



# Clearing Permit Decision Report

## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 8109/1  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Echo Resources Limited

### 1.3. Property details

Property: Mining Lease 36/146  
Mining Lease 36/200

Local Government Area: Shire of Leonora  
Colloquial name: Orelia Project

### 1.4. Application

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

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 16 August 2018

## 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:  
18: Low woodland; mulga (*Acacia aneura*); and  
107: Hummock grasslands, shrub steppe; mulga and *Eucalyptus kingsmillii* over hard spinifex (GIS Database).

A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the application area by Botanica Consulting during May, 2018. The following vegetation associations were recorded within the application area (Botanica Consulting, 2018):

#### Clay-Loam Plain

CLP-AFW1 - Low woodland of *Acacia incurvaneura* / *A. caesaneura* over low scrub of *Eremophila forrestii* subsp. *forrestii* / *E. margarethae* and low hummock/tussock grassland of *Triodia desertorum* / *Eriachne mucronata* / *Eragrostis eriopoda* on clay-loam plain.

#### Sandy-Loam Plain

SLP-AFW1 - Low woodland of *Acacia caesaneura* / *A. incurvaneura* over mid shrubland of *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *filifolia* and low hummock grassland of *Triodia desertorum* on sand-loam plain.

SLP-MWS1 - Sparse mallee shrubland of *Eucalyptus youngiana* over low open shrubland of *Acacia ayersiana* and low hummock/tussock grassland of *Triodia desertorum* / *Eragrostis eriopoda* on sand-loam plain.

#### Rocky Hillslope

RH-AOW1 - Low woodland of *Acacia incurvaneura* over mid open chenopod shrubland of *Maireana convexa* and low open tussock grassland of *Eriachne mucronata* / *Eragrostis eriopoda* on rocky hillslope.

RH-AFW1 - Low woodland of *Acacia incurvaneura* / *A. pruniocarpa* over mid sparse shrubland of *Senna artemisioides* subsp. *helmsii* / *Scaevola spinescens* and low sparse shrubland of *Ptilotus obovatus* / *Maireana georgei* on rocky hillslope.

#### Clearing Description

Orelia Project.  
Echo Resources Limited proposes to clear up to 200 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 1,816 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production. The project is located approximately 70 kilometres north-east of Leinster, within the Shire of Leonora.

<b>Vegetation Condition</b>	Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994).
<b>Comment</b>	The vegetation condition was derived from a vegetation survey conducted by Botanica Consulting (2018).  The proposed clearing is for the development of the Orelia Project at the existing Mt McClure Gold Mine site, which is owned by Echo Resources Limited. The Project involves conducting a cutback on the existing Cockburn pit.

### 3. Assessment of application against Clearing Principles

#### (a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.

<b>Comments</b>	<p><b>Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle</b></p> <p>The clearing permit application area is located within the Eastern Murchison subregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) Murchison Bioregion (GIS Database). The Eastern Murchison subregion is characterised by its internal drainage, and extensive areas of elevated red desert sandplains with minimal dune development (CALM, 2002). Vegetation is dominated by mulga woodlands often rich in ephemerals; hummock grasslands, saltbush shrublands and samphire shrublands (CALM, 2002).</p> <p>A reconnaissance flora and fauna survey covering approximately 1,816 hectares was undertaken for the Orelia Project (Botanica Consulting, 2018). The survey identified five vegetation types within the application area (Botanica Consulting, 2018). The vegetation types were located within three different landform types and comprised of three major vegetation groups, which were represented by a total of 17 families, 36 genera and 102 taxa (Botanica Consulting, 2018). The vegetation within the application area is considered to be in 'Good' condition (Botanica Consulting, 2018).</p> <p>There were no flora species of conservation significance identified during the survey conducted by Botanica Consulting (2018) and there are no known records of flora of conservation significance within the application area (GIS database).</p> <p>There were no introduced flora species recorded within the application area (Botanica Consulting, 2018). According to NatureMap and Protected Matters database results, two introduced flora species potentially occur within the area; <i>Carrichtera annua</i> (Ward's weed) and <i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i> (Buffel grass) (Botanica Consulting, 2018). Weeds have the potential to alter the biodiversity of an area, competing with native vegetation for available resources and making areas more fire prone. Potential impacts to biodiversity as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a weed management condition.</p> <p>The broad scale terrestrial fauna habitats within the application area have been identified as comprising a mosaic of clay-loam plain, rocky hillslopes and sand-loam plains (Botanica Consulting, 2018). There are a number of potential vertebrate fauna species likely to occur in survey area; including nine amphibians, 87 reptiles, 104 birds and 33 mammals (Botanica Consulting, 2018). However, these numbers are considered highly likely to be an overestimation of the fauna species utilising the survey area either on a regular or infrequent basis, due to the precautionary approach adopted for the assessment (Botanica Consulting, 2018). Only a subset of the potential species is likely to be present within the survey area at any one time (Botanica Consulting, 2018). Impacts on fauna and fauna habitats from the proposed clearing are expected to be localised and negligible, consequently manageable, due to the relatively small size of the impact footprint and the extensive habitat connectivity with adjoining areas. Additionally, approximately 618 hectares of the survey area has been previously cleared for mining development including waste rock landforms, open pits and various site infrastructure and transport corridors (Botanica Consulting, 2018). It is therefore unlikely that the application area contains greater faunal diversity than other areas within the Murchison bioregion.</p> <p>Based on the above, the proposed clearing is not likely to be at variance to this Principle.</p>
<b>Methodology</b>	<p>Botanica Consulting (2018) CALM (2002)</p> <p>GIS Database: - IBRA Australia - Threatened and Priority Flora - Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities Boundaries - Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities Buffers</p>

#### (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.

<b>Comments</b>	<p><b>Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle</b></p> <p>A reconnaissance fauna survey was conducted by Botanica Consulting (2018) which covered the application area. The following three fauna habitats were recorded within the application area (Botanica Consulting, 2018):</p>
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- Clay-loam Plains;
- Sand-Loam Plain; and
- Rocky Hillslopes.

The fauna habitats recorded are based on vegetation and associated landforms identified during the flora and vegetation assessment, which was considered to be in 'Good' condition (Botanica Consulting, 2018).

Botanica Consulting (2018) has not undertaken a detailed fauna survey, however they have identified nine amphibians, 87 reptiles, 104 birds and 33 mammals that have the potential to occur within the application area from a literature review. The following species of conservation significance are considered to possibly occur within the application area:

- *Falco peregrinus* (Peregrine Falcon) - Specially protected under the *Wildlife Protection Act 1950* (WC Act).
- *Dasycerus blythi* (Brush-tailed Mulgara) – DPaW Priority 4

The Peregrine Falcon potentially utilises some sections of the application area as part of a much larger home range, however, records in this area are rare and there were no potential nest sites observed (Botanica Consulting, 2018).

The Brush-tailed Mulgara prefers sand plain habitats and although this habitat is not found within the application area, this species may occur on clay-loam and sand-loam plains. The proposed clearing will result in the loss of some potential habitat for the Brush-tailed Mulgara but it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the species status in the wider area (Botanica Consulting, 2018).

There is extensive habitat connectivity with adjoining areas (GIS Database), and due to the existing mine within the application area, it is not likely to represent significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.

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

**Methodology** Botanica Consulting (2018)

GIS Database:  
- Imagery

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

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

There are no known records of Threatened flora within the application area (GIS Database). Flora surveys of the application area did not record any species of Threatened flora (Botanica Consulting, 2018).

The vegetation associations within the application area are common and widespread within the region (GIS Database), and the vegetation proposed to be cleared is unlikely to be necessary for the continued existence of any species of Threatened (rare) flora.

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

**Methodology** Botanica Consulting (2018)

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

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

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

There are no known Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) located within or in close proximity to the application area (GIS Database).

A flora and vegetation survey of the application area did not identify any TECs (Botanica Consulting, 2018).

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

**Methodology** Botanica Consulting (2018)

GIS Database:  
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities Boundaries

**(e) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.**

**Comments Proposal is not at variance to this Principle**

The application area falls within the Murchison Bioregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) (GIS Database). Approximately 99% of the pre-European vegetation still exists in the IBRA Murchison Bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2018). The application area is broadly mapped as Beard vegetation associations 18: Low woodland; mulga (*Acacia aneura*); and 107: Hummock grasslands, shrub steppe; mulga and *Eucalyptus kingsmillii* over hard spinifex (GIS Database). Approximately 99% of the pre-European extent of each of these vegetation associations remains uncleared at both the state and bioregional level (Government of Western Australia, 2018).

Therefore, the application area does not represent a significant remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.

	Pre-European area (ha)*	Current extent (ha)*	Remaining %*	Conservation Status**	Pre-European % in DBCA managed lands
IBRA Bioregion – Murchison	28,120,586	28,044,823	99	Least Concern	7.78
Beard vegetation associations – WA					
18	19,892,306	19,843,729	99	Least Concern	6.62
107	2,815,387	2,813,995	99	Least Concern	11.54
Beard vegetation associations – Murchison Bioregion					
18	10,269,896	10,234,838	99	Least Concern	5.12
107	2,785,303	2,783,911	99	Least Concern	11.58

\* Government of Western Australia (2018)

\*\* Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002)

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

**Methodology** Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002)  
Government of Western Australia (2018)

GIS Database:  
- IBRA Australia  
- Pre-European Vegetation

**(f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.**

**Comments Proposal is not at variance to this Principle**

There are no watercourses or wetlands within the area proposed to clear and no riparian vegetation was identified within the application area (Botanica Consulting, 2018; GIS Database).

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

**Methodology** Botanica Consulting (2018)

GIS Database:  
- Hydrography, Lakes  
- Hydrography, linear

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

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

The application area lies within the Ararak, Bullimore, Desdemona and Monk land systems (GIS Database). These land systems have been mapped and described in technical bulletins produced by the former Department of Agriculture (now the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development).

The Ararak land system is described as broad plains with mantles of ironstone gravel supporting mulga shrublands with wanderrie grasses. This land system is not generally susceptible to erosion (Pringle et al., 1994).

The Bullimore Land System consists of gently undulating sandplain with occasional linear dunes and stripped surfaces supporting spinifex grasslands with mallees and acacia shrubs. This land system is not generally susceptible to erosion (Pringle et al., 1994).

The Desdemona Land System is described as plains with deep sandy or loamy soils supporting mulga tall shrublands and wanderrie grasses. This land system is not generally susceptible to erosion (Pringle et al., 1994).

The Monk Land System is described as hardpan plains with occasional sandy banks supporting mulga tall shrublands and wanderrie grasses. Drainage tracts within this land system are mildly susceptible to water erosion (Pringle et al., 1994), however, drainage tracts are not present within the application area.

The proposed clearing of up to 200 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 1,816 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production is unlikely to cause appreciable land degradation.

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

**Methodology** Pringle et al. (1994)

GIS Database:  
- Landsystem Rangelands

**(h) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.**

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

There are no conservation areas in the vicinity of the application area. The nearest conservation area is the Wanjarri Nature Reserve which is located approximately seven kilometres west of the application area (Botanica Consulting, 2018; GIS Database). The proposed clearing is unlikely to impact on the environmental values of any conservation area.

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

**Methodology** Botanica Consulting (2018)

GIS Database:  
- DPaW Tenure

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

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

There are no Public Drinking Water Source Areas within or in close proximity to the application area (GIS Database). There are no permanent watercourses or wetlands within the area proposed to clear (GIS Database). Surface drainage lines in the region are dry for most of the year, only flowing following periods of heavy rainfall (Botanica Consulting, 2018). The proposed clearing is unlikely to result in significant changes to surface water flows.

The proposed clearing is unlikely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.

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

**Methodology** Botanica Consulting (2018)

GIS Database:  
- Hydrography, Linear

**(j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.**

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

The climate of the region is semi-arid, with a low average rainfall of approximately 283 millimetres per year (BOM, 2018). Drainage lines in the area are dry for most of the year, only flowing following periods of heavy rainfall (Botanica Consulting, 2018).

There are no permanent water courses or waterbodies within the application area (GIS Database). Seasonal drainage lines are common in the region and temporary localised flooding may occur briefly following heavy rainfall events. However, the proposed clearing is unlikely to increase the incidence or intensity of natural flooding events.

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

**Methodology** BOM (2018)  
Botanica Consulting (2018)

GIS Database:  
- Hydrography, linear

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

**Comments**

The clearing permit application was advertised on 16 July 2018 by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS), inviting submissions from the public. A submission was received in relation to this application regarding the assessment of potential impacts on the flora, vegetation and fauna from the proposed clearing. A written response was provided on the matters raised, and potential impacts to flora, vegetation and fauna have been addressed under the relevant clearing principles.

There are no native title claims over the area under application (DPLH, 2018). 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, 2018). 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.

**Methodology** DPLH (2018)

**4. References**

- BoM (2018) Climate statistics for Australia locations – Leinster, Bureau of Meteorology.  
[www.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/tables/cw\\_0012300.shtml](http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/tables/cw_0012300.shtml) (Accessed 10 August 2018).
- Botanica Consulting (2018) Reconnaissance Flora and Fauna Survey Orelia Project. Report prepared for Echo Resources Limited, by Botanica Consulting, June 2018.
- CALM (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographic Subregions in 2002. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.
- DPLH (2018) Aboriginal Heritage Enquiry System. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.  
<http://maps.daa.wa.gov.au/AHIS/> (Accessed 10 August 2018).
- Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002) Biodiversity Action Planning. Action planning for native biodiversity at multiple scales; catchment bioregional, landscape, local. Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Victoria.
- Government of Western Australia (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.
- Pringle, H.J.R, Van Vreeswyk, A.M.E., and Gilligan, S.A. (1994) An Inventory and Condition Survey of the North-eastern Goldfields, Western Australia. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.

## 5. Glossary

### Acronyms:

<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:

**{DPaW (2017) Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora and Fauna. Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia}:-**

<b>T</b>	<b>Threatened species:</b> Published as Specially Protected under the <i>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</i> , listed under Schedules 1 to 4 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Threatened Fauna and Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Threatened Flora (which may also be referred to as Declared Rare Flora).  <b>Threatened fauna</b> is that subset of 'Specially Protected Fauna' declared to be 'likely to become extinct' pursuant to section 14(4) of the <i>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</i> .  <b>Threatened flora</b> is flora that has been declared to be 'likely to become extinct or is rare, or otherwise in need of special protection', pursuant to section 23F(2) of the <i>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</i> .  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.
<b>CR</b>	<b>Critically endangered species</b> Threatened species considered to be facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild. Published as Specially Protected under the <i>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</i> , in Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Threatened Fauna and Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Threatened Flora.
<b>EN</b>	<b>Endangered species</b> Threatened species considered to be facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild. Published as Specially Protected under the <i>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</i> , in Schedule 2 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Threatened Fauna and Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Threatened Flora.
<b>VU</b>	<b>Vulnerable species</b> Threatened species considered to be facing a high risk of extinction in the wild. Published as Specially Protected under the <i>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</i> , in Schedule 3 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Threatened Fauna and Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Threatened Flora.

- EX Presumed extinct species**  
Species which have been adequately searched for and there is no reasonable doubt that the last individual has died. Published as Specially Protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, in Schedule 4 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Presumed Extinct Fauna and Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice for Presumed Extinct Flora.
- IA Migratory birds protected under an international agreement**  
Birds that are subject to an agreement between the government of Australia and the governments of Japan (JAMBA), China (CAMBA) and The Republic of Korea (ROKAMBA), and the Bonn Convention, relating to the protection of migratory birds. Published as Specially Protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, in Schedule 5 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice.
- CD Conservation dependent fauna**  
Fauna of special conservation need being species dependent on ongoing conservation intervention to prevent it becoming eligible for listing as threatened. Published as Specially Protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, in Schedule 6 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice.
- OS Other specially protected fauna**  
Fauna otherwise in need of special protection to ensure their conservation. Published as Specially Protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*, in Schedule 7 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice.
- P Priority species**  
Species which are poorly known; or  
Species that are adequately known, are rare but not threatened, and require regular monitoring. Assessment of Priority codes is based on the Western Australian distribution of the species, unless the distribution in WA is part of a contiguous population extending into adjacent States, as defined by the known spread of locations.
- P1 Priority One - Poorly-known species:**  
Species that are known from one or a few locations (generally five or less) which are potentially at risk. All occurrences are either: very small; or on lands not managed for conservation, e.g. agricultural or pastoral lands, urban areas, road and rail reserves, gravel reserves and active mineral leases; or otherwise under threat of habitat destruction or degradation. Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from one or more locations but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and appear to be under immediate threat from known threatening processes. Such species are in urgent need of further survey.
- P2 Priority Two - Poorly-known species:**  
Species that are known from one or a few locations (generally five or less), some of which are on lands managed primarily for nature conservation, e.g. national parks, conservation parks, nature reserves and other lands with secure tenure being managed for conservation. Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from one or more locations but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and appear to be under threat from known threatening processes. Such species are in urgent need of further survey.
- P3 Priority Three - Poorly-known species:**  
Species that are known from several locations, and the species does not appear to be under imminent threat, or from few but widespread locations with either large population size or significant remaining areas of apparently suitable habitat, much of it not under imminent threat. Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from several locations but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and known threatening processes exist that could affect them. Such species are in need of further survey.
- P4 Priority Four - Rare, Near Threatened and other species in need of monitoring:**  
(a) Rare. Species that are considered to have been adequately surveyed, or for which sufficient knowledge is available, and that are considered not currently threatened or in need of special protection, but could be if present circumstances change. These species are usually represented on conservation lands.  
(b) Near Threatened. Species that are considered to have been adequately surveyed and that are close to qualifying for Vulnerable, but are not listed as Conservation Dependent.  
(c) Species that have been removed from the list of threatened species during the past five years for reasons other than taxonomy.