



# Clearing Permit Decision Report

## 1. Application details

### 1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 9166/1

Permit type: Purpose Permit

### 1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: AWE Perth Pty Ltd

### 1.3. Property details

Property: Petroleum Production Licence L1

Local Government Area: Shire of Irwin

Colloquial name:

### 1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)

No. Trees

Method of Clearing

For the purpose of:

0.097

Mechanical Removal

Petroleum Production and Associated Activities

### 1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant

Decision Date: 18 March 2021

## 2. Site Information

### 2.1. Existing environment and information

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

**Vegetation Description** The vegetation of the application area is broadly mapped as the following Beard vegetation association: 378: Shrublands; scrub-heath with scattered *Banksia* spp, *Eucalyptus tottiana* & *Xylomelum angustifolium* on deep sandy flats in the Geraldton Sandplains Region (GIS Database).

No flora and vegetation survey has been conducted over the application area. A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over an area of vegetation (0.39 hectares) located approximately 0.73 kilometres northwest of the application area by Maia Environmental Consultancy (Maia) on 3 December 2015. The vegetation within this area is considered approximately representative of the vegetation within the application area. The following vegetation types were recorded within the nearby area (Maia, 2015a):

#### **BSL – *Banksia* shrubland**

Tall to Mid Open Shrubland of *Banksia attenuata* and / or *B. hookeriana* with a mixed Low Sparse Shrubland (*Melaleuca systema*, *Pileanthus filifolius* and *Baeckea* ?sp. Walkaway (A.S. George 11249) (?P3) and an Open mixed Sedgeland (*Mesomelaena pseudostygia*, *Chordifex sinuosus* and *Lyginia imberbis*).

#### **ASL – *Acacia* Shrubland**

Tall Shrubland of *Acacia scirpifolia* with Isolated Sedges of *Mesomelaena pseudostygia*.

#### **DIS – Regrowth**

Disturbed areas with regrowth of a mixed Open Mid Shrubland of (*Grevillea leucopteris*, *Calothamnus glaber* and *Baeckea* ?sp. Walkaway (A.S. George 11249) (?P3) a mixed Low Sparse Shrubland (*Persoonia acicularis*, *Calytrix strigosa* and *Melaleuca systema*) and a Sparse Sedgeland of *Mesomelaena pseudostygia*.

#### **Clearing Description**

AWE Perth Pty Ltd proposes to clear up to 0.097 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 0.097 hectares, for the purpose of petroleum production and associated activities. The project is located approximately 15 kilometres east-southeast of Dongara, within the Shire of Irwin.

#### **Vegetation Condition**

Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994).

#### **Comment**

The vegetation condition was derived from aerial imagery.

The proposed clearing is to improve visibility of a T-junction access track associated with the proponent's Xyris Gas Production Facility.

### 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 Lesueur Sandplain subregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) Geraldton Sandplains Bioregion (GIS Database). The Lesueur Sandplain subregion is characterised by sandy earths of extensive, undulating sand plains, supporting proteaceous scrub-heaths and is rich in endemics. Extensive York Gum and Jam woodlands are associated with drainage (CALM, 2002).

No flora and vegetation surveys have been conducted within the application area. The vegetation of the general area has been historically cleared, with the application area likely affected by edge effects from this historical clearing (Maia, 2015b, GIS Database). No Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities were identified as potentially occurring within the application area and the vegetation associated mapped and described is not listed as a Threatened or Priority Ecological Community (Maia, 2015a; Maia, 2015b; GIS Database).

Previous surveys carried out within surrounding remnants indicate that the area is of high floristic diversity, with many conservation significant flora species located within these areas (Maia, 2015b). A flora survey conducted to the north and west of the application area in nearby remnants (approximately 6.6 hectares total) recorded 67 flora species from 19 families and 54 genera (Maia, 2015a). No regional endemic species were located within these remnant areas (Maia, 2015a).

Several weeds species are known from the local area and region (Maia, 2015a; Maia, 2015b) and the application area occurs within a dieback (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*) risk zone (Maia, 2015a). Weed invasion and dieback infestation has the potential to alter the biodiversity of an area. Potential impacts to biodiversity as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a weed and dieback management condition.

A desktop assessment identified 251 vertebrate fauna species as potentially occurring within the application area and surrounds, including ten amphibian, 47 reptile, 172 bird and 15 native and 11 introduced mammal species (Bamford, 2015). The application area offers little value to potentially occurring fauna species, with roads or tracks on all sides (Bamford, 2015; GIS Database).

The application area is part of a remnant of approximately 128 hectares of native vegetation (GIS Database). The vegetation within the application area represents less than 0.001% of the Lesueur Sandplain subregion (Government of Western Australia, 2019). The vegetation association, fauna habitat and landform types present within the application area are well represented in the surrounding area (Bamford, 2015; Maia, 2015b; GIS Database). The application area is unlikely to represent an area of higher biodiversity than the surrounding area, on a local scale.

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

**Methodology**      Bamford (2015)  
CALM (2002)  
Government of Western Australia (2019)  
Maia (2015a)  
Maia (2015b)

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**

A detailed fauna survey was conducted over the application area and surrounds on 22-23 April 2015. Fauna habitat within the application area is described as (Bamford, 2015):

**VSA 2:** Kwongan to open *Banksia* woodland on sand. This occurs on higher ground in the west, south and in the central strip of native vegetation. In some areas there are emergent *Banksia* and *Eucalyptus*.

The application area represents a small part of a much larger area of fauna habitat that may be utilised by conservation significant fauna species (Bamford, 2015). However, the clearing of 0.097 hectares is expected to be negligible in impacting any conservation significant species that may utilise the application area (Bamford,

2015).

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

**Methodology** Bamford (2015)

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). A desktop assessment of the application area and surrounds identified that two Threatened flora species have been previously recorded within the surrounding area: *Conostylis dielsii* subsp. *teres* and *Wurmbea tubulosa* (Maia, 2015b). However, neither of these records are located within the application area. Previous surveys of the surrounding area have also indicated that the remnant vegetation is floristically diverse and contains many conservation significant species (Maia, 2015b). Of these species, the most likely occurring Threatened species is *Paracaleana dixonii* (Maia, 2015b).

The flora assessment of vegetation located 0.73 kilometres northwest did not record any Threatened flora (Maia, 2015a). The vegetation present may potentially provide habitat for Threatened flora species, however the application area is small (0.097 hectares) and somewhat degraded. The application area 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** Maia (2015a)  
Maia (2015b)

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 desktop assessment of the application area and surrounds did not identify any TECs (Maia, 2015b).

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

**Methodology** Maia (2015b)

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 not likely to be at variance to this Principle**

The application area falls within the Geraldton Sandplains Bioregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) (GIS Database). Approximately 44% of the pre-European vegetation still exists in the IBRA Geraldton Sandplains Bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2019). The application area is broadly mapped as Beard vegetation association 378: Shrublands; scrub-heath with scattered *Banksia* spp, *Eucalyptus todtiana* & *Xylomelum angustifolium* on deep sandy flats in the Geraldton Sandplains Region (GIS Database). Approximately 64% of the pre-European extent of this vegetation association remains uncleared at both the state and bioregional level (Government of Western Australia, 2019).

The conservation status of the remaining vegetation in the Geraldton Sandplains bioregion is considered 'depleted', however, the application area (0.097 hectares) represents <0.001% of all vegetation at a bioregional, subregional and local government level. The proposed clearing is very minimal compared to the

current extent of remaining vegetation within the Geraldton Sandplains bioregion.

	Pre-European area (ha)*	Current extent (ha)*	Remaining %*	Conservation Status**	Pre-European % in DBCA managed lands
IBRA Bioregion – Geraldton Sandplains	3,136,037	1,404,424	~44	Depleted	18.24
IBRA Subregion - Lesueur Sandplain	1,171,775	502,977	~42	Depleted	18.36
Local Government - Irwin	236,968	117,014	~49	Depleted	12.17
Beard vegetation association – WA					
378	95,109.43	61,031.79	~64	Least Concern	14.14
Beard vegetation association – Geraldton Sandplains Bioregion					
378	95,109	61,031	~64	Least Concern	14.14
Beard vegetation association – Lesueur Sandplain Subregion					
378	90,922	60,668	~66	Least Concern	14.79

\* Government of Western Australia (2019)

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

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

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

GIS Database:  
- IBRA Australia  
- Pre-European Vegetation

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

**Comments** **Proposal is not at variance to this Principle**  
There are no watercourses or wetlands within the area proposed to clear (GIS Database).

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

**Methodology**  
GIS Database:  
- Hydrography, Lakes  
- Hydrography, linear

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

**Comments** **Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle**  
The application area is for the purpose of improving the visibility of an access track at a T-junction. The total clearing of 0.097 hectares is unlikely to cause appreciable land degradation.

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

**Methodology**

**(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 Yardanogo Nature Reserve which is located approximately 3.6 kilometres south 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). The proposed clearing is unlikely to result in significant changes to surface water flows.

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

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

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

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

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

The climate of the region is Mediterranean, with an average rainfall of approximately 444.8 millimetres per year (BoM, 2021; CALM, 2002).

There are no water courses or waterbodies within the application area (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)  
CALM (2002)

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

**Comments**

There is one native title claim (WC2019/008) over the area under application (DPLH, 2021). This claim has been determined by the Federal Court on behalf of the claimant group. However, the petroleum 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.

The application was advertised on 25 January 2021 by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

This clearing permit application intersects the Waitsia Gas Project Stage 2, which was formally assessed by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), and approved under Ministerial Statement 1164 on 1 February 2021 (EPA, 2021). The Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety is not constrained from making a decision on this clearing permit application.

**Methodology** DPLH (2021)  
EPA (2021)

## 4. References

- Bamford (2015) *Waitsia Wells, Dongara – Fauna Assessment*. Supporting Information for CPS 6875/1. Bamford Consulting Ecologists, Kingsley, Western Australia.
- BoM (2021) Bureau of Meteorology Website – Climate Data Online, Geraldton Town. Bureau of Meteorology. <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data/> (Accessed 2 March 2021).
- CALM (2002) *A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographic Subregions in 2002*. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.
- DPLH (2021) *Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System*. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. <https://espatial.dplh.wa.gov.au/AHIS/index.html?viewer=AHIS> (Accessed 24 February 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.
- EPA (2021) Ministerial Statement 1164. *Waitsia Gas Project Stage 2*. Government of Western Australia, Environmental Protection Authority, February 2021.
- 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.
- Maia (2015a) *AWE Perth Proprietary Limited Waitsia Gasfield Pipeline Level 1 Flora and Vegetation Reconnaissance and Targeted Flora Survey*, December 2015. Prepared for AWE Perth Pty Ltd, by Maia Environmental Consultancy, December 2015.
- Maia (2015b) *AWE Perth Pty Ltd, Waitsia Gas Field: Flora and Vegetation Desktop Study*. Prepared for AWE Perth Pty Ltd, by Maia Environmental Consultancy, February 2015.

## 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.