



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 5795/3
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: Iron Ore (Hamersley Range) Agreement Act 1963, Mineral Lease 4SA (AML 70/4)
Iron Ore (Hamersley Range) Agreement Act 1963, General Purpose Lease 3SA (AG 70/3)
Miscellaneous Licence 47/209
Miscellaneous Licence 47/136
Exploration Licence 47/1789

Local Government Area: Shire of East Pilbara
Colloquial name: Tom Price Mine

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Granted
Decision Date: 17 November 2016

2. Background

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. Three Beard vegetation associations have been mapped within the application area:

82: Hummock grasslands, low tree steppe; snappy gum over *Triodia wiseana*;
162: Shrublands; snakewood scrub; and
567: Hummock grasslands, shrub steppe; mulga and kanji over soft spinifex and *Triodia basedowii* (GIS Database).

Botanists from ENV Australia Pty Ltd (ENV) conducted a flora, vegetation and fauna assessment survey over the permit area in August 2011. A separate Priority Flora survey was undertaken in October 2011. A level 2 targeted fauna survey was undertaken in late November/ early December 2011. The flora, vegetation and fauna assessment included a review and summary of numerous previous flora and vegetation surveys. Forty vegetation associations were identified across six major landforms over the survey area (ENV, 2013):

Hill Tops

H1 - EgEkAhPITwERm: *Eucalyptus gamophylla*, *E. kingsmillii* subsp. *kingsmillii* and *E. repullulans* open tree mallee over *Acacia hamersleyensis* and *Petalostylis labicheoides* high open shrubland over *Triodia wiseana* open hummock grassland over *Eriachne mucronata* very open tussock grassland on skeletal red-brown silty clay loam on high rocky hill tops.

H2 - EIAp(s)Tw: *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *Leucophloia* and *Acacia pruinocarpa* low woodland over mixed *Acacia* spp. open scrub over *Triodia wiseana* closed hummock grassland on hill tops.

H3 - EIAbAmTw: *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *Leucophloia* low open woodland over *Acacia bivenosa* and *A. maitlandii* high shrubland over *Triodia wiseana* very open hummock grassland on red-brown sandy loam on hill tops and upper slopes.

H4 - ChEkEgAhTb: *Corymbia hamersleyana*, *Eucalyptus kingsmillii* subsp. *kingsmillii* and *E. gamophylla* very open mallee over *Acacia hamersleyensis* high shrubland over *Triodia brizoides* open hummock grassland on skeletal red-brown silty clay on upper slopes of high rocky hills.

H5 - ChEIhAmTb: *Corymbia hamersleyana* and *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia* scattered low trees over *Acacia hamersleyensis* and *A. maitlandii* open shrubland over *Triodia brizoides* hummock grassland on skeletal red-brown sandy loam on high rocky hill slopes.

H6 - HcAarTb: *Hakea chordophylla* scattered tall shrubs over *Acacia arida* open shrubland over *Triodia brizoides* hummock grassland on red-brown silty clay on upper slopes of high rocky hills.

H7 - ChEIAbTWTHT: *Corymbia hamersleyana* and/or *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia* scattered low trees over *Acacia bivenosa* *A. inaequilatera* and *Petalostylis labicheoides* scattered tall shrubs to open scrub over *Triodia wiseana* open hummock grassland over *Themeda triandra* scattered tussock grasses on red-brown sandy clay on hill tops and slopes.

H8 - EIEgAhAbTw: *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *Leucophloia* scattered low trees over *E. gamophylla* scattered mallees over *Acacia hamersleyensis* and *A. bivenosa* shrubland over *Triodia wiseana* hummock grassland on hill tops.

H9 - EITw: *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *Leucophloia* low open woodland over *Triodia wiseana* hummock grassland on skeletal red-brown silty clay on high ridges and hill tops.

Hill Slopes

S1 - EIErAbTWERIm: *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *Leucophloia* scattered low trees over *E. repullulans* open mallee over *Acacia bivenosa* scattered tall shrubs over *Triodia wiseana* scattered hummock grassland over *Eriachne mucronata* scattered tussock grasses on skeletal brown-orange silty clay on shale slopes.

S2 - AaAxTbTp: *Acacia xiphophylla* and *A. aneura* high shrubland over *Triodia brizoides* and *T. pungens* open to very open hummock grassland on skeletal red-brown silty clay on hill slopes.

S3 - AcAaAmPIAAsp: *Acacia citrinoviridis* and *A. aneura* var. *aneura* low open woodland over *A. maitlandii*, *Petalostylis labicheoides* and *A. kempeana* open heath over *A. spondylophylla* low shrubland over *Triodia wiseana* and *T. pungens* hummock grassland on hill slopes.

S4 - EIAbSTsTWENspp: *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *Leucophloia* scattered low trees over *Acacia bivenosa* and *Stylobasium spathulatum* open shrubland over *Triodia wiseana* very open hummock grassland over *Enneapogon* spp. very open tussock grassland on red-brown clayey sand on hill slopes.

S5 - EIApAmaTp: *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *Leucophloia* scattered low trees over *Acacia pruinocarpa* and *A. maramamba* open shrubland over *Triodia epactia* open hummock grassland on red-brown silty clay on hill slopes.

Gorges, Gullies and Steep Slopes

G1 - DpeDpTHtERIm: *Dodonaea petiolaris* and *D. pachyneura* open scrub over *Themeda triandra* and *Eriachne mucronata* open tussock grassland over *Rhodanthe margarethae* scattered herbs on breakaways on skeletal red-brown clay loam on steep slopes and at the base of breakaways.

G2 - AapApSAIERImARo: *Acacia aptaneura* and *A. pruinocarpa* high open shrubland over *Santalum lanceolatum* open shrubland over *Eriachne mucronata* and *Aristida obscura* very open tussock grassland on red-brown sandy loam in the base of gorges and gullies and on very steep slopes.

G3 - ChAhTb: *Corymbia hamersleyana* low open woodland over *Acacia hamersleyensis* high open shrubland over *Triodia brizoides* open hummock grassland on red-brown sandy loam on the slopes of gorges and gullies and on steep slopes.

G4 - EIEgTe: *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *Leucophloia* low open woodland over *E. gamophylla* scattered mallees over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland on red-brown sandy loam in on the slopes of gorges and gullies and on steep slopes of high rocky hills.

Low Hills

L1 - AcEICfDvAmTe: *Acacia citrinoviridis*, *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia* and *Corymbia ferriticola* subsp. *ferriticola* low open forest over *Dodonaea viscosa* and *A. maitlandii* shrubland over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland on low hills.

L2 - EITb: *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *Leucophloia* scattered low trees to low open woodland occasionally over *E. repullulans* scattered mallees occasionally over *Acacia bivenosa* and *Petalostylis labicheoides* high open shrubland over *Triodia brizoides* very open hummock grassland on red-brown silty clay on rocky low hills.

L3 - AapSaaERcTWERmSPa: *Acacia aptaneura* low open woodland over *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *x artemisioides* and *Eremophila cuneifolia* scattered low shrubs over *Triodia wiseana* very open hummock grassland over *Eriachne mucronata* and *Sporobolus australasicus* very open tussock grassland on red-brown sand on low hills.

L4 - AaaArApTBERIm: *Acacia* aff. *aneura*, *A. rhodophloia* and *A. pruinocarpa* tall closed scrub over *Scaevola acacioides* and *Dodonaea pachyneura* scattered shrubs over *Triodia brizoides* open hummock grassland over *Eriachne mucronata* scattered tussock grasses on low hills.

L5 - EIEgPIHcAhTw: *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *Leucophloia* scattered low trees over *E. gamophylla* scattered mallees over *Petalostylis labischoides*, *Hakea chordophylla* and *Acacia hamersleyensis* open shrubland to high open shrubland over *Triodia wiseana* very open hummock grassland on redbrown sandy loam on low rocky hills.

L6 - ChEITeTw: *Corymbia hamersleyana* and *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia* open woodland over *Triodia epactia* and *T. wiseana* open hummock grassland on low hills.

L7 - EgAeApAhTw: *Eucalyptus gamophylla* scattered mallees over *Acacia exilis*, *A. pruinocarpa* and *A. hamersleyensis* high open shrubland over *Triodia wiseana* open hummock grassland on red-brown sandy clay on low rocky hills.

L8 - EIAPeAbTw: *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *Leucophloia* scattered low trees over *Acacia pruinocarpa*, *A. exilis* and *A. bivenosa* low scattered shrubs over *Triodia wiseana* very open hummock grassland on red-brown sandy loam on low hills.

L9 - EIEgErTw: *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *Leucophloia* scattered low trees to low open woodland over *E. gamophylla* and/or *E. repullulans* very open mallee over *Triodia wiseana* open hummock grassland on red-brown silty clay on low hills.

Drainage Lines

D1 - EgAatTwThT: *Eucalyptus gamophylla* scattered mallees over *Acacia atkinsiana* open scrub over *Triodia wiseana* open hummock grassland over *Themeda triandra* very open tussock grassland on red-brown clayey loam in minor drainage lines.

D2 - EIPIGrAcThERIm: *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *Leucophloia* scattered low trees over *Petalostylis labicheoides*, *Gossypium robinsonii* and *Acacia citrinoviridis* open scrub over *Themeda triandra* and *Eriachne mucronata* open tussock grassland on red-brown sandy clay in minor drainage lines.

D3 - EIAayApAcTwTe: *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *Leucophloia* scattered low trees over *Acacia ayersiana*, *A. pruinocarpa* and *A. citrinoviridis* high open shrubland over *Triodia wiseana* and *T. epactia* open hummock grassland on red-brown sandy clay in minor drainage lines.

D4 - EluEIEkTIARiThT: *Eucalyptus lucasii*, *E. leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia* and *E. kingsmillii* subsp. *kingsmillii* very open mallee over *Triodia longiceps* open hummock grassland over *Aristida inaequiglumis* and *Themeda triandra* open tussock grassland on red-brown sandy clay loam in drainage lines.

D5 - EvExAcThCEc: *Eucalyptus victrix* open woodland over *E. xerothermica* scattered low trees over *Acacia citrinoviridis* high open shrubland over *Themeda triandra* and **Cenchrus ciliaris* tussock grassland on red-brown sandy clay in drainage lines.

D6 - ExAtTwCEc: *Eucalyptus xerothermica* and *E. leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia* open woodland over *Acacia tumida* var. *pilbarensis*, *A. maitlandii* and *Stylobasium spathulatum* high open shrubland over *Triodia wiseana* and *T. angusta* scattered hummock grasses over **Cenchrus ciliaris* and *Themeda triandra* tussock grassland on red-brown sandy clay in minor drainage lines.

Plains

P1 - EIApTw: *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *Leucophloia* and *Acacia pruinocarpa* low woodland over *Triodia wiseana* open hummock grassland on terraced plains.

P2 - AapApAayTw: *Acacia aptaneura*, *A. pruinocarpa* and *A. ayersiana* high shrubland to low woodland over *Triodia wiseana* scattered hummock grasses rehabilitated community on red-brown sandy loam on rocky plains.

P3 - ErAapAcoApTwTm: *Eucalyptus repullulans* very open mallee over *Acacia aptaneura*, *A. colei* var. *colei* and *A. pruinocarpa* high shrubland over *Triodia wiseana* and *T. melvillei* very open hummock grassland on red-brown sandy clay on rocky plains.

P4 - AapReCHRfCc: *Acacia aptaneura* open scrub over *Rhagodia eremaea* low open shrubland over *Chrysopogon fallax* and **Cenchrus ciliaris* tussock grassland on red-brown sandy clay on alluvial plains.

P5 - AxTI: *Acacia xiphophylla* high shrubland over *Triodia longiceps* very open hummock grassland on red-brown clay loam on a rocky plain.

P6 - ApAapDlaTIARin: *A. pruinocarpa* and *A. aptaneura* open shrubland over *Dipteracanthus australasicus* subsp. *australasicus* low open shrubland over *Triodia longiceps* scattered hummock grassland over *Aristida ingrata*, *Themeda triandra* and *Sporobolus australasicus* very open tussock grassland on red-brown silty clay on alluvial plains.

Impacted Areas

I1 - CD: Completely degraded/ cleared areas including mining infrastructure and tracks.

I2 - *LI*Cc: **Leucaena leucocephala* low woodland over **Cenchrus ciliaris* tussock grassland on red-brown sandy clay on plains in previously cleared areas.

I3 - TAa: **Tamarix aphylla* high shrubland to low open forest on red-brown cracking clay of tailings dam.

I4 - Tyd: *Typha domingensis* sedgeland on red-brown cracking clay of tailings dam.

I5 - D'AapAayApEITmCc: Degraded *Acacia aptaneura*, *A. ayersiana*, *A. pruinocarpa* and *Eucalyptus leucophloia* subsp. *leucophloia* high open shrubland to low open woodland over *Triodia melvillei* open hummock grassland over **Cenchrus ciliaris* open tussock grassland on red-brown clay on rocky plains and low rocky hills.

*denotes weed species

Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd propose to clear up to 824 hectares within an application area of approximately 9,224 hectares for the purpose of mineral production, mineral exploration and associated activities. The application area represents the boundary of the Tom Price mine site, located approximately 1.5 kilometres south-west of Tom Price town site in the Shire of Ashburton.

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

Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery, 1994).

Comment The vegetation condition was assessed by botanists from Ecologia. The vegetation conditions were described using a scale based on Trudgen (1988) and have been converted to the corresponding conditions from the Keighery (1994) scale.

The proposed clearing is to enable on-going operational mining activities at the Tom Price mine site. Vegetation will be cleared by dozers. Topsoil and vegetative material will be stockpiled for use in rehabilitation.

Clearing permit CPS 5795/1 was granted by the Department of Mines and Petroleum (DMP) on 12 December 2013 and authorised the clearing of up to 824 hectares. CPS 5795/1 was amended on 27 February 2014 to amend the wording of Condition 9(b). Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd has applied to amend CPS 5795/2 to change the annual reporting date and period and extend the duration of the permit to 31 December 2031.

3. Assessment of application against Clearing Principles

Comments

Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd has applied to amend the annual reporting date to 30 June, change the reporting period to calendar year and extend the duration of the permit by an additional five months to 31 December 2031. The amount of clearing authorised and the permit boundary remain unchanged.

As part of this assessment Conditions 7 and 8 of CPS 5795/2 have been removed from the permit. These conditions relate to the management of rare flora species. The only rare flora species recorded within the permit boundary is *Lepidium catapycnon* (ENV, 2013). *Lepidium catapycnon* has been removed from the Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice and is now considered to be Priority 4 (DPaW, 2015). *Lepidium catapycnon* has a range of approximately 300 kilometres within the Pilbara region and is now known to be in sufficient numbers and secure (Western Australian Herbarium, 2016). The previous flora surveys over the permit area have not recorded any other species of rare flora and the permit area is not considered likely to support any rare flora species (ENV, 2013). Given the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to Principle (c).

The assessment of the remaining Clearing Principles remains unchanged and details can be found in decision reports CPS 5795/1 and CPS 5795/2. The proposed amendment is unlikely to result in any significant change to the environmental impacts of the proposed clearing.

Methodology DPaW (2015)
ENV (2013)
Western Australian Herbarium (2016)

Planning instrument, Native Title, RIWI Act Licence, EP Act Licence, Works Approval, Previous EPA decision or other matter.

Comments

There is one Native Title Claim (WC1997/089) over the area under application (Department of Aboriginal Affairs, 2016). However, the mining tenure has been granted in accordance with the future act regime of the *Native Title Act 1993* and the nature of the act (i.e. the proposed clearing activity) has been provided for in that process, therefore the granting of a clearing permit is not a future act under the *Native Title Act 1993*.

There are multiple registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance in the vicinity of the application area (Department of Aboriginal Affairs, 2016). 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 Environmental Regulation, 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 Department of Aboriginal Affairs (2016)

4. References

Department of Aboriginal Affairs (2016) Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System. Department of Aboriginal Affairs. <http://maps.dia.wa.gov.au/AHIS2/> (Accessed on 7 November 2016).

DPaW (2015) Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora and Fauna. Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia.

- ENV (2013) Tom Price Life of Mine Flora, Vegetation and Fauna Assessment. Report Prepared by ENV Australia, January 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.
- Trudgen, M.E. (1988) A Report on the Flora and Vegetation of the Port Kennedy Area. Unpublished Report Prepared for Bowman Bishaw and Associates, West Perth.
- Western Australian Herbarium (2016) FloraBase - The Western Australian Flora. Department of Parks and Wildlife. <http://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/> (Accessed 8 November 2016).

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)
DEE	Department of the Environment and Energy, Australian Government
DER	Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia
DMP	Department of Mines and Petroleum, Western Australia
DRF	Declared Rare Flora
DoE	Department of the Environment, Australian Government (now DEE)
DoW	Department of Water, Western Australia
DPaW	Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia
DSEWPac	Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (now DEE)
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
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community

Definitions:

{DPaW (2015) Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora and Fauna. Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia):-

T	<p>Threatened species: Published as Specially Protected under the <i>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</i>, listed under Schedules 1 to 4 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Threatened Fauna and Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Threatened Flora (which may also be referred to as Declared Rare Flora).</p> <p>Threatened fauna is that subset of ‘Specially Protected Fauna’ declared to be ‘likely to become extinct’ pursuant to section 14(4) of the Wildlife Conservation Act.</p> <p>Threatened flora is flora that has been declared to be ‘likely to become extinct or is rare, or otherwise in need of special protection’, pursuant to section 23F(2) of the Wildlife Conservation Act.</p> <p>The assessment of the conservation status of these species is based on their national extent and ranked according to their level of threat using IUCN Red List categories and criteria as detailed below.</p>
CR	<p>Critically endangered species Threatened species considered to be facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild. Published as Specially Protected under the <i>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</i>, in Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Threatened Fauna and Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Threatened Flora.</p>
EN	<p>Endangered species Threatened species considered to be facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild. Published as Specially Protected under the <i>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</i>, in Schedule 2 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Threatened Fauna and Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Threatened Flora.</p>
VU	<p>Vulnerable species Threatened species considered to be facing a high risk of extinction in the wild. Published as Specially</p>

Protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, in Schedule 3 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Threatened Fauna and Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Threatened Flora.

- EX Presumed extinct species**
Species which have been adequately searched for and there is no reasonable doubt that the last individual has died. Published as Specially Protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, in Schedule 4 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Presumed Extinct Fauna and Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Presumed Extinct Flora.
- IA Migratory birds protected under an international agreement**
Birds that are subject to an agreement between the government of Australia and the governments of Japan (JAMBA), China (CAMBA) and The Republic of Korea (ROKAMBA), and the Bonn Convention, relating to the protection of migratory birds. Published as Specially Protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, in Schedule 5 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice.
- CD Conservation dependent fauna**
Fauna of special conservation need being species dependent on ongoing conservation intervention to prevent it becoming eligible for listing as threatened. Published as Specially Protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, in Schedule 6 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice.
- OS Other specially protected fauna**
Fauna otherwise in need of special protection to ensure their conservation. Published as Specially Protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, in Schedule 7 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice.
- P Priority species**
Species which are poorly known; or
Species that are adequately known, are rare but not threatened, and require regular monitoring. Assessment of Priority codes is based on the Western Australian distribution of the species, unless the distribution in WA is part of a contiguous population extending into adjacent States, as defined by the known spread of locations.
- P1 Priority One - Poorly-known species:**
Species that are known from one or a few locations (generally five or less) which are potentially at risk. All occurrences are either: very small; or on lands not managed for conservation, e.g. agricultural or pastoral lands, urban areas, road and rail reserves, gravel reserves and active mineral leases; or otherwise under threat of habitat destruction or degradation. Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from one or more locations but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and appear to be under immediate threat from known threatening processes. Such species are in urgent need of further survey.
- P2 Priority Two - Poorly-known species:**
Species that are known from one or a few locations (generally five or less), some of which are on lands managed primarily for nature conservation, e.g. national parks, conservation parks, nature reserves and other lands with secure tenure being managed for conservation. Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from one or more locations but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and appear to be under threat from known threatening processes. Such species are in urgent need of further survey.
- P3 Priority Three - Poorly-known species:**
Species that are known from several locations, and the species does not appear to be under imminent threat, or from few but widespread locations 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 locations but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and known threatening processes exist that could affect them. Such species are in need of further survey.
- 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 are close to qualifying for Vulnerable, but are not listed as Conservation Dependent.
(c) Species that have been removed from the list of threatened species during the past five years for reasons other than taxonomy.

Principles for clearing native vegetation:

- (a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.
(b) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the

- maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.
- (c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.
 - (d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.
 - (e) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.
 - (f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.
 - (g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.
 - (h) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.
 - (i) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.
 - (j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.