



Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 9409/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: **Barto Gold Mining Pty Ltd**

1.3. Property details

Property: Mining Lease 77/31
Mining Lease 77/775
Mining Lease 77/790
Local Government Area: Shire of Yilgarn
Colloquial name: Windmills project

1.4. Application

Clearing Area (ha)	No. Trees	Method of Clearing	For the purpose of:
75		Mechanical Removal	Mineral Production and Associated Activities

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 16 December 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 associations:
128: Bare areas; rock outcrops;
1068: Medium woodland; salmon gum, morrel, gimlet & *Eucalyptus sheathiana*; and
1148: Shrublands; scrub-heath in the Coolgardie Region (GIS Database).

A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the application area by Stantec during April and September 2020, and April 2021. The following vegetation associations were recorded within the application area (Stantec, 2021a; 2021b):

EsEsuEIMpEaSaHe – *Eucalyptus salmonophloia*, *E. salubris* and *E. longicornis* woodland over *Melaleuca pauperiflora*, *Exocarpos aphyllus* and *Santalum acuminatum* tall shrubland over *Hibbertia eatoniae* low open shrubland.

EIlMhBe - *Eucalyptus loxophleba* subsp. *lissophloia* low open woodland over *Melaleuca hamata* tall shrubland over *Baeckea elderiana* shrubland to low open shrubland.

Cleared – Existing disturbance areas.

Clearing Description Windmills project.
Permit Holder Name proposes to clear up to 75 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 96.77 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities. The project is located approximately 6 kilometres south-east of Marvel Loch, within the Shire of Yilgarn.

Vegetation Condition Excellent: Vegetation structure intact; disturbance affecting individual species, weeds non-aggressive (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 Stantec (2021b).

The proposed clearing is to facilitate extraction from the Windmills ore deposit, including an open pit, waste rock dump (WRD), ROM and associated infrastructure, haul/access road and abandonment bunds.

3. Assessment of application against Clearing Principles

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

Comments

Proposal may be at variance to this Principle

The clearing permit application area is located within the Southern Cross subregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) Coolgardie Bioregion (GIS Database). This subregion is characterised by gently undulating uplands dissected by broad valleys with bands of low greenstone hills (CALM, 2002). Diverse Eucalyptus woodlands rich in endemic Eucalyptus occur around salt lakes, low greenstone hills, valley alluvials and broad plains of calcareous earths (CALM, 2002). Mallees and scrub-heaths occur on uplands as well as sand lunettes associated with playas along the broad valley floors and sand sheets around the granite outcrops. The scrubs are rich in endemic acacias and Myrtaceae (CALM, 2002).

A total of 103 vascular flora taxa, representing 31 families and 65 genera were recorded within the application area (Stantec, 2021a). There were no Threatened Flora and one Priority Flora species recorded within the application area; *Hakea pendens* (Priority 3) (Stantec, 2021b). There were 12 individuals from three populations recorded within the western portion of the application area, with one population on the boarder of the application area, and is considered not likely to be impacted (Stantec, 2021b; GIS Database). Approximately 247 individuals from 49 populations of *Hakea pendens* were recorded from the greater survey area by Stantec (2021b). The restriction of *Hakea pendens* (Priority 3) to the Parker Range System is of regional and local significance, however, the 12 individuals recorded within the application area are not restricted to the local area (Stantec, 2021a). The proposed clearing of 12 individuals of *Hakea pendens* is not likely to impact the conservation significance of this species.

The application area intersects the Parker Range vegetation complexes Priority Ecological Community (PEC) (Priority 3) (GIS Database). Vegetation analogous with this PEC is vegetation type EsEsuEIMpEaSaHe, with 93.12 hectares mapped within the application area (Stantec, 2021a). The proposed clearing of a small portion of this PEC is not likely to impact the conservation significance of the PEC. Cumulative impacts may need to be considered with any future clearing of this PEC. Potential impacts to the PEC may be minimised by the implementation of a weed condition to mitigate impacts of edge effects of clearing to the PEC.

There were several weed species recorded within the application area (Stantec, 2021b). Clearing activities have the potential to result in an increase in the incidence of weed species, which may negatively impact on the biodiversity of the local area. Potential impacts to biodiversity as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of the existing weed management condition.

The vegetation associations, fauna habitats and landform types present within the application area, are well represented within the regional area (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 may be at variance to this Principle.

Methodology

CALM (2002)
Stantec (2021a)
Stantec (2021b)

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 may be at variance to this Principle

Two broad fauna habitats have been recorded within the application area (Stantec, 2021b):

1. *Eucalyptus* Woodlands; and
2. Shrubland.

These habitats are considered typical of the Southern Cross subregion and were broadly represented outside of the application area (Stantec, 2021a). Albeit the landscape to the west of the application area has been largely cleared for agriculture, the application area is within a large tract of uncleared native vegetation and is not part of any ecological linkage (GIS Database).

There are six species of conservation significance that are likely to occur within the application area based on mapped vegetation types (Stantec, 2021a; 2021b);

- Chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroi*) (VU);
- Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) (VU);
- Woma Python (southwest pop.) (*Aspidites ramsayi*) (Priority 1);
- Western Brush Wallaby (*Notamacropus irma*) (Priority 4);
- Western Rosella (*Platycercus icterotis xanthogenys*) (Priority 4); and
- Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) (OS).

The chuditch, or western quoll, is the largest carnivorous marsupial occurring in Western Australia. The chuditch is now largely restricted to southwest Western Australia. Historically the species inhabited a wide range of habitats but today it survives mostly in jarrah forests and woodlands, mallee shrublands and heathlands (DBCA, 2017). Chuditch are solitary animals with home ranges extending up to 15 square kilometres for males and 3 to 4 square kilometres for females. Their home ranges can overlap except in core areas which contain numerous den sites. Dens are located in hollow logs, tree limbs, rocky outcrops and burrows (DBCA, 2017). Chuditch require adequate numbers of suitable den and refuge sites and sufficient prey biomass (large invertebrates, reptiles and small mammals) to survive. They are capable of travelling long distances, and even at their most abundant, chuditch are generally present in low numbers (DBCA, 2017).

A targeted chuditch survey was undertaken by Stantec (2021c) from 20 to 26 March 2021, and 22 June to 25 July 2021. Albeit no chuditch were recorded within the application area, there were several records of this species in close proximity to the application area (closest motion camera detection 700 metres from the application area) (Stantec, 2021b). The application area is considered to comprise of important habitat for the chuditch, with the area possibly being utilised for both foraging and sheltering purposes. Whilst the proposed clearing will result in the removal of some denning and foraging habitat, there is still significant habitat remaining in the local area (10 km radius) and the proposed clearing is not expected to have a significant impact on the long term viability of local populations. Potential impacts to chuditch as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a fauna management condition. This will require a pre-clearing inspection for dens, relocation of individuals occupying identified dens, and replacement/relocation of confirmed dens in adjoining habitat.

A targeted Malleefowl survey was undertaken in April and September 2020 by Stantec (2021b). No evidence of Malleefowls were identified within the application area, however both active and inactive mounds have been identified in close proximity to the application area, and the local area (Stantec, 2021a). The previous records of active and inactive mounds were recorded within shrubland habitat (which occurs within the application area), which provides suitable dense shrub cover and leaf litter on substrates suitable for mound building. The *Eucalyptus* woodlands and areas of shrubland stony rise may also support this species (Stantec, 2021a). Potential impacts to malleefowl as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a fauna management condition. This will require a pre-clearing inspection for mounds during the breeding season, and the avoidance of any active mounds.

The application area contains suitable habitat for the woma python, and is within the species range (Stantec, 2021a). Potential impacts to this species as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by a fauna management condition, which requires clearing to be undertaken in a slow progressive manner to allow fauna to escape.

The Western Brush Wallaby was recorded on a motion camera in the local area, within shrubland habitat (Stantec, 2021c). This species prefers more open shrubland, which is restricted within the application area to the proposed haul road, which only occupies approximately 2 hectares of the application area (Stantec, 2021a). The proposed clearing is not likely to impact the conservation significance of this species.

The Peregrine Falcon and Western Rosella are highly mobile avian species which occupy large home ranges. The large hollowing bearing trees may provide important habitat for the Western Rosella (*Platycercus icterotis xanthogenys*) (inland pop.) (Priority 4) and the Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) (OS). The Peregrine Falcon species is not confined to any specific habitat type and utilises habitats as diverse as woodlands, open grasslands and coastal cliffs (Birdlife, 2021). The thick vegetation in some areas within the application area may also serve as suitable foraging habitat for the Western Rosella (Stantec, 2021a). Given the highly mobile nature of these species, the proposed clearing is not likely to impact the conservation significance of these species.

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

Methodology BirdLife (2021)
DBCA (2017)
Stantec (2021a)
Stantec (2021b)
Stantec (2021c)

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 (Stantec, 2021b).

 The vegetation associations within the application area are common and widespread within the region (Stantec, 2021a, 2021b; 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 Stantec (2021a)
 Stantec (2021b)

 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 (Stantec, 2021a; 2021b).

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

Methodology Stantec (2021a)
 Stantec (2021b)

 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 Coolgardie Bioregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) (GIS Database). Approximately 97% of the pre-European vegetation still exists in the IBRA Coolgardie Bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2019). The application area is broadly mapped as Beard vegetation associations 128: Bare areas; rock outcrops, 1068: Medium woodland; salmon gum, morrel, gimlet & *Eucalyptus sheathiana*, and 1148: Shrublands; scrub-heath in the Coolgardie Region (GIS Database). Approximately 87%, 53% and 99%, respectively, of the pre-European extent of each of these vegetation associations remains uncleared the state level (Government of Western Australia, 2019). Albeit the landscape to the west of the application area has been largely cleared for agriculture, the application area is within a large tract of uncleared native vegetation and is not part of any ecological linkage (GIS Database).

	Pre-European area (ha)*	Current extent (ha)*	Remaining %*	Conservation Status**	Pre-European % in DBCA managed lands (and post clearing %)
IBRA Bioregion – Coolgardie	12,912,204	12,648,491	~97.96	Least Concern	16.39 (16.72)
Beard vegetation associations – WA					
128	329,836	288,814	~87.56	Least Concern	23.92
1068	268,900	142,088	~52.84	Least Concern	11.80
1148	260,384	258,227	~99.17	Least Concern	17.68
Beard vegetation associations – Coolgardie Bioregion					
128	184,550	183,891	~99.64	Least Concern	18.79 (18.85)
1068	193,988	104,804	~54.03	Least Concern	7.31 (13.51)
1148	254,932	252,775	~99.15	Least Concern	17.13 (17.28)

* 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 not at variance to this Principle**

There are no permanent watercourses or wetlands within the area proposed to clear (GIS Database). There are two ephemeral watercourses within the application area, however there has been no riparian vegetation identified within the application area (Stantec, 2021b; GIS Database).

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

Methodology Stantec (2021b)

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 outside the soil landscape land quality mapping and assessment of land capability, which extends to the edge of the wheatbelt. The mapped soil types within the application area are DD15 and My44 (Stantec, 2021a; Northcote et al., 1960-68).

The DD15 soil type includes low lying areas identified as saline depressions and claypans (mapped in less than 4 hectares within the application area). These areas may be prone to land degradation from clearing in the form of salinisation, water logging, soil erosion and acidity (Stantec, 2021a).

The My44 soil type does not include wetlands, salt lakes, and is unlikely to comprise fine loose sands or calcareous loamy earth. Consequently, soils within the application area are unlikely to be prone to erosion (Stantec, 2021a).

However, the amount of clearing is relatively large (75 hectares) and if large areas are left cleared for extended periods there is risk of land degradation from wind and water erosion. Potential impacts from erosion may be minimised by the implementation of a staged clearing condition requiring areas that are cleared are utilised within six months.

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

Methodology Northcote et al (1960-68)
Stantec (2021a)

(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 Jibadji Nature Reserve which is located approximately 11 kilometres east of the application area (GIS Database). The proposed clearing is unlikely to impact on the environmental values of any conservation area or any ecological linkages to conservation areas.

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). 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 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 to semi-arid warm Mediterranean climate with 250 to 300 millimetres of mainly winter rainfall (CALM, 2002).

There are no permanent watercourses that have been identified within the application area. The proposed clearing is therefore 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

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

Comments

The clearing permit application was advertised on 24 July 2021 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 is one native title claim over the area under application (DPLH, 2021). This claim has been registered with the National Native Title Tribunal on behalf of the claimant group. However, the mining tenure has been granted in accordance with the future act regime of the *Native Title Act 1993* and the nature of the act (i.e. the proposed clearing activity) has been provided for in that process, therefore, the granting of a clearing permit is not a future act under the *Native Title Act 1993*.

There 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

- BirdLife (2021) Bird profile: Peregrine Falcon, *Falco peregrinus falco hypoleucos*. BirdLife Australia. <https://www.birdlife.org.au/bird-profile/peregrine-falcon> (Accessed 1 December 2021).
- CALM (2002) A Biodiversity Audit of Western Australia's 53 Biogeographic Subregions in 2002. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia.
- DBCA (2017) Fauna profiles - Chuditch *Dasyurus geoffroii*. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, 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 November 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.
- Stantec (2021a) Windmills Native Vegetation Clearing Permit (Purpose Permit) Supporting Document Application. Prepared for Barto Gold Mining Pty Ltd, by Stantec, April 2021.
- Stantec (2021b) Windmills Flora, Vegetation and Fauna survey. Prepared for Barto Gold Mining Pty Ltd, by Stantec, August 2021.
- Stantec (2021c) Memorandum: Targeted Chuditch Survey Report. Prepared for Barto Gold Mining Pty Ltd, by Stantec, August 2021.

5. Glossary

Acronyms:

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

EPA	Environmental Protection Authority, Western Australia
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (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	<i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914</i> , Western Australia
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community

Definitions:

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

T Threatened species:

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

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

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

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

CR Critically endangered species

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

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

EN Endangered species

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

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

VU Vulnerable species

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

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

Extinct Species:

EX Extinct species

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

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

EW Extinct in the wild species

Species that “*is known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalised population well outside its past range; and it has not been recorded in its known habitat or expected habitat, at appropriate seasons, anywhere in its past range, despite surveys over a time frame appropriate to its life cycle and form*”, and listing is otherwise in accordance with the ministerial guidelines (section 25 of the BC Act).

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

Specially protected species:

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

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

MI

Migratory species

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

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

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

CD

Species of special conservation interest (conservation dependent fauna)

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

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

OS

Other specially protected species

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

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

P

Priority species:

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

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

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

P1

Priority One - Poorly-known species

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

P2

Priority Two - Poorly-known species

Species that are known from one or a few locations (generally five or less), some of which are on lands managed primarily for nature conservation, e.g. national parks, conservation parks, nature reserves and other lands with secure tenure being managed for conservation. Species may be

included if they are comparatively well known from one or more locations but do not meet adequacy of survey requirements and appear to be under threat from known threatening processes. Such species are in urgent need of further survey.

P3

Priority Three - Poorly-known species

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

P4

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

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

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

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