



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6577/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Poseidon Nickel Limited

1.3. Property details

Property: Miscellaneous Licence 27/75
Local Government Area: City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Colloquial name: Wheelara Hill North Project

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
49.7		Mechanical Removal	Haul Road

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 9 July 2015

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. Four Beard vegetation associations have been mapped within the application area (GIS Database):

- 10:** Medium woodland; red mallee group;
- 20:** Low woodland; mulga mixed with *Allocasuarina cristata* & Eucalyptus sp.;
- 529:** Succulent steppe with open low woodland; mulga & sheoak over bluebush;
- 540:** Succulent steppe with open low woodland; sheoak over saltbush.

Onshore Environmental (2004) conducted a flora survey of the application area and surrounding areas between 29-30 October 2004, and described seventeen vegetation communities of the application area:

Shrublands

- *Cratystylis subspinescens* / *Maireana pyramidata* Low Scrub C;
- *Atriplex vesicarius* / *Maireana pyramidata* Dwarf Scrub D;

Scrub

- *Acacia acuminata* Scrub;
- *Dodonaea lobulata* / *Scaevola spinescens* Open Low Scrub B;
- *Dodonaea lobulata* / *Senna filifolia* Low Scrub A;

Open Tree Mallee

- Open Tree Mallee with *Casuarina* Open Low Woodland B over *Acacia hemiteles* / *Senna filifolia* Low Scrub B;
- Open Tree Mallee with *Casuarina* Open Low Woodland B over *Acacia acuminata* / *A. hemiteles* / *Senna filifolia* Low Scrub B over *Triodia scariosa* Open Hummock Grass;

Mulga Low Woodland

- *Acacia aneura* Low Woodland A over *Senna filifolia* Open Low Scrub C;
- *Acacia aneura* Open Low Woodland A over Open Tree Mallee over mixed *Acacia* Scrub;
- *Acacia aneura* / *A. quadrimarginea* / *Casuarina* Low Woodland A over *Eremophila pantonii* / *Senna filifolia* Open Low Scrub B over *Scaevola spinescens* / *Ptilotus obovatus* Open Dwarf Scrub C;

Eucalyptus Woodland

- *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* Open Woodland over *Acacia hemiteles* / *Senna filifolia* Low Scrub B;
- *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* / *E. salubris* / *E. longicornis* / *E. iesouefii* / *Casuarina* Open Woodland over *Senna filifolia* / *Eremophila pantonii* Low Scrub B;

- *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* Open Woodland over *Senna filifolia* / *Maireana sedifolia* Low Scrub B;
- *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* / *E. salubris* / *E. lesouefii* Open Low Woodland A over *Atriplex nummularia* / *Maireana sedifolia* / *Senna filifolia* Low Scrub B;
- *Eucalyptus salubris* Low Woodland A over *Senna filifolia* / *Acacia hemiteles* / *A. acuminata* / *Eremophila pantonii* Low Scrub A;
- *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* / *E. salubris* Low Woodland A over *Eremophila pantonii* / *Senna filifolia* Open Low Scrub A over *Atriplex vesicaria* Dwarf Scrub D
- *Eucalyptus longicornis* / *E. lesouefii* / *Casuarina* Woodland over *Eremophila pantonii* / *Senna filifolia* / *Scaevola spinescens* / *Cratystylis conocephala* / *Olearia muelleri* Open Low Scrub.

Clearing Description	Black Swan Nickel Project. Poseidon Nickel Limited proposes to clear up to 49.7 hectares of native vegetation within a total boundary area of approximately 450.17 hectares for the purposes of a haul road. The proposal is located approximately 38 kilometres north of Kalgoorlie-Boulder in the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder.
Vegetation Condition	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994).
Comment	The vegetation condition was assessed by botanists from Onshore Environmental (2004).

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 lies within the Murchison Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) and the East Murchison subregion (GIS Database) which is characterised by its internal drainage, extensive areas of elevated red desert sandplains with minimal dune development and an arid climate (CALM, 2002). Broad plains of red-brown soils and breakaway complexes as well as red sandplains feature and vegetation is dominated by Mulga Woodlands often rich in ephemerals; hummock grasslands, saltbush shrublands and Halosarcia shrublands (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, adjoining subregions (CALM, 2002).

The survey area lies on the northern edge of the Great Western Woodlands, a large tract of Eucalypt Woodland extending from the Wheatbelt to the inland deserts of Western Australia. The Great Western Woodlands is the largest remaining intact temperate woodland in the world, is one of the very few, large, intact landscapes remaining in temperate Australia and is of Global significance (DEC, 2010).

The vegetation within the application area consists of Beard vegetation associations 10, 20, 529 and 540, which are common and widespread throughout the Murchison bioregion with over approximately 98% of the pre-European vegetation extents remaining (Government of Western Australia, 2013; GIS Database). A search of the Department of Parks and Wildlife Declared Rare and Priority Flora databases revealed that no Threatened Flora species and four Priority flora species may potentially occur within a 20 kilometre radius of the application area (DPaW, 2015).

A vegetation survey by Onshore Environmental (2004) of the application area and surrounding vegetation was undertaken between 29 to 30 October 2004. This survey identified 119 species of flora taxa, from 48 genera, belonging to 24 families were identified within Miscellaneous Licence 27/75. Onshore Environmental (2004) identified 17 vegetation communities within the application area, with the condition of these vegetation types being 'good' (Keighery, 1994). Onshore Environmental (2004) identified no DRF or Priority flora species within the application area.

There are no known Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) or Priority Ecological Communities (PECs) mapped within the application area (GIS Database). During a flora and vegetation survey, no TECs or PECs were recorded within the application area (MBS Environmental, 2015). The nearest Threatened or Priority Ecological Community is Mount Belches (PEC 3), which is located approximately 85 kilometres to the south-west of the application area (GIS Database).

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999* Protected Matters Search Tool identified a number of invasive species including Ward's Weed (*Carrichtera auuna*), Buffel Grass (*Cenchrus ciliaris*), and African Boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*) which may occur in the application area. Field surveys have not identified any of these particular species (MBS Environmental, 2015). Weeds have the potential to significantly change the dynamics of a natural ecosystem and lower the biodiversity of an area. Potential impacts to the biodiversity as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a weed management condition.

The fauna survey of the application area did not identify any fauna habitats that are considered significant to vertebrate fauna (MBS Environmental, 2015) with the habitats recorded being common and widespread in the region. The clearing of 49.7 hectares for the purpose of a haul road is unlikely to compromise significant fauna habitat, and no fauna habitats mapped in the fauna survey will be completely cleared (MBS Environmental, 2015).

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

Methodology CALM (2002)
DEC (2010)
DPaW (2015)
Government of Western Australia (2013)
Keighery (1994)
MBS Environmental (2015)
Onshore Environmental (2004)
GIS Database:
- IBRA WA (Regions - Sub Regions)
- 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**

A Level 2 fauna survey was undertaken over Miscellaneous Licence 27/75 which includes the application area on 29 to 30 October 2004 (Onshore Environmental, 2004). Onshore Environmental (2004) and MBS Environmental (2015) have identified that the area did not contain habitat that has high ecological significance from a faunal perspective, is low in abundance in the bioregion or contains faunal assemblages that are ecologically significant.

Habitat types found have been comprehensively surveyed elsewhere in the bioregion and there is nothing in the data to suggest that the fauna habitat within the application area is likely to be unique or of particular conservation significance (MBS Environmental, 2015). Vegetation found within the area proposed for clearing is well represented in adjacent areas and on a regional scale (MBS Environmental, 2015).

Based on habitat type and fauna surveys in the local area, the following species of conservation significance listed as either threatened species under the EPBC Act or protected under Western Australian legislation (*Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* (WC Act)) are likely to occur within the application area (DPaW, 2015; MBS Environmental, 2015):

- Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata* – WC Act Schedule 1, EPBC Act Vulnerable);
- Fork-tailed Swift – (*Apus pacificus* – WC Act Schedule 3, Migratory);
- Cattle Egret (*Ardea ibis* – WC Act Schedule 3, Migratory);
- Great Egret (*Ardea alba* – WC Act Schedule 3, Migratory); and
- Rainbow Bee-eater (*Merops ornatus* - WC Act Schedule 3, Migratory).

There is also one Priority listed species (recognised by DPaW as being of conservation significance) that may occur within the application area:

- Hooded Plover – (*Charadus rubricollis* – Priority 4).

The Malleefowl is considered unlikely to occur within the application area. A Level 1 fauna assessment conducted by ATA Environmental within the adjacent tenement M27/200 (Black Swan Mine Site) found no Malleefowl mounds in the general area. This report concluded that the open woodland with limited understorey is not the preferred habitat for Malleefowl (ATA Environmental, 2006; MBS Environmental, 2015).

Given the amount of suitable habitat remaining within the local area and due to their migratory nature, the proposed clearing is not likely to significantly impact the Hooded Plover, Fork-tailed Swift, Cattle Egret, Great Egret or the Rainbow Bee-eater. No avian species known from the local area are likely to be impacted by the proposed clearing, as they are either widespread or irregular visitors to the application area (MBS Environmental, 2015).

MBS Environmental (2015) has advised that Poseidon Nickel Limited will retain trees (especially those with hollows) where possible for bird, bat and reptile habitat.

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

Methodology ATA Environmental (2006)
DPaW (2015)
MBS Environmental (2015)
Onshore Environmental (2004)

(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 Parks and Wildlife's Threatened and Priority Flora databases

identified no Threatened Flora species as occurring within a 10 kilometre radius of the application area (DPaW, 2015).

Onshore Environmental (2004) conducted a vegetation and flora survey of the application area during 29 to 30 October 2004, 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 DPaW (2015)
Onshore Environmental (2004)
GIS Database:
- Threatened and Priority Flora

(d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.

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

A search of the available databases shows that there are no Threatened Ecological Communities situated within 100 kilometres of the application area (GIS Database).

Surveys of the application area did not identify any Threatened Ecological Communities (Onshore Environmental, 2004).

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

Methodology Onshore Environmental (2004)
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 lies within the Murchison Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion in which approximately 99.7% of the pre-European vegetation remains (see table) (Government of Western Australia, 2013; GIS Database).

The vegetation of the application area has been broadly mapped as Beard vegetation associations 10, 20, 529 and 540. These vegetation associations have not been extensively cleared as over 98% remains at a State, and 99% at a bioregional level for all vegetation associations (see table) (Government of Western Australia, 2013). There has not been extensive clearing in the local region and the vegetation within the application area is not a remnant nor does it form part of any remnants within the local area (GIS Database).

	Pre-European area (ha)*	Current extent (ha)*	Remaining %*	Conservation Status**	Pre-European % in DPAW Managed Lands
IBRA Bioregion - Murchison	28,120,587	28,044,823	~99.73	Least Concern	~7.7
Beard vegetation associations - State					
10	145,676	144,162	~98.96	Least Concern	~3.05
20	1,295,103	1,292,474	~99.80	Least Concern	~18.92
529	102,580	102,479	~99.90	Least Concern	~4.37
540	202,424	200,159	~98.88	Least Concern	~27.87
Beard vegetation associations - Bioregion					
10	65,388	64,757,47	~99.04	Least Concern	~4.67
20	1,174,259	1,171,631	~99.78	Least Concern	~14.98
529	62,203	62,102	~99.84	Least Concern	~4.46
540	70,369	70,294	~99.89	Least Concern	~0.23

* 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 – subregions)
- Pre-European Vegetation

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

Comments Proposal is at variance to this Principle

According to available databases, there are no watercourses or wetlands within the application area, although the application area does intersect a number of tributaries (GIS Database). According to aerial imagery, vegetation types associated with the drainage lines are considered to be common and widespread within the subregion (GIS Database). The proposed clearing of 49.7 hectares of native vegetation within a 20 metre corridor over 22 kilometres is unlikely to have a significant impact on the drainage associated vegetation types within the local or regional area. MBS Environmental (2015) has advised that Poseidon Nickel Limited will install two floodways to prevent blockage of ephemeral drainage lines at these locations.

Given that this clearing proposal involves clearing of vegetation growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland, the proposed clearing is at variance to this Principle. However, the vegetation associations of these drainage lines are well represented locally and in the Murchison region, therefore, it is unlikely the proposed clearing will significantly reduce the overall distribution of these vegetation associations.

Methodology MBS Environmental (2015)
GIS Database:
- 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 lies within the Murchison bioregion (GIS Database) which is characterised by its internal drainage, extensive areas of elevated red desert sandplains with minimal dune development and an arid climate. Rainfall events occur throughout the summer months and continue into winter. September to December are the driest months (BoM, 2015).

The application area is within the Archaean Eastern Goldfields province and regional geology consists of granite and gneiss and includes metamorphic rocks. Soils vary from sand plains with sandy yellow earths to earthy soils in the thickets and solodic soils and red-brown earths in the woodland through to saline barns and brown soils (Beard, 1981). The proposed haul route is relatively flat with red loam and red calcareous soils (Keith Lindbeck and Associates, 2006). Approximately 85% of land in the East Murchison subregion consists of native pastures and has been degraded by past agricultural practices and feral herbivores (CALM, 2002).

Soils in the application area are prone to erode where natural surface flows are altered. Due to the large area of native vegetation proposed to be cleared (49.7 hectares) potential land degradation impacts as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a staged clearing condition.

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

Methodology BoM (2015)
CALM (2002)
Keith Lindbeck and Associates (2006)
GIS Database:
- IBRA WA (Regions – Sub Regions)

(h) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.

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

The application area is not located within any conservation areas (GIS Database). The nearest conservation area is Goongarrie National Park, located approximately 28 kilometres north of the application area (GIS Database).

Given the distance of the application area from Goongarrie National Park, the proposed clearing is not likely to provide a significant ecological linkage or fauna movement corridor and is not likely to impact the environmental values of the conservation area.

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

Methodology GIS Database:
- DPaW Tenure

(i) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.

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

The application area is not located within a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA) (GIS Database). The application area is located within the proclaimed Goldfields groundwater area under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1994* (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 Department of Water.

There are six minor non-perennial watercourses within the application area (GIS Database). The majority of the surface water within the application area is likely to occur as sheet flow following heavy rains. Any surface water within the application area is likely to only remain for short periods following significant rainfall events (GIS Database). The proposed clearing is not likely to cause deterioration in the quality of any surface water within or outside of the application area.

The application area has a groundwater salinity that ranges from saline to hypersaline (20,000 - 50,000 milligrams/Litre Total Dissolved solids (TDS) (MBS Environmental, 2015). The proposed clearing of 49.7 hectares of native vegetation over an application area of 450.17 hectares is unlikely to further deteriorate the quality of underground water (GIS Database).

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

Methodology MBS Environmental (2015)
GIS Database:
- Evaporation Isopleths
- Groundwater Salinity, Statewide
- Hydrography, linear
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (PDWSAs)

(j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.

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

The application area experiences an arid climate, with an annual average rainfall of approximately 264.9 millimetres per year (CALM, 2002; BoM, 2015). Based on an average annual evaporation rate of 2,400 - 2,800 millimetres (BoM, 2015), any surface water resulting from rainfall events is likely to be relatively short lived.

Given the size of the area to be cleared (49.7 hectares) compared to the size of the Raeside-Ponton catchment area (11,589,532 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 (2015)
CALM (2002)
GIS Database:
- Hydrographic Catchments - Catchments

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

Comments

There are no native title claims over the application area (GIS Database; DAA, 2015). 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*.

According to available databases, 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 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 01 June 2015 by the Department of Mines and Petroleum inviting submissions from the public. There were no submissions received.

Methodology DAA (2015)
GIS Database:
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance

4. References

- ATA Environmental (2006). *Fauna assessment – Proposed clearing for a waste rock dump expansion*. Black Swan Nickel – Report 2006/40. Prepared for LionOre Australia Pty Ltd. March 2006.
- BoM (2015) Climate Statistics for Australian Locations. A Search for Climate Statistics for Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology, viewed 06 July 2015, <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/tables/cw_012038.shtml>.
- CALM (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographical Subregions. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.
- DAA (2015) Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System, Government of Western Australia, Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Perth, viewed 6 July 2015< <http://maps.dia.wa.gov.au/AHIS2/>>.
- DEC (2010) A Biodiversity and Cultural Conservation Strategy for the Great Western Woodlands. Department of Environment and Conservation, 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.
- DPaW (2015) NatureMap - Mapping Western Australia Biodiversity, Department of Parks and Wildlife, viewed 06 July 2015, < <http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/default.aspx>>.
- Government of Western Australia (2013) 2012 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.
- Keith Lindbeck & Associates (2006) Black Swan Nickel Pty Ltd. *Federal Pit Pipeline Notice of Intent (L27/75 & M27/200) (NOI 5077)*.
- MBS Environmental (2015) *Purpose Permit Application Black Swan Nickel Project Assessment of Clearing Principles*. Report prepared for Poseidon Nickel Limited, May 2015.
- Onshore Environmental (2004) *Flora and Vegetation Survey, Proposed Miscellaneous License, Low Salinity Exploration Bore Targets*. Report prepared for MPI Mines Ltd. November 2004.
- Van Vreeswyk, A.M.E., Payne, A.L., Leighton, K.A. and Hennig, P. (2004) Technical Bulletin - An Inventory and Condition Survey of the Pilbara Region, Western Australia, No. 92. Department of Agriculture, Government of Western Australia, Perth, Western Australia.

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)
DER	Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia
DMP	Department of Mines and Petroleum, Western Australia
DRF	Declared Rare Flora
DotE	Department of the Environment, Australian Government
DoW	Department of Water, Western Australia
DPaW	Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia
DSEWPac	Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (now DotE)
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
s.17	Section 17 of the <i>Environment Protection Act 1986</i> , Western Australia
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community

Definitions:

{DPaW (2013) Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora and Fauna. Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia}:-

- T** **Threatened species:**
Specially protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, listed under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Threatened Fauna or the Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Threatened Flora (which may also be referred to as Declared Rare Flora).

Threatened Fauna and Flora are further recognised by the Department according to their level of threat using IUCN Red List criteria. For example Carnaby's Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* is specially protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* as a threatened species with a ranking of Endangered.

Rankings:
CR: Critically Endangered - considered to be facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild.
EN: Endangered - considered to be facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.
VU: Vulnerable - considered to be facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.
- X** **Presumed Extinct species:**
Specially protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, listed under Schedule 2 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Presumed Extinct Fauna and Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Presumed Extinct Flora (which may also be referred to as Declared Rare Flora).
- IA** **Migratory birds protected under an international agreement:**
Specially protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, listed under Schedule 3 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice.
Birds that are subject to an agreement between governments of Australia and Japan, China and The Republic of Korea relating to the protection of migratory birds and birds in danger of extinction.
- S** **Other specially protected fauna:**
Specially protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, listed under Schedule 4 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice.
- P1** **Priority One - Poorly-known species:**
Species that are known from one or a few collections or sight records (generally less than five), all on lands not managed for conservation, e.g. agricultural or pastoral lands, urban areas, Shire, rail reserves and Main Roads WA road, gravel and soil reserves, and active mineral leases and under threat of habitat destruction or degradation. Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from one or more localities but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and appear to be under immediate threat from known threatening processes.
- P2** **Priority Two - Poorly-known species:**
Species that are known from one or a few collections or sight records, some of which are on lands not under imminent threat of habitat destruction or degradation, e.g. national parks, conservation parks, nature reserves, State forest, unallocated Crown land, water reserves, etc. Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from one or more localities but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and appear to be under threat from known threatening processes.
- P3** **Priority Three - Poorly-known species:**
Species that are known from collections or sight records from several localities not under imminent threat, or from few but widespread localities 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 localities but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and known threatening processes exist that could affect them.
- 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 do not qualify for Conservation Dependent, but that are close to qualifying for Vulnerable.
(c) Species that have been removed from the list of threatened species during the past five years for reasons other than taxonomy.
- P5** **Priority Five - Conservation Dependent species:**
Species that are not threatened but are subject to a specific conservation program, the cessation of which would result in the species becoming threatened within five years.