



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details and outcomes

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	8897/2
Permit type:	Purpose permit
Applicant name:	Carnegie Gold Pty Ltd
Application received:	11 March 2026
Application area:	98 hectares
Purpose of clearing:	Mineral production and associated activities
Method of clearing:	Mechanical removal
Tenure:	Mining Lease 30/103
Location (LGA area):	Shire of Menzies
Colloquial name:	Callion Gold Project

1.2. Description of clearing activities

Carnegie Gold Pty Ltd proposes to clear up to 98 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 98 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities. The project is located approximately 60 kilometres southwest of Menzies, within the Shire of Menzies.

The application is to allow for development of the Callion Gold Project.

Clearing permit CPS 8897/1 was granted by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (now the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration) on 19 August 2021 and was valid from 11 September 2021 to 10 September 2026. The permit authorised the clearing of up to 98 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 98 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities.

On 11 March 2026, the permit holder applied to amend CPS 8897/1 to extend the duration of the clearing permit from 10 September 2026 to 10 September 2031.

Based on the most recent annual clearing report (reporting period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025, received 28 July 2025), and clearing has occurred under the permit.

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Grant
Decision date:	20 August 2026
Decision area:	98 hectares of native vegetation

1.4. Reasons for decision

This clearing permit application was submitted, accepted, assessed, and determined in accordance with sections 51KA(1) and 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act). The Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE) advertised the application for a public comment for a period of 7 days, and no submissions were received.

In making this decision, the Delegated Officer had regard for the site characteristics (Appendix AA), relevant datasets (Appendix DD), supporting information provided by the applicant (Carnegie Gold, 2025a) including the results of a flora and vegetation survey (JBBC, 2021), the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act (Appendix B), proposed avoidance and minimisation measures (Section 3.1), relevant planning instruments and any other matters considered relevant to the assessment (Section 3.2.1). The Delegated Officer also took into consideration the purpose of the clearing for mineral production and associated activities.

After consideration of the available information, as well as the applicant's minimisation and mitigation measures (Section 3.1), the Delegated Officer determined the proposed clearing is unlikely to lead to appreciable land degradation or have long-term adverse impacts on environmental values.

The Delegated Officer decided to grant a clearing permit subject to conditions to:

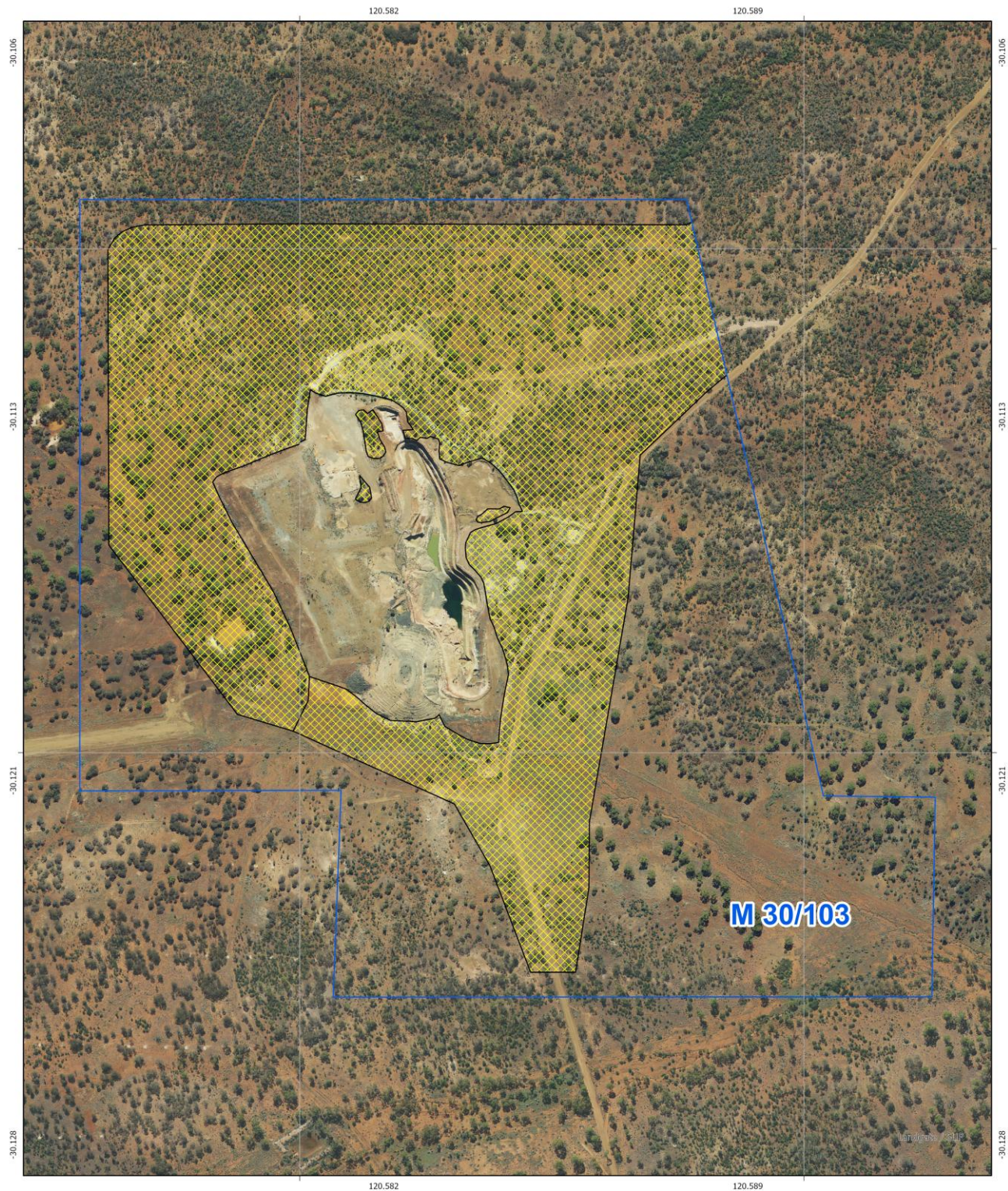
- avoid, minimise to reduce the impacts and extent of clearing;

- take hygiene steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of weeds;
- vegetation management condition to avoid the clearing of riparian vegetation and minimise the impacts of clearing on existing surface flows;
- undertake slow, progressive one-directional clearing to allow terrestrial fauna to move into adjacent habitat ahead of the clearing activity;
- commence construction no later than six months after undertaking clearing to reduce the risk of erosion;
- a fauna management (malleefowl) condition requiring areas proposed to be cleared between 1 September and 31 January are inspected to identify active (in use) malleefowl mounds, and to maintain a 200 metre buffer around identified active mounds; and
- a fauna management (southern whiteface) condition requiring area proposed to be cleared between 1 July and 31 October are inspected to identify active (in use) southern whiteface nests, and to maintain a 50 metre buffer around identified active nests.

The assessment has not changed since the assessment for CPS 8897/1. The Delegated Officer determined that the proposed extension of the Permit duration to 10 September 2031 is not likely to lead to an unacceptable risk to environmental values.

1.5. Site map

A site map of proposed clearing is provided in Figure 1 below.



LEGEND

- Mining Act Tenure
- CPS 8897/2 - Area Approved to Clear

GCS: GDA2020
Datum: GDA2020
Map Units: Degree

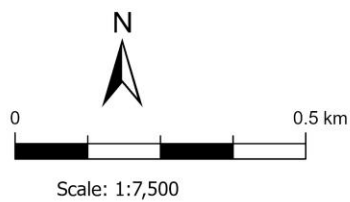


Figure 1. Map of the application area. The yellow area indicates the area within which conditional authorised clearing can occur under the granted clearing permit.

2. Legislative context

The clearing of native vegetation in Western Australia is regulated under the EP Act and the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004 (Clearing Regulations).

In addition to the matters considered in accordance with section 51O of the EP Act (Section 1.4), the Delegated Officer has also had regard to the objects and principles under section 4A of the EP Act, particularly:

- the precautionary principle
- the principle of intergenerational equity
- the principle of the conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity

Other legislation of relevance for this assessment include:

- *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (WA) (BC Act)
- *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* (BAM Act)
- *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (WA) (CALM Act)
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act)
- *Mining Act 1978* (WA)
- *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (RIWI Act)

Relevant agreements (treaties) considered during the assessment include:

- Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement
- China-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement
- Republic of Korea-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement

The key guidance documents which inform this assessment are:

- A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation (DER, 2014)
- Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits (DWER, 2021)
- Technical guidance – Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment (EPA, 2016b)
- Technical guidance – Terrestrial Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment (EPA, 2020)
- Guideline for Cumulative Impact Assessment (EPA, 2026)

3. Detailed assessment of application

3.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

As part of their submission for CPS 8897/2, Carnegie Gold Pty Ltd submitted evidence demonstrating that the following avoidance and mitigation measures would be implemented on site (Carnegie Gold, 2025a):

- utilising existing cleared areas from historic mining activities to avoid clearing new areas; and
- repurposing redundant infrastructure.

As of the 2024-2025 reporting period, the Callion Gold Operations site is under managed care and maintenance, and no clearing has occurred under the clearing permit (Carnegie Gold, 2025b).

The Delegated Officer was satisfied that the applicant has made a reasonable effort to avoid and minimise potential impacts of the proposed clearing on environmental values.

3.2. Assessment of impacts on environmental values

The Permit holder has applied to extend the Permit duration from 11 September 2021 to 10 September 2031. No other changes are proposed to the Permit. As of 28 July 2025, no clearing has been undertaken since the issuing of the permit (Orabanda Mining, 2025).

A review of current environmental information (Appendix A) reveals that the site conditions have not changed significantly from the clearing permit decision report CPS 8897/1. The vegetation survey conducted for the application CPS 8897/1 did not identify any threatened or priority flora species within the application area (JBBC, 2019). A review of current information show that there is unlikely to have been any change in flora assemblages within the area proposed to be cleared in the intervening time period due to the existing disturbance of the old mine site, and extensive historical use of the wider area for pastoralism and mining (CALM, 2002; GIS Database).

The most recent biological surveys submitted in relation to this permit were conducted over the application area in 2019. Any future amendments or extensions to this permit will require new biological surveys over the application area as the survey information is becoming dated and will not be applicable to any future amendments.

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*. Environmental information has been reviewed, and the assessment of the proposed clearing against the clearing principles remains consistent with the assessment contained in decision report CPS 8897/2; the proposed clearing is not at variance with Principle (e); not likely to be at variance with Principles (a), (c), (d), (h), (i) and (j); may be at variance to Principles (b) and (g); and is at variance to Principle (f).

3.2.1. Biological values (fauna) – Clearing principle (b)

Assessment

A fauna survey was conducted over the application area and other sites from 9 December 2019 to 11 December 2019. The survey covered approximately 305.2 hectares centred on the application area (Biostat, 2020). The only evidence of conservation significant fauna was two disused *Leipoa ocellata* (malleefowl) (VU) mounds that were estimated to be greater than 20 years old (Biostat, 2020). An assessment of current information has identified records of 15 conservation significant species within 50 kilometres of the application area, with suitable habitat for two of these species identified within the application area (GIS Database). While there are no records of *Aphelocephala leucopsis* (southern whiteface) nearby, the application area provides suitable habitat for this species and is situated within the known range of this species. The following three conservation significant species are considered to potentially occur within the application area:

- *Aphelocephala leucopsis* (southern whiteface) (VU);
- *Nyctophilus major tor* (central long-eared bat) (P3); and
- *Leipoa ocellata* (malleefowl) (VU).

Southern whiteface

Southern whiteface is a small bird similar to thornbills but with a stockier build, with brownish-grey upperparts with a pale white underside (Commonwealth of Australia, 2008). This species is widespread across the south of Australia but patchily distributed throughout its range, preferring woodlands and tall shrublands with grassy understorey or low shrub layer (Commonwealth of Australia). While there are no records of this species within or near the application area, it has only been listed under the EPBC Act as of March 2023 and the *Biodiversity Conservation Act* as of July 2025, and as such it was not considered by the 2019 Biostat survey (Commonwealth of Australia, 2008; Biostat, 2020).

The application area falls within the known range of this species, and the open woodland over shrubland within the application area provides suitable foraging/breeding habitat for this species. Despite the degradation of the lower shrubs by historic pastoralism and the continued presence of cattle, and the existing disturbance of the Callion open-pit mine, the proposed clearing is likely to impact suitable habitat for the southern whiteface. Potential impacts to southern whiteface can be minimised through the implementation of a fauna management condition.

Central long-eared bat

The central long-eared bat is known to be widespread in the Coolgardie bioregion, commonly found in mixed eucalypt woodlands with prominent shrub strata and the fringes of she-oak and wattle thickets surrounding granite outcrops (McKenzie and Parnaby, 2008). The central long-eared bat has a preference for *Eucalyptus oleosa*, *Eucalyptus transcontinentalis*, mixed *Eremophila* species and mixed *Exocarpos* species, all of which are present within the application area (McKenzie and Parnaby, 2008; JBBC, 2019). Within these habitats it roosts in tree crevices, foliage or under loose bark, emerging to forage at night where it has been recorded feeding on spiders and insects, either ambushing them in the air from perches or gleaning them from surfaces while in flight (McKenzie and Parnaby, 2008).

While this species may utilise the application area for foraging, the area does not represent critical foraging or roosting habitat for this species due to the degradation of the vegetation as a result of pastoralism and the existing disturbance in the form of the existing Callion open-pit mine (JBBC, 2019; GIS Database). Potential impacts to this species can be minimised through the implementation of a directional clearing condition.

Malleefowl

Malleefowl occurs in semi-arid to arid shrublands and low woodlands dominated by mallee and associated habitats, such as broombush *Melaleuca uncinata* and native pine *Callitris* spp. scrub (DCCEEW, 2024). Malleefowl can also occur in scrubs of acacia in central Australia however this is less frequent (DCCEEW, 2024). Nesting habitat occurs in light sandy soil and where leaf litter is abundant, for the construction and heating of the incubation mound (DCCEEW, 2024). This species forages on the ground in leaf litter or among low vegetation, such as herbs and shrubs (DCCEEW, 2024).

The vegetation within the application area provides suitable habitat for this species, and two malleefowl mounds were located within the application area (Biostat, 2020). Potential impacts to malleefowl as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised through the continued implementation of a malleefowl management condition.

The fauna habitats located within the application area are well represented within the surrounding area and the vegetation proposed to be cleared is unlikely to represent significant habitat for fauna in a local or regional context. The condition of the fauna habitats was predominantly described as 'fair' (Biostat, 2020).

Conclusion

Based on the above assessment, the proposed clearing may have significant impacts on the aforementioned fauna species and the following conditions will be implemented to mitigate the impacts of the clearing.

Conditions

To address the above impacts, the following management measures will be required as conditions on the clearing permit:

- undertake slow, progressive one-directional clearing to allow terrestrial fauna to move into adjacent habitat ahead of the clearing activity, and engage a fauna spotter to traverse the project area ahead of clearing machinery at the time of clearing and alert machinery operators to avoid fauna;
- a fauna management (malleefowl) condition requiring areas proposed to be cleared between 1 September and 31 January are inspected to identify active (in use) malleefowl mounds, and to maintain a 200 metre buffer around identified active mounds; and
- a fauna management (southern whiteface) condition requiring area proposed to be cleared between 1 July and 31 October are inspected to identify active (in use) southern whiteface nests, and to maintain a 50 metre buffer around identified active nests.

3.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The clearing permit amendment application was advertised on 1 May 2026 by the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

There is one native title claim (WC2017/007) over the area under application (DPLH, 2026). 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, 2026). 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.

Other relevant authorisations required for the proposed land use include:

- A Programme of Work approved under the *Mining Act 1978*
- A Mining Development and Closure Proposal approved under the *Mining Act 1978*

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.

End

Appendix A. Site characteristics

A.1. Site characteristics

Characteristic	Details
Local context	The area proposed to be cleared is located approximately 60 kilometres northwest of Menzies on crown land within the Shire of Menzies in the extensive land use zone of Western Australia (GIS Database). The area proposed to be cleared is situated in a tract of native vegetation centred on the historic Ullaring gold project (GIS Database). The application area is located in the Coolgardie IBRA bioregion and the Eastern Goldfield IBRA subregion (GIS Database). The predominant land use in the region is Unallocated Crown Land (UCL), Crown reserves, grazing native pasture leasehold, freehold, conservation and mining leases (CALM, 2002).
Ecological linkage	According to available databases, the application area does not contain any known or mapped ecological linkages (GIS Database).
Conservation areas	The nearest conservation area is the Mount Manning Range Nature Reserve located approximately 58 kilometres west of the application area (GIS Database). The application area is also within the Great Western Woodlands (GIS Database).
Vegetation description	The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation association: 468: Wheatbelt; York gum, salmon gum etc. <i>Eucalyptus loxophleba</i>, <i>E. salmonophloia</i>. Goldfields; gimlet, redwood etc. <i>E. salubris</i>, <i>E. oleosa</i>. Riverine; river gum <i>E. camaldulensis</i>. Tropical; messmate, woollybush (GIS Database). A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the application area by Jenny Borger Botanical Consulting (JBBC) during October 2019. The following vegetation associations were recorded within the application area (JBBC, 2019): VT1: <i>Eucalyptus salmonophloia</i>, <i>Eucalyptus salubris</i>, <i>Eucalyptus transcontinentalis</i> woodland / chenopod low shrubland <i>Eucalyptus salmonophloia</i>, <i>Eucalyptus salubris</i> and / or <i>Eucalyptus transcontinentalis</i> woodland over <i>Atriplex vesicaria</i>, <i>Rhagodia drummondii</i>, <i>Atriplex nummularia</i>, <i>Eremophila oppositifolia</i> subsp. <i>angustifolia</i>, <i>Frankenia laxiflora</i>, <i>Maireana tomentosa</i> open shrubland to low open shrubland. VT2: <i>Eucalyptus ravida</i> low woodland / chenopod low shrubland <i>Eucalyptus ravida</i> low woodland over <i>Atriplex vesicaria</i>, <i>Maireana pyramidata</i>, <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i>, <i>Solanum lasiophyllum</i>, <i>Maireana triptera</i>, <i>Maireana trichoptera</i> low open chenopod shrubland over <i>Roepera aurantiaca</i>, <i>Sclerolaena</i> species, <i>Austrostipa</i> species isolated forbs and grasses. VT3: <i>Eucalyptus clelandiorum</i> woodland / <i>Eremophila</i>, <i>Atriplex</i> and <i>Olearia</i> shrubland <i>Eucalyptus clelandiorum</i>, <i>Casuarina pauper</i>, <i>Eucalyptus griffithsii</i> and / or <i>Eucalyptus celastroides</i> subsp. <i>virella</i> woodland over <i>Eremophila pustulata</i>, <i>Atriplex nummularia</i>, <i>Eremophila oppositifolia</i> subsp. <i>angustifolia</i> open shrubland over <i>Olearia muelleri</i>, <i>Acacia erinacea</i>, <i>Eremophila pustulata</i>, <i>Atriplex nummularia</i>, <i>Casuarina pauper</i>, <i>Maireana</i> species low sparse shrubland. VT4: <i>Acacia incurvaneura</i> tall shrubland / <i>Acacia</i>, <i>Grevillea</i>, <i>Prostanthera</i> shrubland <i>Acacia incurvaneura</i>, <i>Acacia caesaneura</i> low open forest over <i>Acacia burkittii</i>, <i>Eremophila clarkei</i>, <i>Grevillea oligomera</i>, <i>Hakea recurva</i> tall open shrubland over <i>Philotheca brucei</i> subsp. <i>brucei</i>, <i>Eremophila clarkei</i>, <i>Prostanthera grylloana</i>, <i>Acacia burkittii</i>, <i>Prostanthera althoferi</i> subsp. <i>althoferi</i>, <i>Dodonaea adenophora</i> open shrubland. VT5: Mixed shrublands on lateritic breakaways with isolated trees <i>Eucalyptus griffithsii</i>, <i>Casuarina pauper</i> isolated trees over <i>Acacia acuminata</i>, <i>Santalum spicatum</i>, <i>Eremophila oldfieldii</i> subsp. <i>angustifolia</i> tall sparse shrubland over <i>Olearia muelleri</i>, <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i>, <i>Senna artemisioides</i> subsp. <i>filifolia</i>, <i>Dodonaea lobulata</i>, <i>Atriplex nummularia</i>, <i>Bossiaea walkeri</i>, <i>Maireana georgei</i> low open shrubland over <i>Austrostipa nitida</i> isolated grass tussocks. VT6: <i>Eucalyptus griffithsii</i>, <i>Eucalyptus oleosa</i> open woodland / <i>Acacia</i>, <i>Eremophila</i> on lower slopes <i>Eucalyptus griffithsii</i>, <i>Eucalyptus oleosa</i> subsp. <i>oleosa</i> open woodland to woodland over <i>Acacia tetragonophylla</i>, <i>Santalum spicatum</i>, <i>Eremophila oppositifolia</i> subsp. <i>angustifolia</i>, <i>Eremophila oldfieldii</i> subsp. <i>angustifolia</i>, <i>Eremophila</i> sp. Mt Jackson tall open shrubland. VT7: <i>Eucalyptus</i> open forest over <i>Santalum</i>, <i>Acacia</i>, <i>Exocarpos</i> in drainage lines <i>Eucalyptus clelandiorum</i>, <i>Eucalyptus transcontinentalis</i>, <i>Eucalyptus celastroides</i> subsp. <i>virella</i> open forest over <i>Santalum spicatum</i>, <i>Acacia acuminata</i>, <i>Eremophila oppositifolia</i> subsp. <i>angustifolia</i>, <i>Exocarpos aphyllus</i> tall sparse shrubland over <i>Acacia acuminata</i>, <i>Senna</i>

Characteristic	Details
	<i>artemisioides</i> subsp. <i>filifolia</i> , <i>Eremophila oppositifolia</i> subsp. <i>angustifolia</i> , <i>Exocarpos aphyllus</i> shrubland.
Vegetation condition	Vegetation surveys of the application area found the vegetation to be in completely degraded to excellent condition (Keighery, 1994). The full Keighery (1994) condition rating scale is provided in Appendix C.
Climate and landform	The climate of the Eastern Goldfield subregion is described as arid to semi-arid warm mediterranean, with the nearest weather station recording an average rainfall of approximately 265.5 millimetres per year (BoM, 2026; CALM, 2002). The application area is mapped at elevations of 480-490 metres Australian Height Datum (GIS Database).
Soil description and land degradation risk	The soil is mapped as part of the following land systems and soil descriptions (DPIRD, 2026; Waddell and Galloway, 2023; GIS Database). • Coolgardie Land System (265Co) Uplands and undulating plains associated with ultramafic greenstones, supporting eucalypt woodlands and halophytic shrublands. Soils associated with this land system are calcareous stony soil, calcareous loamy earth, calcareous clay loam, self-mulching cracking clay, calcareous shallow loam, calcareous gravelly loamy earth and red loamy earth. Where not protected by a stony mantle, footslopes and valley floors are susceptible to water erosion, particularly where perennial shrub cover is substantially reduced and/or the soil surface is disturbed. The vegetation is prone to overgrazing and subsequent degradation. • Coolgardie Disturbed Land System (265CoX) disturbed and degraded areas of the Coolgardie Land System • Gumland Land System (265Gm) alluvial plains, supporting eucalypt woodlands with halophytic shrub understoreys. Soils associated with this land system are calcareous loamy earth, red loamy earth, Alkaline red shallow loamy duplex, calcareous shallow loam, calcareous clay loam, self-mulching cracking clay and calcareous loamy ironstone gravel. Alluvial plains, drainage tracts and foci are susceptible to erosion if perennial shrub cover is substantially reduced, as are footslopes if protective mantles are disturbed. Infrastructure across sheetwash and alluvial plains can result in concentrated water flows and cause erosion incision. Halophytic vegetation is prone to overgrazing and subsequent degradation. • Gumland Disturbed Land Phase (265GmX) disturbed and degraded areas of the Gumland Land System. • Illaara Land System (265Il) low rises and undulating plains with ironstone gravel or calcrete mantles, supporting eucalypt woodlands and mulga-casuarina shrublands. Soils associated with this land system are loamy gravel, calcareous shallow loam, red loamy earth, very shallow soil over ferruginous duricrust, shallow calcrete ironstone gravel, shallow loamy gravel, calcareous loamy ironstone gravel, calcareous loamy earth and red loamy earth. This land system is generally not susceptible to erosion. • Illaara Disturbed Land Phase (265ILX) disturbed and degraded areas of the Illaara Land System.
Waterbodies	The desktop assessment and aerial imagery indicated that no known watercourses or waterbodies intersect the application area (GIS Database). The nearest Wetland of National or International Importance is the Rowles Lagoon System located approximately 38 kilometres southeast of the application area (GIS Database).
Hydrogeography	The nearest Public Drinking Water Source Area is the Menzies Water Reserve located approximately 60 kilometres direction of the application area (GIS Database). The application area is located within the Raeside Ponton Salt Lake basin (GIS Database). The application area is located within the Goldfields Ground Water Area proclaimed under the <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i> (GIS Database). The groundwater salinity is mapped as 14,000 to 35,000 milligrams per litre total dissolved solids which is described as saline (BoM, 2019; GIS Database).
Flora	There are records of six priority flora and one threatened flora within 20 kilometres of the application area, with suitable habitat for one of these species identified within the application area.
Ecological communities	There are no Priority Ecological Communities or Threatened Ecological Communities (PECs/TECs) intersecting the application area. The closest recorded PEC is the Emu Land System (Priority 3) approximately 25 kilometres east of the application area.
Fauna	There are records of 14 fauna of conservation significance within 50 kilometres of the application area, with suitable habitat for two of these species identified within the application area.

Characteristic	Details
Fauna habitat	Five broad fauna habitats were identified within the application area, in addition to habitat disturbed by historic mining activity (Biostat, 2020): AS – Acacia shrubland; BR – Acacia shrubland on breakaways; EC – Eucalyptus woodland over chenopods and saltbush; ER - Eucalyptus drainage line; and ES – Eucalyptus woodland with shrubland on slopes.

A.2. Vegetation extent

	Pre-European area (ha)	Current extent (ha)	Extent remaining (%)	Current extent in all DBCA managed land (ha)	Current extent in all DBCA Managed Land (proportion of pre-European extent) (%)
IBRA Bioregion - Coolgardie	12,912,204.35	12,648,491.39	97.96	2,114,349.37	16.37
Beard vegetation associations - State					
Veg Assoc No. 468	592,022.32	583,902.76	98.63	135,197.44	22.84
Beard vegetation associations - Bioregion					
Veg Assoc No. 468	583,357.71	575,360.61	98.63	130,719.16	22.41

Government of Western Australia (2019)

A.3. Flora analysis table

With consideration for the site characteristics set out above, relevant datasets (Appendix D.1), and the results of the 2019 JBBC survey of the application area, impacts to the following conservation significant flora required further consideration (JBBC, 2019; WAH, 1998; GIS Database).

Species name	Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)	Number of known records (total)
Threatened			
<i>Eucalyptus crucis</i> subsp. <i>crucis</i>	N	<5	45
Priority 1			
<i>Ptilotus procumbens</i>	N	<15	5
Priority 2			
<i>Eucalyptus educta</i>	Y	<5	46
Priority 3			
<i>Calytrix hislopilii</i>	N	<10	8
<i>Grevillea georgeana</i>	N	<5	66
<i>Hysterobaeckea ochropetala</i> subsp. <i>cometes</i>	N	<20	29
<i>Notisia intonsa</i>	N	<10	29

T: threatened, CR: critically endangered, EN: endangered, VU: vulnerable, P: priority

A.4. Fauna analysis table

With consideration for the site characteristics set out above and relevant datasets (Appendix D.1), impacts to the following conservation significant fauna required further consideration (Biostat, 2020; Commonwealth of Australia, 2008; GIS Database).

Species name	Conservation status	Suitable habitat features? [Y/N]	Distance of closest record to application area (km)
Birds			
<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i> (common sandpiper)	MI	N	<45
<i>Aphelocephala leucopsis</i> (southern whiteface)	VU	Y	>50
<i>Apus pacificus</i> (fork-tailed swift)	MI	N	<20
<i>Arenaria interpres</i> (ruddy turnstone)	MI	N	<45
<i>Charadrius cucullatus</i> (hooded plover, hooded dotterel)	P4	N	<20
<i>Charadrius veredus</i> (oriental plover)	MI	N	<45
<i>Falco peregrinus</i> (peregrine falcon)	OS	N	<10
<i>Leipoa ocellata</i> (malleefowl)	VU	Y	<10
<i>Oxyura australis</i> (blue-billed duck)	P4	N	<45
<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i> (glossy ibis)	MI	N	<50
<i>Tringa glareola</i> (wood sandpiper)	MI	N	<45
<i>Tringa nebularia</i> (common greenshank)	MI	N	<45
Mammals			
<i>Dasyurus geoffroii</i> (chuditch, western quoll)	VU	N	<40
<i>Nyctophilus major tor</i> (central long-eared bat)	P3	Y	<50
<i>Pseudomys occidentalis</i> (western mouse)	P4	N	<40

T: threatened, CR: critically endangered, EN: endangered, VU: vulnerable, MI: migratory, CD: conservation dependent, OS: other specially protected, P: priority

Appendix B. Assessment against the clearing principles

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Environmental value: biological values		
<u>Principle (a):</u> "Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biodiversity." <u>Assessment:</u> The area proposed to be cleared does not contain any known conservation significant flora species or assemblages of plants. While there have been no new flora and vegetation surveys submitted as part of this application, there are unlikely to have been any notable changes in the flora species makeup of the application area since the most recent survey was completed in October 2019. The application area provides suitable habitat for the Priority 2 flora species <i>Eucalyptus educta</i>, and while this species was not identified by the 2019 flora survey of the application area there are records of this species within five kilometres of the application area. There are 46 records of this species submitted to the Western	Not likely to be at variance (as per CPS 8897/1)	No

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
Australian Herbarium, with between two and 100 plants identified per record. This species has also been recorded across the Coolgardie, Murchison, Swan Coastal Plain and Yalgoo IBRA Bioregions across a wide range soils and vegetation associations (WAH, 1998). As such, if present within the application area it is unlikely that the proposed clearing will significantly impact the conservation of this species. No other conservation significant fauna was located within the application area, and the assessment of the application area has not changed from CPS 8897/1. The vegetation associations, fauna habitats and landform types present within the application area are well represented in the surrounding area (Biostat, 2020; JBBC, 2019; GIS Database).		
Principle (b): <i>"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."</i> <u>Assessment:</u> The area proposed to be cleared contains potential habitat for conservation significant fauna.	May be at variance (as per CPS 8897/1)	Yes <i>Refer to Section 3.2.1, above.</i>
Principle (c): <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened flora."</i> <u>Assessment:</u> No threatened fauna species have been identified within the application area (JBBC, 2019; GIS Database). There is one record of <i>Eucalyptus crucis</i> subsp. <i>crucis</i> within five kilometres of the application area, however this record is from 1929 and the habitat within the application area does not match the currently known habitat of this species (GIS Database).	Not likely to be at variance (as per CPS 8897/1)	No
Principle (d): <i>"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."</i> <u>Assessment:</u> 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 or vegetation associations synonymous with known TECs (JBBC, 2019).	Not likely to be at variance (as per CPS 8897/1)	No
Environmental value: significant remnant vegetation and conservation areas		
Principle (e): <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared."</i> <u>Assessment:</u> The extent of the mapped vegetation type in the local area is consistent with the national objectives and targets for biodiversity conservation in Australia (Commonwealth of Australia, 2001). The vegetation proposed to be cleared is not considered to be part of a significant ecological linkage in the local area.	Not at variance (as per CPS 8897/1)	No
Principle (h): <i>"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> <u>Assessment:</u> Given the distance to the nearest conservation area is 58 kilometres (Mount Manning Range Nature Reserve), the proposed clearing is not likely to have an impact on the environmental values of nearby conservation areas (GIS Database).	Not likely to be at variance (as per CPS 8897/1)	No
Environmental value: land and water resources		
Principle (f): <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland."</i> <u>Assessment:</u> There are no permanent watercourses or wetlands within the application area (JBBC, 2019; GIS Database). A number of seasonal creek lines pass through the application area (GIS Database). One vegetation type 'VT7: Eucalyptus open forest over Santalum, Acacia, Exocarpos in drainage lines' was described as occurring in	At variance (as per CPS 8897/1)	No

Assessment against the clearing principles	Variance level	Is further consideration required?
association with drainage lines (JBBC, 2019). Creek lines in the region are dry for most of the year, only flowing briefly immediately following significant rainfall. The landscape of the application area is dominated by a sheetwash drainage plain with small areas of rises supporting open woodlands (Biostat, 2020). The vegetation in the plains is relatively sparse but adapted to ephemeral flooding (Biostat, 2020). Clearing the area is likely to impose surface hydrology impacts unless managed through the implementation of drainage mitigation measures (Biostat, 2020). Potential impacts to vegetation growing in association with watercourses may be minimised by the continued implementation of a watercourse management condition.		
Principle (g): <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation."</i> <u>Assessment:</u> Two of the three land systems that compose the application area and their disturbed land phases can be susceptible to erosion in the following instances. The third land system, Illaara, is generally not susceptible to erosion (DPIRD, 2026): • Coolgardie Land System: where not protected by a stony mantle, footslopes and valley floors are susceptible to water erosion, particularly where perennial shrub cover is substantially reduced and/or the soil surface is disturbed. • Gumland Land System: alluvial plains, drainage tracts and foci are susceptible to erosion if perennial shrub cover is substantially reduced, as are footslopes if protective mantles are disturbed. Poorly located infrastructure, such as track and fencelines, across sheetwash and alluvial plains can result in concentrated water flows and cause erosion incision. The proposed clearing of up to 98 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 98 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities, may cause appreciable land degradation. Potential land degradation impacts as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the continuing implementation of a staged clearing condition.	May be at variance (as per CPS 8897/1)	No
Principle (i): <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."</i> <u>Assessment:</u> There are no Public Drinking Water Source Areas within or in close proximity to the application area (GIS Database). There are no permanent watercourse or wetlands within the area proposed to be cleared (GIS Database). Creek lines in the region are dry for most of the year, only flowing briefly immediately following significant rainfall (CALM, 2002). The proposed clearing is unlikely to result in significant changes to surface water flows. While the application area is within the Goldfields Ground Water Area proclaimed under the <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i>, the proposed clearing is unlikely to cause deterioration in the quality of underground water.	Not likely to be at variance (as per CPS 8897/1)	No
Principle (j): <i>"Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding."</i> <u>Assessment:</u> 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.	Not likely to be at variance (as per CPS 8897/1)	No

Appendix C. Vegetation condition rating scale

Vegetation condition is a rating given to a defined area of vegetation to categorise and rank disturbance related to human activities. The rating refers to the degree of change in the vegetation structure, density and species present in relation to undisturbed vegetation of the same type. The degree of disturbance impacts upon the vegetation's ability to regenerate. Disturbance at a site can be a cumulative effect from a number of interacting disturbance types.

Considering its location, the scale below was used to measure the condition of the vegetation proposed to be cleared. This scale has been extracted from Keighery, B.J. (1994) *Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community*. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

Measuring vegetation condition for the South West and Interzone Botanical Province (Keighery, 1994)

Condition	Description
Pristine	Pristine or nearly so, no obvious signs of disturbance.
Excellent	Vegetation structure intact, with disturbance affecting individual species; weeds are non-aggressive species.
Very good	Vegetation structure altered, with obvious signs of disturbance. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by repeated fires, the presence of some more aggressive weeds, dieback, logging and/or grazing.
Good	Vegetation structure significantly altered by very obvious signs of multiple disturbances. Retains basic vegetation structure or ability to regenerate it. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by very frequent fires, the presence of some very aggressive weeds at high density, partial clearing, dieback and/or grazing.
Degraded	Basic vegetation structure severely impacted by disturbance. Scope for regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive management. For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by very frequent fires, the presence of very aggressive weeds, partial clearing, dieback and/or grazing.
Completely degraded	The structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species. These areas are often described as 'parkland cleared' with the flora comprising weed or crop species with isolated native trees or shrubs.

Appendix D. Sources of information**D.1. GIS datasets**

Publicly available GIS datasets used (sourced from www.data.wa.gov.au):

- Cadastre (Polygon) (LGATE-217)
- Clearing Regulations - Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046)
- Clearing Regulations - Schedule One Areas (DWER-057)
- DBCA - Lands of Interest (DBCA-012)
- DBCA - Legislated Lands and Waters (DBCA-011)
- DBCA Fire History (DBCA-060)
- Groundwater Salinity Statewide (DWER-026)
- Hydrographic Catchments - Catchments (DWER-028)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- Local Government Area (LGA) Boundaries (LGATE-233)
- Localities (LGATE-234)
- Medium Scale Topo Contour (Line) (LGATE-015)
- Native Vegetation Extent (DPIRD-005)
- Pre-European Vegetation (DPIRD-006)
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas (DWER-033)
- RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas (DWER-034)
- RIWI Act, Surface Water Areas and Irrigation Districts (DWER-037)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Best Available (DPIRD-027)
- Townsites (LGATE-248)

Restricted GIS Databases used:

- Threatened and Priority Flora (TPFL)
- Threatened and Priority Flora (WAHerb)
- Threatened and Priority Fauna
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities (Buffers)

D.2. References

Biostat (2020) Vegetation Clearing – Fauna Assessment. Report prepared for Ora Banda Mining, by Biostat Pty Ltd, March 2020.

Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) (2019) Bureau of Meteorology Website – Groundwater Information – Average Salinity. Bureau of Meteorology. <https://www.bom.gov.au/water/groundwater/insight/metadata.shtml> (Accessed 11 May 2026).

- Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) (2026) Bureau of Meteorology Website – Climate Data Online, Kalgoorlie-Boulder Airport (Number 012038). Bureau of Meteorology. <https://reg.bom.gov.au/climate/data/> (Accessed 11 May 2026).
- Carnegie Gold (2025a) Clearing permit amendment application form, CPS 8897/2, received 11 March 2026.
- Carnegie Gold (2025b) Annual report – clearing permit CPS 8897/1 July 01, 2024 to June 30, 2025. Received 31 July 2025.
- Conservation and Land Management (CALM) (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographic Subregions in 2002. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.
- Commonwealth of Australia (2001) National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005, Canberra.
- Commonwealth of Australia (2008) Species Profile and Threats Database. Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Australia. <https://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/sprat.pl> (Accessed 11 May 2026).
- Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) (2024) National recovery plan for the Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*). Available from: <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/biodiversity/threatened/recovery/plans/malleefowl-leipoa-ocellata-2007> (Accessed 10 June 2026).
- Department of Environment Regulation (DER) (2014) A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation. Perth. https://www.der.wa.gov.au/images/documents/your-environment/native-vegetation/Guidelines/Guide2_assessment_native_veg.pdf
- Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) (2026) Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. <https://espatial.dplh.wa.gov.au/ACHIS/index.html?viewer=ACHIS> (Accessed 11 May 2026).
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) (2026) NRInfo Digital Mapping. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. Government of Western Australia. <https://dpiird.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=662e8cbf2def492381fc915aaf3c6a0f> (Accessed 11 May 2026).
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) (2026) Western Australian Organism List. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. Government of Western Australia. <https://www.dpiird.wa.gov.au/online-tools/western-australian-organism-list/> (Accessed 11 May 2026).
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) (2021) Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits. Joondalup. <https://www.wa.gov.au/system/files/2024-11/procedure-native-vegetation-clearing-permits.pdf>
- Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) (2016) Technical Guidance - Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment. http://www.epa.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/Policies_and_Guidance/EPA%20Technical%20Guidance%20-%20Flora%20and%20Vegetation%20survey_Dec13.pdf
- Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) (2020) Technical Guidance – Terrestrial Fauna Surveys. https://www.epa.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/Policies_and_Guidance/2020.09.17%20-%20EPA%20Technical%20Guidance%20-%20Vertebrate%20Fauna%20Surveys%20-%20Final.pdf
- Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) (2026) Guideline for Cumulative Impact Assessment. January 2026. https://www.epa.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/Policies_and_Guidance/Cumulative%20Impact%20Assessment_final.pdf
- 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. <https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca-statewide-vegetation-statistics>
- JBBC (2019) Targeted Vegetation and Flora Survey of the Callion Gold Operations. Report prepared for Ora Banda Mining Limited, by Jenny Borger Botanical Consulting, October 2019.
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- McKenzie, N.L. and Parnaby, H. (2008) Central Long-eared Bat *Nyctophilus* sp. The Mammals of Australia, 3, 525-526. New Holland Publishers
- Ora Banda (2026) Callion Gold Operations Application for Clearing Permit (Purpose Permit) Callion Pit Extension M30/103 and L30/77. Report prepared by Ora Banda Mining Limited, March 2026.
- Waddell, P.A. and Galloway, P.D. (2023) Land systems, soils and vegetation of the southern Goldfields and Great Western Woodlands of Western Australia. Technical bulletin 99, volume 2. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australian Government.
- Western Australian Herbarium (WAH) (1998-) FloraBase - the Western Australian Flora. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia. <https://florabase.dbca.wa.gov.au/> (Accessed 11 May 2026).

Glossary

Acronyms:

BC Act	<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> , Western Australia
BoM	Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Government

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

Definitions:

DBCA (2023) Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora and Fauna. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia:

Threatened species

T 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 the species of fauna that are listed as critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable threatened species.

Threatened flora is the species of flora that are listed as critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable threatened species.

The assessment of the conservation status of threatened species is in accordance with the BC Act listing criteria and the requirements of [Ministerial Guideline Number 1](#) and [Ministerial Guideline Number 2](#) that adopts the use of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) [Red List of Threatened Species Categories and Criteria](#), and is based on the national distribution of the species.

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.

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.

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.

Extinct species

Listed by order of the Minister as extinct under section 23(1) of the BC Act as extinct or extinct in the wild.

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).

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.

Specially protected species**SP 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).

Migratory species include birds that are subject to an agreement between the government of Australia and the governments of Japan (JAMBA), China (CAMBA) or 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.

CD Species of special conservation interest (conservation dependent fauna)

Species of special conservation need that are 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).

Currently only fauna are listed as species of special conservation interest.

OS Other specially protected species

Species 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).

Currently only fauna are listed as species otherwise in need of special protection.

Priority species**P Priority species**

Priority is not a listing category under the BC Act. The Priority Flora and Fauna lists are maintained by the department and are published on the department's website.

All fauna and flora are protected in WA following the provisions in Part 10 of the BC Act. The protection applies even when a species is not listed as threatened or specially protected, and regardless of land tenure (State managed land (Crown land), private land, or Commonwealth land).

Species that may possibly be threatened species that do not meet the criteria for listing under the BC Act because of insufficient survey 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 prioritisation for survey and evaluation of conservation status so that consideration can be given to potential listing as threatened.

Species that are adequately known, meet criteria for near threatened, or are rare but not threatened, or that have been recently removed from the threatened species list or conservation dependent or other specially protected fauna lists for other than taxonomic reasons, are placed in Priority 4. These species require regular monitoring.

Assessment of priority status 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 – known from few locations, none on conservation lands

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, for example, 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 for threatened listing and appear to be under immediate threat from known threatening processes. These species are in urgent need of further survey.

P2 Priority Two - Poorly-known species – known from few locations, some on conservation lands

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, for example, 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 for threatened listing and appear to be under threat from known threatening processes. These species are in urgent need of further survey.

P3 Priority Three - Poorly-known species – known from several locations

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. These species need 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 a conservation dependent specially protected species.
- (c) Species that have been removed from the list of threatened species or lists of conservation dependent or other specially protected species, during the past five years for reasons other than taxonomy.
- (d) Other species in need of monitoring.

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.
- (c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, threatened 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 the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.