Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details and outcome

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	6820/3
Permit type:	Purpose Permit
Applicant name:	Gascoyne Resources (WA) Pty Ltd
Application received:	20 August 2025
Application area:	369 hectares
Purpose of clearing:	Mineral production and associated activities
Method of clearing:	Mechanical Removal
Tenure:	Mining Lease 09/148
	Miscellaneous Licence 09/62
Location (LGA area):	Shire Upper Gascoyne
Colloquial name:	Glenburgh Gold Project

1.2. Description of clearing activities

Gascoyne Resources (WA) Pty Ltd proposes to clear up to 369 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 1,420 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities (Gascoyne Resources (WA) Pty Ltd, 2025). The project is located approximately 280 kilometres east-southeast of Carnarvon, within the Shire of Upper Gascoyne (GIS Database).

Clearing permit CPS 6280/1 was granted by the Department of Mines and Petroleum (now the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration) on 30 December 2015 and was valid from 22 January 2016 to 31 January 2021. The permit authorised the clearing of up to 369 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 1,420 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities.

A Mining Proposal / Mine Closure Plan (Reg ID: 55184), as approved under the *Mining Act 1978*, was approved in February 2018 by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (now the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration). The area of disturbance approved under the Mining Proposal is 377.5 hectares, Gascoyne Resources Pty Ltd have advised that they intend to use the clearing exemptions to bridge this gap.

CPS 6820/2 was granted on 19 December 2020, amending the permit to extend the permit duration to 31 January 2026. The area of clearing authorised and the permit boundaries remained unchanged.

On 20 August 2025, the permit holder applied to amend CPS 6820/2 to extend the permit duration by five years to 31 January 2031. The application is to allow for clearing to facilitate future mining operations.

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Grant
Decision date:	30 January 2026
Decision area:	369 hectares of native vegetation

1.4. Reasons for decision

This clearing permit application was submitted, accepted, assessed, and determined in accordance with sections 51KA(1) and 51O of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (EP Act). The Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE) advertised the application for public comment for a period of seven days, and no submissions were received.

In making this decision, the Delegated Officer had regard for the site characteristics, relevant datasets, supporting information provided by the applicant including the results of a flora and vegetation survey and fauna survey, flora and fauna desktop review, the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act, and any other matters considered relevant to the assessment. The assessment found that the proposed clearing will have minimal impact on habitat for flora, fauna and ecological communities, and no impact on conservation areas and or wetlands.

After consideration of the available information, as well as the minimisation and mitigation measures set out in the approved mining propose *Glenburgh Gold Project – Revised Mining Proposal* (Gascoyne Resources (WA) Pty Ltd, 2018), the Delegated

Officer determined that the proposed clearing is not likely to lead to an unacceptable risk to the environment. The Delegated Officer decided to grant the amendment subject to an additional condition;

- undertake slow, progressive one-directional clearing to allow fauna to move into adjacent habitat ahead of the clearing activity.

2. Legislative context

The clearing of native vegetation in Western Australia is regulated under the EP Act and the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004 (Clearing Regulations).

In addition to the matters considered in accordance with section 51O of the EP Act (Section 1.4), the Delegated Officer has also had regard to the objects and principles under section 4A of the EP Act, particularly:

- the precautionary principle
- the principle of intergenerational equity
- the principle of the conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity

Other legislation of relevance for this assessment include:

- *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (WA) (BC Act)
- *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (WA) (CALM Act)
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act)
- *Mining Act 1978* (WA)
- *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (RIWI Act)

The key guidance documents which inform this assessment are:

- A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation (DER, December 2014)
- Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits (DWER, October 2021)
- Technical guidance – Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment (EPA, 2016)
- Technical guidance – Terrestrial Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment (EPA, 2020).

Relevant agreements (treaties) considered during the assessment include:

- Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement
- China-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement
- Republic of Korea-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement

3. Assessment of application

3.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

Avoidance and mitigation measures for the overall operation are set out in the approved mining proposal (Gascoyne Resources (WA) Pty Ltd, 2018). Specific to clearing, these include:

- clearly mark areas to be cleared before disturbance begins to avoid over-clearing;
- induct employees to ensure disturbance is confined to designated areas;
- supervise clearing operators throughout the process;
- protect all vegetation outside the clearing footprint;
- clean and inspect all machinery prior to arrival on-site to prevent the spread of weeds and soil pathogens;
- collect and correctly stockpile vegetative material and topsoil for later rehabilitation; and
- progressively rehabilitate completed areas as soon as practicable.

The mining proposal also includes mitigation measures relating to erosion, dust and fauna.

3.2. Assessment of impacts on environmental values

A review of current environmental information (Appendix A) reveals that the assessment against the clearing principles has not changed from the previous decision reports.

A memorandum by Clark Lindbeck & Associates reviewed any new listings of conservation significant flora and fauna that may be applicable to the amendment application (Clark Lindbeck & Associates, 2025).

Flora:

The memorandum notes that 35 conservation significant flora species have been recorded within a 100 kilometre buffer of the application area (Clark Lindbeck & Associates, 2025) and advise that:

- Newly listed P1 and P2 flora species are considered unlikely to occur within in the application area based on preferred habitat and the results of the previous survey work; and
- Newly listed P3 and P4 flora species have not previously been recorded but the application area could provide 'potential suitable habitat'. However, if species were to occur, their distribution is not restricted to the local area / region and any potential clearing is not likely to impact the conservation significance of these species.

Fauna:

The memorandum notes the only new listing relevant to the application area relates the listing of *Aphelocephala leucopsis* (Southern Whiteface) which is listed as vulnerable. The application area does represent potential habitat for this species; however, the clearing will not result in significant reduction to overall habitat.

3.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The clearing permit amendment application was advertised on 5 December 2025 by the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

There is one registered native title claim (WC2004/010) over the area under application (DPLH, 2026). However, the mining tenement has been granted in accordance with the future act regime of the *Native Title Act 1993* and the nature of the act (i.e. the proposed clearing activity) has been provided for in that process, therefore, the granting of a clearing permit is not a future act under the *Native Title Act 1993*.

There are no registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance located within the application area (DPLH, 2026). 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, the Department of Water, and the Department of Parks and Wildlife, to determine whether a Works Approval, Water Licence, Bed and Banks Permit, or any other licences or approvals are required for the proposed works.

Other relevant authorisations required for the proposed land use include:

- A Mining Development and Closure Proposal approved under the *Mining Act 1978*

As noted above, a Mining Proposal / Mine Closure Plan (Reg ID: 55184) approved under the *Mining Act 1978* was approved in February 2018 by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (now the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration).

End

Appendix A. Site characteristics

A.1. Site characteristics

Characteristic	Details
Local context	The area proposed to be cleared is part of an expansive tract of native vegetation in the extensive land use zone of Western Australia (GIS Database). Spatial data indicates the local area (50 km radius from the centre of the application area) retains approximately 99 per cent of its original native vegetation cover (GIS Database).
Ecological linkage	According to available databases, the application area does not contain any known or mapped ecological linkages (GIS Database).
Conservation areas	The nearest conservation area is Burringurrah National Park located approximately 51 kilometres north-east of the application area (GIS Database).
Vegetation description	The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation associations: • 165: Low woodland; mulga and snakewood (*Acacia eremaea*); and • 166: Low woodland; mulga and *Acacia victoriae* (GIS Database). Flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the application area by Native Vegetation Solutions during May 2011, and May and October 2012 (NVS, 2013). The following five broad vegetation groups were recorded within the application area, that largely followed topographical features (NVS, 2013; Clark Lindbeck & Associates Pty Ltd, 2025): The Level 2 survey described five broad vegetation groups within the Project area that largely followed topographical features (NVS, 2013): • open shrubland - open shrubland with *Acacia cuspidifolia* over mixed shrubs (*Eremophila, Senna*) and herbs on flat plains; • creekline vegetation - mulga shrubland over mixed shrubs and herbs, along creek lines; • laterite - Ironstone Ridge Shrubland - *Acacia cuthbertsonii* and *Acacia victoriae* over *Maireana georgei* and *Aristida contorta* shrubland across ridges; • laterite undulating hills shrubland - *Acacia aneura* var. *aneura* shrubland over mixed shrubs and herbs on undulating hills; and • quartz outcrop shrubland - *Acacia aneura* var. *aneura* shrubland over mixed shrubs and herbs.
Vegetation condition	The vegetation survey (NVS, 2013) indicates the vegetation within the proposed clearing area is in good to very good (Keighery, 1994) condition. The full Keighery (1994) condition rating scale is provided in Appendix C.
Climate and landform	The climate of the Augustus subregion is arid, with a highly variable summer and winter rainfall (CALM, 2002). Records from the nearest weather station to the application area, indicate a mean annual rainfall of approximately 212 millimetres (BoM, 2026).
Soil description	The soil in the application area is, in the majority, mapped as red deep sandy duplex with friable non-cracking clay (DPIRD, 2026). There are areas of red shallow loam, stony soil and red loamy earth (DPIRD, 2026).
Land degradation risk	The application area is broadly mapped as the Jimba, Pells, Durlacher, Phillips, and Agamemnon land systems (GIS Database). Most of the land systems within the application area are protected by stony mantles, however they may be susceptible to erosion if the surface is disturbed (Waddell et al., 2012). Due to the lack of stony surface mantles, the Jimba land system can be particularly susceptible to erosion if disturbed (Payne et al., 1987). The Jimba Land System occurs only over the northern end of the proposed haul road (Clark Lindbeck, 2015).
Waterbodies	There are several seasonal watercourses passing through the application area, the most substantial of which is the Geeranoo Creek (GIS Database). Seasonal watercourses in the region are dry for most of the year, only flowing briefly following significant rainfall events (Clark Lindbeck, 2015).
Hydrogeography	There are no Public Drinking Water Source Areas within or in close proximity to the clearing permit application area (GIS Database). The application area is located within the Gascoyne Ground Water Area proclaimed under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (GIS Database). The groundwater salinity is mapped as 1,000 to 3,000 milligrams per litre total dissolved solids which is described as brackish (GIS Database).
Flora	There are no known threatened or priority flora in the application area or local area (GIS Database). There are 35 conservation significant flora species within a 100 kilometre radius of the application area (Clark Lindbeck & Associates, 2025).
Ecological communities	There are no known Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities within the application area, or a 50 kilometre radius (GIS Database).

Characteristic	Details
Fauna	There are two records of conservation significant fauna that have been recorded within the application area (GIS Database). There are 19 conservation significant fauna species that have been recorded within a 100 kilometre radius of the application area (Clark Lindbeck & Associates, 2025).
Fauna habitat	The following five broad habitat types were identified within the application area (Umwelt, 2013): • open shrubland; creekline vegetation; • laterite – Ironstone ridge shrubland; • laterite undulating hills shrubland; and • quartz outcrop shrubland.

Appendix B. Analysis Tables

A.2. Flora analysis table

Flora analysis as per Clark Lindbeck & Associates Pty Ltd (2025).

Taxon	Cons Rating	Preferred Habitat	LGA occurrence	Likelihood of occurrence
*Pityrodia augustensis**EPBC	T	Amongst rocks on slopes or in drainage lines.	Upper Gascoyne	Endemic to rocky hillsides in the Mt Augustus area and Mt Fraser in the Robinson Range. Considered highly unlikely to occur at the Project.
Acacia wilcoxii	P1	Edge of river banks; creeks; floodplains. Granitic soils. Along creeks & adjacent stony plains & granite outcrops.	Meekatharra, Upper Gascoyne.	Closest records 23km to the west. Not recorded in NVS survey.
*Acacia yinnetharra****	P1	Red sandy clay or on red clay pans associated with the Gascoyne River; silty loam associated with the Gifford Creek watercourse (Maslin & Wilson 2025).	Perth, Upper Gascoyne.	Restricted to two areas within the Gascoyne River drainage system, namely Gifford Creek Station, and Yinnetharra Station (Maslin & Wilson 2025). Considered highly unlikely to occur at the Project.
*Calandrinia butcherensis****	P1	Old dune system - undulating country. Red sand. Sand bank in river bed – Gascoyne River	Murchison, Shark Bay, Upper Gascoyne	No suitable habitat at the Project. Closest record >80 km north. Considered highly unlikely to occur at the Project.
*Eremophila ballythunnensis****	P1	Hill, stony brown sandy clay.	Murchison	Closest records >75km southwest.
*Eremophila rhegos****	P1	Rocky slopes. Rocky red loam. Skeletal brown stony loams over granite.	Meekatharra, Upper Gascoyne	Records from Mount Gascoyne; Mt Augustus - >70km northeast.
*Eremophila rubicunda****	P1	On flat gibber plain, quartzite stones.	Upper Gascoyne	Records restricted to Landor Station; south of Mt Augustus - >80km northeast of Project. Considered highly unlikely to occur at the Project.
*Eremophila yinnetharrensis****	P1	Records restricted to Yinnetharra Station	Upper Gascoyne	Records restricted to Yinnetharra Station. Closest record >70km north.
Hemigenia pachyphylla	P1	Growns in Riverbanks, above watercourses on red sand/loams; siltstone; rocky soils	Murchison, Upper Gascoyne.	Closest records ~8km to the south. Not recorded by NVS. Records in Sandiman Land system: "Plateau remnants and breakaway slopes on sedimentary rocks, with ridge spurs above saline stony footslopes and interfluvial plains, supporting mulga and snakewood shrublands occasionally with Gascoyne bluebush and other halophytes". Not located in Project area.
Philotheca citrina	P1	Red stoney clay on breakaways; granite outcrops	Murchison	Records >80km to the south.

Taxon	Cons Rating	Preferred Habitat	LGA occurrence	Likelihood of occurrence
*Rhodanthe ascendens***	P1	Flat, sand over clay.	Ashburton, Carnarvon, Upper Gascoyne	Records >80km to the northeast.
*Bergia auriculata****	P2	Mud flats. Clay soils. Mud flats 72km W of Gascoyne Junction	Carnarvon, Cue, Murchison, Northampton, Upper Gascoyne	No suitable habitat in Project area.
*Isotropis forrestii****	P2	Stony clay loam, sandy alluvium. Along drainage lines Gascoyne River	Ashburton, Carnarvon, Meekatharra, Upper Gascoyne	No suitable habitat in Project area.
*Pityrodia sp. Burringurrah (E. Hallein 1)****	P2	South of Clever Mary Hills, Burringurrah National Park	Upper Gascoyne.	Records >78km northeast.
*Scaevola chrysopogon****	P2	Ridge, red sand. Red/brown sand. Sandplains.	Carnarvon, Greater Geraldton, Northampton, Shark Bay, Upper Gascoyne	No suitable habitat in Project area.
Acacia atopa	P3	Sandstone; red sandy loam; red clayey sand. Red clay & red loam. Sometimes in rocky situations.	Carnarvon, Murchison, Upper Gascoyne	Potential suitable habitat.
*Acacia sclerosperma subsp. glaucescens***	P3	Sand, sandy loam, stony soils.	Carnarvon, Meekatharra, Shark Bay, Upper Gascoyne	Potential suitable habitat.
*Calandrinia mirabilis****	P3	Flat plains – red clayey sand; Dunal rise – red sandy loam	Meekatharra, Murchison, Upper Gascoyne	No suitable habitat in Project area.
*Calandrinia rubrisabulosa***	P3	Sand dunes; red sand; Red-brown loamy sand	Carnarvon, Murchison, Shark Bay, Upper Gascoyne	No suitable habitat in Project area.
*Dicrastylis linearifolia****	P3	Deep red sand. Red sand. Sandplain	Carnarvon, Greater Geraldton, Mount Magnet, Murchison, Northampton, Perenjori, Shark Bay, Yalgoo	No suitable habitat in Project area.
Eremophila flaccida subsp. attenuata	P3	Stony clay over quartzite. Hillslopes, ridges.	Murchison, Upper Gascoyne	Potential suitable habitat.
*Eremophila muelleriana***	P3	Ridge, red sandy loam. Granitic soils	Murchison, Upper Gascoyne, Yalgoo	Potential suitable habitat.
Eremophila obliquisepala	P3	Sand. Open hardpan plains. Mt August homestead	Meekatharra, Murchison, Upper Gascoyne	Potential suitable habitat.
Eremophila petrophila subsp. densa	P3	On stony red-brown, clay flats. Stony sandy loam or clay. Flats.	Murchison, Upper Gascoyne	Potential suitable habitat.
Eremophila sp. Byro (R. Wait 6128/97)	P3	Summit; low rocky hill 9 km E of Ballythanna Hill and homestead	Murchison, Shark Bay	No suitable habitat in Project area.
Grevillea subterlineata	P3	Red clay loams; Drainage lines – brown/red sand; Above creek bed – clayey sand	Upper Gascoyne	No suitable habitat in Project area.
Hemigenia tysonii	P3	Red sand, sandy clay, lateritic sand. Flats, sand dunes, hills.	Cue, Meekatharra, Murchison, Shark Bay	No suitable habitat in Project area.
Maireana murrayana	P3	Red clayey sand, dissected sandstone	Meekatharra, Murchison, Upper Gascoyne	Potential suitable habitat.
*Maireana prosthecochaeta****	P3	Laterite. Hills, salty places.	Cue, Meekatharra, Murchison, Upper Gascoyne, Wiluna	No suitable habitat in Project area.
*Prostanthera tysoniana****	P3	Red sandy soil; gibbor plain	Murchison.	No suitable habitat in Project area.
*Ptilotus beardii****		Clayey soils. Saline flats, low breakaways.	Cue, Mount Magnet, Murchison	No suitable habitat in Project area.
Ptilotus crosslandii	P3	Potential suitable habitat.	Potential suitable habitat.	Potential suitable habitat.
Ptilotus luteolus	P3	Sandstone; red powdery loam; siltstone	Carnarvon, Cue, Meekatharra, Mount Magnet, Upper Gascoyne, Wiluna	Potential suitable habitat.
Tetragonia coronata	P3	Red clay loam. Calcrete outcrops.	Carnarvon, Shark Bay, Upper Gascoyne.	Potential suitable habitat.
Verticordia jamiesonii	P3	Sandy clay soils. Lateritic breakaways.	Cue, Laverton, Leonora, Meekatharra, Murchison, Upper Gascoyne, Yalgoo.	Potential suitable habitat
*Goodenia berringbinensis****	P4	Red sandy loam. Along watercourses.	Ashburton, Carnarvon, Cue, East Pilbara, Meekatharra, Menzies, Mount Magnet, Murchison, Northampton, Upper Gascoyne, Yalgoo	Potential suitable habitat.

**- new records since previous survey work – within 50 km

*** - records within 100km

A.3. Fauna analysis table

Fauna analysis as per Clark Lindbeck & Associates Pty Ltd (2025), excluding marine species.

Species	Common Name	Conservation Status - State	Conservation Status - Commonwealth	Preferred Habitat and potential occurrence/impact assessment
AVIFAUNA				
Actitis hypoleucos	Common Sandpiper	Migratory	Migratory	Records from Gascoyne River >50km from Project. The species utilises a wide range of coastal wetlands and some inland wetlands, with varying levels of salinity, and is mostly found around muddy margins or rocky shores and rarely on mudflats (EPBC SPRAT Profile). Given the lack of suitable habitat at the Project this species is not expected to be impacted
*Aphelocephala leucopsis***	Southern whiteface**	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	This species is a new listing since the previous survey work. Southern whiteface occur across most of mainland Australia south of the tropics, from the north eastern edge of the Western Australian wheatbelt, east to the Great Dividing Range. Species is found in open woodlands and shrublands with an understorey of grasses and low shrubs - These areas are usually in habitats dominated by acacias or eucalypts on ranges, foothills and lowlands, and plains (Department of Climate Change Energy the Environment and Water 2023). Given the mobility of this species, it is not expected to be impacted by the proposed clearing should they occur in the Project area.
Calidris acuminata	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper		Vulnerable Marine/Migratory	No local records – from EPBC PMST results. The species utilises fresh and hypersaline environments, feeding along the edge of water on mudflats, coastal and inland wetlands (DCCEEW 2024a). Given the lack of suitable habitat at the Project this species is not expected to be impacted
Calidris ferruginea	Curlew Sandpiper	Critically Endangered	Critically Endangered	No local records – from EPBC PMST results. They are found in many Australian coastal sites and may also be seen inland in suitable wetland habitats. The species is widespread around the coastal and subcoastal plains of Western Australia, and occasionally occurs inland (DCCEEW 2023). Given the lack of suitable habitat at the Project this species is not expected to be impacted.
Falco hypoleucos	Grey Falcon	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	No local records – from EPBC PMST results. The species frequents timbered lowland plains, particularly acacia shrublands that are crossed by tree-lined water courses and has been observed hunting in treeless areas and frequents tussock grassland and open woodland, especially in winter (TSSC 2020). While the preferred habitat for this species is not located in the Project area, given the mobility of this species, it is not expected to be impacted by the proposed clearing should they occur in the Project area.
Falco peregrinus	Peregrine falcon	OS		DBCA Records 2000's - Chyrila Pool, Gascoyne River; Berringarra Station claypan and Landor Road . The Peregrine Falcon is an uncommon but wide-ranging bird across Australia (Barrett et al. 2003). It occurs mainly along rivers and ranges as well as wooded watercourses and lakes and nests primarily on cliffs, granite outcrops and quarries. The preferred habitat for this species is not present in the Project area. Given the mobility of this species and lack of preferred habitat, this species will not be impacted by the proposed clearing.
Leipoa ocellata	Malleefowl	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Malleefowl prefer habitat with a dense canopy and an open ground layer in which they can construct their mounds (Benshemesh 2007). For habitats with the vegetation types listed above to be suitable, they require sandy soils and plenty of leaf litter for Malleefowl to build their nest mounds (DPaW 2016). Closest record 14.5km NW from 1998. Based on DCCEEW (2024) the species range has constricted and the Project is located outside of this species current range (to the north). Based on this, the Project will not impact this species.
Plegadis falcinellus	Glossy Ibis	Migratory	Migratory	Record 2017 – Gascoyne River, Gascoyne Junction Bridge.
Pezoporus occidentalis	Night parrot	Critically Endangered	Critically Endangered	The broad habitat requirements of night parrots include areas of old-growth spinifex (Triodia) for roosting and nesting, together with foraging habitats that are likely to include various native grasses and herbs, and may or may not contain shrubs or low trees (DPaW 2017). These may be in expanses or isolated patches, but sometimes associated with other vegetation types, such as dense chenopod shrubs. There are no local records of this species. Closest record is 87 km to the north from 1984 'Uncertain' located at Camel Hill near Murrum Hills Upper Gascoyne. Given the lack of suitable habitat at the Project this species is not expected to occur.
Rostratula australis	Australian Painted Snipe	Endangered	Endangered	Generally inhabits shallow terrestrial freshwater (occasionally brackish) wetlands, including temporary and permanent lakes, swamps and claypans (DCCEEW 2022). No local records and no suitable habitat occurs at the Project. Given the lack of suitable habitat at the Project this species is not expected to occur.
Tringa nebularia	*Common greenshank*	Migratory	Migratory	Record 1979 – Gascoyne River. It occurs around most of the coast from Cape Arid in the south to Carnarvon in the north-west. In the Kimberley, it is recorded in the south-west and the north east, with isolated records from the Bonaparte Archipelago. Given the lack of suitable habitat at the Project this species is not expected to occur.

Species	Common Name	Conservation Status - State	Conservation Status - Commonwealth	Preferred Habitat and potential occurrence/impact assessment
FISH				
Hypseleotris aurea	Golden Gudgeon	P2		The Golden Gudgeon is only known to occur in Western Australia from the Murchison River to the Gascoyne River. This species inhabits small, quiet freshwater pools with moderately turbid water and boulder substratum littered with dead tree branches (Fishes of Australia, 2015). There are no permanent water bodies in the Project area. Given the lack of preferred habitat of this species and the lack of permanent water bodies at the Project, the Golden Gudgeon is not likely to occur within the Project area.
REPTILES				
Ctenophorus yinnietharra	Yinnietharra Rock Dragon	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Only known from two localities within this area, 5 km east, and 25 km south-west of Yinnietharra. Appears to be restricted to rocks of one origin - Archean gneissic biotite granites and granodiorite - whilst nearby outcrops of Early Proterozoic migmatite are inhabited by a different species (DCCEW SPRAT Profile). Closest records 57km north in this habitat. This habitat is not located in the Project area.
Egernia stokesii badia	Western Spiny-tailed Skink	Endangered	Endangered	No local records – from EPBC PMST results. This species occurs in open eucalypt woodlands and Acacia-dominated shrublands in semi-arid to arid areas of south-western WA (Geraldton Sandplains and Yalgoo IBRA) (Pearson 2012). The distribution of this species is not known to extend to the Project area and it is located in a different IBRA region.
MAMMALS				
Antechinomys longicaudata	Long-tailed dunnart	P4		Recorded at Project in previous survey work. Preferred habitat of is sparsely vegetated stony substrates, including gibber fields, breakaways and rocky ranges. It was detected on almost all sites surveyed by Cowan et al (2017) with these substrate features and was considered to be found in additional areas where these habitat features are present. As this habitat is not present in the proposed PoW area, this species is highly unlikely to be impacted.
Dasycercus blythiii	Brush-tailed Mulgara	P4		Records 2013 – Western Deserts, Wingellina The Brush-tailed Mulgara is associated mostly with hummock (spinifex) grasslands but also uses other vegetation types (often sandplains, grasslands and woodlands) when mixed with or adjacent to hummock grasslands. It is mainly nocturnal and shelters during the day in excavated burrow systems (Woinarski et al. 2014). Preferred habitat of spinifex sandplain is widespread and extensive across the study area by Cowan et al (2017). Given the location and lack of preferred habitat (spinifex sandplain), this species is not likely to occur in the Project area.
Macrotis lagotis	Bilby, dalgyte, ninu	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Bilbies occupy a variety of habitats including Mitchell Grass and stony downs country of cracking clays, desert sandplains and dune fields sometimes containing laterite, hummock grasslands (Spinifex) and massive red earths with Acacia shrubland (Southgate et al. 2007). Historical records (1940, 1969) Weedarra Station, about 60 miles from Gascoyne Junction and 10-12 miles W of Woodlands homestead (DBCA 2025b). Based on DCCEEW (2023) Bilby Recovery Plan, the Project is outside of this species' current distribution and it is not expected to occur. In addition, as reported in while the vegetation in the survey area includes some acacia shrubland, the level of disturbance to the vegetation and landscape from grazing associated with the areas pastoral activities suggests that the Project area would not be occupied by the Bilby.
Petrogale lateralis lateralis	Black-flanked rock-wallaby	Endangered	Endangered	Historic record 1929 – Mt James – 94 km NE of Project. Once widespread and considered locally abundant in Western Australia Species range to a handful of isolated populations at Kalbarri National Park (NP), Cape Range, Calvert Range, Barrow and Salisbury Islands, and sub-populations in the Wheatbelt (DBCA 2023). The Project is located outside of this species current distribution and will not be impacted by the Project.
Pseudomys chapmani	Western pebble-mound mouse,	P4		The Western Pebble-mound Mouse occurs in the Pilbara and nearby rocky areas of the Little Sandy Desert (Woinarski et al. 2014). Lives in pebbly soils in arid tussock grassland and acacia woodland. It shelters in complex burrow systems built beneath mounds of pebbles collected from the surface. Records 1994, 1997 - Mt Phillip and Erong Springs Station Given the lack of preferred habitat the Pebble-mound Mouse is not likely to utilise the habitat within the Project area.

w listing since previous survey work

l records of Phascogale calura (Red-tailed Phascogale) identified within 100km not included in table above

Appendix C. Vegetation condition rating scale

Vegetation condition is a rating given to a defined area of vegetation to categorise and rank disturbance related to human activities. The rating refers to the degree of change in the vegetation structure, density and species present in relation to undisturbed vegetation of the same type. The degree of disturbance impacts upon the vegetation's ability to regenerate. Disturbance at a site can be a cumulative effect from a number of interacting disturbance types.

Considering its location, the scale below was used to measure the condition of the vegetation proposed to be cleared. This scale has been extracted from Keighery, B.J. (1994) *Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community*. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

Measuring vegetation condition for the South West and Interzone Botanical Province (Keighery, 1994)

Condition	Description
Pristine	Pristine or nearly so, no obvious signs of disturbance.
Excellent	Vegetation structure intact, with disturbance affecting individual species; weeds are non-aggressive species.
Very good	Vegetation structure altered, with obvious signs of disturbance. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by repeated fires, the presence of some more aggressive weeds, dieback, logging and/or grazing.
Good	Vegetation structure significantly altered by very obvious signs of multiple disturbances. Retains basic vegetation structure or ability to regenerate it. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by very frequent fires, the presence of some very aggressive weeds at high density, partial clearing, dieback and/or grazing.
Degraded	Basic vegetation structure severely impacted by disturbance. Scope for regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive management. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by very frequent fires, the presence of very aggressive weeds, partial clearing, dieback and/or grazing.
Completely degraded	The structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species. These areas are often described as 'parkland cleared' with the flora comprising weed or crop species with isolated native trees or shrubs.

Appendix D. References and databases

D.1. GIS datasets

Publicly available GIS datasets used (sourced from www.data.wa.gov.au):

- Clearing Instruments Activities (Areas Approved to Clear) (DWER-076)
- Clearing Instruments Conditions (Areas Subject to Conditions) (DWER-077)
- Clearing Instruments Proposals (Areas Applied to Clear) (DWER-075)
- Clearing Referral Proposal (DWER-116)
- Clearing Regulations - Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046)
- Clearing Regulations - Schedule One Areas (DWER-057)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- IBSA Survey Details (DWER-118)
- Native Title (Determination) (LGATE-066)
- Native Title (Fed Court) (LGATE-005)
- Native Vegetation Extent (DPIRD-005)
- Pre-European Vegetation (DPIRD-006)
- RIWI Act, Rivers (DWER-036)
- RIWI Act, Surface Water Areas and Irrigation Districts (DWER-037)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Best Available (DPIRD-027)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Zones (DPIRD-017)
- Townsites (LGATE-248)
- WA Now Aerial Imagery

Restricted GIS Databases used:

- Threatened and Priority Flora (TPFL)
- Threatened and Priority Flora (WAHerb)
- Threatened and Priority Fauna
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities (Buffers)

D.2. References

Conservation and Land Management (CALM) (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographic Subregions in 2002. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.

Clark Lindbeck (2015) Glenburgh Gold Project Supporting Document for Clearing Permit Application. Report prepared for Gascoyne Resources Pty Ltd, by Clark Lindbeck and Associates Pty Ltd, October 2015.

Clark Lindbeck & Associates Pty Ltd (2025) Glenburgh Flora–Fauna Desktop Assessment Memorandum prepared for Benz Mining Corp, Clark Lindbeck & Associates Pty Ltd, December 2025.

Department of Environment Regulation (DER) (2014) *A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation*. Perth. https://www.der.wa.gov.au/images/documents/your-environment/native-vegetation/Guidelines/Guide2_assessment_native_veg.pdf

Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) (2026) Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (Accessed 9 January 2026).

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Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) (2021) Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits. Joondalup. https://www.wa.gov.au/system/files/2024-11/procedure-native-vegetation-clearing-permits.pdf

Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) (2016) Technical Guidance - Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment. http://www.epa.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/Policies_and_Guidance/EPA%20Technical%20Guidance%20-%20Flora%20and%20Vegetation%20survey_Dec13.pdf

Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) (2020) Technical Guidance – Terrestrial Fauna Surveys. https://www.epa.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/Policies_and_Guidance/2020.09.17%20-%20EPA%20Technical%20Guidance%20-%20Vertebrate%20Fauna%20Surveys%20-%20Final.pdf

Gascoyne Resources (WA) Pty Ltd (2018). *Glenburgh Gold Project Revised Mining Proposal (M09/148 and L09/62).* Prepared by Clark Lindbeck & Associates Pty Ltd. Document No. GLEN-MP-001, Version 3, dated 8 February 2018

Gascoyne Resources (WA) Pty Ltd (2025) Clearing permit application form, CPS 6820/3, received 20 August 2025.

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

Native Vegetation Solutions (NVS) (2013) Glenburgh Gold Project Level 2 Flora and Vegetation Survey. Report prepared for Gascoyne Resources (WA) Pty Ltd.

Payne, A L, Spencer, G F, and Curry, P J (1987) An inventory and condition survey of rangelands in the Carnarvon Basin, Western Australia. Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia. Technical Bulletin 73.

Umwelt (2013) Glenburgh Gold Project Level 2 Fauna Assessment. Report prepared for Gascoyne Resources Pty Ltd, by Umwelt (Australia) Pty Ltd, February 2013.

Waddell, P A, Thomas, P W E, and Findlater, P A (2012) A report on the Gascoyne River catchment following the 2010/11 flood events, Western Australia. Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia. Resource Management Technical Bulletin 382.

4. Glossary

Acronyms:

BC Act	*Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016,* Western Australia
BoM	Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Government
DAA	Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Western Australia (now DPLH)
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia (now DPIRD)
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Australian Government
DBCA	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia
DEMIRS	Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (now DMPE)
DER	Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia (now DWER)
DMIRS	Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Western Australia (now DMPE)
DMP	Department of Mines and Petroleum, Western Australia (now DMPE)
DMPE	Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration
DoEE	Department of the Environment and Energy (now DCCEEW)
DoW	Department of Water, Western Australia (now DWER)
DPaW	Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia (now DBCA)
DPIRD	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia

DPLH	Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, Western Australia
DRF	Declared Rare Flora (now known as Threatened Flora)
DWER	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Western Australia
EP Act	*Environmental Protection Act 1986*, Western Australia
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia
EPBC Act	*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Commonwealth Act)
GIS	Geographical Information System
ha	Hectare (10,000 square metres)
IBRA	Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia
PEC	Priority Ecological Community, Western Australia
RIWI Act	*Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*, Western Australia
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community

Definitions:

DBCA (2023) Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora and Fauna. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia:

Threatened species

T Listed by order of the Minister as Threatened in the category of critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable under section 19(1), or is a rediscovered species to be regarded as threatened species under section 26(2) of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (BC Act).

Threatened fauna is the species of fauna that are listed as critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable threatened species.

Threatened flora is the species of flora that are listed as critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable threatened species.

The assessment of the conservation status of threatened species is in accordance with the BC Act listing criteria and the requirements of Ministerial Guideline Number 1 and Ministerial Guideline Number 2 that adopts the use of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species Categories and Criteria, and is based on the national distribution of the species.

CR **Critically endangered species**

Threatened species considered to be "*facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future, as determined in accordance with criteria set out in the ministerial guidelines*".

Listed as critically endangered under section 19(1)(a) of the BC Act in accordance with the criteria set out in section 20 and the ministerial guidelines.

EN **Endangered species**

Threatened species considered to be "*facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future, as determined in accordance with criteria set out in the ministerial guidelines*".

Listed as endangered under section 19(1)(b) of the BC Act in accordance with the criteria set out in section 21 and the ministerial guidelines.

VU **Vulnerable species**

Threatened species considered to be "*facing a high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium-term future, as determined in accordance with criteria set out in the ministerial guidelines*".

Listed as vulnerable under section 19(1)(c) of the BC Act in accordance with the criteria set out in section 22 and the ministerial guidelines.

Extinct species

Listed by order of the Minister as extinct under section 23(1) of the BC Act as extinct or extinct in the wild.

EX **Extinct species**

Species where "*there is no reasonable doubt that the last member of the species has died*", and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 24 of the BC Act).

EW **Extinct in the wild species**

Species that *"is known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalised population well outside its past range; and it has not been recorded in its known habitat or expected habitat, at appropriate seasons, anywhere in its past range, despite surveys over a time frame appropriate to its life cycle and form*", and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 25 of the BC Act).

Currently there are no threatened fauna or threatened flora species listed as extinct in the wild.

Specially protected species

SP **Specially protected species**

Listed by order of the Minister as specially protected under section 13(1) of the BC Act. Meeting one or more of the following categories: species of special conservation interest; migratory species; cetaceans; species subject to international agreement; or species otherwise in need of special protection.

Species that are listed as threatened species (critically endangered, endangered, or vulnerable) or extinct species under the BC Act cannot also be listed as specially protected species.

MI **Migratory species**

Fauna that periodically or occasionally visit Australia or an external Territory or the exclusive economic zone; or the species is subject of an international agreement that relates to the protection of migratory species and that binds the Commonwealth; and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 15 of the BC Act).

Migratory species include birds that are subject to an agreement between the government of Australia and the governments of Japan (JAMBA), China (CAMBA) or The Republic of Korea (ROKAMBA), and fauna subject to the *Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals* (Bonn Convention), an environmental treaty under the United Nations Environment Program. Migratory species listed under the BC Act are a subset of the migratory animals, that are known to visit Western Australia, protected under the international agreements or treaties, excluding species that are listed as Threatened species.

CD **Species of special conservation interest (conservation dependent fauna)**

Species of special conservation need that are dependent on ongoing conservation intervention to prevent it becoming eligible for listing as threatened, and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 14 of the BC Act).

Currently only fauna are listed as species of special conservation interest.

OS **Other specially protected species**

Species otherwise in need of special protection to ensure their conservation, and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 18 of the BC Act).

Currently only fauna are listed as species otherwise in need of special protection.

Priority species

P **Priority species**

Priority is not a listing category under the BC Act. The Priority Flora and Fauna lists are maintained by the department and are published on the department's website.

All fauna and flora are protected in WA following the provisions in Part 10 of the BC Act. The protection applies even when a species is not listed as threatened or specially protected, and regardless of land tenure (State managed land (Crown land), private land, or Commonwealth land).

Species that may possibly be threatened species that do not meet the criteria for listing under the BC Act because of insufficient survey or are otherwise data deficient, are added to the Priority Fauna or Priority Flora Lists under Priorities 1, 2 or 3. These three categories are ranked in order of prioritisation for survey and evaluation of conservation status so that consideration can be given to potential listing as threatened.

Species that are adequately known, meet criteria for near threatened, or are rare but not threatened, or that have been recently removed from the threatened species list or conservation dependent or other specially protected fauna lists for other than taxonomic reasons, are placed in Priority 4. These species require regular monitoring.

Assessment of priority status 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 – known from few locations, none on conservation lands**

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, for example, 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 for threatened listing and appear to be under immediate threat from known threatening processes. These species are in urgent need of further survey.

P2 **Priority Two - Poorly-known species – known from few locations, some on conservation lands**

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, for example, 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 for threatened listing and appear to be under threat from known threatening processes. These species are in urgent need of further survey.

P3 **Priority Three - Poorly-known species – known from several locations**

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. These species need 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 a conservation dependent specially protected species.

(c) Species that have been removed from the list of threatened species or lists of conservation dependent or other specially protected species, during the past five years for reasons other than taxonomy.

(d) Other species in need of monitoring.

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.

(c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened 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 the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.