasuarina cristata</i>.</p> <p>The majority of the application area is mapped as vegetation association 251, while vegetation association 18 occurs at the northern end of the application area, and vegetation association 20 occurs over a very small section near the southern end of the application area.</p> <p>A flora and vegetation survey conducted over the application area by Outback Ecology identified the following six vegetation communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tall Shrubland on Stony Plains; Open Shrubland on Stony or Rocky Rises; Tall Shrubland Sandplains; Mallee Drainage and Sandplains; Mulga Drainage and Sandplains; and Shrubland Drainage and Sandplains; (Outback Ecology, 2013). <p>The most common vegetation association was 'Tall Shrubland on Stony Plains', representing approximately 52% of the survey area. The survey area was highly disturbed, due to historical grazing, mining, mineral exploration activities and weed infestation. A total of seventeen weed species were recorded within the survey area, with <i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i> (Buffel grass), <i>Pentameris airoides</i> (False Hairgrass) and <i>Carrichtera annua</i> (Ward's weed) being the most common and widespread (Outback Ecology, 2013).</p>	<p>Yunndaga Rail Siding project. Jupiter Mines Limited (Jupiter Mines) proposes to clear up to 64 hectares of native vegetation within a total boundary of approximately 232 hectares, for the purpose of mining related transport infrastructure. The project is located approximately three kilometres northwest of Menzies, at its nearest point, in the Shire of Menzies.</p>	<p>Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994).</p> <p>To</p> <p>Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994).</p>	<p>The vegetation condition was derived from vegetation surveys conducted by Outback Ecology (2013).</p> <p>The proposal is to construct road and rail infrastructure to facilitate the transport of ore from the proposed Mt Mason Direct Shipping Ore (DSO) Hematite Project, which is located approximately 90 kilometres to the northwest of Menzies.</p> <p>The project includes a haul road bypassing the town of Menzies, and additional infrastructure at the existing Yunndaga rail siding approximately six kilometres to the south of Menzies. The proposed haul road starts approximately three kilometres northwest of Menzies and passes to the west of the township, linking the Menzies-Sandstone Road to the Yunndaga rail siding. Proposed infrastructure at the Yunndaga rail siding includes: rail siding and tracks; ore stockpiles; administration buildings and amenities; septic tank; potable water tank; machinery storage area; maintenance facilities; access roads; hardstand areas; and drainage works (Jupiter Mines, 2013).</p> <p>(The minesite development and sections of the haul road nearer to the minesite are the subject of a separate clearing permit application - CPS 5764/1.)</p>

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 clearing permit application area is located within the East Murchison subregion of the Murchison Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion (GIS Database). The East Murchison subregion represents a total area of approximately 7.8 million hectares, and is characterised by an arid climate with a mainly winter rainfall of approximately 200 millimetres (CALM, 2002). The subregion is rich and diverse in both its flora and fauna however most species are wide ranging and usually occur in at least one, and often several subregions (CALM, 2002).

Vegetation in the subregion is dominated by mulga woodlands, often rich in ephemerals, hummock grasslands, saltbush shrublands and samphires (CALM, 2002).

Outback Ecology (2013) conducted a Level 1 flora and fauna survey of the application area, comprising a desktop review of relevant databases, a review of previous surveys conducted over the area, and an on-site flora, vegetation and fauna assessment.

The desktop review identified several species of flora and fauna of conservation significance with the potential to occur within the project area, based on known distributions and habitat preferences (Outback Ecology, 2013). However, the majority of these species were considered very unlikely to occur within the application area due to limited availability of suitable habitat and the extent of previous vegetation disturbance (Outback Ecology, 2013).

The on-site survey consisted of a comprehensive traverse of the project area on-foot, focussed on verifying the results of the desktop review and identifying the presence of any conservation significant flora or fauna, or significant fauna habitat features. No flora, fauna, or fauna habitats of conservation significance were identified within the application area (Outback Ecology, 2013).

There are no known Priority Ecological Communities (PEC's) located within or in close proximity to the application area (GIS Database). None of the vegetation associations recorded during the survey of the application area were consistent with PEC's known to occur in the region and no banded ironstone habitat likely to support known regional PEC vegetation associations was recorded (Outback Ecology, 2013).

The application area is located partly within the Adelong and Jeedamya pastoral stations (GIS Database), and previous vegetation disturbance has occurred from grazing activities with some areas very heavily grazed (Outback Ecology, 2013). The region also has a long mining history, and parts of the application area have suffered substantial disturbance from historical mining and mineral exploration activities (GIS Database; Jupiter Mines, 2013; Outback Ecology, 2013).

Outback Ecology (2013) reported significant weed infestation within the application area and recorded a total of 17 weed species during the survey, however, none of these weed species were classified as Declared plants for the Menzies District (Outback Ecology, 2013). The vegetation condition of the survey area was rated as 'Degraded' to 'Very Good' on the Keighery scale, with approximately 65% of the survey area classified as 'Degraded' (Outback Ecology, 2013).

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

Methodology CALM (2002)
Jupiter Mines (2013)
Outback Ecology (2013)
GIS Database:
- IBRA WA (Regions - Sub Regions)
- Mount Mason 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate 2003
- 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**

Outback Ecology (2013) conducted a fauna survey of the application area, and identified the following five fauna habitat types within the application area:

- Drainage Depression;
- Open Mallee/Shrubland on Red Loam;
- Open Mallee/Shrubland on Stony Low Rises;
- Open Mulga Woodland on Sandplain; and
- Open Mulga Woodland on Stony Red Loam.

Drainage depressions (21.3%) and open Mulga Woodland on Stony Red Loam (62.5%) were the two most dominant habitat types, together encompassing 84% of the project area (Outback Ecology, 2013).

These habitat types are well represented in surrounding areas and no significant fauna habitat features were recorded within the application area (Outback Ecology, 2013).

Desktop surveys identified 23 vertebrate fauna species of conservation significance with the potential to occur in the vicinity of the application area, based on known distributions and habitat preferences (Outback Ecology, 2013). However none of these species were recorded during the fauna survey of the application area and Outback Ecology (2013) considered that none of these species were likely to be dependent on the habitat within the areas proposed to be cleared.

The fauna habitat types found within the application area are widespread within the region (GIS Database), and the proposed clearing is unlikely to have any significant impact on fauna habitats at either a local or regional scale.

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

Methodology Outback Ecology (2013)
GIS Database:
- Pre-European Vegetation

(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

Flora surveys of the application area did not record any species of Declared Rare Flora, Priority Flora or flora species of restricted distribution (Jupiter Mines, 2013; Outback Ecology, 2013).

The vegetation associations within the application area are common and widespread within the region (GIS Database; Outback Ecology, 2013), and the vegetation proposed to be cleared is unlikely to be necessary for the continued existence of any species of rare flora.

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

Methodology Jupiter Mines (2013)
Outback Ecology (2013)
GIS Database:
- Declared Rare and Priority Flora List
- Pre-European Vegetation

(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

There are no known Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC's) located within a 50 kilometre radius of the application area (GIS Database). Surveys of the application area and nearby areas did not identify any Threatened Ecological Communities (Jupiter Mines, 2013; Outback Ecology, 2013).

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

Methodology Jupiter Mines (2013)
Outback Ecology (2013)
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 area applied to be cleared is located within the Murchison IBRA bioregion (GIS Database). There is approximately 100% of Pre-European vegetation remaining within the bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2013).

The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as Beard vegetation associations: 18: Low woodland; mulga (*Acacia aneura*); 20: Low woodland; mulga mixed with *Allocasuarina cristata* and *Eucalyptus* sp.; and 251: Low woodland; mulga and *Allocasuarina cristata* (GIS Database). Approximately 100% of the pre-European extent of these vegetation associations remains uncleared at both the state and bioregion level (Government of Western Australia, 2013). Hence, the area proposed to be cleared does not represent a significant remnant of vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared, at either the local or regional scale.

	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	~ 100	Least Concern	1.05
Beard vegetation associations - State					
18	19,892,305	19,843,727	~ 100	Least Concern	2.1
20	1,295,103	1,292,474	~ 100	Least Concern	13.3
251	173,096	172,865	~ 100	Least Concern	66.8
Beard vegetation associations - Bioregion					
18	12,403,172	12,363,252	~ 100	Least Concern	0.37
20	1,174,259	1,171,631	~ 100	Least Concern	8.89
251	58,012	57,780	~ 100	Least Concern	0.94

* Government of Western Australia (2013)

** 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 (2013)
GIS Database:
- IBRA WA (Regions - Sub Regions)
- Pre-European Vegetation

(f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.

Comments Proposal is at variance to this Principle

There are no permanent watercourses or wetlands within or in close proximity to the application area (GIS Database).

Several minor, non-perennial watercourses occur in close proximity to the application area and some ephemeral drainage lines cross the proposed road corridor (GIS Database). These drainage lines are dry for most of the year, only flowing briefly following significant rainfall events (Jupiter Mines, 2013).

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is at variance to this Principle. However, the proposed clearing is unlikely to result in any significant impact on the ephemeral watercourses or any other watercourses or wetlands.

Methodology Jupiter Mines (2013)
GIS Database:
- Geodata, Lakes
- Hydrography, linear
- Mount Mason 1.4m Orthomosaic - Landgate 2003

(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 majority of the application area is broadly mapped as falling within the Moriarty land system, with very small sections of the application area mapped as the Bunyip, Rainbow and Yowie land systems (GIS Database).

The Moriarty Land System is characterised by low greenstone rises and stony plains, supporting chenopod shrublands with patchy eucalypt over-storeys. The lower slopes, alluvial plains and narrow drainage tracts of this land system are moderately susceptible to water erosion if vegetation cover is removed (Pringle et al., 1994).

The Bunyip Land System is characterised by gilgaied tracts draining greenstone hills, supporting mixed halophytic shrublands, occasionally with a black oak over-storey. The alluvial plains of this land system are slightly susceptible to soil erosion if vegetation cover is removed (Pringle et al., 1994).

The Rainbow Land System is characterised by hardpan plains supporting mulga shrublands. This land system is generally not susceptible to soil erosion (Pringle et al., 1994).

The Yowie Land System is characterised by sandy plains supporting shrublands of mulga and bowgada with patchy wanderrie grasses. This land system is generally not susceptible to soil erosion (Pringle et al., 1994).

Clearing will be kept to the minimum possible and erosion control measures will be utilised to minimise potential erosion (Jupiter Mines, 2013). The proposed clearing for a transport corridor is unlikely to result in appreciable land degradation.

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

Methodology Jupiter Mines (2013)
Pringle 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 nearest conservation area to the application area is the former Goongarrie pastoral station, which is now managed by the Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPaW) and is located approximately 20 kilometres south of the application area (GIS Database). The proposed clearing is unlikely to have any impacts on the environmental values of this or any other conservation area.

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

Methodology GIS Database:
- DEC proposed 2015 pastoral lease exclusions
- 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 proposed transport corridor passes immediately adjacent to the western corner of the Menzies Water Reserve, a Priority 1 Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA). The Department of Water (DoW) were invited to comment on the proposal due to the proximity to the PDWSA. However, DoW advised that they had no comment to make on the proposal. The proposed clearing for a transport corridor is unlikely to have any impact on the adjacent Menzies Water Reserve.

There are no permanent watercourses or wetlands within the application area (GIS Database). There are several seasonal watercourses passing through or in close proximity to the application area (GIS Database). However, due to the very low rainfall of the region, the proposed clearing is unlikely to result in increased sedimentation of any watercourse.

The proposed clearing is unlikely to cause 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:
- Hydrography, Linear
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas
- Topographic Contours, 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 climate of the region is arid, with a low average rainfall of approximately 250 millimetres per year (Jupiter Mines, 2013; Pringle et al., 1994). Drainage lines in the area are dry for most of the year, only flowing briefly immediately following significant rainfall (Jupiter Mines, 2013).

There are no permanent water courses or waterbodies within the application area (GIS Database). Temporary localised flooding may occur during occasional heavy rainfall events. However, the proposed clearing for transport infrastructure is unlikely to increase the incidence or intensity of natural flooding events.

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

Methodology Jupiter Mines (2013)
Pringle et al. (1994)
GIS Database:
- Hydrography, linear

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

Comments

The clearing permit application was advertised on 9 September 2013 by the Department of Mines and Petroleum inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

There are no native title claims over the area under application (GIS Database).

There are two registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance overlapping 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 (formerly the Department of Environment and Conservation) and the Department of Water, to determine whether a Works Approval, Water Licence, Bed and Banks Permit, or any other licences or approvals are required for the proposed works.

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

4. References

- CALM (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographic Subregions in 2002. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.
- 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 (2013) 2012 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of October 2012. WA Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth.
- Jupiter Mines (2013) Native Vegetation Clearing Permit Application - Menzies Bypass to Yunndaga Rail Siding. Prepared by KASA Consulting for Jupiter Mines Pty Ltd, July 2013.
- 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 (2013) Jupiter Mines Limited Central Yilgarn Iron Project Level 1 Flora and Fauna Assessment - Menzies Bypass and Yunndaga Rail Siding. Outback Ecology Services, June 2013.
- Pringle, H.J.R., Van Vreeswyk, A.M.E., and Gilligan, S.A. (1994) An Inventory and Condition Survey of the north-eastern Goldfields, Western Australia. Department of Agriculture, 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.