



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 6968/4
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Siberia Mining Corporation Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Mining Lease 24/39
Mining Lease 24/208
Mining Lease 24/960
Miscellaneous Licence 24/224
Local Government Area: City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Colloquial name: Siberia Project

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 11 June 2020

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation association:
468: Medium woodland; salmon gum and goldfields blackbutt (GIS Database).

A Level 1 flora and vegetation survey of the original permit area was undertaken by Plantecology Consulting (2015) during the period 5 – 6 November 2015. The vegetation survey identified the following ten vegetation types in the application area:

1. **Acacia hemiteles open shrubland** – Open Shrubland of *Acacia hemiteles* with emergent *Casuarina obesa* and scattered groves of *Eucalyptus* spp. over low open shrubland of *Acacia erinacea*, *Eremophila scoparia* and *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia* on red brown silty loams on broad flats;
2. **Acacia burkittii tall shrubland** – High shrubland of *Acacia burkittii*, *Acacia incurvaneura* and *Acacia ramulosa* subsp. *ramulosa* on red-brown silty loams on flats;
3. **Acacia incurvaneura tall open shrubland** - Open scrub of *Acacia incurvaneura*, *Acacia mulganeura* and *Acacia ramulosa* subsp. *ramulosa* on red sandy loams on flats;
4. **Acacia quadrimarginea tall open shrubland** – Open scrub of *Acacia quadrimarginea* over low open shrubland of *Dodonaea lobulata*, *Scaevola spinescens* and *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia* on red loams on low stony rises;
5. **Acacia spp. closed scrub** – Closed scrub of mainly *Acacia* species such as *Acacia acuminata*, *Acacia mulganeura* and *Acacia ramulosa* subsp. *ramulosa* with *Grevillea nematophylla* subsp. *supraplana*, *Eremophila ionantha* and *Prostanthera grylloana* on red sandy loams on flats;
6. **Allocasuarina eriochlamys subsp. eriochlamys open shrubland** – Open scrub of *Allocasuarina eriochlamys* subsp. *eriochlamys*, *Alyxia buxifolia* and *Acacia ramulosa* subsp. *ramulosa* over *Dodonaea microzyga*, *Phebalium lepidotum* and *Philotheca brucei* subsp. *brucei* on shallow red earths on ironstone outcropping of low rises;
7. **Chenopod low open shrubland** – Low open shrubland of *Atriplex bunburyana*, *Atriplex nummularia* subsp. *nummularia* and *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia* over herbland of *Sclerolaena diacantha* and *Eriochiton sclerolaenoides* with occasional emergent *Casuarina obesa* and *Eucalyptus griffithsii* on brown silty loams on flats;
8. **Chenopod low open shrubland** – Shrubland of *Dodonaea lobulata*, *Scaevola spinescens* and *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia* over *Ptilotus obovatus* with emergent *Casuarina obesa* and *Eucalyptus salubris* on red-brown loams on low stony rises;
9. **Eucalyptus griffithsii low open woodland with Triodia scariosa** – Low open woodland of *Eucalyptus griffithsii* over tall open shrubland of *Acacia burkittii* and *Acacia ramulosa* subsp. *ramulosa* over low open hummock grassland of *Triodia scariosa* on red sandy loams on flats; and
10. **Eucalyptus lesouefii low open woodland** – Low open woodland of *Eucalyptus lesouefii* over open shrubland of *Eremophila scoparia*, *Eremophila ionantha* and *Dodonaea lobulata* over *Olearia muelleri* on red-brown loams on flats and simple slopes.

A Level 1 flora and vegetation survey of a previous amendment area (CPS 6968/3) was undertaken by Borger, J and Radovic, D (2017) during the period 14 - 17 February 2017. The vegetation survey identified the following six additional vegetation types in the application area:

1. *Casuarina pauper* and *Alectryon oleifolius* subsp. *canescens* low open woodland to isolated trees over *Acacia ramulosa* var. *ramulosa*, *Pittosporum angustifolium* tall open shrubland over *Eremophila* and *Acacia* species open shrubland;
2. *Santalum spicatum*, *Eremophila glabra* subsp. *glabra*, *Acacia burkittii*, *Dodonaea lobulata* shrubland to tall shrubland over *Solanum nummularium*, *Enchylaena tomentosa*, *Atriplex vesicaria*, *Ptilotus obovatus* low sparse shrubland;
3. *Eucalyptus leptopoda* subsp. *subluta*, *Eucalyptus concinna*, *Casuarina pauper* isolated low mallee or trees over *Dodonaea lobulata*, *Eremophila alternifolia*, *Acacia prainii*, *Acacia tetragonophylla* open to sparse shrubland over *Ptilotus obovatus*, *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia*, *Dodonaea lobulata*, *Atriplex vesicaria* open shrubland;
4. *Grevillea juncifolia* subsp. *temulenta*, *Alectryon oleifolius* or *Casuarina pauper* low isolated trees over *Eremophila species*, *Dodonaea lobulata*, *Acacia burkittii*, *Acacia ramulosa*, *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia* shrubland over *Ptilotus obovatus* isolated low shrubs;
5. *Casuarina pauper* isolated low trees over *Dodonaea lobulata*, *Scaevola spinescens*, *Acacia burkittii* shrubland to open shrubland over *Ptilotus obovatus* low open shrubland; and
6. *Eucalyptus salmonophloia*, *Eucalyptus transcontinentalis*, *Eucalyptus clelandii* woodland over *Eremophila decipiens* subsp. *decipiens* isolated tall shrubs over *Scaevola spinescens*, *Maireana sedifolia*, *Eremophila scoparia*, *Eremophila glabra* subsp. *glabra* open shrubland over *Ptilotus obovatus*, *Scaevola spinescens*, *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia* low open shrubland over *Sclerolaena diacantha* low isolated forbs.

A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the current amendment area by Jenny Borger Botanical Consulting (JBBC) on 2 November, 2019. The following vegetation associations were recorded within the amendment area (JBBC, 2019):

1. ***Eucalyptus oleosa* isolated mallee over *Acacia caesaneura*, *Acacia incurvaneura* tall shrubland on low hills** – *Eucalyptus oleosa* subsp. *oleosa* isolated mallee trees in *Acacia ramulosa* var. *ramulosa*, *Acacia caesaneura*, *Acacia incurvaneura*, *Acacia aneura*, *Grevillea nematophylla* subsp. *nematophylla*, *Acacia burkittii* tall shrubland / low woodland over *Eremophila granitica*, *Eremophila eriocalyx*, *Prostanthera grylloana*, *Grevillea didymobotrya* subsp. *didymobotrya*, *Dodonaea lobulata* open shrubland over *Eremophila granitica*, *Eremophila eriocalyx*, *Prostanthera grylloana*, *Acacia ramulosa* var. *ramulosa*, *Scaevola spinescens*, *Dodonaea lobulata* low sparse shrubland over *Waitzia acuminata* low isolated forbs and low grass tussocks;
2. ***Eucalyptus griffithsii*, *Eucalyptus oleosa* low open mallee woodland over *Acacia* and *Grevillea* open shrubland on low hills** – *Eucalyptus griffithsii*, *Eucalyptus oleosa* low open mallee woodland over *Acacia aneura*, *Grevillea nematophylla* subsp. *nematophylla*, *Casuarina pauper*, *Acacia ramulosa* var. *ramulosa* tall open shrubland over *Acacia tetragonophylla*, *Grevillea nematophylla* subsp. *nematophylla*, *Scaevola spinescens*, *Dodonaea lobulata*, *Acacia aneura*, *Eremophila eriocalyx* open shrubland over *Scaevola spinescens*, *Dodonaea lobulata* low sparse shrubland;
3. ***Acacia aneura* shrubland over *Grevillea*, *Phebalium*, *Philothea* and *Prostanthera* shrubland on rocky outcrop on hills** – *Acacia aneura* tall open shrubland over *Grevillea nematophylla* subsp. *nematophylla*, *Phebalium filifolium*, *Philothea brucei* subsp. *brucei*, *Exocarpos aphyllus*, *Prostanthera grylloana* and *Dodonaea lobulata*, *Eremophila clarkei* shrubland;
4. ***Eucalyptus griffithsii* low open woodland over *Acacia* and *Grevillea* tall open shrubland on plains** – *Eucalyptus griffithsii* and *Casuarina pauper* low open forest to open woodland over *Acacia caesaneura*, *Acacia hemiteles*, *Acacia colletioides*, *nematophylla* subsp. *nematophylla*, *Acacia burkittii* tall open shrubland over *Acacia hemiteles*, *Acacia burkittii*, *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia*, *Acacia ramulosa* var. *ramulosa*, *Eremophila scoparia*, *Dodonaea rigida*, *Dodonaea lobulata* open shrubland over *Acacia hemiteles*, *Acacia ramulosa* var. *ramulosa*, *Scaevola spinescens*, *Eremophila scoparia*, *Acacia colletioides*, *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia* low open shrubland over *Triodia scariosa* and *Austrostipa elegantissima* low isolated tussock grasses;
5. ***Eucalyptus salmonophloia* open woodland over *Eremophila*, *Acacia* and *Exocarpos* sparse shrubland on plains** – *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* open woodland over *Eremophila interstans* subsp. *interstans* tall sparse shrubland over *Eremophila interstans* subsp. *interstans*, *Exocarpos aphyllus*, *Eremophila scoparia*, *Acacia hemiteles* sparse shrubland over *Acacia erinacea*, *Sclerolaena cuneata*, *Scaevola spinescens*, *Dissocarpus paradoxus*, *Sclerolaena diacantha* low sparse shrubland over *Roepera ovata* low isolated forbs; and
6. ***Eucalyptus* woodlands over *Eremophila*, *Dodonaea* and *Acacia* open to sparse shrublands on hills** – *Eucalyptus clelandiorum*, *Eucalyptus griffithsii*, *Eucalyptus salubris* woodland over *Eremophila* sp. Mt Jackson, *Eremophila scoparia*, *Dodonaea lobulata*, *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia*, *Casuarina pauper*, *Exocarpos aphyllus*, *Acacia effusifolia*, *Acacia tetragonophylla*, *Acacia burkittii* open shrubland over *Eremophila* sp. Mt Jackson, *Casuarina pauper*, *Olearia muelleri*, *Scaevola spinescens*, *Dodonaea lobulata*, *Ptilotus obovatus* low open shrubland over *Austrostipa nitida*, *Roepera aurantiaca*, *Sclerolaena* species, *Sida calyxhymentia* low isolated grass tussocks and forbs.

Clearing Description

Siberia Project.
Siberia Mining Corporation Pty Ltd proposes to clear up to 152.5 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 258 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities. The project is located approximately 20 kilometres north-northwest of Ora Banda, within the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

Vegetation Condition

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

To:

Degraded: Structure severely disturbed; regeneration to good condition requires intensive management (Keighery, 1994).

Comment

The vegetation condition was derived from a vegetation survey conducted by JBBC (2019).

The proposed clearing is for a mine site and infrastructure expansion at the Sand King – Missouri development (OraBanda, 2020). The Missouri and Sand King deposits have been subject to intermittent mining activities since the 1980's (OraBanda, 2020).

Clearing Permit CPS 6968/1 was granted by the Department of Mines and Petroleum (now Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety) on 5 May 2016 and was valid from 28 May 2016 to 28 May 2021. The permit authorised the clearing of up to 52.6 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 142 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities.

Clearing Permit CPS 6968/2 was granted on 29 September 2016, amending the permit to increase the amount of clearing authorised to 66 hectares, increase the permit boundary to 149 hectares and add Miscellaneous Licence 24/224 to the tenure.

Clearing Permit CPS 6968/3 was granted on 17 July 2017, amending the permit to increase the amount of clearing authorised to 96 hectares, increase the permit boundary to 204 hectares and add Mining Lease 24/208 to the tenure.

On 27 March 2020, the Permit Holder applied to amend CPS 6968/3 to increase the amount of clearing authorised to 152.5 hectares, increase the permit boundary to 258 hectares and extend the duration of the permit by five years.

3. Assessment of application against Clearing Principles

Comments

The Permit Holder has applied to amend the clearing permit to increase the area of clearing authorised by 56.5 hectares to approximately 152.5 hectares, increase the permit boundary by 54 hectares to approximately 258 hectares and extend the duration of the permit by five years to 27 May 2026. This increase to the clearing area and permit boundary is required due to a revised mine design and an increase in the proposed mine footprint (OraBanda, 2020).

A reconnaissance flora and vegetation survey of the amendment area was conducted by JBBC (2019) on 2 November 2019. Vegetation was dominated by *Eucalyptus* woodlands and *Acacia* shrublands (JBBC, 2019). No Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities were identified as potentially occurring in the amendment area and the field assessment did not record any (JBBC 2019; GIS Database).

A total of 75 flora species from 40 genera and 22 families were recorded within the amendment area, including two introduced species (JBBC, 2019). A desktop assessment identified 21 Priority flora previously recorded within 20 kilometres of the amendment area (JBBC, 2019). No Threatened or Priority flora species were identified during the field assessment of the application area (JBBC, 2019).

A fauna habitat assessment of the amendment area was conducted by Biostat (2020) on 11 December 2019 by car. Four fauna habitats were described within the amendment area; *Eucalyptus* woodland over shrubs on low stony/rocky hills, *Eucalyptus* mallee over shrublands on low stony hills, *Eucalyptus* woodland over low shrubs on sheetwash plains and mulga woodland on low stony hills (Biostat, 2020). None of the fauna habitats described were restricted to the amendment area. All fauna habitats were described as degraded and being of limited value to fauna (Biostat, 2020). The amendment area was not traversed on foot during the fauna survey, however during the flora survey no evidence of malleefowl were recorded (Biostat, 2020; JBBC, 2019).

The application area lies within the Coolgardie, Moriarty, Bunyip, Gumland and Illaara land systems (DPIRD, 2020). The Bunyip land system is largely made up of gilgaied alluvial plains within sluggish drainage tracts associated with Greenstone landforms, which are susceptible to erosion and issues that arise from water starvation (DPIRD, 2020). The Coolgardie and Moriarty's alluvial drainage tracts are also heavy textured soils and are susceptible to soil erosion if the perennial shrub cover is removed or the soil surface is disturbed (DPIRD, 2020). The Gumland system ranges from depositional surfaces with broad shallow valley plains, typically receiving flow from greenstone hills. Higher loamy plains and restricted areas of slightly more elevated stony surfaces and plains with fine gravelly ironstone mantles and central drainage tracts. The Illaara system is dominated by gently undulating plains and occasional low rises with ironstone gravel mantles, slightly lower level to gently undulating plains with calcrete rubbles. The proposed clearing of up to 152.5 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 258 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities may cause appreciable land degradation. Potential land degradation impacts as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a staged clearing condition.

There are no permanent watercourses or wetlands within the area proposed to clear (GIS Database). A number of seasonal creek line passes through the permit area and amendment area (GIS Database). Potential impacts to vegetation growing in association with the watercourse may be minimised by the implementation of a watercourse management condition.

The amendment application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with s.51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, and the proposed clearing is at variance to Principle (f), may be at variance to Principle (g), is not likely to be at variance to Principles (a), (b),

(c), (d), (h), (i) and (j) and is not at variance to Principle (e).

Methodology Biostat (2020)
DPIRD (2020)
JBBC (2019)
OraBanda (2020)

GIS Database:

- DPaW Tenure
- Hydrography, Lakes
- Hydrography, Linear
- IBRA Australia
- Imagery
- Pre-European Vegetation
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities boundaries
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities buffers
- Threatened and Priority Flora
- Threatened Fauna

Planning Instrument, Native Title, previous EPA decision or other matter.

Comments

There are two native title claims (WC2017/001 and WC2017/007) over the area under application (DPLH, 2020). These claims have been registered with the National Native Title Tribunal on behalf of the claimant groups. However, the mining tenure has been granted in accordance with the future act regime of the *Native Title Act 1993* and the nature of the act (i.e. the proposed clearing activity) has been provided for in that process, therefore, the granting of a clearing permit is not a future act under the *Native Title Act 1993*.

There are no registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the application area (DPLH, 2020). 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 Water and Environmental Regulation and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, 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 amendment application was advertised on 4 May 2020 by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

Methodology DPLH (2020)

4. References

- Biostat (2020) Vegetation Clearing – Fauna Assessment. Report prepared for Ora Banda Mining, by Biostat Pty Ltd, March 2020.
- DPIRD (2020) Advice received in relation to Clearing Permit Application CPS 6968/4. Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia, June 2020.
- DPLH (2020) Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.
<http://maps.daa.wa.gov.au/AHIS/> (Accessed 27 May 2020).
- JBBC (2019) Targeted Vegetation and Flora Survey of the Siberia Gold Operations. Report prepared for Ora Banda Mining Ltd, by Jenny Borger Botanical Consulting, November 2019.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Borger, J and Radovic, D (2017) Vegetation and Flora Survey of the Proposed Siberia Camp. Report prepared for Eastern Goldfields Limited, by Jennifer Borger and Daniel Radovic, February 2017.
- OraBanda (2020) Siberia Gold Operations Application Amendment for CPA 6869/3 Sand King and Missouri Pit Extensions M24/39, M24/960 and L24/224. Report prepared by OraBanda Mining Limited, March 2020.
- Plantecology Consulting (2015) Siberia Mine, Davyhurst Flora and Vegetation Survey. Report prepared for Piacentini and Son Ltd, by Plantecology Consulting, December 2015.

5. Glossary

Acronyms:

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)
DBCA	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia
DEC	Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (now DBCA and DWER)
DoEE	Department of the Environment and Energy, Australian Government
DER	Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia (now DWER)
DMIRS	Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Western Australia
DMP	Department of Mines and Petroleum, Western Australia (now DMIRS)
DPIRD	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia
DPLH	Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, Western Australia
DRF	Declared Rare Flora
DoE	Department of the Environment, Australian Government (now DoEE)
DoW	Department of Water, Western Australia (now DWER)
DPaW	Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia (now DBCA)
DSEWPaC	Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (now DoEE)
DWER	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Western Australia
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:

{DBCA (2019) Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora and Fauna. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia}:-

T **Threatened species:**

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 that subset of 'Specially Protected Fauna' listed under schedules 1 to 3 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018* for Threatened Fauna.

Threatened flora is that subset of 'Rare Flora' listed under schedules 1 to 3 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2018* for Threatened Flora.

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 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. Published under schedule 1 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018* for critically endangered fauna or the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2018* for critically endangered flora.

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. Published under schedule 2 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018* for endangered fauna or the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2018* for endangered flora.

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. Published under schedule 3 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018* for vulnerable fauna or the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2018* for vulnerable flora.

Extinct Species:

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).

Published as presumed extinct under schedule 4 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018* for extinct fauna or the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2018* for extinct flora.

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. If listing of a species as extinct in the wild occurs, then a schedule will be added to the applicable notice.

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).

Includes 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 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.

Published as migratory birds protected under an international agreement under schedule 5 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018*.

CD Species of special conservation interest (conservation dependent fauna)
Fauna of special conservation need being species 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).

Published as conservation dependent fauna under schedule 6 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018*.

OS Other specially protected species
Fauna 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).

Published as other specially protected fauna under schedule 7 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018*.

P

Priority species:

Possibly threatened species that do not meet survey criteria, 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 priority for survey and evaluation of conservation status so that consideration can be given to their declaration as threatened fauna or flora.

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

Assessment of Priority codes is based on the Western Australian distribution of the species, unless the distribution in WA is part of a contiguous population extending into adjacent States, as defined by the known spread of locations.

P1

Priority One - Poorly-known species

Species that are known from one or a few locations (generally five or less) which are potentially at risk. All occurrences are either: very small; or on lands not managed for conservation, e.g. agricultural or pastoral lands, urban areas, road and rail reserves, gravel reserves and active mineral leases; or otherwise under threat of habitat destruction or degradation. Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from one or more locations but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and appear to be under immediate threat from known threatening processes. Such species are in urgent need of further survey.

P2

Priority Two - Poorly-known species

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

P3

Priority Three - Poorly-known species

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

P4

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

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

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

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

Principles for clearing native vegetation:

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

- (i) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.
- (j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.