Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details and outcome

1.1. Permit application details

Permit number:	9118/2
Permit type:	Purpose Permit
Applicant name:	Bardoc Gold Pty Ltd
Application received:	9 December 2025
Application area:	420 hectares
Purpose of clearing:	Mineral production and associated activities
Method of clearing:	Mechanical Removal
Tenure:	Mining Leases 24/11, 24/43, 24/83, 24/99, 24/121, 24/122, 24/135, 24/326, 24/348, 24/469, 24/512, 24/854, 24/869, 24/870, 24/871, 24/886, 24/887, 24/888, 24/951, 24/952
Location (LGA area/s):	City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Colloquial name:	Kalgoorlie North Gold Project

1.2. Description of clearing activities

Bardoc Gold Pty Ltd proposes to clear up to 420 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 675 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities.

Clearing permit CPS 9118/1 was granted by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (now the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration) on 4 February 2021 and was valid from 27 February 2021 to 26 February 2026. The permit authorised the clearing of up to 420 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 675 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities.

On 9 December 2025, the permit holder applied to amend CPS 9118/1 to extend the duration of the permit by an additional five years.

The proposed clearing of 420 hectares within the boundary of 675 hectares remains the same. As per condition 10(a) of the permit associated with CPS 9118/1, Bardoc Pty Ltd has reported that no clearing has taken place.

1.3. Decision on application and key considerations

Decision:	Grant
Decision date:	19 February 2026
Decision area:	420 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 application was received by The Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE) on 9 December 2025. DMPE advertised the application for public comment for a period of 7 days, and one submission was received (See Appendix B).

In making this decision, the Delegated Officer had regard for the relevant datasets, supporting information provided by the applicant including the results of a flora and vegetation survey, and basic fauna survey, the clearing principles set out in Schedule 5 of the EP Act, and any other matters considered relevant to the assessment.

The assessment also identified that the proposed clearing may result in:

- the potential introduction and spread of weeds into adjacent vegetation, which could impact on the quality of the adjacent vegetation and its habitat values;
- the loss of native vegetation that is suitable habitat with the potential to affect conservation significant fauna;
- potential land degradation in the form of erosion; and
- potential impacts to vegetation growing in association with a watercourse.

After reviewing the available information and the applicant's proposed minimisation and mitigation measures, the Delegated Officer concluded that the proposed clearing is unlikely to pose an unacceptable environmental risk, and the assessment of

the proposed clearing against the clearing principles remains consistent with the assessment contained in decision report CPS 9118/1.

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;
- commence construction no later than six months after undertaking clearing to reduce the risk of erosion;
- conduct a pre-clearance survey to identify *Leipoa ocellata* (malleefowl) mounds; and
- avoid clearing watercourses where practicable, and ensure surface flows are maintained or reinstated downstream.

2. Assessment of application

2.1. Avoidance and mitigation measures

The proposed area to be cleared has been designed by the applicant to minimise the clearing of vegetation. Avoidance and mitigation measures that the applicant committed to implement are listed below (Bardoc Gold Limited, 2020):

- the size of the waste landform has been reduced by backfilling waste material into completed open pits;
- opportunities to include shared facilities such as fuel bay, wash down bay between surfaces and underground mining fleets have been explored to reduce footprint;
- proposed clearing areas will be surveyed and delineated with flagging tape to avoid any over clearing;
- vegetation will be cleared with mechanised machinery, then removed with a loader and stockpiled as growth medium for rehabilitation;
- clearing will be undertaken progressively, and areas will be cleared incrementally; and
- open pits will be cleared prior to imminent mining.

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. Additionally, further management conditions have been placed on the clearing permit to mitigate and minimise potential impacts to environmental values.

2.2. Assessment of impacts on environmental values

The amendment application has been assessed against the clearing principles, planning instruments and other matters in accordance with sections 51KA (1) and 51O of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. A review of current environmental information and values within the application area reveal that the assessment against the clearing principles has not changed from the clearing permit decision report CPS 9118/1.

2.2.1 Environmental values (land and water resources) – Clearing Principle (f)

The assessment of the Clearing Principles for CPS 9118/1 identified Principle (f) as being 'at variance'. While this assessment remains unchanged, the assessing officer noted evidence of minor ephemeral drainage lines intersecting the application area (Botanica, 2020). Although Botanica (2020) reported that no riparian vegetation was recorded during their survey, its presence cannot be definitively ruled out, as riparian plant communities are known to be supported by infrequent flow events, persisting where drainage lines are known to carry water only occasionally. This demonstrates that riparian vegetation can develop and survive along minor ephemeral drainage features, not just major or perennial waterways (Khiadani, 2017).

As a result, it has been determined that a vegetation management condition should be included in the permit to address any potential impacts on these drainage lines and to ensure that existing surface flows are maintained or reinstated downstream into the natural drainage system.

2.3. Relevant planning instruments and other matters

The clearing permit amendment application was advertised on 16 January 2026 by the Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration inviting submissions from the public. One submission was received in relation to this application.

There is one native title claim over the area under application (DPLH, 2026). This claim has been registered with the National Native Title Tribunal on behalf of the claimant group. 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 197*2 and ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

It is noted that the proposed clearing may impact on *Leipoa ocellata* (malleefowl), which is a protected matter under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act). The proponent may be required to refer the project to the (Commonwealth) Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water for environmental impact assessment under the EPBC Act. The proponent is advised to contact the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water for further information regarding notification and referral responsibilities under the EPBC Act.

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

<table>
<tr><th>Characteristic</th><th>Details</th></tr>
<tr><td>Local context</td><td>The area proposed to be cleared is located within the Eastern Murchison subregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) Murchison Bioregion (GIS Database) and approximately 99% of its vegetation association remains intact.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ecological linkage</td><td>According to aerial imagery, the application area does not form part of any formal or informal ecological linkages (GIS Database).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Conservation areas</td><td>The application area does not form part of any known or mapped conservation areas. The closest DBCA managed land is the former Goongarrie Station (UCL, LR3068/801) and Goongarrie National Park, which is located approximately 25 kilometres north-northeast of the application area (GIS Database).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Vegetation description</td><td>The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation association:
2903: Medium woodland; Salmon gum, goldfield blackbutt, gimlet & *Allocasuarina cristata* (GIS Database).

In September 2020, Botanica Consulting Pty Ltd (Botanica) conducted a flora and vegetation survey over the application area.

The following vegetation associations were recorded within the application area (Botanica, 2020):
<table>
<tr><th>Vegetation Association</th><th>Description</th></tr>
<tr><td>**CLP-CFW1**</td><td>Low woodland of *Casuarina pauper* over mid shrubland of *Acacia* spp. and low mixed shrubland on clay-loam plain</td></tr>
<tr><td>**CLP-EW1**</td><td>Low woodland of *Eucalyptus oleosa/ E. salmonophloia* over mid shrubland of *Acacia* spp. and low mixed shrubland on clay-loam plain</td></tr>
<tr><td>**CLP-EW2**</td><td>Low woodland of *Eucalyptus moderata*/ *E. salmonophloia* over mid shrubland of *Acacia*/ *Eremophila* spp. and low chenopod shrubland on clay-loam plain</td></tr>
<tr><td>**CLP-EW3**</td><td>Low woodland of *Eucalyptus salubris* over mid shrubland of *Eremophila*/ *Senna* spp. and low chenopod shrubland on clay-loam plain</td></tr>
<tr><td>**RS-AFW1**</td><td>Low woodland of *Acacia acuminata*/ *A. caesaneura* over mid shrubland of *Acacia* / *Melaleuca* spp. and low mixed shrubland on rocky hillslope</td></tr>
<tr><td>**RS-CFW1**</td><td>Low open woodland of *Casuarina pauper* over mid shrubland of *Acacia*/ *Senna* spp. and low open shrubland of *Ptilotus obovatus* on rocky hillslope</td></tr>
<tr><td>**RS-EW1**</td><td>Low open woodland of *Eucalyptus clelandiorum/ E. griffithsii* over tall open shrubland of *Acacia* spp. and low mixed shrubland on rocky hillslope</td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td>Vegetation condition</td><td>The vegetation survey and aerial imagery indicate that most of the vegetation within the application area is rated as ‘Very Good to ‘Completely Degraded’ condition (Botanica, 2020; GIS Database).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Climate and landform</td><td>The application area is located in an arid to semi-arid zone with an annual average rainfall of 265.2 millimetres (BoM, 2026). Rainfall mainly occurs in winter (Botanica, 2020).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Soil description</td><td>The soil found in the application area is mapped as (DPIRD, 2021):
<table>
<tr><th>Soil System</th><th>Description</th></tr>
<tr><td>**Bevon Land System**</td><td>Dissected uplands with mulga shrublands. The landform is dominated by stony plains with shallow red earths on greenstone. The narrow drainage tracks are susceptible to soil erosion, particularly if perennial shrub cover is substantially reduced or the soil surface is disturbed.</td></tr>
<tr><td>**Bunyip Land System**</td><td>Consists of gilgaied drainage tracts draining greenstone hills supporting mixed halophytic shrubland, occasionally with black oak overstory. The gilgaied alluvial plains are slightly susceptible to soil erosion, particularly if perennial shrub cover is substantially reduced or the soil surface is disturbed.</td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
</table>

<table>
<tr><th>Characteristic</th><th>Details</th></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>
<table>
<tr><td>Campsite Land System</td><td>Described of alluvial plains, supporting eucalypt woodlands with halophytic understoreys and acacia shrublands. The alluvial and stony plains are slightly susceptible to soil erosion if the perennial shrub cover or stone mantles are disturbed or removed. Impedance to the natural drainage characteristics can initiate accelerated soil erosion and cause loss of vigour in the downslope vegetation due to water starvation.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Gundockerta Land System</td><td>Consists of extensive undulating calcareous stony plains supporting bluebush shrubland. Where not protected by a stony mantle the saline plains and adjacent lower alluvial tracts are susceptible to water erosion, particularly in areas where perennial shrub is reduced or the soil surface is disturbed.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ilaara Land System</td><td>Described of plains with ironstone gravel or calcrete mantles supporting eucalypt woodland and mulga-casuarina shrubland. This Land System is generally not susceptible to soil erosion.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Lawrence Land System</td><td>Consists of low greenstone hills with ironstone ridges that support bluebush shrublands with mixed eucalypt overstoreys. The narrow drainage tracts in this land system are particularly susceptible to water erosion where perennial shrub cover is reduced, or the soil surface is disturbed.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Moriarty Land System</td><td>Low greenstone rises and stony plains, supporting chenopod shrublands with patchy eucalypt overstoreys. The low rises, alluvial plains and narrow drainage tracts in this land system are moderately susceptible to water erosion if the perennial shrub cover is substantially reduced or the soil surface is disturbed.</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Land degradation risk</td><td>The land and soil systems within the application area demonstrate varying degrees of susceptibility to erosion, ranging from low to high (Pringle et al., 2014).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Waterbodies</td><td>There are no permanent watercourses or wetlands within the area proposed to be cleared (GIS Database). Some ephemeral creek lines run off from the application area, which feed into larger drainage channels to the east and west of the application area (GIS Database).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Hydrogeography</td><td>Groundwater salinity varies within the application area, ranging between 3,000 and 35,000 milligrams/Litre of Total Dissolved Solids (GIS Database), with a major portion of the area lying within the more saline range.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Flora</td><td>Three Threatened and 24 Priority flora species have been previously recorded within 50 kilometres of the application area, none of which had been recorded within the application area (Botanica, 2020; GIS Database). Four Priority species were considered to possibly occur due to the presence of suitable habitat, but only one Priority 1 species is regionally restricted (Western Australian Herbarium, 1998-), however the taxa was not recorded during the detailed flora survey.
Three introduced flora species have previously been recorded within the application area (Botanica, 2020).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ecological communities</td><td>No Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities were identified within the application area and none were recorded during the field survey (Botanica, 2020; GIS Database).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Fauna</td><td>A desktop assessment identified 108 bird, 73 reptile, 26 mammal and five amphibian species with a potential to occur within the application area, including three species of conservation significance (Botanica, 2020). However, no threatened or significant fauna species were recorded within the application area during the field survey (Botanica, 2020).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Fauna habitat</td><td>Botanica (2020) mapped two fauna habitat types within the application area that are considered well represented within the wider region.
<table>
<tr><th>Fauna Habitat</th><th>Description</th></tr>
<tr><td>Clay-Loam Plain</td><td>Eucalypt Woodland/ Casuarina Woodland
(approximate area = 296 ha; 42.8%).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Rocky Hillslope</td><td>Acacia Woodland/ Casuarina Woodland/ Eucalypt Woodland
(approximate area = 219 ha; 31.7%).</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
</table>

Appendix B. Details of Public Submissions

Summary of Comments	Consideration of Comment
Concerns regarding Leipoa ocellata (malleefowl)	Addressed in Section 1.4, as well as Section 2.3 of this Decision Report.

Appendix C. References and databases

C.1. GIS datasets

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

- 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)
- IBRA Vegetation Statistics
- Local Government Area (LGA) Boundaries (LGATE-233)
- Localities (LGATE-234)
- Native Title (Determination) (LGATE-066)
- Native Title (Fed Court) (LGATE-005)
- Native Title (NNTT) (LGATE-004)
- 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)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Project Areas (DPIRD-070)
- Soil Landscape Mapping - Systems (DPIRD-064)
- Townsites (LGATE-248)
- WA Now Aerial Imagery

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)

C.2. References

Bardoc Gold Limited (2020) Clearing permit application form, CPS 9118/1, received 10 November 2020.

Botanica Consulting (Botanica) (2020) Detailed Flora/ Vegetation Survey and Basic Fauna Survey Kalgoorlie North Gold Project. Prepared for Bardoc Gold Limited by Botanica Consulting, October 2020.

Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) (2026) Bureau of Meteorology Website – Climate Data Online, Kalgoorlie Boulder Airport. Bureau of Meteorology. https://reg.bom.gov.au/climate/data/ (Accessed 4 February 2026).

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 4 February 2026).

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (2021) Advice received in relation to Clearing Permit Application CPS 9118/1. Office of the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia, February 2021.

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) (2026) NRInfo Digital Mapping. Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. Government of Western Australia. https://dpird.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=662e8cbf2def492381fc915aaf3c6a0f (Accessed 3 February 2026).

Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.

Khiadani, M. (2017) Large-scale regional delineation of riparian vegetation in the arid and semi-arid Pilbara region, WA.

Pringle, H.J.R., Van Vreeswyk, A.M.E., and Gilligan, S.A. (1994) An Inventory and Condition Survey of rangelands in the northeastern Goldfields, Western Australia. Technical Bulletin No. 87. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia

Western Australian Herbarium (1998-) FloraBase - the Western Australian Flora. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia. https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/ (Accessed 3 February 2026).

3. Glossary

Acronyms:

BC Act	*Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016,* 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	*Environmental Protection Act 1986*, Western Australia
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia
EPBC Act	*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (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	*Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*, 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.