



# Clearing Permit Decision Report

## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 8052/3  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Galaxy Lithium Australia Limited

### 1.3. Property details

Property: Mining Lease 74/244  
Local Government Area: Shire of Ravensthorpe  
Colloquial name: Mt Cattlin Project

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
80		Mechanical Removal	Mineral Production and Associated Activities

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 14 March 2019

## 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:

352: Medium woodland; York gum; and  
934: Shrublands; mallee scrub (*Eucalyptus nutans*) (GIS Database).

A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the southern part of the application area by botanists from Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd (Mattiske) during December 2017. The majority of the northern extension of the application area, and its surrounds, were surveyed by Mattiske in April 2018. Mattiske (2018b) used the data from the quadrats in both surveys to delineate vegetation communities. Previous flora and vegetation surveys by ENV Australia in April 2008 and Botanica Consulting in 2008 partly overlapped the application area. The following vegetation associations were recorded within the application area (Mattiske, 2018b):

**W1:** *Eucalyptus* spp. mid mallee woodland dominated by *Eucalyptus myriadena* subsp. *myriadena* over *Templetonia retusa*, *Rhagodia crassifolia* and *Dodonaea ptarmicaefolia* mid sparse shrubland over *Austrostipa puberula*, *Austrostipa elegantissima* and *Rytidosperma caespitosum* isolated grasses on brown clay-loam soils on slopes.  
**W2:** *Eucalyptus oleosa* subsp. *corvina* and *Eucalyptus extensa* mid mallee woodland over *Senna artemisioides* mid sparse shrubland over *Acacia erinacea*, *Rhagodia crassifolia* and *Sclerolaena diacantha* low sparse shrubland on brown clay-loam soils on slopes.  
**W3:** *Eucalyptus myriadena* subsp. *myriadena* and *Eucalyptus oleosa* subsp. *corvina* mid mallee woodland over *Acacia bifaria* (P3), *Acacia erinacea* and *Senna artemisioides* low sparse shrubland over *Austrostipa puberula* isolated grasses on brown clay-loam soils on slopes.  
**W4:** Mixed *Eucalyptus* spp. mid mallee woodland over *Rhagodia crassifolia*, *Enchylaena tomentosa* var. *tomentosa* and *Sclerolaena uniflora* low sparse shrubland over *Austrostipa exilis*, *Austrostipa* sp. and *Rytidosperma caespitosum* low sparse grassland on brown clay-loam soils on slopes.  
**S1:** *Acacia sulcata* var. *platyphylla*, *Santalum acuminatum* and *Melaleuca* spp. mid open shrubland over *Dodonaea caespitosa*, *Astroloma* sp. and *Hibbertia* sp. low sparse shrubland over *Lepidosperma diurnum* and *Neurachne alopecuroidea* isolated clumps of sedges and grasses on red-brown clay loam soils on rocky slopes adjacent to creeklines and drainage lines.  
**CR1:** *Dodonaea ptarmicaefolia*, *Melaleuca cuticularis* and *Melaleuca elliptica* mid sparse shrubland over *Tecticornia ?pergranulata* subsp. *pergranulata* low sparse chenopod shrubland, with occasional emergent *Eucalyptus occidentalis*, on red-brown clay-loam soils on creeklines.

#### Clearing Description

Mt Cattlin Project.  
Galaxy Lithium Australia Limited proposes to clear up to 80 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 120 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities. The project is located approximately one kilometre north of Ravensthorpe, within the Shire of Ravensthorpe.

**Vegetation Condition**      Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery, 1994);  
To:  
Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).

**Comment**                      The vegetation condition was derived from vegetation surveys conducted by Mattiske (2018a, 2018b).

The proposed clearing is for an expansion of the Mt Cattlin Lithium Project.

Clearing permit CPS 8052/1 was granted by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety on 30 August 2018. The permit authorised the clearing of up to 80 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 189 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities. Clearing permit CPS 8052/1 was subject to an appeal, with the effect of the appeal being that the clearing permit was deemed not to have been granted until the appeal was resolved.

Discussions were held between the appellant, permit holder and the Office of the Appeals Convenor. The appeal was withdrawn on 4 October 2018 on the understanding that Galaxy Lithium Australia Limited would reduce the clearing permit boundary, addressing three grounds of appeal. Clearing permit CPS 8052/2 was granted on 15 November 2018, amending the permit to reduce the permit boundary from approximately 189 hectares to approximately 109 hectares, in line with the correspondence provided between Galaxy Lithium Australia Limited and the appellant.

On 17 January 2019, the Permit Holder applied to amend CPS 8052/2 to increase the permit boundary to approximately 120 hectares. The amount of clearing authorised remains the same.

### 3. Assessment of application against Clearing Principles

#### Comments

Galaxy Lithium Australia Limited (Galaxy) has applied to amend clearing permit CPS 8052/2 to increase the permit boundary from approximately 109 hectares to approximately 120 hectares. The increase in the permit boundary is to the north of the original permit boundary and does not intersect the areas that were removed from the permit boundary as a result of amendment CPS 8052/2. The amount of clearing remains the same at 80 hectares.

The vegetation within the additional amendment area is mapped as belonging to Beard association 352 (GIS Database). This is the same as the majority of the vegetation within the previous permit boundary (GIS Database). Vegetation association 352 has been extensively cleared with approximately 19.61% remaining at a state level and approximately 28.78% remaining at a bioregional level (Government of Western Australia, 2018). This is below the 30% threshold level recommended in the National Objectives Targets for Biodiversity Conservation, below which species loss appears to accelerate exponentially at an ecosystem level (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001). However, the proposed clearing of up to 80 hectares of Beard vegetation association 352 will have a minimal impact with the amount remaining only reducing to 19.60% (Government of Western Australia, 2018).

Mattiske undertook a flora and vegetation survey over part of the amendment boundary in April 2018. The vegetation communities within the application area are the same as found in the original permit boundary (Mattiske, 2018b). No Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC), Priority Ecological Communities (PEC) or Threatened Flora were recorded in the survey area (Mattiske, 2018b). The part of the amendment boundary that is not covered by the survey is roadside vegetation along Old Newdegate Road. The amendment boundary is partially overlapped by clearing permit CPS 8049/1 and photographs of the vegetation along Old Newdegate Road were provided during that assessment (DWER, 2018). Based on the proximity, photographs and aerial imagery, the parts of the amendment boundary not covered by the flora and vegetation surveys are likely to be consistent with one of the vegetation communities in the nearby Mattiske (2018a, 2018b) surveys. Therefore, the vegetation is unlikely to be a TEC or PEC.

Priority 3 flora species *Acacia bifaria* was widespread throughout the permit boundary for CPS 8052/1 and in the area surrounding the amendment boundary (Mattiske, 2018b). *A. bifaria* may occur in the amendment boundary and be impacted by the proposed clearing. The April 2018 Mattiske survey had 28 quadrats where *A. bifaria* plants were recorded and only one of these sites may be impacted by the proposed clearing for this amendment. Although *A. bifaria* may be impacted by the proposed clearing, the impact on the local population is not likely to be significant.

The amendment boundary is located within a Dieback (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*) risk zone (DBCA, 2018b). Potential impacts from dieback may be minimised by the implementation of a dieback management condition.

A fauna survey was not conducted over the amendment boundary. A Level 1 fauna survey was conducted over the adjacent original application area by Ninox Wildlife Consulting (Ninox) in December 2017 (Ninox, 2018) and the habitats recorded could be extrapolated into the amendment boundary. The amendment boundary likely contains the following fauna habitats:

- **Tall Woodlands on Slopes:** Tall Woodlands of mixed *Eucalyptus* sp., dominated by *Eucalyptus myriadena*, to 5 metres with diverse understorey ranging from grasses to dense shrubs on rock hill slopes. Lower woodlands occur on the rocky steeper slopes and generally support a denser shrub understorey. Woodlands on crests and hilltops are more open with a sparse understorey;
- **Mid Mallee Woodlands:** Mid Mallee Woodlands of mixed *Eucalyptus* sp., dominated by stands of *Eucalyptus myriadena* and *E. cernua* with diverse understorey but often with sparse low shrubs. They are dominant on the crests of the hills among the rockier ground;
- **Creeklines:** Creepline systems varied from relatively dense but narrow riparian habitat community of tall *Melaleuca* sp. and *Dodonea* sp. to 3 metres and occasional tall *Melaleuca* sp. or *Eucalyptus* sp. trees to 15 metres;
- **Roadside Vegetation:** Roadside vegetation along the Old Newdegate Road of remnant low *E. myriadena* woodland heavily infested with introduced grasses. The vegetation forms very narrow strips separating the road from adjoining cereal crop field;
- **Cleared Areas:** Cleared areas including strategic firebreak and exploration tracks.

The Tall Woodlands on Slopes habitat contained trees with hollows (Ninox, 2018). The hollows in the survey area are not large enough or suitable for Black Cockatoo nesting, however, they may be suitable for a variety of other bird species, western pygmy possums and a variety of bat species (Ninox, 2018). The areas of understorey of this habitat provide suitable habitat for ground dwelling species such as Quenda, Western Brush Wallabies and native rodents (Ninox, 2018). A recently constructed Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata* – Vulnerable) mound was recorded in this habitat approximately 200 metres outside of the original permit boundary (Ninox, 2018). The abundant leaf litter and clay in this habitat also make it suitable habitat for reptiles including the Ravensthorpe Range Slider (*Lerista viduata* – Priority 1) (Ninox, 2018).

The Mid Mallee Woodland habitat also has a substantial leaf litter coverage across the habitat (Ninox, 2018). The growth form of this vegetation is not capable of creating large hollows needed for Black Cockatoos, however, it provides suitable foraging habitat for species that feed on *Eucalyptus* flowers (Ninox, 2018).

Within the Creeklines habitat, several hollows were observed in older trees growing along Cattlin Creek in the original permit boundary (Ninox, 2018). These hollows did not have any signs of use and were estimated to be too small to be suitable for Black Cockatoos (Ninox, 2018).

All of the habitats reflected varying levels of disturbance from prolonged natural and man-made disturbances (Ninox, 2018). The amendment boundary contains disturbance from a road and cleared pasture (GIS Database).

The presence of a recent Malleefowl mound (less than 3 years old) indicates that a remnant population of Malleefowl persist in the local area (Ninox, 2018). Potential impacts to Malleefowl may be minimised by the implementation of a Malleefowl management condition.

The amendment boundary contains roadside vegetation that may provide an ecological linkage (GIS Database). In the adjacent survey, Ninox (2018) found that although roadside vegetation along the Old Newdegate Road was in poor condition and heavily infested with weeds, it can provide linkages for smaller bird species between stands of bushland. Although there will be a small loss in connectivity, the proposed clearing is not expected to inhibit avian movement across the landscape.

There is one minor non-perennial watercourse within the amendment area (GIS Database). Cattlin Creek begins north of the amendment area and continues south into the original permit boundary (GIS Database). Vegetation community CR1 has been mapped within a small section, approximately one hectare, of the amendment boundary and is associated with the creepline (Mattiske, 2018b). The proposed clearing of up to one hectare of riparian vegetation in the amendment boundary is not considered significant. The amendment boundary is north of the diversion of Cattlin Creek, that is approved by a bed and banks permit under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* and a mining proposal under the *Mining Act 1978*.

The amendment boundary is not within any conservation areas managed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (GIS Database). The nearest conservation area is the Overshot Hill Nature Reserve which is located approximately 1.5 kilometres north-west of the application area (GIS Database). The amendment area is contiguous with the original application area which forms part of a remnant which provides an ecological linkage to the Nature Reserve. However, the amount of clearing is not increasing, the vegetation linkage extends outside the amendment and original permit boundary to link with the Nature Reserve, and the proposed clearing will not remove the entire linkage (GIS Database).

The amendment boundary is located within the Fitzgerald Biosphere Reserve, which has recently been reinstated as a UNESCO internally listed site for its natural features (DBCA, 2018a). However, the amendment boundary is not within the core area of Fitzgerald River National Park.

The amount of clearing remains at 80 hectares and the vegetation communities and fauna habitat types in the amendment boundary are either the same, or likely to be the same, as the adjacent original permit boundary.

The amendment is unlikely to result in any significant change to the environmental impacts of the proposed clearing.

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 Principles (b), (e), (g) and (h), and is not likely to be at variance to Principles (a), (c), (d), (i) and (j). Environmental information has been reviewed, and the assessment of the proposed clearing against the clearing principles remains consistent with the assessment contained in decision reports CPS 8052/1 and 8052/2.

**Methodology** Commonwealth of Australia (2001)  
DBCA (2018b)  
DWER (2018)  
Government of Western Australia (2018)  
Mattiske (2018a)  
Mattiske (2018b)  
Ninox (2018)

GIS Database:

- DPaW Tenure
- Hydrography, Lakes
- Hydrography, Linear
- IBRA Australia
- Imagery
- Landsystem Rangelands
- Pre-European Vegetation
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas
- Soils, Statewide
- 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**

The permit area is within the South West Native Title Settlement area (DPLH, 2019). This settlement resolves Native Title rights and interests over an area of approximately 200,000 square kilometres within the south west of Western Australia. 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 is one registered Aboriginal Site of Significance (Site ID 26270) 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 4 February 2019 by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety inviting submissions from the public. The application was re-advertised on 11 February with revised maps. Two submissions were received in relation to this application. One submission commented on Aboriginal Heritage. The other submission raised concerns about vegetation associations, fauna habitats and requirements for an offset. These issues were considered in the assessment against Clearing Principles (b) and (e).

**Methodology** DPLH (2019)

#### **4. References**

- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005.
- DBCA (2018a) Fitzgerald Biosphere Listing brings International Recognition. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. <https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/news/media-statements/minister-for-environment/item/3484-fitzgerald-biosphere-listing-brings-international-recognition> (Accessed 24 August 2018).
- DBCA (2018b) Phytophthora dieback. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. <https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/management/pests-diseases/phytophthora-dieback> (Accessed 30 August 2018).

- DPLH (2019) Aboriginal Heritage Enquiry System. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. <http://maps.daa.wa.gov.au/AHIS/> (Accessed 5 March 2019).
- DWER (2018) Decision Report for Clearing Permit CPS 8049/1. Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Western Australia, August 2018.
- Government of Western Australia (2018) 2017 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of December 2017. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. <https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca-statewide-vegetation-statistics>
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Mattiske (2018a) Flora and Vegetation Assessment Mt Cattlin Project Area. Report Prepared by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd for Galaxy Lithium Australia, February 2018.
- Mattiske (2018b) Flora and Vegetation Assessment Mt Cattlin Project Extension. Report Prepared by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd for Galaxy Lithium Australia, August 2018.
- Ninox (2018) Desktop Assessment of Vertebrate Fauna of the Proposed Ravensthorpe Spodumene Project, Western Australia. Report Prepared by Ninox Wildlife Consulting and Biostat Pty Ltd for Galaxy Resources Ltd, February 2018.

## 5. Glossary

### Acronyms:

<b>BoM</b>	Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Government
<b>DAA</b>	Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Western Australia (now DPLH)
<b>DAFWA</b>	Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia (now DPIRD)
<b>DBCA</b>	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia
<b>DEC</b>	Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (now DBCA and DWER)
<b>DEE</b>	Department of the Environment and Energy, Australian Government
<b>DER</b>	Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia (now DWER)
<b>DMIRS</b>	Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Western Australia
<b>DMP</b>	Department of Mines and Petroleum, Western Australia (now DMIRS)
<b>DPIRD</b>	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia
<b>DPLH</b>	Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, Western Australia
<b>DRF</b>	Declared Rare Flora
<b>DoE</b>	Department of the Environment, Australian Government (now DEE)
<b>DoW</b>	Department of Water, Western Australia (now DWER)
<b>DPaW</b>	Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia (now DBCA)
<b>DSEWPac</b>	Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (now DEE)
<b>DWER</b>	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Western Australia
<b>EPA</b>	Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia
<b>EP Act</b>	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> , Western Australia
<b>EPBC Act</b>	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Federal Act)
<b>GIS</b>	Geographical Information System
<b>ha</b>	Hectare (10,000 square metres)
<b>IBRA</b>	Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia
<b>IUCN</b>	International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources – commonly known as the World Conservation Union
<b>PEC</b>	Priority Ecological Community, Western Australia
<b>RIWI Act</b>	<i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i> , Western Australia
<b>TEC</b>	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

- 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.