



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7794/2
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Beacon Mining Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Mining Lease 16/34
Mining Lease 16/115
Mining Lease 16/529
Miscellaneous Licence 16/120
Miscellaneous Licence 16/122

Local Government Area: Shire of Coolgardie
Colloquial name: Jaurdi Hills Project

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
389.9		Mechanical Removal	Mineral Production and associated activities

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 11 July 2019

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 majority of the original application area (~90%), and the additional application area is mapped as Beard vegetation association 8: Medium woodland; salmon gum and gimlet. The remainder of the original application area is mapped as vegetation association 468: Medium woodland; salmon gum and goldfields blackbutt (GIS Database).

A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the original application area by Native Vegetation Solutions in 2017. A Threatened flora targeted search was conducted over the additional application area by Native Vegetation Solutions in 2018; no vegetation survey was conducted in 2018, however, the search described the vegetation as open mixed Eucalypt woodlands. The following vegetation associations were recorded within the original application area in September 2017 (NVS, 2017).

A. *Eucalyptus griffithsii* and *E. campaspe* over *Acacia acuminata* over mixed sclerophyll shrubland
Open Shrub Mallee of *Eucalyptus griffithsii* and *E. campaspe* over *Acacia acuminata* and *Eremophila oldfieldii* subsp. *angustifolia* over *Dodonaea lobulata*, *Scaevola spinescens*, *Beyeria sulcata* var. *sulcata* and *Ptilotus obovatus*;

B. *Eucalyptus campaspe* and *Eucalyptus clelandii* woodland
Low Woodland of *Eucalyptus campaspe* and *E. clelandii* over *Eremophila oldfieldii* subsp. *angustifolia*, *Eremophila interstans* subsp. *virgata* and *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia* over *Atriplex nummularia* subsp. *spathulata*, *Eremophila scoparia*, *Acacia erinacea*, *Eremophila pustulata*, *Olearia muelleri* and *Ptilotus obovatus*;

C. *Eucalyptus griffithsii* woodland over Chenopod shrublands
Open Tree Mallee of *Eucalyptus griffithsii* over *Eremophila alternifolia* and *Atriplex nummularia* subsp. *spathulata* over *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia*, *Atriplex stipitata* and *Ptilotus obovatus*;

D. Open Chenopod shrubland
Tall Open Shrubland of *Eremophila interstans* subsp. *virgata* and *Atriplex nummularia* subsp. *spathulata* over *Eremophila scoparia* and *Senna cardiosperma* over *Atriplex stipitata*;

E. *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* woodland

Woodland of *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* with occasional *E. transcontinentalis* over occasional *E. oleosa* subsp. *oleosa* over *Eremophila scoparia*, *Exocarpos aphyllus*, *Eremophila caperata*, *Eremophila interstans* subsp. *virgata* and *Eremophila ionantha* over *Olearia muelleri*, *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia*, *Atriplex vesicaria*, *Atriplex stipitata*, *Senna cardiosperma*, *Acacia hemiteles*, *Ptilotus obovatus* and *Scaevola spinescens*;

F. Mixed *Eucalyptus* woodland over sclerophyll shrubland

Low Woodland of *Eucalyptus clelandii*, *Eucalyptus salubris*, *Eucalyptus oleosa* subsp. *oleosa*, *Eucalyptus griffithsii* and occasional *Casuarina pauper* over *Eremophila interstans* subsp. *virgata*, *Santalum acuminatum*, *Eremophila caperata*, and *Eremophila oldfieldii* subsp. *angustifolia*, over *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia*, *Eremophila glabra* subsp. *glabra*, *Olearia muelleri*, *Acacia hemiteles*, *Eremophila pustulata* and *Eremophila parvifolia* subsp. *auricampa*;

G. *Eucalyptus* thicket in open depressions

Low Open Forrest of *Eucalyptus clelandii*, *E. salubris* and *E. oleosa* subsp. *oleosa* over *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia*, *Acacia merrallii*, *Exocarpos aphyllus* and *Eremophila scoparia* over *Acacia colletioides*, *Eremophila ionantha* and *Eremophila decipiens* subsp. *decipiens*;

H. *Eucalyptus oleosa* subsp. *oleosa* over Chenopod shrublands

Open Shrub Mallee of *Eucalyptus oleosa* subsp. *oleosa* with occasional *E. yilgarnensis* over *Eremophila interstans* subsp. *virgata* and *Eremophila scoparia* over *Cratystylis subspinescens*, *Cratystylis conocephala*, *Eremophila decipiens* subsp. *decipiens* and *Eremophila parvifolia* subsp. *auricampa*; and

I. *Eucalyptus* over *Melaleuca sheathiana* over *Cratystylis conocephala* on calcrete rises

Low Woodland of *Eucalyptus clelandii* over *Melaleuca sheathiana*, *Acacia hemiteles* and *Exocarpos aphyllus* over *Cratystylis conocephala*, *Westringia rigida*, *Grevillea acuaria*, *Acacia colletioides* and *Eremophila scoparia*.

Clearing Description

Jaurdi Hills Project.

Beacon Mining Pty Ltd proposes to clear up to 389.9 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 403.2 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities. The project is located approximately 50 kilometres west of Kalgoorlie, within the Shire of Coolgardie.

Vegetation Condition

Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994).

To

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

Comment

The vegetation condition was derived from a vegetation survey conducted by Native Vegetation Solutions (2017).

Clearing permit CPS 7794/1 was granted by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety on 7 December 2017 and was valid from 30 December 2017 to 31 December 2022. The permit authorised the clearing of up to 389.9 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 399.6 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production.

The Permit Holder has applied to amend CPS 7794/1 to increase the permit boundary by 4.4 hectares to approximately 403.3 hectares, to add the Miscellaneous Lease 16/122, and allow for a proposed access track to the proposed bore fields (see Figure 1 below). The area of clearing authorised remains unchanged.



Figure 1: Original clearing permit boundary (yellow area) and proposed additional permit boundary (blue area)

3. Assessment of application against Clearing Principles

Comments

Beacon Mining Pty Ltd has applied to amend the permit to increase the boundary from approximately 399.6 hectares to include an area of 4.4 hectares, to a total boundary of approximately 403.3 hectares. The changes to the boundary are to accommodate the inclusion of the Miscellaneous Licence 16/122 to allow for an access track to the proposed bore fields. An area of approximately 0.7 hectares which was included in the original permit area has been excluded from the amended area to protect a population of Priority flora (NVS, 2018).

The permit area is located within the Eastern Goldfields subregion of the Coolgardie Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion (GIS Database). This subregion is characterised by undulating plains interrupted in the west with low hills and a series of large playa lakes. The vegetation is of Mallees, Acacia thickets and shrub heaths on sandplains. Diverse Eucalyptus woodlands occur around the salt lakes, on ranges, and in the valleys. Salt lakes support dwarf shrublands of samphire (CALM, 2002).

The original permit area is broadly mapped as Beard vegetation associations 8 and 468, and the additional boundary area is mapped as Beard vegetation association 8, which is consistent with the original permit area (GIS Database). Approximately 50% of the pre-European extent of Beard vegetation association 8 remains uncleared at a state level, and 98% remains uncleared at a bioregional level (Government of Western Australia, 2019). Consequently, at a state level this vegetation association has a conservation status of 'Depleted', however, at a bioregional level this vegetation association conservation status is 'Least Concern' (Department of Natural Resources and Environment, 2002; Government of Western Australia, 2019). Hence, within the Coolgardie Bioregion, the vegetation proposed to be cleared in the amendment application area has a conservation status of 'Least Concern', therefore, does not represent a significant remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.

A flora and vegetation survey was conducted by Native Vegetation Solutions in 2017 over the majority of the application area, including 1.7 hectares of the additional area (NVS, 2017). The flora survey identified *Eremophila praecox* (Priority 1) within the original permit area (NVS, 2017). The area containing this Priority flora, approximately 0.7 hectares, has subsequently been excised from the application area under the amendment (NVS, 2017; NVS, 2018). A Threatened flora targeted search was conducted over the additional boundary area by Native Vegetation Solutions in 2018, and no Threatened flora were recorded (NVS, 2018). The targeted survey indicates that vegetation in the additional boundary area is open mixed Eucalypt woodlands (NVS, 2017). Given there are no known records of Threatened or Priority flora, and the narrow linear nature of the additional boundary area; it is unlikely the amendment area represents an area of higher biodiversity than the original permit area or surrounding area.

A fauna survey was conducted by Terrestrial Ecosystems in 2017 over the original permit area (Terrestrial Ecosystems, 2017). The survey searched for evidence of conservation significant fauna, including Malleefowl, as there is habitat suitable for Malleefowl in the original permit area, however, no species of conservation significance were found in the survey area (Terrestrial Ecosystems, 2017). A targeted Malleefowl mound search was conducted over the amendment application area by Native Vegetation Solutions in 2018 (NVS, 2018). No Malleefowl mounds were recorded in the additional boundary area, and vegetation in the survey area was not consistent with habitat suitable for Malleefowl as the vegetation was open and sparse (NVS, 2018). Given the narrow linear nature of the additional boundary area, and lack of unique or restricted fauna habitat; the proposed additional clearing is unlikely to impact significant habitat for fauna. However, potential impacts to Malleefowl from proposed clearing within the application area may be minimised by the continued implementation of the existing fauna management condition.

There are no permanent watercourses or wetlands within the additional boundary area (GIS Database). There are two minor seasonal creek lines crossing the additional area. However, given the narrow linear nature of the additional area; the proposed clearing is unlikely to significantly impact on the function of the seasonal creeklines. However, potential impacts to vegetation growing in association with the watercourses may be minimised by the implementation of a watercourse management condition.

The increase in the boundary of the proposed clearing area is unlikely to cause or exacerbate erosion or appreciable land degradation; significantly impact the quality of surface or underground water; or increase the incidence of flooding, given the narrow linear nature of the additional area.

There are no conservation areas within the vicinity of the amendment area. The nearest DBCA (formerly DPaW) managed land is the former Credo Pastoral Lease which is approximately 21 kilometres north west of the additional area (GIS Database). The proposed increase to the permit boundary is not likely to impact on the environmental values of any conservation area.

Weeds have the potential to out-compete native vegetation and reduce biodiversity. Continued implementation of the existing weed management condition may minimise the risk of spread of weeds into the area.

The vegetation associations, habitat types and landforms found within the amendment area are similar to the original permit area, and are well represented in surrounding areas (NVS, 2018; GIS Database). The increase of 4.4 hectares to the proposed clearing boundary is unlikely to have any significant additional impacts.

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 consistent with the original permit application, the proposed clearing is at variance to Principle (f), may be at variance to Principle (b), is not likely to be at variance to Principles (a), (c), (d), (g), (h), (i) and (j) and is not at variance to Principle (e).

Methodology CALM (2002)
Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002)
Government of Western Australia (2019)
NVS (2017)
NVS (2018)
Terrestrial Ecosystems (2017)

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

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

Comments

There are two native title claims (WC2017/001 / WC2017/007) over the area under application (DPLH, 2019). 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, 2019). 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 10 June 2019 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 (2019)

4. References

- CALM (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographic Subregions in 2002. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.
- 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.
- DPLH (2019) Aboriginal Heritage Enquiry System. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. <http://maps.daa.wa.gov.au/AHIS/> (Accessed 10 June 2019).
- Government of Western Australia (2019) 2018 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of March 2019. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Perth. <https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca-statewide-vegetation-statistics>
- Terrestrial Ecosystems (2017) Level 1 Vertebrate Fauna Risk Assessment for the Jaurdi Hills Mining Area. Report prepared for Beacon Minerals Limited, by Terrestrial Ecosystems, August 2017.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

NVS (2017) Beacon Minerals Ltd Jaurdi Hills Level 2 Flora and Vegetation Survey Part 2 September 2017. Report prepared for Beacon Minerals Ltd, by Native Vegetation Solutions, September 2017.

NVS (2018) Threatened Flora and Malleefowl Mound Targeted Search: Jaurdi Gold Project Production Borefield and Access Tracks. Report prepared for Beacon Mining Pty Ltd, by Native Vegetation Solutions, June 2018.

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	<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.