



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 7794/3
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Beacon Mining Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: 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: 21 January 2021

2. Site Information

2.1. Existing environment and information

2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

Vegetation Description The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation associations:
8: Medium woodland; salmon gum and gimlet; and
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 (NVS) in September 2017. The following vegetation associations were recorded within the original application area (NVS, 2017):

A. *Eucalyptus griffithsii* and *Eucalyptus campaspe* over *Acacia acuminata* over mixed sclerophyll shrubland

Open Shrub Mallee of *Eucalyptus griffithsii* and *Eucalyptus 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 clelandiorum* woodland

Low Woodland of *Eucalyptus campaspe* and *Eucalyptus clelandiorum* 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 *Eucalyptus transcontinentalis* over occasional *Eucalyptus 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 clelandiorum*, *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. *auricampi*;

G. *Eucalyptus* thicket in open depressions

Low Open Forrest of *Eucalyptus clelandiorum*, *Eucalyptus salubris* and *Eucalyptus 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 *Eucalyptus yilgarnensis* over *Eremophila interstans* subsp. *virgata* and *Eremophila scoparia* over *Cratystylis subspinescens*, *Cratystylis conocephala*, *Eremophila decipiens* subsp. *decipiens* and *Eremophila parvifolia* subsp. *auricampi*; and

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

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

A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the amendment area by NVS in May 2020. The following vegetation associations were recorded within the amendment area (NVS, 2020):

***Eucalyptus salmonophloia* woodland**

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

Mixed *Eucalyptus* woodland over sclerophyll shrubland

Low Woodland of *Eucalyptus transcontinentalis*, *Eucalyptus oleosa* subsp. *oleosa* and *Eucalyptus salubris* over *Eremophila interstans* subsp. *interstans*, *Santalum acuminatum*, *Eremophila caperata* over *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia*, *Eremophila glabra* subsp. *glabra*, *Olearia muelleri*, *Acacia hemiteles* and *Eremophila scoparia*; and

Acacia acuminata* shrubland with emergent *Eucalyptus griffithsii

Thicket of *Acacia acuminata* with emergent *Eucalyptus griffithsii* over *Acacia hemiteles*, *Acacia ligulata*, *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia* and *Atriplex vesicaria*.

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 672.494 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	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 was derived from a vegetation survey conducted by NVS (2020). The proposed clearing is for an open pit, waste landforms, infrastructure corridor, in-pit tailing storage facility (TSF), processing facility, access tracks and bore fields. Clearing permit CPS 7794/1 was granted by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety on 07 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. CPS 7794/2 was granted on 11 July 2019, amending the permit to increase the permit boundary to 403.3 hectares, to add the Miscellaneous Licence 16/122, and allow for a proposed access track to the proposed bore fields. On 07 July 2020, the Permit Holder applied to amend CPS 7794/2 to increase the permit boundary to 672.494 hectares.

3. Assessment of application against Clearing Principles

Comments

The permit holder has applied to increase the permit boundary by approximately 269.2 hectares, to allow for the continued implementation and expansion of the project. The area of clearing authorised remains unchanged.

A vegetation assessment of the amendment area was conducted by Native Vegetation Solutions (NVS) on 12 May 2020 (NVS, 2020). The vegetation of the amendment area was dominated by *Eucalyptus* woodlands (NVS, 2020). Vegetation types described within the amendment area were all represented in surrounding areas. No Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities were identified as potentially occurring in the application area and the field assessment of the application did not record any (NVS, 2020; GIS Database).

A total of 63 flora species from 24 genera and 16 families were recorded during the field survey of the amendment area (NVS, 2020). One Priority species, *Eremophila praecox* (P2), was recorded during the survey with one individual recorded at two separate locations (NVS, 2020). *Eremophila praecox* is known from approximately 31 locations and has a restricted known range of approximately 110 kilometres north-south and 70 kilometres east-west in Western Australia (DBCA, 2020). Within a local context, the clearing of *Eremophila praecox* within the amendment area would be considered a significant impact if it resulted in the loss of this species in the local area (DBCA, 2020). However, impacts are unlikely to be significant to the conservation of the species (DBCA, 2020). Potential impacts to *Eremophila praecox* may be minimised by the continued implementation of a flora management condition.

Weeds have the potential to out-compete native flora and reduce the biodiversity of an area. Potential impacts to biodiversity as a result of the introduction of weeds may be minimised by the continued implementation of a weed management condition.

A Level 1 vertebrate fauna risk assessment was conducted by Terrestrial Ecosystems (2020c) for the amendment area which included a site visit to assess habitat on 12 May 2020. Two broad fauna habitats were recorded within the amendment area: Eucalypt woodland with mixed shrubs and grasses understorey; and open Eucalypt woodland with mixed shrubs and grasses understorey (Terrestrial Ecosystems, 2020c). The amendment area is described as being relatively flat with a substrate of red sandy-clay with surface pebbles in some sections and an abundance of leaf litter in the denser treed areas (Terrestrial Ecosystems, 2020c). Some of the taller mature Salmon Gums were noted to have hollows that would support nesting birds and retreats for mammals and reptiles (Terrestrial Ecosystems, 2020c). There is a possibility that the Peregrine Falcon (OS), the mallee form of the Western Rosella (P4) and the Central Long-eared Bat (P4) may infrequently be seen in the amendment area (Terrestrial Ecosystems, 2020c). However, the proposed amendment is unlikely to increase the potential impacts to these species as the area authorised to be cleared has not increased.

A targeted survey for Malleefowl, *Leipoa ocellata* (Vulnerable at state and federal level), was conducted across the amendment area and existing permit areas by Terrestrial Ecosystems (2020a) during 4 and 5 November 2020. No evidence of Malleefowl were recorded (Terrestrial Ecosystems, 2020a). However, advice from DBCA (2020) indicates that suitable habitat may be present. The implementation of a modified fauna management condition requiring additional surveys for clearing during the breeding season will reduce potential impacts to any new Malleefowl individuals dispersing into the permit area.

A targeted survey for the Arid Bronze Azure Butterfly, *Ogyris subterrestris petrina* (Critically Endangered at state and federal level), was conducted within the amendment area by Terrestrial Ecosystems (2020b) during 4 and 5 November 2020. The Arid Bronze Azure Butterfly is associated with colonies of *Camponotus terebrans*, a sugar ant that is associated with smooth bark *Eucalyptus* species. The field survey of the amendment area did not detect the presence of *Camponotus terebrans* and found no evidence to suggest that the Arid Bronze Azure Butterfly was present (Terrestrial Ecosystems, 2020b). Therefore, it is highly unlikely that the Arid Bronze Azure Butterfly would be impacted by the proposed clearing.

There are no permanent watercourses or wetlands within the amendment area (NVS, 2020; GIS Database). A number of seasonal drainage lines pass through the application area (GIS Database). Potential impacts to vegetation growing in association with the watercourse may be minimised by the continued implementation of a watercourse management condition.

The Permit area lies within the Gumland, Coolgardie, Doney and Jaurdi land systems (DPIRD, 2020). The Gumland and Coolgardie systems range from undulating alluvial plains to uplands and low hills supporting *Eucalyptus* woodlands with halophytic understorey (DPIRD, 2020). The Doney system is described as calcareous plains with *Eucalyptus* woodlands adjacent to salt lakes and the Jaurdi system is described as basalt hills and ridges supporting *Acacia* shrublands and scattered woodlands (DPIRD, 2020). The erosional surfaces of the low rounded hills of the Coolgardie system and the hills and ridges of the Jaurdi system are susceptible to erosion when cleared of the supporting vegetation. Potential land degradation impacts as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the continued implementation of a staged clearing condition.

There are no conservation areas in the vicinity of the amendment area. The nearest DBCA (formerly DPaW) managed land is the former Credo Pastoral Lease which is located approximately 18 kilometres north-west of the amendment area (GIS Database). The proposed clearing is unlikely to impact on the environmental values of any conservation area.

There are no Public Drinking Water Source Areas within or in close proximity to the amendment area (GIS Database). There are no permanent watercourses or wetlands within the area proposed to clear (GIS Database). The proposed clearing is unlikely to result in significant changes to surface water flows.

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

Methodology DBCA (2020)
DPIRD (2020)
NVS (2020)
Terrestrial Ecosystems (2020a)
Terrestrial Ecosystems (2020b)
Terrestrial Ecosystems (2020c)

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

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

Comments

There are two native title claims (WC2017/001 and WC2017/007) over the area under application (DPLH, 2021). 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, 2021). 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 27 July 2020 by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

Methodology DPLH (2021)

4. References

- DBCA (2020) Advice received in relation to Clearing Permit Application CPS 7794/3. Species and Communities Branch, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia, September 2020.
- DPIRD (2020) Advice received in relation to Clearing Permit Application CPS 7794/3. Deputy Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia, August 2020.
- DPLH (2021) Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.
<https://espatial.dplh.wa.gov.au/AHIS/index.html?viewer=AHIS> (Accessed 05 January 2021).
- 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) Jaurdi Hills Level 2 Flora and Vegetation Survey. Report prepared for Beacon Minerals Ltd by Native Vegetation Solutions, September 2017.
- NVS (2020) Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey of the Jaurdi Gold Project (M16/529) – May 2020. Report prepared for Beacon Minerals Ltd by Native Vegetation Solutions, July 2020.
- Terrestrial Ecosystems (2020a) Targeted survey for Malleefowl – Jaurdi Gold Project. Report prepared for Beacon Mining Pty Ltd by Terrestrial Ecosystems, November 2020.
- Terrestrial Ecosystems (2020b) Targeted survey for the Arid Bronze Azure Butterfly – Jaurdi Gold Project. Report prepared for Beacon Mining Pty Ltd by Terrestrial Ecosystems, November 2020.

5. Glossary

Acronyms:

BC Act	<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> , Western Australia
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)
DAWE	Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Australian Government
DBCA	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia
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)
DoEE	Department of the Environment and Energy (now DAWE)
DoW	Department of Water, Western Australia (now DWER)
DPaW	Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia (now DBCA)
DPIRD	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia
DPLH	Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, Western Australia
DRF	Declared Rare Flora (now known as Threatened Flora)
DWER	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Western Australia
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> , Western Australia
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority, 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:

{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.