



# Clearing Permit Decision Report

## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 9138/1  
Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Lake Austin Mining Pty Ltd

### 1.3. Property details

Property: Miscellaneous Licence 20/87  
Local Government Area: Shire of Cue  
Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
23		Mechanical Removal	Haul Road

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant  
Decision Date: 4 February 2021

## 2. Site Information

### 2.1. Existing environment and information

#### 2.1.1. Description of the native vegetation under application

<b>Vegetation Description</b>	<p>The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation association: 18: Low woodland; mulga (<i>Acacia aneura</i>) (GIS Database).</p> <p>A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the application area by Botanica Consulting (Botanica) during 11-12 June 2020. The following vegetation types were recorded within the application area (Botanica, 2020):</p> <p><b>CLP-AOW1 – Acacia Open Woodland</b> Low open woodland of <i>Acacia craspedocarpa</i> / <i>Acacia pruinoarpa</i> over mid open shrubland of <i>Acacia tetragonophylla</i> and low open shrubland of <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i> on clay-loam plain.</p> <p><b>OD-AFW1 – Acacia Forest and Woodland</b> Forest of <i>Acacia caesaneura</i> over low to mid shrubland of <i>Acacia ramulosa</i> / <i>Eremophila forrestii</i> subsp. <i>forrestii</i> and low open grassland of <i>Monachather paradoxus</i> / <i>Eragrostis eriopoda</i> in open depression.</p> <p><b>RH-AFW1 – Acacia Forest and Woodland</b> Low woodland of <i>Acacia incurvaneura</i> over low shrubland of <i>Eremophila</i> spp. and low open grassland of <i>Aristida contorta</i> on rocky hillslope.</p> <p><b>RP-AOW1 – Acacia Open Woodland</b> Low open woodland of <i>Acacia caesaneura</i> / <i>Acacia incurvaneura</i> over low open shrubland of <i>Eremophila forrestii</i> subsp. <i>forrestii</i> and low open grassland of <i>Monachather paradoxus</i> / <i>Aristida contorta</i> on rocky plain.</p> <p><b>SLP-AFW1 – Acacia Forest and Woodland</b> Low woodland of <i>Acacia caesaneura</i> / <i>Acacia incurvaneura</i> over mid open shrubland of <i>Acacia burkittii</i> and low open shrubland of <i>Ptilotus obovatus</i> on sand-loam plain.</p>
<b>Clearing Description</b>	Lake Austin Mining Pty Ltd proposes to clear up to 23 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 73.35 hectares, for the purpose of a haul road. The project is located approximately 30 kilometres east of Cue, within the Shire of Cue.
<b>Vegetation Condition</b>	<p>Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994).</p> <p>to</p> <p>Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994).</p>
<b>Comment</b>	The vegetation condition was derived from a vegetation survey conducted by Botanica (2020).

The proposed clearing is for a haul road extending south from the Cogla Downs-Taincrow Road (Botanica, 2020).

### 3. Assessment of application against Clearing Principles

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

##### Comments

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

The clearing permit application area is located within the Eastern Murchison subregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) Murchison Bioregion (GIS Database). The Eastern Murchison subregion is characterised by its internal drainage, extensive areas of elevated red desert sandplains with minimal dune development, supporting vegetation dominated by mulga woodlands, rich in ephemerals, hummock grasslands, saltbush shrublands, and *Tecticornia* shrublands (CALM, 2002).

A reconnaissance flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the application area by Botanica (2020) on 11-12 June 2020. The vegetation of the application area was dominated by *Acacia* forests and woodlands, *Acacia* shrublands, and *Eremophila* shrublands (Botanica, 2020). No Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities were identified as potentially occurring within the application area and none of the vegetation types mapped and described are listed as Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities (Botanica, 2020; GIS Database).

A total of 50 flora species from 24 genera and 14 families were recorded within the application area (Botanica, 2020). A desktop assessment identified 23 conservation significant flora previously recorded within 40 kilometres of the application area (Botanica, 2020). Eight of the 23 species were considered potentially occurring within the application area due to suitable habitat present (Botanica, 2020). No Threatened or Priority flora were recorded within the application area during the field assessment (Botanica, 2020).

A desktop assessment identified 233 vertebrate fauna species, including two amphibian, 174 bird, 12 mammal and 45 reptile species as previously recorded within 40 kilometres of the application area (Botanica, 2020). Three conservation significant species were considered possibly occurring due to known distributions and fauna habitat availability: malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*, VU at a state and federal level), grey falcon (*Falco hypoleucos*, VU at a state level), and peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*, OS) (Botanica, 2020). Grey falcon and peregrine falcon are both highly mobile species and may potentially utilise some sections of the application area as part of a much larger home range, however they are unlikely to be significantly impacted by the proposed clearing (Botanica, 2020). Malleefowl may potentially occur, however habitat within the application area appears marginal or unsuitable for breeding (Botanica, 2020). No conservation significant fauna species were identified during the field assessment, and no evidence of malleefowl activity was observed (Botanica, 2020).

The vegetation association, fauna habitats and landform types present within the application area, are well represented in surrounding areas (Botanica, 2020; GIS Database). The application area is unlikely to represent an area of higher biodiversity than surrounding areas, in either a local or regional context.

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

##### Methodology

Botanica (2020)  
CALM (2002)

GIS Database:

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

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

##### Comments

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

The following five fauna habitats have been recorded within the application area (Botanica, 2020):

- Clay-loam plain – *Acacia* woodland
- Open depression – *Acacia* open woodland
- Rocky hillslope – *Acacia* woodland
- Rocky plain – *Acacia* woodland
- Sand-loam plain – *Acacia* woodland

None of the fauna habitats described are restricted to the application area, all fauna habitats are well represented in the surrounds, and are common and widespread throughout the region (Botanica, 2020). Fauna habitats within the application area are unlikely to represent significant habitat for any fauna species (Botanica, 2020). No conservation significant fauna were identified during the field assessment (Botanica, 2020). There may be suitable habitat for several conservation significant fauna species based on known distributions, however these species are likely to only visit the area for short periods of time as infrequent visitors (Botanica, 2020).

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

**Methodology** Botanica (2020)

GIS Database:

- Imagery
- Pre-European Vegetation
- Threatened Fauna

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

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

There are no known records of Threatened flora within the application area (GIS Database). Flora surveys of the application area did not record any species of Threatened flora (Botanica, 2020).

There have been previous records of Threatened flora species *Eremophila rostrata* subsp. *rostrata* (CR) located 2 kilometres west of the application area (Botanica, 2020). The species grows on stony, buff coloured saline clays at the base of quartzite hills in an open shrubland of *Acacia* and *Eremophila* species over open low shrubs of *Ptilotus polakii* (Botanica, 2020). DBCA (2021) considers the species unlikely to be present as the application area lacks suitable habitat, therefore *Eremophila rostrata* subsp. *rostrata* is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed clearing.

The vegetation associations within the application area are common and widespread within the region (Botanica, 2020; GIS Database), and the vegetation proposed to be cleared is unlikely to be necessary for the continued existence of any species of Threatened flora.

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

**Methodology** Botanica (2020)  
DBCA (2021)

GIS Database:

- Pre-European Vegetation
- Threatened and Priority Flora

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

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

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

A flora and vegetation survey of the application area did not identify any TECs (Botanica, 2020).

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

**Methodology** Botanica (2020)

GIS Database:

- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities Boundaries
- Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities Buffers

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

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

The application area falls within the Murchison Bioregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) (GIS Database). Approximately 99% of the pre-European vegetation still exists in the IBRA Murchison Bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2019). The application area is broadly mapped as

Beard vegetation association 18: Low woodland; mulga (*Acacia aneura*) (GIS Database). Approximately 99% of the pre-European extent of this vegetation association remains uncleared at both the state and bioregional level (Government of Western Australia, 2019).

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

	Pre-European area (ha)*	Current extent (ha)*	Remaining %*	Conservation Status**	Pre-European % in DBCA managed lands
IBRA Bioregion – Murchison	28,120,586	28,044,823	~99	Least Concern	7.78
Beard vegetation associations – WA					
18	19,892,306	19,843,148	~99	Least Concern	6.62
Beard vegetation associations – Murchison Bioregion					
18	12,403,172	12,363,252	~99	Least Concern	4.96

\* Government of Western Australia (2019)

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

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

**Methodology** Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002)  
Government of Western Australia (2019)

GIS Database:  
- IBRA Australia  
- Pre-European Vegetation

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

**Comments** **Proposal is at variance to this Principle**

There are no permanent watercourses or wetlands within the area proposed to clear (Botanica, 2020; GIS Database). The application area is intersected by a wash area in multiple locations, where drainage lines flow to and water run off moves as sheet flow (GIS Database). There is one vegetation type growing in association with these drainage lines (OD-AFW1), however the total area of this vegetation types is less than 5.6% of the application area (Botanica, 2020).

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is at variance to this Principle. However, impacts from the proposed clearing to vegetation growing in association with watercourses is likely to be minimal.

**Methodology** Botanica (2020)

GIS Database:  
- Hydrography, Lakes  
- Hydrography, linear

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

**Comments** **Proposal may be at variance to this Principle**

The application area lies within the Cunyu, Yanganoo, Koonmarra, Jundee, and Violet land systems (GIS Database). These land systems have been mapped and described in technical bulletins produced by the former Department of Agriculture (now the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development).

The Cunyu land system is described as calcrete platforms and intervening alluvial floors and minor areas of alluvial plains supporting *Acacia* shrublands and minor halophytic shrublands (Pringle et al., 1994). Drainage lines are susceptible to erosion if perennial shrub cover is removed or the soil surface is disturbed (Pringle et al., 1994).

The Yanganoo land system is described as hardpan plains and sandy tracts with groved mulga shrublands, hard spinifex and wanderrrie grasses (Pringle et al., 1994). This land system is not generally susceptible to erosion (Pringle et al., 1994).

The Koonmarra land system consists of quartz-strewn stony plains and low rises with outcropping granite, gneiss and schists; supports scattered mulga and other mainly non-saline shrubs (Curry et al., 1994). This land system is not generally susceptible to erosion (Curry et al., 1994)

The Jundee land system is described as hardpan plains with ironstone gravel mantles, supporting mulga shrublands (Pringle et al., 1994). Impedance to natural sheet flows can initiate soil erosion and cause water starvation and consequent loss of vigour in vegetation downslope (Pringle et al., 1994).

The Violet land system is described as undulating stony and gravelly plains and low rises, supporting mulga shrublands (Pringle et al., 1994). This land system may be susceptible to erosion when the soil surface is disturbed (Pringle et al., 1994). Drainage lines are also susceptible to water erosion (Pringle et al., 1994).

The proposed clearing of up to 23 hectares of native vegetation may cause some land degradation, however it is unlikely to be significant. The proposed clearing is to increase the width of the existing 10 kilometre haul road by up to 15 metres, and extending the road another 4 kilometres with a width of up to 20 metres.

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

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

GIS Database:  
- Landsystem Rangelands

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

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

There are no conservation areas in the vicinity of the application area. The nearest DBCA (formerly DPaW) managed land is the former Lakeside Pastoral Lease which is located approximately 41 kilometres southwest of the application area (GIS Database). The proposed clearing is unlikely to impact on the environmental values of any conservation area.

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

**Methodology** GIS Database:  
- DPaW Tenure

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

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

There are no Public Drinking Water Source Areas within or in close proximity to the application area (GIS Database). There are no permanent watercourses or wetlands within the area proposed to clear (GIS Database). Drainage lines and wash areas in the region are dry for most of the year, only flowing briefly immediately following significant rainfall (Botanica, 2020). The proposed clearing is unlikely to result in significant changes to surface water flows.

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

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

**Methodology** Botanica (2020)

GIS Database:  
- Hydrography, Linear  
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas

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

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

The climate of the region is arid, with an average annual rainfall of approximately 232.6 millimetres, with an evaporation rate of 2400mm (BoM, 2021; Botanica, 2020).

There are no permanent water courses or waterbodies within the application area and the region is not prone to flooding events (Botanica, 2020; GIS Database). The proposed clearing is unlikely to increase the incidence or intensity of natural flooding events.

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

**Methodology** BoM (2021)  
Botanica (2020)

GIS Database:  
- Hydrography, linear

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

### Comments

The clearing permit application was advertised on 21 December 2020 by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS), inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

There are no native title claims over the area under application (DPLH, 2021). However, the mining tenure has been granted in accordance with the future act regime of the *Native Title Act 1993* and the nature of the act (i.e. the proposed clearing activity) has been provided for in that process, therefore, the granting of a clearing permit is not a future act under the *Native Title Act 1993*.

There are no registered Aboriginal Sites of Significance within the application area (DPLH, 2021). It is the proponent's responsibility to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* and ensure that no Aboriginal Sites of Significance are damaged through the clearing process.

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

**Methodology** DPLH (2021)

## 4. References

- BoM (2021) Bureau of Meteorology Website – Climate Data Online, Cue. Bureau of Meteorology.  
<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data/> (Accessed 15 January 2021).
- Botanica (2020) Reconnaissance Flora Survey, Basic Fauna Survey & Targeted Flora/ Malleefowl Survey Proposed Haul Road (L20/87). Prepared for Lake Austin Mining Pty Ltd, July 2020.
- CALM (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographic Subregions in 2002. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.
- Curry, P. J., Payne, A. L., Leighton, K. A., Hennig, P. and Blood, D. A. (1994), An inventory and condition survey of the Murchison River catchment, Western Australia. Technical Bulletin 84. Department of Agriculture, Perth, Western Australia.
- DBCA (2021) Advice received in relation to Clearing Permit Application CPS 9138/1. Species and Communities Branch, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia, January 2021.
- DPLH (2021) Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.  
<https://espatial.dplh.wa.gov.au/AHIS/index.html?viewer=AHIS> (Accessed 14 January 2021).
- Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002) Biodiversity Action Planning. Action planning for native biodiversity at multiple scales; catchment bioregional, landscape, local. Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Victoria.
- Government of Western Australia (2019) 2018 Statewide Vegetation Statistics incorporating the CAR Reserve Analysis (Full Report). Current as of March 2019. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Perth.  
<https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca-statewide-vegetation-statistics>
- Keighery, B.J. (1994) Bushland Plant Survey: A Guide to Plant Community Survey for the Community. Wildflower Society of WA (Inc). Nedlands, Western Australia.
- Pringle, H. J., Gilligan, S. A. and van Vreeswyk, A. M. (1994), An inventory and condition survey of rangelands in the north-eastern Goldfields, Western Australia. Technical Bulletin 87. Department of Agriculture and Food, Perth, Western Australia.

## 5. Glossary

### Acronyms:

<b>BC Act</b>	<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> , Western Australia
<b>BoM</b>	Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Government
<b>DAA</b>	Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Western Australia (now DPLH)
<b>DAFWA</b>	Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia (now DPIRD)
<b>DAWE</b>	Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Australian Government

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

### Definitions:

{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.