



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6936/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: R J Ford and K G Brandenburg

1.3. Property details

Property: Mining Lease 09/31
Local Government Area: City of Leonra
Colloquial name: N/A

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
6.33		Mechanical Removal	Sand Extraction

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 31 March 2016

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. One Beard vegetation association has been mapped within the application area (GIS Database):

Beard vegetation association 308: Mosaic: Shrublands; *Acacia sclerosperma* sparse scrub/Succulent steppe; saltbush and bluebush (GIS Database).

No vegetation surveys have been undertaken over the application area, therefore, the vegetation communities have not been described or mapped for the areas in any further detail than Beard vegetation mapping.

Clearing Description R J Ford and K G Brandenburg proposes to clear up to 6.33 hectares of native vegetation within a total boundary area of approximately 6.33 hectares for the purpose of sand extraction. The proposal is located approximately 4.5 kilometres east of Carnarvon in the Shire of Carnarvon.

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

Comment The vegetation condition was based on aerial imagery of the application area (GIS Database).

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 Wooramel subregion of the Carnarvon Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion (GIS Database). This subregion is characterised by alluvial plains associated with downstream section and deltas of the Gascoyne, Minilya and Wooramel Rivers (CALM, 2002). Tree to shrub steppe over hummock grasslands on, and between, aeolian red sand dunefields are extensive in the north and east as well as on top of Kennedy Range. Permian sediments are common in the northern parts of the subregion while the southern areas comprise of limestone plateaux overlain by red sand plains (CALM, 2002). Typical vegetation includes *Acacia* shrublands (Mulga, Bowgada and *A. coriacea*) over bunch grasses on red sandy ridges and plains (CALM, 2002).

The vegetation within the application area is broadly mapped as Beard vegetation association 308, which has approximately 99% of its pre-European vegetation extent remaining in the bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2014; GIS Database). No on-ground flora or vegetation surveys have been undertaken over the application area but aerial imagery of the application area appears typical of vegetation along the Gascoyne River (GIS Database).

According to available databases there are no known records of Threatened Flora or Threatened Ecological Communities within the application area or within a 50 kilometre radius of the application area (GIS Database). The application area is also not within the buffer of any known Priority Ecological Communities (GIS Database). According to available databases no Priority flora species have been recorded within the application area, or a 20 kilometre radius, but on-ground flora surveys have not been undertaken (DPAW, 2016; R J Ford and K G Brandenburg, 2016; GIS Database).

The presence and abundance of weeds in the application area is unknown. The presence of weed species would lower 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 the Department of Parks and Wildlife's NatureMap revealed records of three amphibian, 154 bird, and seven reptile species within a five kilometre radius of the application area (DPaW, 2016). The high number of fauna species recorded would reflect the diversity of fauna habitats the Gascoyne River provides. While the locality may have the potential for relatively high fauna diversity, the application area itself is small and situated within the riverbed (R J Ford and K G Brandenburg, 2016). The application area is not likely to comprise a higher level of fauna diversity than its surroundings.

The application area is not likely to comprise a greater diversity than nearby and similar areas within the bioregion and local area.

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

Methodology CALM (2002)
DPaW (2016)
Government of Western Australia (2014)
R J Ford and K G Brandenburg, 2016

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 not likely to be at variance to this Principle**
No fauna surveys have been conducted over the application area.

The proposed clearing is within the Gascoyne River which has subregional significance as a biological refuge (CALM, 2002). The fringing riparian vegetation along the river is likely to provide important fauna habitat, particularly for bird species, however will not be impacted as the proposed clearing is within the river bed itself. The vegetation along the Gascoyne River is largely uncleared (GIS Database) so the fauna habitats offered by the application area are also available in the surrounding area.

A threatened fauna database search was undertaken and four Vulnerable fauna species have been recorded within 20 kilometres of the application area: Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*), Eastern Curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*), Great Knot (*Calidris tenuirostris*), and the Grey Falcon (*Falco hypoleucos*). While these species may utilise the riverine plains habitat, they are wide ranging and highly mobile species (Johnson and Storr, 1998 Department of Environment, 2016) and unlikely to be impacted by the proposal.

Although the vegetation within the application area potentially supports a rich array of fauna species, the vegetation is well represented on a regional scale and is unlikely to represent significant habitat to the fauna species in a regional context (Government of Western Australia, 2014).

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

Methodology CALM (2002)
DPaW (2016)
Department of Environment (2016)
Government of Western Australia (2014)
Johnson and Storr (1998)

GIS Database:
- Imagery

(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 within the application area (GIS Database). There are no records of Threatened Flora being located within 100 kilometres of the application area (GIS Database).

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

Methodology 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). There are no known TEC's located within 100 kilometres of the application area (GIS Database).

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

Methodology 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 clearing application area falls within the Carnarvon Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) bioregion in which approximately 99% of the pre-European vegetation remains (see table) (Government of Western Australia, 2014; GIS Database). This gives it a conservation status of 'Least Concern' according to the Bioregional Conservation Status of Ecological Vegetation Classes (Department of Natural Resources and Environment, 2002).

The vegetation of the clearing application area has been broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation association:

308: Mosaic: Shrublands; *Acacia sclerosperma* sparse scrub/Succulent steppe; saltbush and bluebush (Government of Western Australia, 2014; GIS Database).

According to the Government of Western Australia (2014) approximately 99% of Beard vegetation association 308 remains at the state and bioregional level. This vegetation association would be given a conservation status of 'Least Concern' at both a state and bioregional level (Department of Natural Resources and Environment, 2002). The vegetation under application is not a remnant of vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.

	Pre-European area (ha)*	Current extent (ha)*	Remaining %*	Conservation Status**	Pre-European % in DPAW Managed Lands
IBRA Bioregion - Carnarvon	8,382,890	8,360,801	~99	Least Concern	~11.6
Beard vegetation associations - State					
308	447,065	443,500	~99	Least Concern	~0.87
Beard vegetation associations - Bioregion					
308	446,977	443,484	~99	Least Concern	~0.87

* Government of Western Australia (2014)

** 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 (2014)

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

The application area is located within the Gascoyne River, a non-perennial watercourse that flows for approximately 120 days a year (BoM, 2016; DoW, 2016b; GIS Database). Therefore, any vegetation within the application area is growing in association with a watercourse.

The proposed clearing is located wholly within the centre of the river bed and will not result in any clearing of the river banks or foreshore. The southern river bank adjacent to the application area is an 'A' class foreshore management reserve vested with the local Shire for management. The local Shire made a submission regarding the proposed clearing, raising no objections. The foreshore management reserve is not likely to be impacted by the proposed clearing.

While the proposed clearing will be clearing riparian vegetation, the amount of riparian vegetation to be cleared will be minimal as the vegetation within the river is typically small and sparse (Shire of Carnarvon, 2016; GIS Database).

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is at variance to this Principle. However, the amount of vegetation to be cleared is minimal and the low impact activities are unlikely to significantly impact the watercourse.

Methodology DoW (2016b)
Shire of Carnarvon (2016)

GIS Database:
- Geodata, Lakes
- Hydrography, linear
- Imagery

(g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.

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

According to available datasets the application area is located within the River Land System (GIS Database).

The River Land System is characterised by seasonally active flood plains and major channelled watercourses supporting moderately close, tall shrublands or woodlands of acacias and fringing communities of coolibah and river gum (Payne et al., 1987). The system is not normally susceptible to accelerated erosion (Payne et al., 1987).

R J Ford and K G Brandenburg have applied to clear up to 6.33 hectares for the purpose of sand extraction. The proposed clearing activity is not likely to result in large areas of disturbed or open land. Given the small size of the proposed activities, the clearing is not likely to result in appreciable land degradation.

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

Methodology Payne et al. (1987)

GIS Database:
- Rangelands

(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 proposed clearing area is not located within a conservation area (GIS Database). According to available databases, the nearest conservation area is Chinamans Pool Nature Reserve, which is located approximately 5.7 kilometres west of the application area (GIS Database). At this distance the proposed clearing is unlikely to have any impact on 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 may be at variance to this Principle

The application area is located approximately seven kilometres west of the Carnarvon Water Reserve, which is a public drinking water source area proclaimed under the *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947* (GIS Database). The proposed clearing is located within the Gascoyne River, as well as the Gascoyne Groundwater Area, Gascoyne River Surface Water Area and the Carnarvon Irrigation District, proclaimed under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (DoW, 2016a; GIS Database). Since floods provide an irregular, opportunistic water supply, floods are an important source for recharging groundwater aquifers, which provide more reliable supplies for irrigated horticulture and the town of Carnarvon (DoW, 2016a).

The assessing officer for the mining proposal related to this clearing permit sought advice from the Department of Water (DoW), which was received on 16 March 2016 (DoW, 2016a). DoW (2016a) advised that potential impacts from sand mining on the Carnarvon Irrigation District (and licensees in the subject area) must be managed in accordance with the principle of risk avoidance.

The DoW did not object to the proposal, however requested that 'no sand will be removed from within the area contained within a horizontal distance of 50 metres or as negotiated (no less than 30m) onsite' of the river bank (DoW, 2016a). The permit boundary at its closest is approximately 40 metres away from the river bank, in the north-west corner of the application area, with the majority of the application area being approximately 50 to 60 metres (GIS Database). The DoW has advised that the buffer distance may be negotiated to a minimum of 30 metres through a biophysical assessment of the site with the DoW, however this will be managed through the Mining Proposal.

The proposed clearing will include riparian vegetation within to the river bed and this may increase the risk of sedimentation into the river. However, the amount of clearing is small (6.33 hectares) and the vegetation to be removed is small and sparse (Shire of Carnarvon, 2016; GIS Database). Potential impacts due to increased sedimentation 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 DoW (2016a)
Shire of Carnarvon (2016)

GIS Database:
- Groundwater Salinity, Statewide
- Hydrography, linear
- Imagery
- 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 is located within the Gascoyne River catchment area (GIS Database). Given the size of the area to be cleared (6.33 hectares) in relation to the size of the catchment area (8,039,088 hectares) (GIS Database), the proposed clearing is not likely to increase the potential of flooding on a catchment scale.

The proposed clearing is located within the Gascoyne River, which flows periodically after heavy rains. Rainfall for the region is predominantly in winter but occasional storms can occur during summer (Payne et al., 1987). Large rainfall events can cause flooding of the Gascoyne River but the small size and low impact nature of the proposed clearing make it unlikely to exacerbate the flooding on a local scale.

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

Methodology Payne et al. (1987)

GIS Database:
- Hydrographic Catchments - Catchments

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

Comments

There is one native title claim (WC97/28) over the area under application (DAA, 2016). However, the mining tenure has been granted in accordance with the future act regime of the *Native Title Act 1993* and the nature of the act (i.e. the proposed clearing activity) has been provided for in that process, therefore the granting of a clearing permit is not a future act under the *Native Title Act 1993*.

According to available databases, there are no registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the application area (DAA, 2016). It is the proponent's responsibility to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* and

ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

It is the proponent's responsibility to liaise with the Department of 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 22 February 2016 by the Department of Mines and Petroleum inviting submissions from the public. One submission was received by the Shire of Carnarvon raising no objections to the proposed clearing.

Methodology DAA (2015)

GIS Database:
- Aboriginal Sites of Significance

4. References

- BoM (2016) Climate Statistics for Australian Locations. A Search for Climate Statistics for Carnarvon, Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology, <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/tables/cw_012046.shtml> accessed 29 March 2016.
- CALM (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographical Subregions. Carnarvon 2 (CAR2 ? Wooramel Subregion). Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.
- DAA (2016) Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System, Government of Western Australia, Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Perth <<http://maps.dia.wa.gov.au/AHIS2/>> accessed 29 March 2016.
- Department of the Environment (2016). Species Profile and Threats Database, Department of the Environment, Canberra. <<http://www.environment.gov.au/sprat>> accessed 29 March 2016.
- 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.
- DoW (2016a) Advice to Assessing Officer for Mining Proposal 58646. Department of Water, March 2016.
- DoW (2016b) Managing the Lower Gascoyne River. Department of Water, Western Australia <http://www.water.wa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/7761/109568.pdf> accessed 29 March 2016.
- DPaW (2016) NatureMap - Mapping Western Australia Biodiversity, Department of Parks and Wildlife <<http://naturemap.dpaw.wa.gov.au/default.aspx>> accessed 29 March 2016.
- Government of Western Australia (2014) 2014 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). WA Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth.
- Johnson R.E. and Storr G.M. (1998) Handbook of Western Australian Birds, Volume 1 - Non-Passerines (Emu to Dollarbird). Western Australian Museum, Perth, Western Australia.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Payne A.L., Curry P.J. and Spencer G.F. (1987) Technical Bulletin - An Inventory and Condition Survey of Rangelands in the Carnarvon Basin, Western Australia, No. 73. Department of Agriculture, Government of Western Australia, Perth, Western Australia.
- R J Ford and K G Brandenburg (2016) Supporting Documentation for Clearing Permit Application CPS 6963/1. Prepared by Auswide Mining Title Management Pty Ltd, February 2016.
- Shire of Carnarvon (2016) Public Submission Letter Regarding Clearing Permit Application CPS 6963/1. Shire of Carnarvon, February 2016.

5. Glossary

Acronyms:

BoM	Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Government
DAA	Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Western Australia
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia
DEC	Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (now DPaW and DER)
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
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community

Definitions:

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

- T** **Threatened species:**
Published as Specially Protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, listed under Schedules 1 to 4 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Threatened Fauna and Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Threatened Flora (which may also be referred to as Declared Rare Flora).
Threatened fauna is that subset of 'Specially Protected Fauna' declared to be 'likely to become extinct' pursuant to section 14(4) of the Wildlife Conservation Act.
Threatened flora is flora that has been declared to be 'likely to become extinct or is rare, or otherwise in need of special protection', pursuant to section 23F(2) of the Wildlife Conservation Act.
The assessment of the conservation status of these species is based on their national extent and ranked according to their level of threat using IUCN Red List categories and criteria as detailed below.
- CR** **Critically endangered species**
Threatened species considered to be facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild. Published as Specially Protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, in Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Threatened Fauna and Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Threatened Flora.
- EN** **Endangered species**
Threatened species considered to be facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild. Published as Specially Protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, in Schedule 2 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Threatened Fauna and Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Threatened Flora.
- VU** **Vulnerable species**
Threatened species considered to be facing a high risk of extinction in the wild. Published as Specially Protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, in Schedule 3 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Threatened Fauna and Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Threatened Flora.
- EX** **Presumed extinct species**
Species which have been adequately searched for and there is no reasonable doubt that the last individual has died. Published as Specially Protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, in Schedule 4 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Presumed Extinct Fauna and Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Presumed Extinct Flora.
- IA** **Migratory birds protected under an international agreement**
Birds that are subject to an agreement between the government of Australia and the governments of Japan (JAMBA), China (CAMBA) and The Republic of Korea (ROKAMBA), and the Bonn Convention, relating to the protection of migratory birds. Published as Specially Protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, in Schedule 5 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice.
- CD** **Conservation dependent fauna**
Fauna of special conservation need being species dependent on ongoing conservation intervention to prevent it becoming eligible for listing as threatened. Published as Specially Protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, in Schedule 6 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice.
- OS** **Other specially protected fauna**
Fauna otherwise in need of special protection to ensure their conservation. Published as Specially Protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, in Schedule 7 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice.
- P** **Priority species**
Species which are poorly known; or
Species that are adequately known, are rare but not threatened, and require regular monitoring. Assessment of Priority codes is based on the Western Australian distribution of the species, unless the distribution in WA is part of a contiguous population extending into adjacent States, as defined by the known spread of locations.
- P1** **Priority One - Poorly-known species:**
Species that are known from one or a few locations (generally five or less) which are potentially at risk. All occurrences are either: very small; or on lands not managed for conservation, e.g. agricultural or pastoral lands, urban areas, road and rail reserves, gravel reserves and active mineral leases; or otherwise under threat of habitat destruction or degradation. Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from one or more locations but do not meet adequacy of survey

requirements and appear to be under immediate threat from known threatening processes. Such species are in urgent need of further survey.

P2 Priority Two - Poorly-known species:

Species that are known from one or a few locations (generally five or less), some of which are on lands managed primarily for nature conservation, e.g. national parks, conservation parks, nature reserves and other lands with secure tenure being managed for conservation. Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from one or more locations but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and appear to be under threat from known threatening processes. Such species are in urgent need of further survey.

P3 Priority Three - Poorly-known species:

Species that are known from several locations, and the species does not appear to be under imminent threat, or from few but widespread locations with either large population size or significant remaining areas of apparently suitable habitat, much of it not under imminent threat. Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from several locations but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and known threatening processes exist that could affect them. Such species are in need of further survey.

P4 Priority Four - Rare, Near Threatened and other species in need of monitoring:

(a) Rare. Species that are considered to have been adequately surveyed, or for which sufficient knowledge is available, and that are considered not currently threatened or in need of special protection, but could be if present circumstances change. These species are usually represented on conservation lands.

(b) Near Threatened. Species that are considered to have been adequately surveyed and that are close to qualifying for Vulnerable, but are not listed as Conservation Dependent.

(c) Species that have been removed from the list of threatened species during the past five years for reasons other than taxonomy.