Government of Western Australia
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7715/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: **Big Bell Gold Operations Pty Ltd**

1.3. Property details

Property: Mining Lease 51/199
Mining Lease 51/322
Mining Lease 51/670
Mining Lease 51/671
Local Government Area: Shire of Meekatharra
Colloquial name: Sabbath and Five Mile Well Project

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
324		Mechanical Removal	Mineral Production

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 26 October 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 and are useful to look at vegetation in a regional context.

The following Beard vegetation associations has been mapped within the application areas (Government of Western Australia, 2015; GIS Database):

- 18: Low Woodland; mulga (*Acacia aneura*)
- 29: Sparse low woodland; mulga, discontinuous in scattered groups.

A flora and vegetation survey was undertaken by MWH in June 2016 that covered part of the application areas and an additional area outside of the application areas. The survey identified the following vegetation types within the application area (MWH, 2016):

AaAi: *Acacia aneura*, and *Acacia incurvaneura* shrubland, over *Eremophila glutinosa, Eremophila fraseri* subsp. *fraseri, Sida fibulifera*, and *Sida ectogama* mid open shrubland, over *Aristida contorta, Eragrostis leptocarpa*, and *Eragrostis* sp. open tussock grassland.

AaAiAm: *Acacia ? aneura, Acacia incurvaneura* and *Acacia macraneura* open shrubland, over *?Maireana/Enchylaena* sp., *Enchylaena tomentosa* and Chenopodiaceae sp. mid sparse chenopod shrubland, over *Eragrostis eriopoda* and *Monachather paradoxus* sparse tussock grassland.

AgAspAi: *Acacia grasbyi, Acacia* sp., and *Acacia ? incurvaneura* open shrubland, over *Hakea recurva* subsp. *arida*, *Eremophila glutinosa*, and *Eremophila forrestii* subsp. *forrestii* mid open shrubland, over *Aristida contorta* and *Eragrostis* sp. low tussock grassland.

AiAmAf: *Acacia incurvaneura, Acacia macraneura, Acacia fuscaneura* open woodland with scattered *Acacia pruinocarpa* low trees over *Eremophila longifolia*, *Acacia tetragonophylla, Eremophila fraseri* subsp. *fraseri* and *Eremophila latrobei* subsp. *latrobei* mid open to mid sparse shrubland over *Ptilotus schwartzii* and *solanum lasiophyllum* low shrubland.

AiAmAp: *Acacia incurvaneura, Acacia macraneura* and *Acacia pteraneura* open shrubland, over *Ptilotus schwartzii*, *Eremophila fraseri* subsp. *fraseri*, and *Acacia ? incurvaneura* mid sparse shrubland, over *Monachather paradoxus* and *Aristida contorta* sparse tussock grassland.

AiAmAqAsp: *Acacia incurvaneura, Acacia macraneura, Acacia quadrimarginea, Acacia* sp. open shrubland, over *Eremophila spathulata, Eremophila fraseri* subsp. *fraseri*, and *Eremophila glutinosa* mid sparse shrubland, over *Sida ectogama, Sida* sp. dark green fruits (S. van Leeuwen 2260) low sparse shrubland.

AmAfAi: *Acacia macraneura, Acacia fuscaneura*, and *Acacia incurvaneura* open shrubland, over *Eremophila latrobei* subsp. *latrobei*, *Eremophila glutinosa*, and *Eremophila longifolia* mid open shrubland, over *Ptilotus obovatus* low sparse shrubland.

AmAiAaAg: *Acacia macraneura, Acacia incurvaneura, Acacia aneura*, and *Acacia grasbyi* shrubland, over *Eremophila latrobei* subsp. *latrobei*, and *Senna* ? sp. Meekatharra (E. Bailey 1-26) mid open shrubland, over *Eragrostis eriopoda* and *Aristida contorta* sparse tussock grassland.

ApAmAiAg: *Acacia pruinocarpa, Acacia macraneura, Acacia incurvaneura*, and *Acacia grasbyi* tall sparse shrubland, over *Eremophila longifolia, Senna glaucifolia*, and *Eremophila fraseri* subsp. *fraseri* mid open shrubland, over *Aristida contorta, Eragrostis* sp., and *Monachather paradoxus* sparse tussock grassland.

ApAwAi: *Acacia ? pteraneura, Acacia ? wanyu*, and *Acacia incurvaneura* shrubland, over *Acacia tetragonophylla*, *Eremophila fraseri* subsp. *fraseri, Acacia fuscaneura*, and *Eremophila latrobei* subsp. *latrobei* mid shrubland, over *Eragrostis* sp., *Enneapogon caerulescens*, and *Aristida contorta* low tussock grassland.

AspAmAiAiAt: *Acacia macraneura, Acacia ? fuscaneura* and *Acacia* ? *incurvaneura* tall sparse shrubland over *Acacia tetragonophylla*, *Acacia synchronicia, Eremophila fraseri* subsp. *fraseri* and *Psydrax latifolia* mid open to mid sparse shrubland over *Ptilotus obovatus, Senna glaucifolia, Sida ectogama* and *Eremophila spathulata* low open to low sparse shrubland.

Disturbed areas including historical pits, rehabilitated vegetation, waste dumps and exploration activities.

Clearing Description

Sabbath and Five Mile Well Project
Big Bell Gold Operations Pty Ltd has applied to clear up to 324 hectares of native vegetation, within a total boundary of approximately 324.05 hectares for the purposes of mineral production. The proposed clearing areas are located approximately five kilometres north-west, and eight kilometres north-east of Meekatharra within the Shire of Meekatharra.

Vegetation Condition

Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994);

To

Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).

Comment

The vegetation condition is based on the flora and vegetation survey conducted by MWH (2016).

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

A survey within the application areas identified 11 different vegetation associations (MWH, 2016). The vegetation condition ranged from very good to completely degraded with the majority of the application area being in very good condition (Keighery, 1994; MWH, 2016). A significant portion of the application area was in completely degraded condition (MWH, 2016). None of the vegetation associations within the application area have been identified as being a Threatened or Priority Ecological Community (MWH, 2016; GIS Database).

A total of 146 flora taxa from 27 families and 47 genera were recorded from the greater flora survey area (MWH, 2016). The floral diversity and composition recorded was consistent with the Murchison bioregion and the landforms present (MWH, 2016). None of the species recorded were identified as a Threatened or Priority flora species (MWH, 2016).

Three weed species were identified within the application areas (MWH, 2016). Weeds have the potential to significantly change the dynamics of a natural ecosystem and lower the biodiversity of an area. Potential impacts to the biodiversity as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a weed management condition.

There were four broad fauna habitats identified across the application areas (MWH, 2016). The habitats are well represented in the local region and the diversity of habitats is similar to those of the surrounding areas. No species of conservation significance have been recorded within the application areas (MWH, 2016). Given the habitats and habitat features present within the application areas, the disturbance areas are not likely to support a higher level of faunal diversity than surrounding areas.

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

Methodology

Keighery (1994)
MWH (2016)

GIS Database:
- Threatened and Priority Flora
- Threatened Ecological Sites Buffered

(b) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

Comments

Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

A fauna survey covering the majority of the application areas identified the following four broad fauna habitats (MWH, 2016):

- Mulga Plain
- Minor Drainage
- Stony Rise
- Rocky Outcrop

There were also areas that were described as degraded and have been degraded by mining related infrastructure (MWH, 2016). All of the habitats recorded were considered to be widespread and of limited significance for local fauna species (MWH, 2016). Soil types across the vast majority of the habitats were comprised of red to orange clay loams with ironstone/quartzite gravel, with occasional sandy alluviums scattered through Mulga Plain and Minor Drainage habitats (MWH, 2016).

The Mulga Plain habitat was the most dominant habitat within the application area with the remaining habitats only comprising a small portion of the area (MWH, 2016). There are also significant areas that were mapped as disturbed. The vegetation of the Mulga Plain was suitable for supporting small birds, reptiles and mammals and has high foraging potential for nectivorous birds when in flower (MWH, 2016). The habitat is also suitable for burrowing and fossorial species however, the habitat is not likely to support high species diversity and is largely composed of generalist species (MWH, 2016).

No fauna species of conservation significance were recorded during the fauna survey however, one species; *Lerista eupoda* (Priority 1) was considered likely to occur within the application area (MWH, 2016). This species prefers sandy soils and abundant leaf litter which is moderately common along the margins of the Minor Drainage habitat and within some areas of the Mulga Plain habitat (MWH, 2016). There is only a very small amount of Minor Drainage habitat within the application area and the Mulga Plain habitat is common and widespread throughout the region (MWH, 2016). Therefore, this species is not likely to be reliant on the habitat within the application area.

There were also four conservation significant species that were considered as possibly occurring within the application areas (MWH, 2016). However, these species are all avian species that are only likely to utilise the application area as part of a larger home range.

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

Methodology MWH (2016)

(c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.

Comments

Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

According to available databases, there are no known records of any Threatened flora within the application areas (GIS Database). The flora survey of the application areas did not record any Threatened flora species (MWH, 2016). The vegetation of the application areas is not likely to be necessary for the continued existence of Threatened flora (MWH, 2016; GIS Database).

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

Methodology MWH (2016)

GIS Database:
- Threatened and Priority Flora

(d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a threatened ecological community.

Comments

Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

According to available databases, there are no records of any Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) within the application areas or within 50 kilometres of the application areas (GIS Database). The vegetation survey of the application areas did not identify any TECs (MWH, 2016).

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

Methodology MWH (2016)

GIS Database:

- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities

(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 areas lie within the Murchison Interim Biogeographical Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion in which approximately 99.97% of the pre-European vegetation remains (Government of Western Australia, 2015; GIS Database).

The vegetation of the application areas have been broadly mapped as Beard vegetation associations 18 and 29 (GIS Database). These vegetation associations have not been extensively cleared as over 99% remains at both a state and bioregional level (Government of Western Australia, 2015). There has been significant clearing for previous mining activities however, the application areas are not a remnant nor do they form part of any remnants within the local area (GIS Database).

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

Methodology

Government of Western Australia (2015)

GIS Database:
- 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 at variance to this Principle

There are no permanent watercourses within the application areas, however, there are a number of ephemeral drainage lines (GIS Database). The vegetation growing within the drainage lines were not confined to watercourses or identified as groundwater dependant (MWH, 2016). The drainage within the application areas flow south towards Lake Annean, located approximately 39 kilometres south, which is a nationally important wetland (Department of the Environment and Energy, 2010; MWH, 2016). However, the current drainage lines have been heavily modified by existing mining activities and the proposed clearing is not likely to have a significant impact on watercourses in the local area (GIS Database).

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

Methodology

Department of the Environment and Energy (2010)
MWH (2016)

GIS Database:
- Hydrography, linear
- Imagery

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

Comments

Proposal may be at variance to this Principle

The application areas are comprised of the Jundee and Wiluna land systems (Curry et al., 1994; GIS Database). The Wiluna land system is described as low greenstone hills with occasional lateritic breakaways and broad stony slopes, lower saline stony plains and broad drainage tracts supporting sparse mulga shrublands with patches of halophytic shrubs. Several units of this land system are mildly to moderately susceptible to accelerated erosion when degraded (Curry et al., 1994).

The Jundee land system is described as hardpan wash plains with variable dark gravelly mantling, weakly groved vegetation and minor sandy banks supporting scattered mulga shrublands (Curry et al., 1994). This land system is generally not susceptible to erosion except in concentrated drainage zones which are mildly susceptible to accelerated erosion when degraded (Curry et al., 1994).

Large parts of the application areas have been degraded by previous mining activities (MWH, 2016; GIS Database). The clearing of 324 hectares has the potential to increase erosion if areas are left open for long periods of time. Potential impacts from erosion may be minimised by the implementation of a staged clearing condition.

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

Methodology

Curry et al. (1994)

MWH (2016)

GIS Database:
- Imagery
- Rangeland Landsystems

(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 any conservation areas or Department of Parks and Wildlife managed lands (GIS Database).

The application area is located approximately 80 kilometres west of the former Mooloogool Pastoral Lease which is managed by Department of Parks and Wildlife for conservation purposes (GIS Database).

At this distance, it is not likely that the vegetation within the application area would act as a buffer or be important as an ecological linkage to this 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 application areas are not located within a Public Drinking Water Source Area (GIS Database). Generally, groundwater within the application area is 1,000 to 3,000 milligrams per litre of total dissolved solids which is considered to be brackish (GIS Database). The broader region remains largely uncleared and it is not likely that the proposed clearing will have an impact on groundwater quality in the local area.

The application areas contain no permanent water bodies, however there are several minor, ephemeral drainage lines located within the application areas (GIS Database). With an average annual rainfall of approximately 239.1 millimetres (BoM, 2017) and an annual evaporation rate of 3,800 millimetres (GIS Database) it is expected that there would be little surface flow during normal seasonal rains. It is only during major rainfall events that there is likely to be any significant surface flow and during these events it tends to be relatively fresh.

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

Methodology

BoM (2017)

GIS Database:
- Groundwater Salinity, Statewide
- Hydrography, linear

(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

With an average annual rainfall of 239.1 millimetres and an average annual evaporation rate of 3,800 millimetres there is likely to be little surface flow during normal seasonal rains (BoM, 2017). Given the likelihood of little surface flow, the proposed clearing is not likely to cause or increase the incidence or intensity of flooding.

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

Methodology

BoM (2017)

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

Comments

There is one native title claim over the application areas (WC2004/010) (Department of Aboriginal Affairs, 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 Sites of Aboriginal Significance located in the area applied to clear (Department of Aboriginal Affairs, 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 14 August 2017 by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety inviting submissions from the public. There were no submissions received.

Methodology Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (2017)

4. References

BoM (2017) Bureau of Meteorology Website - Climate Data Online, Meekatharra Airport. Bureau of Meteorology. http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/tables/cw_007045.shtml (Accessed 23 October 2017)

Curry, P.J., Payne, A.L., Leighton, K.A., Hennig, P. and Blood, D.A. (1994) An Inventory and Condition Survey of the Murchison River Catchment and Surrounds, Western Australia.

Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (2017) Aboriginal Heritage Enquiry System. Government of Western Australia. https://maps.daa.wa.gov.au/AHIS/ (Accessed 23 October 2017).

Department of the Environment and Energy (2010) Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia - Information Sheet, Anneen Lake. http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/wetlands/report.pl (Accessed 23 October 2017)

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.

MWH (2016) Gibraltar and Five Mile Well Project Areas; Level 1 Flora and Fauna Assessment. Report prepared for Metals X Limited, by MWH, July 2016.

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)
DEE	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 DEE)
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 DEE)
DWER	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Western Australia
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia
EP Act	*Environmental Protection Act 1986*, Western Australia
EPBC Act	*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (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 *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*, Western Australia
TEC Threatened Ecological Community

Definitions:

{DPaW (2017) 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.