

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details						
1.1. Permit application Permit application No.: Permit type:	on details 8534/1 Purpos	e Permit				
1.2. Proponent detai Proponent's name:	ls Forres	tania Pty Ltd				
1.3. Property details Property: Local Government Area: Colloquial name:	Explora Shire c	Exploration Licence 77/2348 Shire of Kondinin				
1.4. Application Clearing Area (ha) 0.14	No. Trees	Method of Clearing Mechanical Removal	For the purpose of: Mineral Exploration			
1.5. Decision on app Decision on Permit Applic Decision Date:	lication ation: Grant 8 Augu	st 2019				
2. Site Information						
2.1. Existing environ 2.1.1. Description of the	ment and inf	ormation ation under application				
Vegetation Description	The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation association: 511: Medium woodland; salmon gum and morrel (GIS Database).					
	A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the application area by Botanica Consulting during May, 2019. The following vegetation association was recorded within the application area (Botanica Consulting, 2019):					
	CLP-I paupe	MWSA: Mallee woodland of <i>Eu</i> eriflora and low shrubland of Ac	calyptus polita / E. urna over tall shrubland of Malaleuca cacia merrallii / A. tetragonophylla / A. deficiens on clay-loam plain.			
Clearing Description	Forrestania Pty Ltd proposes to clear up to 0.14 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately six hectares, for the purpose of mineral exploration. The project is located approximately 170 kilometres south east of Southern Cross, within the Shire of Kondinin.					
Vegetation Condition	Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (Keighery, 1994);					
	То					
	Very Good: Veg	etation structure altered; obvio	us signs of disturbance (Keighery, 1994).			
Comment	The vegetation	condition was derived from aeri	ial imagery (GIS Database).			

3. Assessment of application against Clearing Principles

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

Comments Proposal may be at variance to this Principle

The application area occurs within the Southern Cross (COO2) subregion of the Coolgardie Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregion (GIS Database). This sub-region is characterised by subdued relief, comprising of gently undulating lands dissected by broad valleys with bands of low greenstone hills (CALM, 2002). Diverse *Eucalyptus* woodlands rich in endemic eucalypts occur around salt lakes, on low greenstone hills, valley alluvials and broad plains of calcareous earths (CALM, 2002). Mallees and scrub-heaths occur on the uplands, sand lunettes associated with playas along the broad valley floors, and sand sheets around granite outcrops (CALM, 2002).

The application area occurs within the Lake Cronin Area which is listed on the Register of National Estate for its high level of flora and fauna diversity and endemism. According to the Australian Heritage Database (2019), 16 fauna species that are endemic to either the south-west region or to Western Australia occur within the Lake

Cronin Area. The Lake Cronin Area is also described as being an important refuge for rare species due to widespread clearing in the wheatbelt to the west. Rare species include fauna such as the Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) and flora species such as *Eucalyptus steedmanii*.

A flora and vegetation survey of the application area and surrounding vegetation identified 26 flora species belonging to 13 genera from 10 families (Botanica Consulting, 2019). No Threatened or Priority flora or fauna were identified within the survey area (Botanica Consulting, 2019). The vegetation within the application area has been previously disturbed for historic exploration and was of marginal quality (Botanica Consulting, 2019; GIS Database).

The application area is located within the boundary of the Priority Ecological Community (PEC) 'Ironcap Hills Vegetation Complexes' (Botanica Consulting, 2019; GIS Database). The PEC includes vegetation on Mt Holland, Middle Ironcap Hill, Nothern Ironcap Hill, Southern Ironcap Hill, Digger Rock and Hatter Hill (DEC, 2010). Newbey and Hnatuik (1988) (cited in Botanica Consulting, 2019) recorded that species composition of the three Ironcap hills varied from one another and that flora of these ironstones differ widely from the nearest other banded ironstone formations, including the nearby Parker Range. According to Botanica Consulting (2019), the vegetation type identified within the survey area is not representative of the Ironcap Vegetation complexes, and the proposed exploration drilling represents a maximum impact of 0.004% on the total area of this PEC.

Given the application area is within a Register of National Estate site known for its high level of flora and fauna diversity and also the buffer of a PEC, the application area is considered to comprise a high level of biological diversity. However, the amount of proposed clearing is small (0.14 hectares) and provided the disturbed areas are rehabilitated after drilling and the recommended condition of weed management is implemented, the impact of the proposed clearing will be minimised.

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

Methodology Australian Heritage Data Base Botanica Consulting (2019) CALM (2002) DEC (2010)

GIS Database:

- IBRA Australia
- Imagery
- Pre-European Vegetation
- Threatened and Priority Flora
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities Boundaries
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities Buffers
- Threatened Fauna

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

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

No formal fauna survey was undertaken as part of this proposal, however several fauna surveys have been undertaken in the area relating to other projects. Based upon these surveys it is likely that two fauna habitats are present within the application area (PEK, 2015):

Undulating Plain

Open Low Woodland B to Low Forest B dominated often by *Eucalyptus urna* in combination with *E. salubris*, *E. polita* and *E. annulata*, over, Open Low Scrub often dominated variously by mixed Melaleuca species.

Broad Valley

Open Tall Woodland dominated by scattered *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* over Very Open to Dense Shrub (PEK, 2015).

It is unlikely that the fauna habitats that are to be impacted within the application area are necessary for the ongoing maintenance of any significant fauna habitat. It is likely that equal or higher quality vegetation and fauna habitats would exist throughout the surrounding area.

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

Methodology PEK (2015)

GIS Database:

- Imagery

- Threatened Fauna

(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, 2019).

The vegetation associations within the application area are common and widespread within the region (Botanica Consulting, 2019), 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 (2019)

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, 2019).

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

Methodology Botanica Consulting (2019)

GIS Database:

- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities Boundaries

- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities Buffers

(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 Coolgardie Bioregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) (GIS Database). Approximately 98% of the pre-European vegetation still exists in the IBRA Coolgardie Bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2019). The application area is broadly mapped as Beard vegetation association **511**: Medium woodland; salmon gum and morrel (GIS Database). Approximately 74% of the pre-European extent of this vegetation association remains uncleared at the state level and approximately 94% at the bioregional level (Government of Western Australia, 2019).

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 – Coolgardie	12,912,204	12,648,491	~98	Least Concern	16.72
Beard vegetation as – WA	sociations				
511	700,693	520,615	~74	Least Concern	20.19
Beard vegetation associations – Coolgardie Bioregion					
511	464,424	435,177	~94	Least Concern	20.62

* Government of Western Australia (2019)

** 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 (2019)

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 likely to be at variance to this Principle

There are no permanent watercourses or wetlands within the area proposed to clear (GIS Database).

There is a non-perennial lake present within the application area that is likely to only contain water after heavy rainfall events (GIS Database). However, a vegetation survey of the application area by botanists from Botanica Consulting did not identify any vegetation growing in, or in association with, a watercourse or wetland (Botanica Consulting, 2019).

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

Methodology Botanica Consulting (2019)

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

According to available GIS Databases, there is one soil type within the application area (GIS Database):

DD10: Plains with some clay pans and small salt lakes, dunes and lunettes; chief soils are brown and greybrown calcareous earths.

Calcareous loamy earths have a low-high risk of wind erodibility and moderately slow soil permeability therefore some seasonal water logging may occur over the application area (Schoknecht, 2002).

The proposed clearing of up to 0.14 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately six hectares, for the purpose of mineral exploration 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 Schoknecht (2002)

GIS Database:

- Landsystem Rangelands

- Soils, Statewide

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

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

The application area occurs within an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) (Register of National Estate), the Lake Cronin Area (GIS Database). At its closest point, the application area is approximately 4.2 kilometres south of the Lake Cronin Nature Reserve boundary (GIS Database).

According to the Australian Heritage Database (2019) the Lake Cronin Area is one of a number of areas in the south-west which has provided excellent conditions for the persistence of a range of primitive and relict species. At over 31,000 hectares, the Lake Cronin Area is a significant area in maintaining existing processes at a regional scale and therefore is a potentially important contemporary refugia for many species (Australian Heritage Database, 2019; GIS Database).

The Lake Cronin Area is dominated by mallee and woodland associations (Australian Heritage Database, 2019). The habitat to be cleared is therefore well represented within the conservation estate. Lake Cronin Nature Reserve is surrounded by extensive vegetation and the clearing of up to 0.14 hectares of vegetation at

a distance of approximately 4.2 kilometres or greater from the reserve will not significantly affect ecological linkages to the reserve.

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

Methodology Australian Heritage Database (2019)

GIS Database: - DPaW Tenure

(i) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the guality 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). Creek lines in the region are dry for most of the year, only flowing briefly immediately following significant rainfall. 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 underground water.

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

Methodology GIS Database:

- Hydrography, Linear

- Public Drinking Water Source Areas

(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 340.2 millimetres per year (BoM, 2019). Rainfall is usually experienced during winter months and it is likely that during times of intense rainfall there may be some localised flooding in adjacent areas (CALM, 2002; GIS Database).

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 (2019) CALM (2002)

GIS Database:

- Hydrographic Catchments Catchments
- Hydrography, linear

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

Comments

The clearing permit application was advertised on 24 June 2019 by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS), inviting submissions from the public. One submission was received in relation to this application raising no objections.

There is one native title claim (WC2000/007) over the area under application (DPLH, 2019). This claim has been registered with the National Native Title Tribunal / determined by the Federal Court on behalf of the claimant group. However, the mining tenure has been granted in accordance with the future act regime of the *Native Title Act 1993* and the nature of the act (i.e. the proposed clearing activity) has been provided for in that process, therefore, the granting of a clearing permit is not a future act under the *Native Title Act 1993*.

There are no registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the application area (DPLH, 2019). It is the proponent's responsibility to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* and ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

It is the proponent's responsibility to liaise with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, to determine whether a Works Approval, Water Licence, Bed and Banks Permit, or any other licences or approvals are required for the proposed works.

Methodology DPLH (2019)

4. References

Australian	Heritage Database (2019) Reg	gister of National Estate	e: Lake Cronin Area. http:/	//www.environment.gov.a	au/cgi-
	bin/ahdb/search.pl?mode=plac	ce_detail;search=place	_name%3Dlake%2520cr	onin%3Bkeyword_PD%3	Don%3Bkeyw
	ord SS%3Don%3Bkeyword F	H%3Don%3Blatitude_	1dir%3DS%3Blongitude	1dir%3DE%3Blongitude	2dir%3DE
	(Accessed 6 August 2019).		-	-	

- BoM (2019) Bureau of Meteorology Website Climate Data Online, Lake Grace. Bureau of Meteorology. http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data/ (Accessed 6 August 2019).
- Botanica Consulting (2019) Flora and Vegetation Survey of Crossroads Exploration Program. Unpublished Report Prepared by Botanica Consulting for Western Areas NL, June 2019.
- CALM (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographic Subregions in 2002. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.
- DPLH (2019) Aboriginal Heritage Enquiry System. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.

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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 (2019) 2018 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of March 2019. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Perth. https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca-statewide-vegetation-statistics
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- PEK (2015) Forrestania Nickel Operations Regional Exploration Program, Level 1 Vegetation and Flora Survey, Lake Ned and Forrestania Crossroads areas. Unpublished report prepared by PEK Enviro for Western Areas Limited, Perth, July 2018.

Schoknecht N. (2002) Soil Groups of Western Australia. A simple guide to the main soils of Western Australia. Resource Management Technical Report 246. Edition 3.

Western Australian Herbarium (1998-) FloraBase - the Western Australian Flora. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. <u>https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/</u> (Accessed XX Month Year).

5. Glossary

Acronyms:

ВоМ	Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Government
DAA	Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Western Australia (now DPLH)
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia (now DPIRD)
DBCA	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia
DEC	Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia (now DBCA and DWER)
DEE	Department of the Environment and Energy, Australian Government
DER	Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia (now DWER)
DMIRS	Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Western Australia
DMP	Department of Mines and Petroleum, Western Australia (now DMIRS)
DPIRD	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia

DPLH	Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, Western Australia
DRF	Declared Rare Flora
DoE	Department of the Environment, Australian Government (now DEE)
DoW	Department of Water, Western Australia (now DWER)
DPaW	Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia (now DBCA)
DSEWPaC	Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (now DEE)
DWER	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Western Australia
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia
EP Act	Environmental Protection Act 1986, Western Australia
EPBC Act	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Federal Act)
GIS	Geographical Information System
ha	Hectare (10,000 square metres)
IBRA	Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources - commonly known as the
	World Conservation Union
PEC	Priority Ecological Community, Western Australia
RIWI Act	Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914, Western Australia
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community

Definitions:

{DBCA (2019) Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora and Fauna. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia}:-

T <u>Threatened species:</u>

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.