

1. Application details

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1.1. Permit application details Permit application No.: 9272/1 Permit type: **Purpose Permit** 1.2. **Proponent details** Proponent's name: Menzies Goldfield Pty Ltd **Property details** 1.3. Mining Lease 29/189 **Property:** Local Government Area: Shire of Menzies **Colloquial name:** Granny Venn Waste Dump 1.4. Application **Clearing Area (ha)** No. Trees Method of Clearing For the purpose of: Mechanical Removal Waste Rock Dump 7.5 1.5. **Decision on application** Decision on Permit Application: Grant **Decision Date:** 10 June 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: 18: Low woodland; mulga (Acacia aneura) (GIS Database). A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the application area and surrounding region by Goldfields Landcare Services (GLS) (2016) during 9 and 10 September 2016. The following vegetation associations were recorded within the application area (GLS, 2016): Stony Ironstone Mulga Shrubland (SIMS) Casuarina pauper open low woodland B (Projected Foliar Cover 2-10%; <5m) over mixed Acacia open scrub (PFC 2-10%; > 2m) including Acacia ligulata, A. aneura, and A. kempeana over mixed open low scrub (PFC 2-10%; 1-2m) of Eremophila latrobei subsp. latrobei, Senna artemisioides subsp. filifolia, S. artemisioides subsp. helmsii, Acacia tetragonophylla, Dodonaea lobulata, Scaevola spinescens, Sida calyxhymenia and Philotheca brucei; over open dwarf scrub (PFC 2-10%; <1) containing Ptilotus obovatus, Enchylaena tomentosa, Rhagodia drummondii, Maireana georgei and Solanum lasiophyllum on orange/brown silt with Greenstone scree; and Drainage Tract Mulga Shrubland (DRMS) Acacia caesaneura thicket (PFC 30-70% >2m) with scattered emergent Eucalyptus oleosa to 6m over open low scrub (PFC 2-10% >2m) of Acacia tetragonophylla, and A ramulosa var. ramulosa over mixed open dwarf scrub (PFC 2-10% <1m) of Acacia tetragonophylla, A. ramulosa var. ramulosa, Abutilon otocarpum, Senna artemisioides subsp. x coriacea, Sida calyxhymenia, Eremophila clarkei, and Ptilotus obovatus over very mixed scattered herbs and annuals (PFC <2%) containing Menkea australis, Lemooria burkittii, Senna artemisioides subsp. x coriacea, Hydrocotyle medicaginoides and Cheilanthes sieberi on orange/brown, sandy silt. **Clearing Description** Granny Venn Waste Dump Project. Menzies Goldfield Pty Ltd proposes to clear up to 7.5 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 54 hectares, for the purpose of constructing a waste rock dump. The project is located approximately 5 kilometres north-east of Menzies, within the Shire of Menzies. **Vegetation Condition** Good: Structure significantly altered by multiple disturbance; retains basic structure/ability to regenerate (Keighery, 1994); To: Completely Degraded: No longer intact; completely/almost completely without native species (Keighery, 1994). Comment The vegetation condition was derived from a vegetation survey conducted by GLS (2016). The proposed clearing of native vegetation is for the expansion for a waste rock dump.

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 Murchison Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia bioregion (GIS Database). The Eastern Murchison subregion is characterised by vegetation dominated by Mulga Woodlands, often rich in ephemerals; hummock grasslands, saltbush shrublands and Halosarcia shrublands (CALM, 2002).

A reconnaissance survey was undertaken over the application area and surrounding region which identified 114 vascular plant species, none of which were Threatened or Priority Flora species (GLS, 2016). There were two vegetation types identified within the application area; SIMS and DRMS (GLS, 2016). A very small amount of DRMS vegetation type was mapped towards the south of the application area, with the large majority of the vegetation mapped as the SIMS vegetation type (GLS, 2016). The majority of the application area was mapped as in a very degraded condition, or previously cleared areas with regrowth (GLS, 2016; Keighery, 1994; GIS Database). There are no Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities within the application area (GIS Database).

Several weed species were identified during the survey (GLS, 2016). Weeds have the potential to alter the biodiversity of an area, competing with native vegetation for available resources and making areas more fire prone. Care should be taken to ensure that weeds do not get introduced into the area as the result of clearing activities. Potential impacts to biodiversity as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a weed management condition.

The vegetation associations, fauna habitats and landform types present within the application area, are well represented in surrounding areas (GLS, 2016; 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 CALM (2002) GLS (2016) Keighery (1994)

GIS Database:

- IBRA Australia
- Imagery
- 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

There have been no fauna surveys conducted over the application area.

According to available databases, there are two conservation significant species within a 20 kilometre radius of the application area (DBCA, 2007-):

Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) (Threatened); and Woma (*Aspidites ramsayi subsp.*) (southwest subpopulation) (Priority 1).

Suitable habitat for the Malleefowl is likely to be found within the application area, however the preferred habitat for nesting (areas containing Mallee woodland with higher levels of leaf litter) is not with the application area (GLS, 2016; GIS Database). The application area is not likely to present significant breeding or nesting habitat for this species.

The Woma occurs within woodlands, heaths and shrublands, often with spinifex. It shelters mainly in abandoned monitor and mammal burrows and in soil cracks (Wilson and Swan, 2017). Suitable habitat may occur in close proximity to the application area, however it is not likely that the preferred habitat for this species occurs within the application area (GIS Database).

Aerial imagery suggests that the landform types present within the application area are well represented in surrounding areas (GIS Database). The application area is unlikely to represent an area of significant fauna habitat, 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 DBCA (2007-) GLS (2016) Wilson and Swan (2017)

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 (GLS, 2016).

The vegetation associations within the application area are common and widespread within the region (GLS, 2016; 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 GLS (2016)

GIS Database:

- Flora DRF Species Habitat
- Flora TPFL
- 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 (GLS, 2016).

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

Methodology GLS (2016)

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 with approximately 99.73% of the pre-European vegetation still existing within the Bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2019; GIS Database). The application area is broadly mapped as Beard vegetation association 18 (GIS Database). This vegetation association has not been extensively cleared as over 99% of the pre-European extent of this vegetation association remains uncleared at both the state and bioregional level (Government of Western Australia, 2019). The permit area does not contain any remnants nor does it form part of any remnants in the local area (GIS Database).

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

Methodology 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 application area (GIS Database). One ephemeral drainage line previously passed through the application area, however an open pit has now has disrupted the drainage line (GIS Database).

Based on vegetation mapping by GLS (2016), the vegetation type DRMS was identified growing in association with the existing drainage tract. The DRMS vegetation type is only located in very small areas towards the south of the application area, and impacts from the proposed clearing to this vegetation type is likely to be minimal.

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

Methodology GLS (2016)

GIS Database:

- Hydrography, Lakes
- Hydrography, linear

- Imagery

(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 lies within the Laverton and Moriarty 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 Laverton land system is dominated by greenstone hills and ridges supporting acacia shrublands (Pringle et. al., 1994). Stony mantels protect most of this land system from erosion, with the exception of narrow drainage tracts which may be mildly susceptible to water erosion (Pringle et. al., 1994). There are no drainage tracts within this land system in the application area (GIS Database).

The Moriarty land system consists of low greenstone and stony plains supporting chenopod shrublands with patchy eucalyptus overstoreys. This land system may be moderately susceptible to erosion if vegetation cover is removed (Pringle et al, 1994). This land system only occurs in a small area in the south of the application area (GIS Database).

The proposed clearing of up to 7.5 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 54 hectares, for the purpose of a waste rock dump is unlikely to cause appreciable land degradation. Potential erosion may be minimised by the implementation of a staged clearing condition.

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

Methodology Pringle et al. (1994)

GIS Database:

- Hydrography, linear
- Imagery
- 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 managed land is the former leasehold ex Adelong Station, which is located approximately 15 kilometres south-east 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

The application area intersects the Menzies Water Reserve (Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA)) (GIS Database). The DWER advised that there was no objection to the proposed clearing within the Menzies PDWSA (DWER, 2021).

There are no permanent watercourses or wetlands within the area proposed to clear (GIS Database). Creek lines in the region are dry for most of the year, only flowing briefly immediately following significant rainfall. 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 DWER (2021)

GIS Database:

- Hydrography, Linear
- Public Drinking Water Source Areas
- Imagery

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

Comments

ts Proposal is not likely to be at variance to this Principle

The climate of the region is arid, with a mainly winter rainfall of approximately 200 millimetres per year (CALM, 2002).

There are no permanent watercourses or waterbodies within the application area (GIS Database). Seasonal drainage lines are common in the region and temporary localised flooding may occur briefly following heavy rainfall events. However, the proposed clearing is unlikely to increase the incidence or intensity of natural flooding events.

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

Methodology CALM (2002)

GIS Database:

- Hydrographic Catchments Catchments
- Hydrography, linear
- Imagery

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

Comments

There are two native title claims over the area under application (DPLH, 2021). These claims have been registered with the National Native Title Tribunal on behalf of the claimant groups. 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.

The amendment application was advertised on 3 May 2021 by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety inviting submissions from the public. No submissions were received in relation to this application.

Methodology DPLH (2021)

4. References

CALM (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographic Subregions in 2002. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.

DBCA (2007-) NatureMap: Mapping Western Australia's Biodiversity. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. <u>https://naturemap.dbca.wa.gov.au/</u> (Accessed 26 May 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 18 May 2021). DWER (2021) Advice received in relation to Clearing Permit Application CPS 9272/1. Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Western Australia, June 2021.
- GLS (2016) Flora and Vegetation Survey of the Menzies Project. Report prepared for Australian Mineral Partners Pty Ltd, by Goldfields Landcare Services, October 2016.
- 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.R., Van Vreeswyk, A.M.E., and Gilligan, S.A. (1994) An Inventory and Condition Survey of the north-eastern Goldfields, Western Australia. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.

Wilson, S. K., & Swan, G. (2013). A complete guide to reptiles of Australia. New Holland Publishers.

5. Glossary

Acronyms:

BC Act BoM DAA DAFWA DAWE DBCA DBCA	Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, Western Australia Bureau of Meteorology, Australian Government Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Western Australia (now DPLH) Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia (now DPIRD) Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Australian Government Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia Department of Environment Regulation, Western Australia (now DWER)
DMIRS	Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Western Australia
	Department of Mines and Petroleum, Western Australia (now DMIRS)
DoW	Department of Water, Western Australia (now DW/ER)
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 (Federal 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 (2019) Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora and Fauna. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia}:-

T <u>Threatened species:</u>

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 <u>Priority species:</u>

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.