



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6131/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Alliance Mineral Assets Limited

1.3. Property details

Property: Mining Lease 15/400
General Purpose Lease 15/17
Local Government Area: Shire of Coolgardie
Colloquial name: N/A

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 21 August 2014

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
Beard vegetation associations have been mapped for the whole of Western Australia. Two Beard vegetation associations have been mapped within the application area (GIS Database).	Alliance Minerals Assets Limited proposes to clear up to 30.1 hectares of native vegetation within a total boundary of approximately 502 hectares for the purpose of recommencing a mining operation at Bald Hill Mine. The project is located approximately 58.5 kilometres south-east of Kambalda, in the Shire of Coolgardie.	Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994).	The vegetation condition was assessed by botanists from Muir Environmental (Muir, 2000).
509: Succulent steppe with woodland; gimlet & saltbush; and		To	Clearing will be performed by scraping surface vegetation initially, then scraping topsoil with remaining rootstock.
676: Succulent steppe; samphire.		Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994).	Vegetation to be cleared comprises regrowth vegetation (17.8ha) over a previously cleared area, as well as natural vegetation (12.3ha).

Muir Environmental (Muir) conducted a field survey for vegetation and rare flora over the application area in August 2000. Two vegetation types were identified:

- 1) *Acacia bivenosa* tall open shrubland to tall shrubland over *Triodia epactia* hummock grassland with *Cenchrus ciliaris* very open tussock grassland; and
- 2) Patches of low woodland of various *Acacia* species (1.5m to 2m tall) and *Eucalyptus griffithsii* and *Myoporum platycarpum* (4m to 6m tall) over sparse, low shrubs to 0.5 m tall. (Muir, 2000).

*denotes weed species.

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 Eastern Goldfields (COO3) Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia subregion (GIS Database). This subregion is generally described as gently undulating plains interrupted in the west with low hills and ridges of Archaean greenstones (CALM, 2002). The vegetation is of mallees, *Acacia* thickets and shrub-heaths on sandplains; diverse *Eucalyptus* woodlands occur around salt

lakes, on ranges and in valleys; and salt lakes support dwarf shrublands of samphire (CALM, 2002). Eucalyptus woodlands have been identified as having a high species and ecosystem diversity within the Eastern Goldfields subregion (CALM, 2002).

The vegetation within the application area consists of Beard vegetation associations 509 and 676, which are common and widespread throughout the Coolgardie bioregion with approximately 100% of the pre-European vegetation extent remaining (Government of Western Australia, 2013; GIS Database). A vegetation survey of the application area by Muir Environmental (2000) in August 2000 identified two vegetation communities. All vegetation assemblages observed are very common and widespread regionally (Muir, 2000). The condition of all vegetation types was classified as 'good' to 'degraded' (Keighery, 1994).

A search on the Department of Parks and Wildlife Declared Rare and Priority Flora databases revealed that no Threatened Flora species and three Priority species may potentially occur within a 20 kilometre radius of the application area (DPaW, 2014). Muir Environmental (2000) found no Threatened Flora or Priority Flora species in the surrounding area during their vegetation survey in August 2000 and it is noted that the Bald Hill project area has been greatly disturbed by previous mining and exploration.

No Threatened Flora, Priority Flora, Threatened Ecological Communities or Priority Ecological Communities have been identified within the application area (Muir, 2000; GIS Database).

Two introduced flora species have been recorded within the survey area; *Carthamus lanatas* (Saffron Thistle); and *Citrullis lanatas* (Paddy melon) (Muir, 2000). The presence of weed species lowers the biodiversity value of the application area. Care must be taken to ensure that the proposed clearing activities do not spread or introduce weed species to non-infested areas. Potential impacts to biodiversity as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a weed management condition.

A search of Naturemap (DPaW, 2014) revealed records of 53 bird, seven mammal and 18 reptile species within a 40 kilometre radius. The fauna habitat present is well represented throughout the region, and the application area is not likely to have a higher level of faunal diversity than surrounding areas.

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

Methodology Muir (2000)
CALM (2002)
DPaW (2014)
Government of Western Australia (2013)
Keighery (1994)
GIS Database:
- Dampier and Extensions 50 cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2008
- IBRA WA (Regions - Sub Regions)
- Pre-European Vegetation
- Threatened and Priority Flora
- 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

The application area has not been specifically surveyed for fauna and habitats; however Muir Environmental (2000) advises that the habitats present in the area are very common and widespread. Human activities have modified much of the area by historical removal of timber and overgrazing by stock (Muir, 2000). This has likely caused disturbance to the local fauna, although the homogeneity of habitats suggests that most species found near Bald Hill will also be common regionally (Muir, 2000). The vegetation within the application area may be utilised by a variety of fauna but the lack of specialised fauna habitats means it is unlikely to provide core habitat for any fauna species.

The previous mining at Bald Hill has disturbed approximately 71 hectares in a similar environmental setting of several thousand kilometres and with the new mining operation being over much of this disturbed area, it is considered it will have an insignificant impact on the native fauna of the region (Muir, 2000).

The localised disturbance associated with the mine at Bald Hill, if carefully managed, is unlikely to affect the survival of any vertebrate population. Alliance Mineral Assets Limited has advised that research and monitoring on fauna will be instituted as part of the Environmental Management Programme (Muir, 2000).

A desktop survey of NatureMap revealed that no Threatened terrestrial fauna species have been recorded within a 10 kilometre radius of the application area (DPaW, 2014).

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

Methodology DPaW (2014)

Muir (2000)
GIS Database:
- Dampier and Extensions 50 cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2008

(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 known records of Threatened Flora species within the application area (GIS Database).

A Threatened flora and vegetation survey of the application area was conducted by Muir Environmental in August 2000. No Threatened Flora species were recorded during the survey (Muir Environmental, 2000).

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

Methodology Muir (2000)
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 available databases revealed there are no known Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) within the application area (GIS Database). The nearest known TEC is approximately 235 kilometres south east of the application area (GIS Database).

No TECs were identified during the site inspection by Muir Environmental (Muir, 2000).

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

Methodology Muir (2000)
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 Coolgardie IBRA bioregion (GIS Database). The vegetation within the application area is recorded as:

Beard vegetation association 509: Succulent steppe with woodland; gimlet & saltbush; and

Beard vegetation association 676: Succulent steppe; samphire (Government of Western Australia, 2013; GIS Database).

According to the Government of Western Australia (2013), Beard vegetation association 509 retains approximately 100% of its pre-European extent and Beard vegetation association 676 retains approximately 95% of its pre-European extent. The vegetation within the application area is not significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared (GIS Database).

	Pre-European area (ha)*	Current extent (ha)*	Remaining %*	Conservation Status**	Pre-European % in DPaW Managed Land
IBRA Bioregion - Coolgardie	12,912,204	12,648,491	~97.96	Least Concern	15.53
Beard vegetation associations - State					
509	145,588	145,443	~99.90	Least Concern	11.09
676	2,063,414	1,963,895	~95.18	Least Concern	11.33
Beard vegetation associations - Bioregion					
509	145,521	145,376	~99.90	Least Concern	11.05
676	117,074	117,057	~99.99	Least Concern	0.00

* 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 not likely to be at variance to this Principle

There are two minor, non-perennial watercourses that intersect the application area (GIS Database). No distinctive vegetation growing in association with a watercourse was observed during a survey conducted by Muir Environmental (2000). The application area is also located in close proximity to Lake Cowan (approximately 1.1 kilometres from the main lake body at its closest point), a non-perennial salt lake (GIS Database). Available databases show the minor, non-perennial watercourses flow into Lake Cowan (GIS Database).

The Bald Hill area is generally flat with a relief of less than one to two metres, and therefore surface flow is overland following the topography which is generally south towards Lake Cowan. Drainage lines within the project area are poorly defined and are only likely to flow following major rainfall events.

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

Methodology Muir (2000)
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 may be at variance to this Principle

The application area is located within the Kambalda Soil-Landscape Zone (Tille, 2006). This zone is characterised by flat to undulating plains (with hills, ranges and some salt lakes and stony plains) on greenstone and granitic rocks of the Yilgarn Craton (Tille, 2006).

Vegetation within the application area comprises both undisturbed areas as well as those previously cleared. The clearing proposal will disturb previously undisturbed soils and landforms (~12 hectares) and disturbed soils and landforms (~15 hectares) (Muir, 2000). The topsoil in the region is poorly developed, however, it is in a relatively organic rich zone.

The majority of the application area is relatively flat (GIS Database) ranging from 280 - 300 metres and the Coolgardie region receives low annual rainfall of approximately 300 millimetres (GIS Database). The proposal requires the clearing of 30.1 hectares within a clearing permit boundary of approximately 502 hectares with

much of this area disturbed by previous mining and exploration, as well as historical removal of timber and overgrazing by stock (Muir, 2000). It is therefore unlikely that the proposed clearing will generate any significant additional land degradation issues.

Additionally, the average annual evaporation rate is approximately eight times the average annual rainfall, so recharge to the groundwater would be expected to be minimal (GIS Database). Based on this there is a low likelihood of raised saline water tables occurring as a result of the proposed clearing.

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

Methodology Muir (2000)
Tille (2006)
GIS Database:
- Cowan Yardina 1.4M Orthomosaic
- Topographic Contours, 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 does not lie within any conservation areas or Department of Parks and Wildlife managed lands (GIS Database). The nearest conservation area is Binaronca Nature Reserve, which is located approximately 48 kilometres west south west of the application area (GIS Database). Given the distance between the application area and the nearest conservation area, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact on the environmental values of the Binaronca Nature Reserve.

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

Methodology GIS Database:
- DEC Tenure
- Register of National Estate (Status)

(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

According to available databases, the application area is not located within a Public Drinking Water Source Area (GIS Database). There are no permanent waterbodies or watercourses within the application area, however, there are two minor non perennial watercourses within the application area and Lake Cowan, a nonperennial salt lake, occurs in close proximity to the application area (GIS Database). Clearing in the vicinity of these may result in localised erosion and sedimentation, particularly following heavy rainfall.

The climate of the area is semi-arid warm Mediterranean with winter rainfall (CALM, 2002). The application area receives an average annual rainfall of approximately 300 millimetres with an average annual evaporation rate of between 2,400 and 2,600 millimetres (BOM, 2014; GIS Database). Any surface flows are therefore likely to be short lived.

According to Muir (2000), the geology of the application area is very tight and groundwater is generally confined to sheer zones, which are steeply dipping and trend in a north-south direction. Ground water analyses from the Boreline Bore (BH17) show that the water quality is hyper saline with a Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) of 110,000 mg/L and a pH of 6.95 (Muir, 2000). Given the high TDS, the proposed clearing is not likely to cause groundwater salinity levels within the application area to alter.

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

Methodology BOM (2014)
CALM (2002)
Muir (2000)
GIS Database:
- Dampier and Extensions 50 cm Orthomosaic - Landgate 2008
- Evaporation Isopleths
- 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 located within the Balladonia catchment area (GIS Database). Given the size of the area to be cleared (30.1 hectares) in relation to the size of the catchment area (3,483,410 hectares) (GIS Database),

the proposed clearing is not likely to increase the potential of flooding on a local or catchment scale.

Drainage lines within the project area are poorly defined and are only likely to flow following major rainfall events. The areas of natural vegetation to be cleared at the Boreline Pit mine have gradients of less than 1% and have small catchments. Alliance Mineral Assets Limited have advised that management of surface flow will aim to restore sheet-flow with drainage structures up-gradient which will be designed with sill outlets along the contour (Muir, 2000).

With an average annual rainfall of 300 millimetres and an average annual evaporation rate of between 2,400 and 2,600 millimetres there is likely to be little surface flow during normal seasonal rains (BOM, 2014; GIS Database). Whilst large rainfall events may result in flooding of the area, the proposed clearing is not likely to lead to an increase in incidence or intensity of flooding.

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

Methodology BOM (2014)
CALM (2002)
Muir (2000)
GIS Database:
- Hydrographic Catchments - Catchments

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

Comments

There is one Native Title Claim (WC1999/002) over the area under application. This claim has been registered with the National Native Title Tribunal on behalf of the claimant group. 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 is one registered Aboriginal site of significance within the application area (Site ID: 19931) (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, 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.

The clearing permit application was advertised on 9 June 2014 by the Department of Mines and Petroleum inviting submissions from the public. There were no submissions received.

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

4. References

- BOM (2014) Bureau of Meteorology Website - Climate Statistics for Australian Locations, Summary Statistics Coolgardie. <http://www.bom.gov.au/> (Accessed 14 August 2014).
- CALM (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographical Subregions. Coolgardie 3 (COO3 - EasternGoldfields subregion). 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.
- Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPaW) (2014) NatureMap Department of Parks and Wildlife, viewed 14 August 2014 <<http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au>>.
- 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.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Muir (2000) Alliance Mineral Assets Limited Native Vegetation Clearing Permit Report. Report prepared by Muir Environmental Limited for Alliance Mineral Assets Limited, 2014.
- Tille, P. (2006) Soil-landscapes of Western Australia's Rangelands and Arid Interior. Technical Report 313. Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia. ISSN 1039-7205.

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.