

Ms Sandra Williamson
Species and Communities Program
Biodiversity and Conservation Science
Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
Locked Bag 104
Bentley Delivery Centre WA 6983

Our Ref: DWERT4935
Enquiries: Teresa Belcher - 6364 6476
Email: teresa.belcher@dwer.wa.gov.au

Email: tssc@dbca.wa.gov.au

Dear Ms Williamson

PUBLIC CONSULTATION FOR NOMINATIONS TO AMEND THE LISTS OF THREATENED AND EXTINCT SPECIES UNDER THE WA *BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 2016*.

Thank you for the invitation to make a submission on the native species that have been nominated for listing (or delisting, or a change in category and/or criteria) as threatened or extinct species under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.

The Western Australian Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) has a statutory obligation to use its best endeavours to protect the environment and to prevent, control and abate pollution and environmental harm. The EPA also undertakes Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) where it considers significant impacts to the environment including impacts to threatened species within the EPA's environmental factors.

Species significance (identified threatened or priority species/communities) is considered during EIA. Awareness of amendments to the listing of threatened species is important for the EPA to ensure appropriate consideration is given during the assessment process.

The EPA is supportive of the nominations for listing on the Threatened Species List. The EPA acknowledges Western Australia's high diversity and uniqueness of native animals (fauna), native plants (flora) and ecological communities and the high levels of endemism in some flora and faunal groups. The EPA also acknowledges that new species are being described every year and that an increased state of knowledge of a species may result in changes to listings.

The EPA looks forward to continuing to play a positive role in protecting the state's native fauna and flora and ecological communities so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained.

Yours sincerely



Prof. Matthew Tonts
CHAIR, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY

28 September 2023