



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7424/1
 Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: **Exterra Resources Limited**

1.3. Property details

Property: Mining Lease 39/649
 Mining Lease 39/650
 Miscellaneous Licence 39/230
 Local Government Area: Shire of Menzies
 Colloquial name: Second Fortune Gold project

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
16		Mechanical Removal	Access Road and Airstrip and associated activities

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
 Decision Date: 23 February 2017

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description	<p>Beard vegetation associations have been broadly mapped for the whole of Western Australia. The clearing permit application area has been broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation association (GIS Database): 18: Low woodland; mulga (<i>Acacia aneura</i>) (GIS Database).</p> <p>MBS Environmental (2013) conducted a desktop flora survey and on-site vegetation assessment of the Second Fortune minesite area, and parts of the current application area, during 2012. The minesite is located between and immediately adjacent to the current application areas. MBS Environmental (2016) reviewed the previous survey results and conducted a further desktop flora survey for the current application areas in 2016. The vegetation of the Second Fortune area was described as sparse open mulga (<i>Acacia aneura</i>) woodland over sparse shrubland of <i>Acacia</i> spp. and <i>Eremophila</i> spp., with much of the current application areas previously disturbed by the existing road and airstrip (MBS Environmental, 2013; 2016). No Threatened Flora, Priority Flora or other flora species of conservation significance were recorded during the on-site survey of the minesite area (MBS Environmental, 2013). An on-site survey has not been conducted over the current application areas (MBS Environmental, 2016).</p>
Clearing Description	<p>Second Fortune Gold Project.</p> <p>Exterra Resources Limited (Exterra Resources) proposes to clear up to 16 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 90 hectares, for the purposes of an access road and an airstrip. The project is located approximately 80 kilometres south of Laverton, within the Shire of Menzies.</p>
Vegetation Condition	<p>Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994).</p>
Comment	<p>The vegetation condition was derived from a vegetation survey conducted by MBS Environmental (2013) and analysis of aerial imagery.</p> <p>The proposed clearing is for the construction of an access road approximately 5 kilometres long, running west from the Second Fortune minesite, and the upgrade of an existing airstrip located immediately to the east of the minesite (MBS Environmental, 2016). The majority of the access road corridor follows the route of an existing road, with clearing proposed to upgrade and widen the existing road (MBS Environmental, 2016). Approximately 1.5 kilometres of the proposed access road corridor will require construction of a new road section (MBS Environmental, 2016). The proposed clearing associated with the airstrip upgrade is located immediately adjacent to and surrounding the existing airstrip and will allow for additional airstrip related infrastructure (MBS Environmental, 2016). The largest area of proposed clearing for the airstrip upgrade is a 300 metre by 100 metre area at the eastern end of the existing airstrip to extend the length of the runway (MBS Environmental, 2016).</p>

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 clearing permit application area is located within the East Murchison subregion of the Murchison Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion (GIS Database). The East Murchison subregion represents a total area of approximately 7.8 million hectares, and is characterised by an arid climate with a mainly winter rainfall of approximately 200 millimetres per year (CALM, 2002). The subregion is rich and diverse in both its flora and fauna however most species are wide ranging and usually occur in at least one, and often several subregions (CALM, 2002). Vegetation in the subregion is dominated by mulga woodlands, often rich in ephemerals, hummock grasslands, saltbush shrublands and samphires (CALM, 2002).

The majority of the application area is immediately adjacent to areas of existing disturbance along an existing road and an existing airstrip. The application area is located partly within the Yundamindra pastoral station (GIS Database), and previous vegetation disturbance has occurred from grazing activities (MBS Environmental, 2016).

Database searches determined that eight fauna species of conservation significance may occur within the application area, based on known distributions (MBS Environmental, 2016). Of these, the following three bird species: *Apus pacificus* (Fork-tailed Swift); *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) and *Polytelis alexandrae* (Princess Parrot); were considered to have the potential to occur within the application areas, based on habitat preferences. The remaining fauna species (all wide-ranging bird species) were considered very unlikely to be found in the application areas, due to a lack of suitable habitat (MBS Environmental, 2016).

Database searches identified several Priority flora species with the potential to occur within the application area, based on known distributions (MBS Environmental, 2013). However, the small area and linear nature of the proposed clearing is unlikely to impact the conservation status of any Priority flora species, if present.

MBS Environmental conducted an on-site assessment of the existing minesite area, immediately adjacent to, and partly overlapping the existing application areas, during 2012. The survey consisted of comprehensive traverses of the project area on-foot, and focussed on identifying the presence of any conservation significant flora, fauna, or significant fauna habitats. MBS Environmental (2013) reported that the vegetation surrounding the minesite area had been substantially disturbed by historical mining activities (MBS Environmental, 2013). The current application areas have been similarly disturbed by the existing road and airstrip (MBS Environmental, 2016). No conservation significant flora, fauna, or fauna habitats were identified during the on-site survey of the minesite area (MBS Environmental, 2013), and none are considered likely to occur within the current application areas (MBS Environmental, 2016). No Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities have been recorded within or in close proximity to the application area (MBS Environmental, 2016; GIS Database).

The Murchison Bioregion remains largely uncleared (Government of Western Australia, 2015), and the landforms, vegetation associations and fauna habitat types found within the application area are well represented within the region (MBS Environmental, 2013; 2016; GIS Database). Considering the existing disturbance within the majority of the application area, the vegetation proposed to be cleared is unlikely to represent a higher level of biodiversity than surrounding undisturbed areas.

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

Methodology

CALM (2002)
Government of Western Australia (2015)
MBS Environmental (2013)
MBS Environmental (2016)

GIS Database:
- IBRA Australia
- Pastoral Leases
- Pre-European Vegetation
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities - Boundaries

(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

The application areas for the access road and airstrip have suffered previous disturbance, reducing the potential value for fauna habitat. The fauna habitat of the application area is primarily sparse open mulga woodland (MBS Environmental, 2013; 2016), and this habitat type is widespread and in better condition in surrounding areas (MBS Environmental, 2013; 2016; GIS Database). The narrow corridors of the proposed clearing for the access road and airstrip, located immediately adjacent to existing infrastructure, are unlikely to represent significant fauna habitat, in comparison to adjacent undisturbed areas.

A desktop survey identified several species of fauna of conservation significance with the potential to occur within the application areas, based on known distributions and habitat preferences (MBS Environmental, 2016). However, the majority of these species are highly mobile and all have wide distributions, and are unlikely to be

specifically dependant on the habitats within the application area.

The malleefowl was identified as possibly occurring within the local area (MBS Environmental, 2016), and may forage through the application areas. The application areas have not been searched for malleefowl mounds and there is the possibility that some may occur, although it is unclear whether the vegetation of the local area contains sufficient leaf litter to support mound building. The application areas should be searched for malleefowl mounds prior to clearing, and impacts to any malleefowl mounds should be avoided.

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

Methodology MBS Environmental (2013)
MBS Environmental (2016)

GIS Database:
- Threatened Fauna
- Pre-European Vegetation

(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

There are no records of Threatened flora within or in close proximity to the application area, and none are expected to occur (MBS Environmental, 2013; 2016).

Due to the linear nature of the application areas and the extent of previous vegetation disturbance, the application area is unlikely to be necessary for the continued existence of any species of Threatened (rare) flora.

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

Methodology MBS Environmental (2013)
MBS Environmental (2016)

GIS Database:
- Threatened and Priority Flora
- Pre-European Vegetation

(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

There are no known Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC's) located within a 50 kilometre radius of the application area (GIS Database). No TEC's were recorded within the minesite area, and none are expected to occur within the current application area (MBS Environmental, 2013; 2016).

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

Methodology MBS Environmental (2013)
MBS Environmental (2016)

GIS Database:
- 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 area applied to be cleared is located within the Murchison IBRA bioregion (GIS Database). There is approximately 99% of Pre-European vegetation remaining within the bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2015).

The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as Beard vegetation association: 18 – Low woodland; mulga (*Acacia aneura*) (GIS Database). Approximately 99% of the pre-European extent of this vegetation association remains uncleared at both the state and bioregional level (Government of Western Australia, 2015). Hence, the vegetation proposed to be cleared does not represent a significant 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 - Murchison	28,120,586	28,044,823	~ 99	Least Concern	7.78
Beard vegetation association - State					
18	19,892,304	19,843,727	~ 99	Least Concern	6.62
Beard vegetation association - Bioregion					
18	12,403,172	12,363,252	~ 99	Least Concern	4.96

* 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:
- IBRA Australia
- 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**

There are no permanent watercourses or wetlands within the application area (GIS database).

A few minor non-perennial watercourses and drainage lines pass through the application areas (MBS Environmental, 2016; GIS Database). Drainage lines in the region are dry for most of the year, only flowing briefly following significant rainfall events (MBS Environmental, 2016).

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is at variance to this Principle. However, the proposed clearing is unlikely to result in any significant impact to vegetation associated with water courses. Potential impacts to drainage lines may be minimised by the implementation of a watercourse management condition.

Methodology MBS Environmental (2016)

GIS Database:
- Hydrography, lakes
- Hydrography, linear

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

Comments Proposal may be at variance to this Principle

The application area falls within the Gundockerta, Jundee, Leonora and Rainbow land systems (GIS Database). These land systems have been broadly mapped and described in technical bulletins produced by the former Department of Agriculture (now the Department of Agriculture and Food).

The Gundockerta land system is described as gently undulating plains generally with abundant stony mantles, and less extensive, lower alluvial plains with relief usually less than 15 metres (Pringle et al., 1994). This land system may be susceptible to erosion where the stony mantle has been disturbed or vegetation coverage has been removed (Pringle et al., 1994).

The Jundee land system consists of hardpan plains with ironstone gravel mantles, supporting mulga shrublands (Pringle et. al., 1994). Gravel mantles generally provide effective protection against soil erosion, however, impedance to natural sheet flows can initiate soil erosion and cause water starvation to vegetation downslope (Pringle et. al., 1994).

The Leonora land system consists of greenstone hills and stony plains, supporting chenopod shrublands (Pringle et. al., 1994). Stony mantles generally provide effective protection against soil erosion, however drainage tracts can be highly susceptible to water erosion if the vegetation cover is removed (Pringle et. al., 1994).

The Rainbow Land System is described as alluvial plains with fine ironstone gravel mantles (Pringle et al, 1994). This system is generally not susceptible to soil erosion, however, impedance of sheet flow may result in soil erosion and reduced water availability to vegetation downslope from disturbed areas (Pringle et al., 1994).

Based on the above, the proposed clearing may be at variance to this Principle. Potential land degradation as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a watercourse management condition.

Methodology Pringle et. al. (1994)

GIS Database:
- Rangeland Land System Mapping

(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 nearest conservation area to the Second Fortune project area is Goongarrie National Park, which is situated approximately 90 kilometres to the south-west (GIS Database). The proposed clearing is unlikely to have any impacts on the environmental values of this or any other conservation area.

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

Methodology GIS Database:
- DPaW Tenure

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

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

The eastern end of the proposed road corridor falls within a Water Reserve (Crown Reserve 5584) (GIS Database). This reserve is not a Public Drinking Water Source Area, and the Department of Water (DoW) has advised that this water reserve is no longer required and is in the process of being cancelled (DoW Advice, as cited in MBS Environmental, 2013).

The western end of the proposed road corridor passes through a small Water Reserve (Crown Reserve 12216) (GIS Database). This reserve is not a Public Drinking Water Source Area, and the existing road passes through this reserve. The small area of clearing for the additional road section, is unlikely to have any significant impacts on the water reserve.

A few minor, drainage lines pass through the application area (GIS Database). These drainage lines are dry for most of the year, only flowing briefly following significant rainfall events (MBS Environmental, 2016). The topography of the application area is relatively flat, and the soils have a relatively low risk of erosion due to a stony surface mantle. Hence, surface water runoff is unlikely to transport significant quantities of sedimentation during rainfall events (MBS Environmental, 2016). The proposed clearing is unlikely to have any significant impact on surface water quality.

Groundwater within the application area occurs at a depth of approximately 8-11 metres (MBS Environmental,

2013). The application area falls within the Raeside-Ponton catchment area, which covers a total area of approximately 1,158,953 hectares (GIS Database). The proposed clearing of 16 hectares of sparse mulga vegetation within this catchment area is unlikely to have any significant impact on groundwater levels or quality.

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

Methodology MBS Environmental (2013)
MBS Environmental (2016)

GIS Database:
- Hydrography, Linear
- Public Drinking Water Source 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**

The climate of the region is semi-arid, with most rain received during the winter months, and occasional heavy rainfall events occurring during the summer. The application area has an average annual rainfall of approximately 234 millimetres and an average annual evaporation rate of approximately 2,763 millimetres (MBS Environmental, 2013).

There are no permanent water courses or waterbodies within the application area (GIS Database). The local soils are usually protected by a stony mantle which induces sheet flows during heavy rainfall and may result in temporary localised flooding. However the proposed clearing of 16 hectares of sparse mulga vegetation within a total application area of approximately 90 hectares is unlikely to increase the incidence or intensity of natural flooding events.

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

Methodology MBS Environmental (2013)

GIS Database:
- Hydrography, linear

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

Comments

The clearing permit application was advertised on 9 January 2017 by the Department of Mines and Petroleum inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

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

It is the proponent's responsibility to liaise with the Department of Environment Regulation, the Department of Water, and the Department of Parks and Wildlife, to determine whether a Works Approval, Water Licence, Bed and Banks Permit, or any other licences or approvals are required for the proposed works.

Methodology DAA (2017)

4. References

- CALM (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographic Subregions in 2002. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.
- DAA (2017) Aboriginal Heritage Enquiry System. Department of Aboriginal Affairs. <http://maps.dia.wa.gov.au/AHIS2/> (Accessed 17 February 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.
- Government of Western Australia (2015) 2015 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of June 2015. WA Department of Parks and Wildlife, 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.

MBS Environmental (2013) Purpose Permit Application. Second Fortune Project. Assessment of Clearing Principles. Report prepared for Exterra Resources Limited, by Martinick Bosch Sell Pty Ltd, Perth.

MBS Environmental (2016) Clearing Permit Application. Second Fortune Access Road and Airstrip. Report prepared for Exterra Resources Limited, by Martinick Bosch Sell Pty Ltd, Perth.

Pringle, H.J.R., Van Vreeswyk, A.M.E., and Gilligan, S.A. (1994) An Inventory and Condition Survey of the north-eastern Goldfields, Western Australia. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.

5. Glossary

Acronyms:

BoM	Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Government
DAA	Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Western Australia
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia
DEC	Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (now DPaW and DER)
DEE	Department of the Environment and Energy, Australian Government
DER	Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia
DMP	Department of Mines and Petroleum, Western Australia
DRF	Declared Rare Flora
DoE	Department of the Environment, Australian Government (now DEE)
DoW	Department of Water, Western Australia
DPaW	Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia
DSEWPaC	Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (now DEE)
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> , Western Australia
EPBC Act	<i>Environmental 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.