



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7386/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Golden Eagle Mining Limited

1.3. Property details

Property: Miscellaneous Licence 15/355
Local Government Area: Coolgardie

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 19 February 2017

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. Two Beard vegetation associations are located within the application area (GIS Database):

**Beard vegetation association 8: Medium woodland; salmon gum & gimlet; and
Beard vegetation association 1413: Shrublands; acacia, casuarina & melaleuca thicket**

A Level 1 flora and vegetation survey has been conducted within the application area. Five vegetation types were identified (MWH, 2016a):

- *Eucalyptus griffithsii* and/or *E. leptopoda* subsp. *leptopoda* open mallee woodland to isolated mallee trees over *Acacia resinimarginea* tall shrubland over *Phebalium filifolium* sparse low shrubland over *Triodia scariosa* hummock grassland (Vegetation code ArTs);
- *Eucalyptus griffithsii* (+/- *E. horistes* / *E. platycorys* / *E. rigidula*) mid mallee woodland over *Acacia resinimarginea* tall shrubland over *Beyeria sulcata* var. *sulcata* low open to sparse shrubland over *Triodia scariosa* hummock grassland (Vegetation code EgArTs)
- *Eucalyptus clelandii* (+/- *E. yilgarnensis*, *E. salmonophloia*, *E. urna*) open woodland over *Melaleuca pauperiflora* subsp. *fastigiata* scattered patches of closed shrubland (not continuous through the area) over *Scaevola spinescens*, *Alyxia buxifolia* and *Eremophila* spp. mid to low open shrubland (Vegetation code EcMp);
- Mixed Eucalypts comprising *Eucalyptus griffithsii* and/or *E. platycorys*, and/or *E. celastroides* subsp. *virella* mid open mallee woodland over *Eremophila caperata*, *Acacia hemiteles* and *Scaevola spinescens* mid mixed shrubland with occasional patches of *Melaleuca ? hamata* (Vegetation code EgEpEc);
- *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* low open woodland over *Acacia burkittii* tall sparse Shrubland over *Acacia hemiteles* mid sparse shrubland over *Scaevola spinescens*, *Alyxia buxifolia* and *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia* low open shrubland (Vegetation code EsAbAh).

Clearing Description Geko Gold Project
Golden Eagle Mining Limited proposes to clear up to 37 hectares of native vegetation within a total boundary of approximately 51 hectares, for the purpose of haul road construction. The project is located approximately 25 kilometres north-west of Coolgardie in the Shire of Coolgardie.

Vegetation Condition Very Good: Vegetation structure altered, obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994);
To:
Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery, 1994).

Comment The vegetation condition was derived from a flora and vegetation survey conducted by MWH (2016a; 2016b).

3. Assessment of application against Clearing Principles

(a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.

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

The application area occurs within the Eastern Goldfields subregion of the Coolgardie Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion (GIS Database). This subregion is characterised by gently undulating plains interrupted in the west with low hills and a series of large playa lakes in the western half (CALM, 2002). The vegetation is dominated by Mallees, Acacia thickets and shrub-heaths on sandplains, diverse Eucalyptus woodlands occur around salt lakes, on ranges, and in valets, and dwarf shrublands of samphire around salt lakes (CALM, 2002).

The proposed clearing will allow for the construction of a haul road. The haul road will service the Geko Gold project area during the operational stage of the mine and will then be used to provide access to the surrounding tenements in order for exploration activities to continue.

A Level 1 flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the application area by MWH Australia Pty Ltd in April 2016. The vegetation present within the application area was considered to range in condition from 'Very Good' to Excellent' with the majority of the vegetation considered to be in an 'Excellent' condition (MWH, 2016a). While the region is known to contain a high level of biodiversity, the level of biodiversity within the application area is unlikely to differ substantially from the immediate surrounds (MWH, 2016a).

No Threatened Ecological Communities or Priority Ecological Communities are known within the application area and none occur within a 50 kilometre radius (GIS Database).

One Priority flora species has potentially been recorded within the application area. It is thought that *Acacia cylindrical* (P3) may have been recorded within the application area, however the single specimen collected lacked flowering and/or fruiting material and could not be conclusively identified (MWH, 2016a; MWH, 2016b). Another single specimen collected from the *Hakea* genus did not resemble any other known species from the region and could not be identified to species level (MWH, 2016a; MWH, 2016b). *Acacia cylindrical* has commonly been collected in the Southern Cross to Bullfinch area and has a scattered distribution across the Avon Wheatbelt and Coolgardie IBRA (MWH, 2016). The only *Hakea* species of conservation significance known from the local area (20 kilometres radius) is *Hakea rigida* (P2) (DPaW, 2017). Given that there are only two individual plant specimens that have not yet been accurately identified; the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact on the conservation status of Priority flora species, or result in measurable impacts at a species or population level. No other Priority flora species were recorded or are thought to occur within the application area (MWH, 2016a).

Fauna habitats recorded within the application area are typical of the bioregion and are well represented (MWH, 2016a). With the exception of prospective Malleefowl habitat (*Leipoa ocellata*), there are no habitat types present within the application area that could be considered necessary for the continued survival of local fauna species, including species of conservation significance (MWH, 2016a; MWH, 2016b).

No introduced flora species (weeds) have been identified within the application area (MWH, 2016a). Clearing activities have the potential to result in the introduction or spread of weed species, which may negatively impact on the biodiversity of the local area. Potential impacts to biodiversity as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a weed management condition.

The proposed clearing of 37 hectares of native vegetation within a clearing permit boundary of approximately 51 hectares, is unlikely to result in significant impacts to biodiversity of the local area or region.

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

Methodology CALM (2002)
DPaW (2017)
MWH (2016a)
MWH (2016b)

GIS Database:
- IBRA WA (Regions - Sub Regions)
- Pre-European vegetation
- 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 may be at variance to this Principle**

A Level 1 reconnaissance fauna survey was undertaken within the application area during April 2016 by MWH. The fauna habitats recorded within the application area were considered to be typical and well represented throughout the bioregion (MWH, 2016a; MWH, 2016b), and the local area retains large amounts of native vegetation (GIS Database).

Although there are habitats recorded within the application area that may be suitable for a number of local

fauna species (including species of conservation significance), the Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) was the only species of conservation significance considered likely to be adversely impacted by the proposed clearing (MWH, 2016a).

The application area contains habitat suitable for Malleefowl and three Malleefowl mounds were recorded within, or within close proximity to, the application area (MWH, 2016a; MWH, 2016b). One mound was categorised as inactive and the remaining two were categorised as disused/extinct (MWH, 2016a; MWH, 2016b). The inactive mound will be removed as a result of clearing activities, however the removal of a single mound is unlikely to have a significant impact on the local Malleefowl population, as substantial area of habitat occurs outside the areas proposed to be cleared (MWH, 2016a). The proponent has committed to pre-clearing inspections to assess if any new Malleefowl activity has taken place within the application area and management actions will be triggered in the event that an active mound is identified. Potential impacts to Malleefowl as a result of the proposed clearing may be further minimised by the implementation of a fauna management condition. The fauna management condition will require inspections take place prior to clearing whilst still ensuring that Malleefowl cannot re-establish/colonise the application area before clearing can be completed.

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

Methodology MWH (2016a)
MWH (2016b)

(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 species of Threatened flora known to occur within the application area (DPaW, 2017; GIS Database). No Threatened flora species were recorded within the application area during the Level 1 flora survey (MWH, 2016a; MWH, 2016b).

Despite above average rainfall prior to the flora survey, very few flora taxa were flowering and there was a noticeable absence of annuals (MWH, 2016a). This was not considered a major limitation as vegetation associations were delineated and targeted searches for flora of conservation significance were not hampered (MWH, 2016a; MWH, 2016b). Threatened flora species are not considered likely to persist within the application area (MWH, 2016a).

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

Methodology DPaW (2017)
MWH (2016a)
MWH (2016b)

GIS Database
- Threatened and Priority Flora List

(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

According to available datasets, there are no known Threatened Ecological Communities within the application area (GIS Database), no TECs were recorded within the application area during the flora survey (MWH, 2016a) and no TECs have been recorded within a 50 kilometre radius of the application area (GIS Database).

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

Methodology MWH (2016a)

GIS Database:
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities Buffers
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities Boundaries

(e) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.

Comments Proposal is not at variance to this Principle

The application area occurs within the Coolgardie Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion, in which approximately 98% of the pre-European vegetation remains (see table below) (GIS Database; Government of Western Australia, 2015).

The vegetation within the application area has been mapped as Beard vegetation associations 8 and 1413 (GIS Database). As the below table illustrates, both Beard vegetation association are well represented, retaining at least 50% of pre-European vegetation within the State and approximately 98% within the bioregion

(Government of Western Australia, 2015). Given the amount of vegetation remaining in the local area and bioregion, the vegetation proposed to be cleared is not considered to represent a remnant within an extensively cleared area.

	Pre-European area (ha)*	Current extent (ha)*	Remaining %*	Conservation Status**	Pre-European % in DPaW Managed Lands
IBRA Bioregion - Coolgardie	12,912,204	12,648,491	~ 97.9	Least Concern	~ 15.9
Beard veg assoc. - State					
8	694,638	346,570	~ 49.9	Least Concern	~ 6.7
1413	1,679,917	1,286,968	~ 76.6	Least Concern	~ 11.3
Beard veg assoc. - Bioregion					
8	280,248	275,589	~ 98.3	Least Concern	~ 9.5
1413	1,061,213	1,042,554	~ 98.2	Least Concern	~ 18.2

* Government of Western Australia (2015)

** 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 (2015)

GIS Database:

- DPaW Tenure
- IBRA Australia
- Imagery
- Pre-European Vegetation

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

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

There are no major wetlands or watercourses mapped or recorded within the application area (MWH, 2016; GIS Database). One minor non-perennial watercourse crosses the central part of the application area (GIS Database). No vegetation was noted as growing in association with this drainage line during a Level 1 flora survey conducted over the application area (MWH, 2016b). Impacts are not anticipated to be significant and can be managed via the installation of culverts. Potential impacts to the watercourses that may result from the proposed clearing may be further minimised by the implementation of a watercourse management condition.

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

Methodology MWH (2016a)
MWH (2016b)

GIS Database:

- Hydrography, linear

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

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

There is evidence of existing land degradation within the application area from previous exploration and drilling activities (MWH, 2016a). MWH (2016a) conducted physical and chemical sampling of the soils within the application area. Soil samples had a soil texture dominated by sand (69 to 88%) and clay (9 to 21%) with some silt. These soils had a texture class ranging between loamy sand to sandy clay loam (MWH, 2016a).

Given the soil properties of the soils present within the application area, the proposed clearing is not likely to increase the risk of soil erosion or nutrient export (MWH, 2016a). The soils contain carbonate minerals such as gypsum and the remaining surrounding vegetation is expected to limit erosion, although it is possible that some localised erosion may occur as a result of clearing. Potential land degradation issues that may result from the proposed clearing may be further minimised by the implementation of a stage clearing condition and a vegetation management condition.

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

Methodology MWH (2016a)

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

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

The application area is not located within or adjacent to any conservation areas (GIS Database). The closest conservation area is situated approximately 40 kilometres southwest of the application area (MWH, 2016a; GIS Database).

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

Methodology MWH (2016a)

GIS Database:
- DPaW Tenure
- Imagery

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

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

The application area is not located within a Public Drinking Water Source Area (GIS Database).

The application area is located within an arid to semi-arid environment (CALM, 2002); with an average annual rainfall of 271 millimetres and an evaporation rate that far exceeds this figure (BoM, 2017). No major wetlands or watercourses occur within the application area; however a minor non-perennial watercourse crosses the central part of the application area (GIS Database). There are also two vegetated claypans located within close proximity to the western end of the application area. Soil sampling indicates that the waterlogging, surface runoff and erosion are generally unlikely to occur (MWH, 2016a). The proponent will implement management measures such as the installation of culverts to prevent heavy sediment loads entering surface water flows (MWH, 2016a). Potential impacts to the quality of surface water that may result from the proposed clearing may be further minimised by the implementation of a watercourse management condition.

Groundwater salinity within the application is between 14,000 – 35,000 milligrams/Litre Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) and is considered saline (GIS Database). The proposed clearing of up to 37 hectares of native vegetation, in an area where extensive amounts of vegetation remains, is unlikely to result in a deterioration of the groundwater quality.

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

Methodology BoM (2017)
CALM (2002)
MWH (2016a)

GIS Database:
- Groundwater Salinity, Satewide
- Hydrography, linear
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (PDWSAs)
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas

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

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

Given the predominately sandy nature of the soils (MWH, 2016a) and high evaporation rate (BoM, 2017), the proposed clearing is unlikely to result an increased incidence or intensity of flooding. Soil sampling has also indicated that waterlogging is unlikely to be an issue within the application area (MWH, 2016a). The proponent will implement surface water management measures to minimise the potential for waterlogging and drainage bunds will be used where required.

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

Methodology BoM (2017)
MWH (2016a)

Planning instrument, Native Title, RIWI Act Licence, EP Act Licence, Works Approval, Previous EPA decision or other matter.

Comments

There are no native title claims over the application area (DAA, 2017). 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 Sites of Aboriginal Significance located in the area applied to clear (DAA, 2017). It is the proponent's responsibility to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* and ensure that no Sites of Aboriginal Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

It is the proponent's responsibility to liaise with the Department of Environment Regulation, the 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 19 December 2016 by the Department of Mines and Petroleum inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received.

Methodology DAA (2017)

4. References

- BoM (2017) Climate Statistics for Australian Locations. A Search for Climate Statistics, Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology. <<http://www.bom.gov.au>>.
- CALM (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographical Subregions. Department of Conservation and Land Management.
- DAA (2017) Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System, Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Perth, Western Australia <<http://maps.dia.wa.gov.au>> Accessed January 2017.
- Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002) Biodiversity Action Planning. Action planning for native biodiversity at multiple scales; catchment bioregional, landscape, local. Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Victoria.
- DPaW (2017) NatureMap, Department of Parks and Wildlife <<http://naturemap.dec.wa.gov.au>> Accessed January 2017.
- Government of Western Australia (2015) 2015 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of June 2014. WA Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- MWH (2016a) Geko Gold Project Native Vegetation Clearing Permit Application Supporting Document – L15/355. Report prepared for Golden Eagle Mining Ltd by MWH Australia Pty Ltd, December 2016.
- MWH (2016b) Geko Level 1 Flora, Vegetation and Fauna Assessment and Targeted Survey for Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*). Unpublished report prepared for Golden Eagle Mining Ltd by MWH Australia Pty Ltd, August 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.