

Clearing Permit Decision Report

1. Application details

1.1. Permit application details

Permit application No.: 9418/1
Permit type: Purpose Permit

1.2. Proponent details

Proponent's name: Agnew Gold Mining Company Pty Ltd

1.3. Property details

Property: Mining Leases M36/27, M36/55, M36/150, M36/313, M36/695
Local Government Area: Shire of Leonora
Colloquial name: Barren Lands Project

1.4. Application

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

1.5. Decision on application

Decision on Permit Application: Grant
Decision Date: 4 November 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: 18: Low woodland; mulga (*Acacia aneura*); and 39: Shrublands; mulga scrub (GIS Database).

A flora and vegetation survey was conducted over the application area by 360 Environmental Pty Ltd during August, 2019 (360 Environmental, 2021). The following vegetation associations were recorded within the application area (360 Environmental, 2021):

- AcMpSe - *Acacia craspedocarpa* open shrubland;
- Aspp.Essp.Saxs - mixed *Acacia* spp. open shrubland over mixed *Eremophila* spp. And *Senna artemisioides-sturtii* shrubland;
- Aspp.SaxsEssp. - open shrubland of *Acacia papyrocarpa* or *Acacia mulganeura* over *Senna artemisioides-sturtii* shrubland;
- Aspp.Essp.Ps - open shrubland of *Acacia mulganeura* and *Acacia paraneura* over open shrubland of *Eremophila* spp.; and
- ArEffPo - open shrubland of *Acacia resinimarginea* over sparse shrubland of *Eremophila forrestii* subsp. *Forrestii*.

Clearing Description Barren Lands Project.
Agnew Gold Mining Company Pty Ltd proposes to clear up to 40 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 463.366 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities. The project is located approximately 19 kilometres south-west of Leinster, within the Shire of Leonora.

Vegetation Condition Very Good: Vegetation structure altered; obvious signs of disturbance (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 360 Environmental Pty Ltd (2021).

3. Assessment of application against Clearing Principles

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

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

The clearing permit application area is located within the Eastern Murchison subregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) Murchison Bioregion (GIS Database). The Eastern Murchison subregion is characterised by internal drainage and elevated red desert sandplains, dominated by

Mulga Woodland with hummock grasslands and saltbush or *Halosarcia* (now known as *Tecticornia*) shrublands (CALM, 2002).

A flora, vegetation and fauna habitat survey was conducted by 360 Environmental Pty Ltd during August, 2019 (360 Environmental, 2021). A total of 82 flora species from 42 genera, and 21 families were recorded within the application area (94% were native species). The most dominant families were *Fabaceae* (22 species), *Crophulariaceae* (10 species) and *Chenopodiaceae* (nine species) and the most dominant genera were *Acacia* (15 species) and *Eremophila* (10 species).

No Threatened Ecological Communities or Priority Ecological Communities have been recorded within the application area (GIS Database), and none were found during the flora and vegetation survey (360 Environmental, 2021).

Desktop surveys of available databases identified no Threatened flora species recorded within 50 kilometres of the application area, and none were recorded during the on-site survey (360 Environmental, 2021). A total of 13 Priority flora species have been identified within 50 kilometres of the application area, with two considered to have a medium likelihood of occurring within the application area (360 Environmental, 2021). However, no flora species of conservation significance were recorded within the clearing permit application area during the on-site survey (360 Environmental, 2021).

The vegetation condition within the survey area was described as 'Very Good' to 'Completely Degraded' on the Keighery scale, with parts of the application area suffering disturbance from current or historical mining activities (360 Environmental, 2021). However, the majority of the application area was in a 'Degraded' to 'Completely Degraded' state (360 Environmental, 2021).

Six weed species were recorded within the application area during the flora survey (360 Environmental, 2021). No Declared Pests sectioned under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007* or Weeds of National Significance were recorded within the application area (360 Environmental, 2021). Weeds have the potential to out-compete native species and reduce the biodiversity of an area, and care should be taken to prevent the introduction and spread of weeds to the application area and surrounding areas. Potential impacts to biodiversity as a result of the proposed clearing may be minimised by the implementation of a weed management condition.

Three broad fauna habitat types were recorded during the survey, however none were considered to be of conservation significance (360 Environmental, 2021).

The vegetation associations, fauna habitats and landform types present within the application area, are well represented in surrounding areas (360 Environmental, 2021; 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 360 Environmental (2021)
CALM (2002)

GIS Database:

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

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

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

A desktop search of the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Naturemap identified a total of 19 conservation significant vertebrate fauna species (including Priority species) from 13 families as potentially occurring within the application area (DBCA, 2007-). Key findings from the database search include:

- No amphibian species of conservation significance have been previously recorded in the surrounding area;
- Thirteen bird species of conservation significance from nine families have been previously recorded in the surrounding area;
- Five mammal species of conservation significance from three families have been previously recorded in the surrounding area; and
- One reptile species of conservation significance, the Great Desert Skink (*Liopholis kintorei*) has been previously recorded in the surrounding area.

A fauna survey was undertaken over the application area during August, 2019 (360 Environmental, 2021). A total of 48 fauna habitat assessments were undertaken during the field survey. Three fauna habitat types were identified:

- Acacia shrubland/rocky plain
- Ironstone/greenstone hill
- Drainage line

These habitat types are all widespread and common in the region, and the application area did not contain any locally restricted habitat types (360 Environmental, 2021).

No fauna species of conservation significance (Threatened or Priority), or evidence such as tracks, scats, nest or direct sightings were recorded within the application area (360 Environmental 2021). Targeted searches did not find evidence of Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) or Night Parrot (*Pezoporus occidentalis*) occurring within the application area (360 Environmental, 2021). It is unlikely that this area is necessary for the maintenance of a significant habitat for fauna as 76.59% of the survey area is covered by *Acacia* shrubland/rocky plain which is well represented regionally.

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

Methodology 360 Environmental (2021)
DBCA (2007-)

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 flora survey of the application area did not record any species of Threatened flora (360 Environmental, 2021).

The vegetation associations within the application area are common and widespread within the region (360 Environmental, 2021; 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 360 Environmental (2021)

GIS Database:

- Pre-European Vegetation
- Threatened and Priority Flora

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

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

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

A flora and vegetation survey of the application area did not identify any TECs (360 Environmental, 2021).

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

Methodology 360 Environmental (2021)

GIS Database:

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

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

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

The application area falls within the Murchison Bioregion of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) (GIS Database). Approximately 99% of the pre-European vegetation still exists in the IBRA

Murchison Bioregion (Government of Western Australia, 2019). The application area is broadly mapped as Beard vegetation associations 18: Low woodland; mulga (*Acacia aneura*); and 39: Shrublands; mulga scrub (GIS Database). Approximately 99% of the pre-European extent of each of these vegetation associations remains uncleared at both the state and bioregional level (Government of Western Australia, 2019).

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

	Pre-European area (ha)*	Current extent (ha)*	Remaining %*	Conservation Status**	Pre-European % in DBCA managed lands
IBRA Bioregion – Murchison	28,120,587	28,044,823	~99	Least Concern	7.77
Beard vegetation associations – WA					
18	19,892,306	18,843,148	~99	Least Concern	6.62
39	6,613,567	6,602,578	~99	Depleted	12.02
Beard vegetation associations – Murchison Bioregion					
18	12,403,172	12,363,252	~99	Least Concern	4.96
39	1,148,400	1,138,065	~99	Vulnerable	3.56

* Government of Western Australia (2019)

** Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2002)

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

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

GIS Database:

- IBRA Australia
- Pre-European Vegetation

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

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

There are no permanent watercourses or wetlands within the area proposed to clear (GIS Database). Several seasonal creek lines pass through the application area (GIS Database). Creek lines in the region are dry for most of the year, only flowing briefly immediately following significant rainfall (BoM, 2021). The flora survey did not identify any vegetation associated with riparian vegetation (360 Environmental, 2021).

Based on the above, the proposed clearing is at variance to this Principle. Potential impacts to vegetation growing in association with watercourses may be minimised by the implementation of a watercourse management condition.

Methodology BoM (2021)

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 lies within the Laverton, Leonora, Sunrise and Wyarri 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 described as Greenstone hills and ridges with acacia shrublands. This land system is not generally susceptible to erosion (Pringle et al., 1994).

The Leonora land system is described as Low greenstone hills and stony plains supporting mixed stony chenopod shrublands. This land system is not generally susceptible to erosion (Pringle et al., 1994).

The Sunrise land system is described as Stony plains supporting mulga shrublands. This land system is not generally susceptible to erosion (Pringle et al., 1994).

The Wyarri land system consists of 'Granite domes, hills and tor fields with gritty-surfaced fringing plains supporting mulga and granite wattle shrublands.' This land system is not generally susceptible to erosion (Pringle et al., 1994).

The proposed clearing of up to 40 hectares of native vegetation within a boundary of approximately 463.366 hectares, for the purpose of mineral production and associated activities 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 Pringle et al. (1994)

GIS Database:
- Landsystem Rangelands
- Soils, Statewide

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

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

There are no conservation areas in the vicinity of the application area. The nearest DBCA (formerly DPaW) managed land is the former Bulga Downs Pastoral Lease which is located approximately 48 kilometres south, south-west 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). 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 semi-arid, with a low average rainfall of approximately 253 millimetres per year (BoM, 2021). Drainage lines in the area are dry for most of the year, only flowing briefly immediately following significant rainfall (BoM, 2021; GIS Database).

There are no permanent water courses 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 BoM (2021)

GIS Database:
- Evaporation Isoleths

- Hydrographic Catchments - Catchments
- Hydrography, linear

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

Comments

The clearing permit application was advertised on 1 October 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 are no native title claims over the area under application (DPLH, 2021). However, the mining tenure has been granted in accordance with the future act regime of the *Native Title Act 1993* and the nature of the act (i.e. the proposed clearing activity) has been provided for in that process, therefore, the granting of a clearing permit is not a future act under the *Native Title Act 1993*.

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

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

Methodology DPLH (2021)

4. References

- 360 Environmental Pty Ltd (2021) Agnew Gold Project: Barren Lands, Native Vegetation Clearing Permit Supporting Documentation. Unpublished report prepared for Goldfields Limited by 360 Environmental Pty Ltd, August 2021.
- BoM (2021) Bureau of Meteorology Website – Climate Data Online, Leinster AERO. Bureau of Meteorology. <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data/> (Accessed 1 November 2021).
- 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. <https://naturemap.dbca.wa.gov.au/> (Accessed 1 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.
- DPLH (2021) Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System. Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. <https://espatial.dplh.wa.gov.au/AHIS/index.html?viewer=AHIS> (Accessed 1 November 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.
- Pringle, H.J.R., Van Vreeswyk, A.M.E., and Gilligan, S.A. (1994) An Inventory and Condition Survey of rangelands in the north-eastern Goldfields, Western Australia. Technical Bulletin No. 87. Department of Agriculture, Western Australia.

5. Glossary

Acronyms:

BC Act	<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, Western Australia</i>
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.