



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details and outcome

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	8915/2
Permit type:	Purpose Permit
Applicant name:	GWR Group Limited
Application received:	16 March 2023
Application area:	60 hectares
Purpose of clearing:	Haul road and associated infrastructure
Method of clearing:	Mechanical Removal
Tenure:	Mining Lease 53/1087 Miscellaneous Licence 53/147
Location (LGA area/s):	Shire of Wiluna
Colloquial name:	C4 Haul Road Project

1.2. Description of clearing activities

GWR Group Limited proposes to clear up to 60 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 160 hectares, for the purpose of a haul road and associated infrastructure. The project is located approximately 23 kilometres west of Wiluna, within the Shire of Wiluna.

Clearing permit CPS 8915/1 was granted by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety on 16 July 2020 and was valid from 8 August 2020 and 31 July 2023. The permit authorised the clearing of up to 60 hectares of native vegetation within the same boundary, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities

On 16 March 2023, the Permit Holder applied to amend CPS 8915/1 to extend the permit duration by five years. The total area of clearing authorised and the permit boundary remains unchanged.

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Grant
Decision date:	30 May 2023
Decision area:	60 hectares of native vegetation

1.4. Reasons for decision

This clearing permit application was made in accordance with section 51E of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) and was received by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) on 16 March 2023. DMIRS advertised the application for 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, relevant datasets, the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act, and any other matters considered relevant to the assessment. The assessment identified that the proposed clearing will have negligible impact on habitat for flora, fauna and ecological communities, conservation areas.

After consideration of the available information, the Delegated Officer determined that the proposed clearing is not likely to lead to an unacceptable risk to the environment. The Delegated Officer decided to grant a clearing permit with nil management conditions.

2. Assessment of application

2.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

GWR Group Limited have developed a Malleefowl Management Plan to limit potential impacts to Malleefowl. The applicant has not advised the commitment to further mitigation measures. Therefore, while no further evidence of

avoidance or mitigation measures was provided to support the amendment application, noting the small scale and low impact of the remaining clearing, it was deemed that no further consideration is required to minimise impacts on environmental values.

2.2. Assessment of impacts on environmental values

The proponent has reported that 57.25 hectares were cleared in their annual clearing report for the period of 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, and this is the total that has been cleared since the grant of CPS 8915/1. No clearing was undertaken in the 2021-2022 reporting period.

New biological information has been provided by the applicant in support of the amendment application, which addresses the fauna management condition regarding a target survey for brush-tailed mulgara. According to Western Ecological (2020a), no individuals nor active burrows of brush-tailed mulgara were recorded within the application area. The environmental values of the application area are described in the previous decision report CPS 8915/1, based on biological studies undertaken by Recon Environmental (2010), Clark Lindbeck and Associates (2015), Western Ecological (2020b) and GWR (2020). The environmental impacts of the proposed clearing have been previously assessed and conditionally approved via clearing permit CPS 8915/1.

Given the small scale of the remaining clearing activities (57.25 hectares cleared out of 60 hectares authorised) and results from the target fauna survey (Western Ecological, 2020a), it is unlikely that the proposed amendment to extend the duration of the permit will have significant environmental impacts.

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 within previous versions of the decision report: principles (a) and (b) may be at variance, principles (c), (d), (g), (h), (i) and (j) are not likely to be at variance, and principles (e) and (f) are not at variance.

2.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The clearing permit amendment application was advertised on 6 April 2023 by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

There is one native title claim (WR 2016/001) over the area under application (DPLH, 2023). This claim has been registered with the National Native Title Tribunal 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 is one registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the application area (DPLH, 2023). 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 Mining Proposal / Mine Closure Plan 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.

Appendix A. Site characteristics

A.1. Site characteristics

Characteristic	Details
Local context	The project is located approximately 23 kilometres west of Wiluna, within the Shire of Wiluna in the extensive land use zone (GIS Database). The predominant land use in the region is grazing of native pastures, conservation, mining activity and urban development.

Characteristic	Details																						
Ecological linkage & Conservation areas	According to available databases, the application area does not contain any known or mapped ecological linkages nor is it located within or in close proximity to any conservation areas (GIS Database). The nearest DBCA managed land is the former Mooloogool Pastoral Lease which is located approximately 37 kilometres west of the application area (GIS Database).																						
Vegetation description	<p>The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation associations (GIS Database):</p> <p>18: Low woodland; mulga (<i>Acacia aneura</i>); and 107: Hummock grasslands, shrub steppe; mulga and <i>Eucalyptus kingsmillii</i> over hard spinifex.</p> <p>Several flora and vegetation surveys were conducted over the Wiluna West Project, which includes the application area and surroundings (GWR, 2020). The most recent was a reconnaissance flora survey undertaken by NVS on 23 - 24 March 2020. The following vegetation associations were recorded within the application area (NVS, 2020; Recon, 2010):</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="405 763 1450 1995"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="405 763 624 887">Recon Environmental Vegetation Unit</th> <th data-bbox="624 763 1211 887">Recon Environmental (2010) Vegetation Description</th> <th data-bbox="1211 763 1450 887">NVS (2020) Vegetation Group</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="405 887 624 1010">UAET</td> <td data-bbox="624 887 1211 1010">Low shrubland occurring on undulating lateritic low hills dominated by <i>Eremophila jucunda</i> subsp. <i>jucunda</i> and <i>Triodia melvillei</i> with scattered tall shrubs of <i>Acacia aneura</i>.</td> <td data-bbox="1211 887 1450 1010">Mulga Shrubland.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="405 1010 624 1167">SUAE</td> <td data-bbox="624 1010 1211 1167">Shrubland dominated by <i>Acacia rhodophloia</i> frequently over <i>Eremophila jucunda</i> subsp. <i>jucunda</i> with <i>E. latrobei</i> subsp. <i>latrobei</i> and <i>E. punctata</i>, and also <i>Aluta maisonneuvei</i> subsp. <i>auriculata</i></td> <td data-bbox="1211 1010 1450 1167">Open Mulga shrubland</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="405 1167 624 1290">SAES</td> <td data-bbox="624 1167 1211 1290">An open <i>Acacia aneura</i> shrubland on stony red earth over scattered <i>Eremophila</i> spp., <i>Sida ectogama</i>, <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i>, and <i>P. schwartzii</i></td> <td data-bbox="1211 1167 1450 1839" rowspan="3">Mulga shrubland</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="405 1290 624 1503">SIME</td> <td data-bbox="624 1290 1211 1503">Commonly occurring mulga shrubland dominated by <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>microcarpa</i>, above <i>Eremophila forrestii</i> often with <i>E. punctata</i>, <i>E. flabellata</i> and <i>E. jucunda</i> subsp. <i>jucunda</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="405 1503 624 1715">MSET</td> <td data-bbox="624 1503 1211 1715">MSET occurs on the lateritic soils, it is dominated by <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>microcarpa</i>, above <i>Eremophila forrestii</i> often with <i>E. jucunda</i> subsp. <i>jucunda</i> over <i>Triodia melvillei</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="405 1715 624 1839">HPMD</td> <td data-bbox="624 1715 1211 1839">Mulga woodland with a poorly developed low and mid shrub strata occupying the lowest part of the landscape</td> <td data-bbox="1211 1715 1450 1839">Mulga shrubland - drainage</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="405 1839 624 1995">HPMS</td> <td data-bbox="624 1839 1211 1995">Usually a scattered to moderately close tall mulga shrubland with a well-developed low and mid shrub strata</td> <td data-bbox="1211 1839 1450 1995">Mulga shrubland</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Recon Environmental Vegetation Unit	Recon Environmental (2010) Vegetation Description	NVS (2020) Vegetation Group	UAET	Low shrubland occurring on undulating lateritic low hills dominated by <i>Eremophila jucunda</i> subsp. <i>jucunda</i> and <i>Triodia melvillei</i> with scattered tall shrubs of <i>Acacia aneura</i> .	Mulga Shrubland.	SUAE	Shrubland dominated by <i>Acacia rhodophloia</i> frequently over <i>Eremophila jucunda</i> subsp. <i>jucunda</i> with <i>E. latrobei</i> subsp. <i>latrobei</i> and <i>E. punctata</i> , and also <i>Aluta maisonneuvei</i> subsp. <i>auriculata</i>	Open Mulga shrubland	SAES	An open <i>Acacia aneura</i> shrubland on stony red earth over scattered <i>Eremophila</i> spp., <i>Sida ectogama</i> , <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i> , and <i>P. schwartzii</i>	Mulga shrubland	SIME	Commonly occurring mulga shrubland dominated by <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>microcarpa</i> , above <i>Eremophila forrestii</i> often with <i>E. punctata</i> , <i>E. flabellata</i> and <i>E. jucunda</i> subsp. <i>jucunda</i>	MSET	MSET occurs on the lateritic soils, it is dominated by <i>Acacia aneura</i> var. <i>microcarpa</i> , above <i>Eremophila forrestii</i> often with <i>E. jucunda</i> subsp. <i>jucunda</i> over <i>Triodia melvillei</i>	HPMD	Mulga woodland with a poorly developed low and mid shrub strata occupying the lowest part of the landscape	Mulga shrubland - drainage	HPMS	Usually a scattered to moderately close tall mulga shrubland with a well-developed low and mid shrub strata	Mulga shrubland
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Characteristic	Details		
	SAMU	SAMU occurs as a scattered tall mulga shrubland over a hummock grass (<i>Triodia</i>) stratum	Mulga over Spinifex
	SASP	SASP consists of a <i>Triodia</i> grassland, where the hummock grass layer generally dominates in terms of projected foliar cover and biomass	Mulga over Spinifex burnt
	NS*	NVS define as: Low Woodland dominated by <i>Casuarina pauper</i> , <i>Acacia aneura</i> , <i>Eremophila falcata</i> , <i>Senna artemisioides</i> subsp. <i>filifolia</i> , <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i> and <i>Enneapogon caerulescens</i> .	Casuarina Shrubland
	*NS - not surveyed		
Vegetation condition	<p>The vegetation survey (GWR, 2020) indicates the vegetation within the proposed clearing area is in good to very good condition (Keighery, 1994), described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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; <p>to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>The full Keighery (1994) condition rating scale is provided in Appendix B.</p>		
Climate and landform	The application area is mapped at an elevation of 520 to 550 metres AHD (GIS Database). The annual average rainfall (Wiluna) is 236.8 millimetres (BoM, 2023).		
Soil description & Land degradation risk	<p>The soils are mapped as part of the Fisher, Violet, Glengarry, Dural, Gabanintha and Sherwood land systems (GIS Database):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bullimore land system is characterised by sandplains and occasional dunes with spinifex grasslands. • The Cunyu land system is characterised by calcrete plains with acacia shrublands. • The Glengarry land system is characterised by hills and ranges with acacia shrublands. • The Yanganoo land system is characterised by wash plains and sandy banks on hardpan, with mulga shrublands and wanderrie grasses on spinifex. <p>These land systems are generally not susceptible to erosion. The Wiluna West Range is similar to most Banded Ironstone Formations (BIF's) of the Yilgarn Craton which are characterised by a stony surface mantle which provides effective protection against soil erosion (Government of Western Australia, 2007).</p>		
Waterbodies & Hydrogeography	There are no waterbodies or ephemeral drainage lines within the application area (GIS Database). The application area is not within any public drinking water source areas, and the mapped groundwater salinity is greater than 1000 - 3000 milligrams per litre total dissolved solids which is described as saline (GIS Database).		
Flora	There are no records of Threatened or Priority flora within the application area (GWR, 2020; Racon, 2010).		
Ecological communities	There are no mapped Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) within the application area; however, part of the application area intersects with two Priority Ecological		

Characteristic	Details
	Community (PEC), Wiluna West Banded Ironstone Formation (BIF) and Millbillillie Bubble Well Calcrete (GWR, 2020; GIS Database).
Fauna	Evidence of brush-tailed mulgara (<i>Dasyercus blythi</i> – Priority 4) was observed in the sandplain habitat, and such habitat is present within the application area (DMIRS, 2020; GWR, 2020). Western Ecological (2020a) subsequently conducted a target fauna survey and did not record individuals or active burrows of this species within the application area.

Appendix B. 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 C - References and databases

1. GIS datasets

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

- Aboriginal Heritage Places (DPLH-001)
- Cadastre Address (LGATE-002)
- DBCA – Lands of Interest (DBCA-012)
- DBCA Legislated Lands and Waters (DBCA-011)
- Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia – Western Australia (DBCA-045)
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- Regional Parks (DBCA-026)

Restricted GIS Databases used:

- ICMS (Incident Complaints Management System) – Points and Polygons

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

2. References

- BoM (2023) Bureau of Meteorology Website – Climate Data Online, Wiluna Airport. Bureau of Meteorology. <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data/> (Accessed 8 May 2023).
- Clark Lindbeck and Associates (2015) GWR Group limited Wiluna West Iron Ore Project Bowerbird, C3 and C4 Deposits. Supporting Documentation for Clearing Permit Application CPS 6726/1. Unpublished report for prepared by Clark Lindbeck and Associates for GWR Group Limited, 13 August 2015.
- Department of Mines, Industry Regulations and Safety (DMIRS) (2020) Native Vegetation Clearing Permit CPS 8915/1, GWR Group Limited – Decision Report. 16 July 2020.
- Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) (2023) Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. <https://espatial.dplh.wa.gov.au/AHIS/index.html?viewer=AHIS> (Accessed 08 May 2023).
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) (2021) Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits. Joondalup. Available from: https://dwer.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/Procedure_Native_vegetation_clearing_permits_v1.PDF.
- Government of Western Australia (2007) Strategic Review of the Conservation and Resource Values of the Banded Iron Formations of the Yilgarn Craton. Published jointly by the Department of Environment and Conservation and the Department of Industry and Resources, Perth, Western Australia.
- GWR (2020) Wiluna West Project, Proposed C4 Haul Road, Supporting document for clearing permit application CPS 8915/1. Unpublished report for prepared by Clark Lindbeck and Associates Pty Ltd for GWR Group Limited, May 2020.
- Native Vegetation Solutions (2020) Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey of C4 Haul Road Route. Unpublished letter report prepared by Native Vegetation Solutions (NVS) for GWR Group, April 2020.
- Recon Environmental (2010) Joyner's Find Hills Regional Vegetation Survey. Unpublished report prepared by Recon Environmental for Golden West Resources, March 2010.
- Western Ecological (2020a) Wiluna West Gold Project – Haul Road Targeted Fauna Assessment – Addendum Report – GWR Group Limited. Report prepared by Western Ecological for Clark Lindbeck & Associates on behalf of GWR Group Limited, July 2020
- Western Ecological (2020b) Wiluna West Gold Project – Haul Road Targeted Fauna Assessment GWR Group Limited. Report prepared by Western Ecological for Clark Lindbeck & Associates on behalf of GWR Group Limited, May 2020

3. Glossary

Acronyms:

BC Act	<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, Western Australia</i>
BoM	Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Government
DAA	Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Western Australia (now DPLH)
DAFWA	Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia (now DPIRD)
DAWE	Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Australian Government
DBCA	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia
DER	Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia (now DWER)
DMIRS	Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Western Australia
DMP	Department of Mines and Petroleum, Western Australia (now DMIRS)
DoEE	Department of the Environment and Energy (now DAWE)
DoW	Department of Water, Western Australia (now DWER)
DPaW	Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia (now DBCA)
DPIRD	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia
DPLH	Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, Western Australia
DRF	Declared Rare Flora (now known as Threatened Flora)
DWER	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Western Australia
EP Act	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986, Western Australia</i>
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Federal Act)</i>

GIS	Geographical Information System
ha	Hectare (10,000 square metres)
IBRA	Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources – commonly known as the World Conservation Union
PEC	Priority Ecological Community, Western Australia
RIWI Act	<i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i> , Western Australia
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community

Definitions:

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

T Threatened species:

Listed by order of the Minister as Threatened in the category of critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable under section 19(1), or is a rediscovered species to be regarded as threatened species under section 26(2) of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act).

Threatened fauna is that subset of ‘Specially Protected Fauna’ listed under schedules 1 to 3 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018* for Threatened Fauna.

Threatened flora is that subset of ‘Rare Flora’ listed under schedules 1 to 3 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2018* for Threatened Flora.

The assessment of the conservation status of these species is based on their national extent and ranked according to their level of threat using IUCN Red List categories and criteria as detailed below.

CR **Critically endangered species**

Threatened species considered to be “*facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future, as determined in accordance with criteria set out in the ministerial guidelines*”.

Listed as critically endangered under section 19(1)(a) of the BC Act in accordance with the criteria set out in section 20 and the ministerial guidelines. Published under schedule 1 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018* for critically endangered fauna or the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2018* for critically endangered flora.

EN **Endangered species**

Threatened species considered to be “*facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future, as determined in accordance with criteria set out in the ministerial guidelines*”.

Listed as endangered under section 19(1)(b) of the BC Act in accordance with the criteria set out in section 21 and the ministerial guidelines. Published under schedule 2 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018* for endangered fauna or the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2018* for endangered flora.

VU **Vulnerable species**

Threatened species considered to be “*facing a high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium-term future, as determined in accordance with criteria set out in the ministerial guidelines*”.

Listed as vulnerable under section 19(1)(c) of the BC Act in accordance with the criteria set out in section 22 and the ministerial guidelines. Published under schedule 3 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018* for vulnerable fauna or the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2018* for vulnerable flora.

Extinct Species:

EX **Extinct species**

Species where “*there is no reasonable doubt that the last member of the species has died*”, and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 24 of the BC Act).

Published as presumed extinct under schedule 4 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018* for extinct fauna or the *Wildlife Conservation (Rare Flora) Notice 2018* for extinct flora.

EW **Extinct in the wild species**

Species that “*is known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalised population well outside its past range; and it has not been recorded in its known habitat or expected habitat, at appropriate seasons, anywhere in its past range, despite surveys over a time frame appropriate to its*

life cycle and form", and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 25 of the BC Act).

Currently there are no threatened fauna or threatened flora species listed as extinct in the wild. If listing of a species as extinct in the wild occurs, then a schedule will be added to the applicable notice.

Specially protected species:

Listed by order of the Minister as specially protected under section 13(1) of the BC Act. Meeting one or more of the following categories: species of special conservation interest; migratory species; cetaceans; species subject to international agreement; or species otherwise in need of special protection.

Species that are listed as threatened species (critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable) or extinct species under the BC Act cannot also be listed as Specially Protected species.

MI

Migratory species

Fauna that periodically or occasionally visit Australia or an external Territory or the exclusive economic zone; or the species is subject of an international agreement that relates to the protection of migratory species and that binds the Commonwealth; and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 15 of the BC Act).

Includes birds that are subject to an agreement between the government of Australia and the governments of Japan (JAMBA), China (CAMBA) and The Republic of Korea (ROKAMBA), and fauna subject to the *Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals* (Bonn Convention), an environmental treaty under the United Nations Environment Program. Migratory species listed under the BC Act are a subset of the migratory animals, that are known to visit Western Australia, protected under the international agreements or treaties, excluding species that are listed as Threatened species.

Published as migratory birds protected under an international agreement under schedule 5 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018*.

CD

Species of special conservation interest (conservation dependent fauna)

Fauna of special conservation need being species dependent on ongoing conservation intervention to prevent it becoming eligible for listing as threatened, and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 14 of the BC Act).

Published as conservation dependent fauna under schedule 6 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018*.

OS

Other specially protected species

Fauna otherwise in need of special protection to ensure their conservation, and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 18 of the BC Act).

Published as other specially protected fauna under schedule 7 of the *Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018*.

P

Priority species:

Possibly threatened species that do not meet survey criteria, or are otherwise data deficient, are added to the Priority Fauna or Priority Flora Lists under Priorities 1, 2 or 3. These three categories are ranked in order of priority for survey and evaluation of conservation status so that consideration can be given to their declaration as threatened fauna or flora.

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

Assessment of Priority codes is based on the Western Australian distribution of the species, unless the distribution in WA is part of a contiguous population extending into adjacent States, as defined by the known spread of locations.

P1

Priority One - Poorly-known species

Species that are known from one or a few locations (generally five or less) which are potentially at risk. All occurrences are either: very small; or on lands not managed for conservation, e.g. agricultural or pastoral lands, urban areas, road and rail reserves, gravel reserves and active mineral leases; or otherwise under threat of habitat destruction or degradation. Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from one or more locations but do not meet adequacy of survey

requirements and appear to be under immediate threat from known threatening processes. Such species are in urgent need of further survey.

P2 Priority Two - Poorly-known species

Species that are known from one or a few locations (generally five or less), some of which are on lands managed primarily for nature conservation, e.g. national parks, conservation parks, nature reserves and other lands with secure tenure being managed for conservation. Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from one or more locations but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and appear to be under threat from known threatening processes. Such species are in urgent need of further survey.

P3 Priority Three - Poorly-known species

Species that are known from several locations, and the species does not appear to be under imminent threat, or from few but widespread locations with either large population size or significant remaining areas of apparently suitable habitat, much of it not under imminent threat. Species may be included if they are comparatively well known from several locations but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and known threatening processes exist that could affect them. Such species are in need of further survey.

P4 Priority Four - Rare, Near Threatened and other species in need of monitoring

(a) Rare. Species that are considered to have been adequately surveyed, or for which sufficient knowledge is available, and that are considered not currently threatened or in need of special protection but could be if present circumstances change. These species are usually represented on conservation lands.

(b) Near Threatened. Species that are considered to have been adequately surveyed and that are close to qualifying for vulnerable but are not listed as Conservation Dependent.

(c) Species that have been removed from the list of threatened species during the past five years for reasons other than taxonomy.

Principles for clearing native vegetation:

- (a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.
- (b) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna.
- (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.