



**Iluka Resources Limited**

**2025 Annual Compliance  
Report EPBC 2012/6509  
Balranald Mineral Sands Mine, NSW**

10 October 2025

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	Declaration of accuracy .....	2
2.	Description of activities .....	3
3.	Addressing all approval conditions.....	6
4.	EPBC approval conditions compliance table .....	5
5.	Correcting non-compliances .....	22
6.	New Environmental risks .....	22
	Appendix A- Extension Grant for Stage 1 Offset Requirements	23
	Appendix B- Notification of change to NSW Approval conditions .....	24
	Appendix C- Annual Malleefowl monitoring report 2024 .....	25
	Appendix D- Notification of commencement of the action.....	26
	Appendix E- Biodiversity Management Plan commitments and implementation .....	27

## TABLE OF FIGURES

Figure 1 Malleefowl habitat clearing 2025.....	20
Figure 2 Malleefowl habitat clearing 2025.....	21

# 1. Declaration of accuracy

In making this declaration, I am aware that sections 490 and 491 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act) make it an offence in certain circumstances to knowingly provide false or misleading information or documents. The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment or a fine, or both. I declare that all the information and documentation supporting this compliance report is true and correct in every particular. I am authorised to bind the approval holder to this declaration and that I have no knowledge of that authorisation being revoked at the time of making this declaration.

Signed:	 <small>David J Wright (Oct 10, 2025 15:55:01 GMT+11)</small>
Full name:	Dave Wright
Position:	Balranald Operations Manager
Organisation:	Iluka Resources Limited (ACN 008 675 018)
Date:	10 October 2025

## 2. Description of activities

<b>EPBC number</b>	EPBC 2012/6509
<b>Project name</b>	Balranald Mineral Sands Mine
<b>Approval holder and ACN or ABN</b>	Iluka Resources Limited (ACN 008 675 018)
<b>The approved action</b>	To construct, operate and rehabilitate a mineral sand mine near Balranald, NSW, and associated infrastructure activities. The following elements are excluded: traffic movements generated by the Balranald project in Victoria; construction and operation of new light rail loading facility at Manangatang and transport of ilmenite by rail to port facilities in Victoria; and construction of a power transmission line from West Balranald ore deposit to the existing substation located south of Balranald.
<b>Location of the project</b>	South-western New South Wales, 12km north-west of Balranald
<b>Person accepting responsibility for the report</b>	Dave Wright (see declaration)
<b>Dates for the reporting period of the report</b>	9 August 2024 to 9 August 2025
<b>Date of preparation of the report.</b>	10 October 2025

### 2.1 Activities undertaken during reporting period

The action commenced on the 9<sup>th</sup> August 2023 with the following construction works undertaken during the reporting period from 9<sup>th</sup> August 2024 to 9<sup>th</sup> August 2025:

- Mining and processing infrastructure:
  - Commenced construction of:
    - processing plants;
    - underground mining infrastructure;
    - Wet Concentrator Plant (WCP);
    - mining panels; and
    - pads, borrow pits, dams and water supply infrastructure;
  - Commissioning of:
    - underground development drilling operations
- Non-processing infrastructure:
  - Commenced construction of:
    - warehouse, storage areas, workshops; and
    - site offices, contractor yards;
  - Installation of:
    - site boundary fencing
    - temporary offices on site
  - Commenced construction of:
    - Construction of accommodation camp facility
- Transport infrastructure:
  - Commenced construction of:
    - vehicle wash facilities;
    - upgrades to public roads
  - Completion of:
    - 23.6 km long private mine access road connecting the site to the public road network for future mineral haulage
- Service and utilities infrastructure:
  - Commenced construction of:

- fuel storage and dispensing area;
  - diesel power station
  - telecommunications tower and internal powerlines;
  - village wastewater treatment plant
  - potable water system
- Completion of:
    - production and monitoring bores



Plate 1- Wet Concentrator Plant (WCP) construction



Plate 2- Drilling operations at mining panel 2



Plate 3- Construction of accommodation camp facilities



Plate 4- Mine access road

### **3. Addressing all approval conditions**

The reporting period for this Compliance Assessment Report is from the 9 August 2024 to 9 August 2025.

All conditions of EPBC 2012/6509 were considered over the reporting period. A variation of the conditions of approval was determined on 16 June 2025. Following variations were made:

- Revoked conditions 4, 5, and 6;
- Deleted condition 9 and substituted with varied version;
- Added new conditions 3A and 3B;
- Revoked the definitions of Baseline vegetation quality, Conservation advice, EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy, Offsets assessment guide, Project stages, Recovery plan(s), Secure(d)/securing, and Threat abatement plan(s); and
- Added new definition of NSW approval, Management plan(s), Plan(s) and Protected matter(s).

#### 4. EPBC approval conditions compliance table

Date of Decision	Condition Number	Condition	Is condition compliant?	Evidence/Comments
Variation dated 01/08/2023	1	<p>Within the <b>project area</b> the person taking the action must not <b>clear</b>:</p> <p>a. more than 2,544 hectares (ha) of <b>Malleefowl habitat</b>; and</p> <p>b. more than 3,143 ha of <b>Corben's Long-eared Bat habitat</b>.</p> <p>The person taking the action must not <b>clear</b> outside the <b>project area</b> as part of this approval.</p>	Compliant	<p>Since the commencement of the action a total of 58.5Ha of Malleefowl habitat and 29.5Ha of Corben's Long-eared Bat habitat have been cleared respectively.</p> <p>All clearing during the reporting period occurred within the approved project area. Pre-clearance inspections are conducted prior to any clearing to minimise potential impacts on threatened flora and fauna.</p> <p>An incident related to unauthorised clearing (unintended clearance of 0.13ha of native vegetation outside the project area) that occurred during last reporting period (23 May 2024) was determined as breach to Condition 1 of EPBC Act Approval (EPBC 2012/6509) by the DCCEEW in their official warning notice on 21 February 2025 as a result of self-reporting the incident on 25 May 2024.</p>

Date of Decision	Condition Number	Condition	Is condition compliant?	Evidence/Comments
Varied dated 01/08/2023	2	<p>The person taking the action must submit a <b>Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP)</b> for the <b>Minister's</b> written approval. The <b>BMP</b> must include measures to avoid and mitigate impacts to <b>Malleefowl</b> and <b>Corben's Long-eared Bat</b>, taking into consideration Chapter 6 of the <i>Biodiversity Assessment for the Environmental Impact Statement</i> (June 2016). The <b>BMP</b> must include but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <b>pre-disturbance surveys</b> supervised by a <b>suitably qualified expert</b> to determine presence of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. <b>Malleefowl</b> mounds in areas mapped as moderate, high, and very high <b>Malleefowl Habitat</b> Potential in Figures 12B and 12C as shown at <u>Appendix A</u>; and</li> <li>ii. <b>hollow-bearing trees</b> for the <b>Corben's Long-eared Bat</b> in areas mapped as Medium Tree Hollow Density, Medium-High Tree Hollow Density and High Tree Hollow Density in Figures 13A, 13B and 13C as shown at <u>Appendix C</u>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. REVOKED</li> <li>c. measures to ensure <b>active</b> or potentially <b>active Malleefowl</b> mounds located during <b>pre-disturbance surveys</b> between September and February (inclusive) are protected until the end of that <b>Malleefowl</b> nesting season (end of February);</li> <li>d. measures to identify <b>Malleefowl</b> nesting activity within <b>Malleefowl habitat</b> during the <b>Malleefowl</b> nesting season;</li> <li>e. speed limits and warning signs in and near <b>Malleefowl habitat</b>;</li> <li>f. measures to minimise dust and light spill within 200 metres of identified <b>Malleefowl</b> mounds;</li> </ul>	Compliant	<p>The Biodiversity Management Plan (Version 5, June 2023) was approved by the Department on 1 August 2023. The BMP is published on the Iluka website in accordance with Condition 11.</p> <p>All measures outlined in the Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) for the protection of Malleefowl and Corben's Long-eared Bat were implemented during the reporting period. Monitoring activities are ongoing as required by the approved BMP. (Appendix E)</p>

Date of Decision	Condition Number	Condition	Is condition compliant?	Evidence/Comments
		<p>g. no <b>clearing</b> of vegetation mapped as Medium Tree Hollow Density, Medium-High Tree Hollow Density and High Tree Hollow Density in Figures 13A, 13B and 13C as shown at <u>Appendix C</u>, during the period May to October (inclusive);</p> <p>h. retention in situ, of all <b>hollow-bearing trees</b> identified as <b>active</b> within <b>Corben's Long-eared Bat habitat</b>, for two nights after the surrounding vegetation has been <b>cleared</b>, prior to being felled;</p> <p>i. fire management measures; and</p> <p>j. pest, predator and weed management measures.</p> <p>The person taking the action must not <b>commence</b> the action until the <b>BMP</b> has been approved by the <b>Minister</b> in writing. The approved <b>BMP</b> must be implemented by the person taking the action.</p>		<p>The action commenced on 9 August 2023 and the Department notified in writing of this commencement date on 14 August 2023. (See Appendix D- attached copy of the notification)</p>
Variation dated 01/08/2023	2A	<p>To avoid and mitigate impacts as a result of the action on <b>Malleefowl</b>, prior to undertaking any <b>clearing</b> within areas mapped as moderate, high, and very high <b>Malleefowl Habitat</b> Potential, the person taking the action must ensure a <b>suitably qualified expert</b> conducts <b>pre-disturbance surveys</b> to detect and record all <b>Malleefowl</b> mounds. The person taking the action must not undertake any <b>clearing</b> unless:</p> <p>a. the <b>suitably qualified person</b> has completed a <b>Malleefowl</b> mound <b>pre-disturbance surveys</b> for that <b>breeding season</b>,</p> <p>b. all <b>Malleefowl</b> mounds, and avoidance areas around each mound, within the <b>project area</b> have been mapped for that <b>breeding season</b>, and</p> <p>c. the finalised <b>survey</b> results and associated maps</p>	Compliant	<p>No clearing of Malleefowl habitat was undertaken during the Malleefowl breeding season within the reporting period. Some minor clearing was undertaken in May 2025 for a fiber optic line.</p> <p>The Malleefowl Annual Monitoring Program conducted by GHD in October 2024 identified mounds along the mine access road and their status. All mounds were avoided. (Appendix C)</p>

Date of Decision	Condition Number	Condition	Is condition compliant?	Evidence/Comments
		<p>have been submitted electronically to the <b>Department</b>.</p> <p>The person taking the action must ensure that no <b>Malleefowl</b> mound is directly disturbed during any <b>breeding season</b>. The person taking the action must not <b>clear</b> within 200 metres of any <b>Malleefowl</b> mound during any <b>breeding season</b>.</p>		
Original dated 06/01/2017	3	In order to mitigate impacts to <b>Malleefowl</b> and <b>Corben's Long-eared Bat</b> , the person taking the action must undertake rehabilitation activities in accordance with <b>NSW approval</b> conditions 32, 33 and 34.	Not Applicable	<p>No rehabilitation has been undertaken to date as the project is in the construction and commissioning phase.</p> <p>Rehabilitation will be undertaken in accordance with the conditions imposed on the mining lease(s) associated with the development under the <i>Mining Act 1992</i>.</p>
Variation dated 16/06/2025	3A	To compensate for the loss of <b>Malleefowl habitat</b> and <b>Corben's Long-eared Bat habitat</b> , the person taking the action must retire biodiversity offset credits in accordance with Schedule 3 conditions 16 and 16A-16E of the <b>NSW approval</b> to the extent that it relates to <b>protected matters</b>	Compliant	On 25 July 2025, the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) issued a letter granting Iluka an extension of time to retired the Stage 1 biodiversity credits required under Schedule 3, Condition 16A of the NSW approval. The revised deadline for the credit retirement is now 31 October 2025. Refer to Appendix A.
Variation dated 16/06/2025	3B	<p>Changes to the <b>NSW approval</b>:</p> <p>i. The approval holder must notify the <b>Department</b> in writing of any proposed change to the <b>NSW approval</b> that may relate to <b>protected matters</b> within <b>2 business days</b> of formally proposing such a change and within <b>5 business days</b> of becoming aware of any proposed change.</p> <p>ii. The approval holder must notify the <b>Department</b> in writing of any change to the <b>NSW approval</b> conditions that may relate to <b>protected matters</b>, within <b>5 business days</b> of such a change to conditions coming into effect. Such notification must include a copy of the changed <b>NSW approval</b> conditions showing what changes have been made.</p>	Compliant	<p>To comply with Condition 3B (ii) of the EPBC Approval 2012/6509, Iluka notified the Department via a letter dated 23 July 2025, of change to NSW approval conditions that came into effect on 16 July 2025. Refer to Appendix B.</p> <p>The letter also stated that the submission of proposed changes to the NSW approval was made to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) on 11 April 2025 which occurred prior to EPBC 2012/6509 variation decision on 16 June 2025. Hence Condition 3B (i) is not applicable for this reporting period.</p>

Date of Decision	Condition Number	Condition	Is condition compliant?	Evidence/Comments
Variation dated 16/06/2025	4	Revoked.		
Variation dated 16/06/2025	5	Revoked.		
Variation dated 16/06/2025	6	Revoked.		

Date of Decision	Condition Number	Condition	Is condition compliant?	Evidence/Comments
Original dated 06/01/2017	7	The person taking the action must ensure that cultural awareness training be included in the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan to be developed under Schedule 3 Condition 20 of the NSW Approval. The cultural awareness training must include information on the World Heritage and National Heritage values of the Willandra Lakes Region and the culturally sensitive use of this place.	Compliant	A cultural heritage awareness package has been developed and is delivered to workers periodically.
Original dated 06/01/2017	8	Within 10 days after the <b>commencement</b> of the action, the person taking the action must advise the <b>Department</b> in writing of the actual date of <b>commencement</b> .	Compliant	The Department was notified in writing on the 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2023 for the commencement of the action as being the 9 <sup>th</sup> August 2023.
Variation date 16/06/2025	9	The person taking the action must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to the conditions of this approval, including measures taken to implement the approved <b>Biodiveristy Management Plan</b> , and make them available upon request to the <b>Department</b> . Such records may be subject to audit by the <b>Department</b> or an independent auditor in accordance with section 458 of the <b>EPBC Act</b> or used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval. Summaries of audits will be posted on the <b>Department's website</b> . The results of audits may also be publicised through the general media.	Compliant	Ongoing: Records, reports, pre-clearance and clearing activities in accordance with the approved Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) are maintained.  (Refer Appendix B- Annual Malleefowl monitoring report 2024)
Original dated 06/01/2017	10	Within three months of every 12-month anniversary of the <b>commencement</b> of the action, the person taking the action must publish a report on their <b>website</b> addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval, including implementation of any <b>management plans</b> and reports as specified in the conditions. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication and non-compliance with any of the conditions of this	Compliant	Ongoing: The reporting period for this Compliance Report is from the 9 August to 9 August each year. The Department endorsed Compliance Report 2024 was published on the Iluka website within 3 months of 12-month anniversary of the commencement of the action.

Date of Decision	Condition Number	Condition	Is condition compliant?	Evidence/Comments
		approval must be provided to the <b>Department</b> at the same time as the compliance report is published. Reports must remain published for the life of the approval. The person taking the action may cease preparing compliance reports required by this condition with written agreement of the <b>Minister</b> .		
Variation dated 01/08/2023	10A	The approval holder must submit all <b>plans</b> required by these conditions electronically to the <b>Department</b> .	Complaint	The BMP was approved by the Department on 1 August 2023. No further updates to the BMP has been made post approval, during the reporting period.
Variation dated 01/08/2023	11	<p>Unless otherwise agreed in writing by the <b>Minister</b>, the approval holder must publish each <b>plan</b> on the <b>website</b> within 15 <b>business days</b> of the date:</p> <p>a. the <b>plan</b> is approved by the <b>Department</b> in accordance with a requirement of these conditions, if the <b>plan</b> requires the approval of the <b>Minister</b>, or</p> <p>b. the <b>plan</b> is submitted to the <b>Department</b> in accordance with a requirement of these conditions, if the <b>plan</b> does not require the approval of the <b>Minister</b>, or</p> <p>c. the <b>plan</b> is approved by a state or territory government official as required under a state or territory government condition which must be complied with in accordance with these <b>EPBC Act</b> conditions.</p>	Compliant	The latest version of BMP approved by the Department on 1 August 2023 is published on the Iluka website. <a href="#">Balranald - Community Engagement   Iluka Resources</a>

Date of Decision	Condition Number	Condition	Is condition compliant?	Evidence/Comments
Variation dated 01/08/2023	11A	The approval holder must keep all published <b>plans</b> required by these conditions on the <b>website</b> until the expiry date of this approval.	Compliant	The latest version of BMP approved by the Department on 1 August 2023 is published on the Iluka website. <a href="#">Balranald - Community Engagement   Iluka Resources</a>
Variation dated 01/08/2023	11B	The approval holder is required to exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from <b>plans</b> published on the <b>website</b> or otherwise provided to a member of the public. If sensitive ecological data is excluded or redacted from a <b>plan</b> , the approval holder must notify the <b>Department</b> in writing what exclusions and redactions have been made in the version published on the <b>website</b> .	Compliant	No sensitive information has been disclosed and no content has been redacted.
Variation dated 01/08/2023	11C	The approval holder must maintain accurate and complete <b>compliance records</b> .	Compliant	Records of activities carried in accordance with the approval are kept on record including all surveys and reports for threatened species management. Records are kept of any identified non-compliances with the conditions of approval.
Variation dated 01/08/2023	11D	<p>If the <b>Department</b> makes a request in writing, the approval holder must provide electronic copies of <b>compliance records</b> to the <b>Department</b> within the timeframe specified in the request.</p> <p>Note: <b>Compliance records</b> may be subject to audit by the <b>Department</b>, or by an independent auditor in accordance with section 458 of the <b>EPBC Act</b>, and/or be used to verify compliance with the conditions. Summaries of the results of an audit may be published on the <b>Department's website</b> or through the general media.</p>	Compliant	No request has been made by the Department to provide such records.

Date of Decision	Condition Number	Condition	Is condition compliant?	Evidence/Comments
Variation dated 01/08/2023	11E	The approval holder must ensure that any <b>monitoring data</b> (including <b>sensitive ecological data</b> ), <b>surveys</b> , maps, and other spatial and metadata required under the conditions of this approval are prepared in accordance with the <i>Guidelines for biological survey and mapped data</i> , Commonwealth of Australia 2018, or as otherwise specified by the <b>Minister</b> in writing.	Compliant	Monitoring data, survey reports and spatial data have been prepared by a suitably qualified person and submitted to the Department in accordance with the guidelines.
Variation dated 01/08/2023	11F	The approval holder must ensure that any <b>monitoring data</b> (including <b>sensitive ecological data</b> ), <b>surveys</b> , maps, and other spatial and metadata required under the conditions of this approval are prepared in accordance with the <i>Guide to providing maps and boundary data for EPBC Act projects</i> , Commonwealth of Australia 2021, or as otherwise specified by the <b>Minister</b> in writing.	Compliant	Monitoring data, survey reports and spatial data have been prepared by a suitably qualified person and submitted to the Department in accordance with the guideline.
Variation dated 01/08/2023	11G	The approval holder must submit all <b>monitoring data</b> (including <b>sensitive ecological data</b> ), <b>surveys</b> , maps, other spatial and metadata and all species occurrence record data (sightings and evidence of presence) electronically to the <b>Department</b> within <b>20 business days</b> of each anniversary of the date of this approval decision or in accordance with the requirements of the <i>Balranald Mineral Sands Project NSW (EPBC 2012/6509)</i> , Commonwealth <b>Biodiversity Management Plan</b> , version 5.0 (June 2023), Iluka Resources Limited 2023.	Compliant	Monitoring data, survey reports and spatial data have been submitted to the Department in accordance with the BMP.
Variation dated 01/08/2023	11H	The approval holder must prepare a <b>compliance report</b> for each 12-month period following the date of this approval decision, or as otherwise agreed to in writing by the <b>Minister</b> . The person taking the action may cease preparing <b>compliance reports</b> required by this condition with written agreement of the <b>Minister</b> .	Complaint	Ongoing: The reporting period for this Compliance Report is from the 9 August to 9 August each year.  This Compliance Report has been prepared in accordance with the Condition 11H of the EPBC 2012/6509.

Date of Decision	Condition Number	Condition	Is condition compliant?	Evidence/Comments
Variation dated 01/08/2023	11I	Each <b>compliance report</b> must be consistent with the <i>Annual Compliance Report Guidelines</i> , Commonwealth of Australia 2014.	Complaint	This compliance report has been prepared in accordance with the guideline.
Variation dated 01/08/2023	11J	Each <b>compliance report</b> must include: a. Accurate and complete details of compliance and any non-compliance with the conditions and the <b>plans</b> , and any incidents. b. One or more <b>shapefile</b> showing all <b>clearing of protected matters</b> , and/or their habitat, undertaken within the 12-month period at the end of which that <b>compliance report</b> is prepared. c. A schedule of all <b>plans</b> in existence in relation to these conditions and accurate and complete details of how each <b>plan</b> is being implemented.	Compliant	a) Refer to Section 5 for information regarding non-compliances. b) Refer to Figures 1-2 for clearing plans showing areas of clearing undertaken in threatened species habitat (Malleefowl and Corben's Long-eared Bat) c) Biodiversity Management Plan is the only approved plan to date. A table of commitments and how each is being implemented is provided as Appendix E.
Variation dated 01/08/2023	11K	The approval holder must provide initial notification to the <b>Department</b> in writing, within 2 <b>business days</b> of becoming aware of any incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual non-compliance with the conditions or commitments made in a <b>plan</b> .	Compliant	No incidents or non-compliances occurred during the reporting period.
Variation dated 01/08/2023	11L	The approval holder must specify in the initial notification: a. Any condition or commitment made in a <b>plan</b> which has been or may have been breached. b. A short description of the incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual non-compliance. c. The location (including co-ordinates), date and time of the incident and/or potential non-compliance	Compliant	No incidents or non-compliances were occurred during the reporting period.

Date of Decision	Condition Number	Condition	Is condition compliant?	Evidence/Comments
		<p>and/or actual non-compliance.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If the exact information cannot be provided, the approval holder must provide the best information available.</p>		
Variation dated 01/08/2023	11M	<p>The approval holder must provide to the <b>Department</b> in writing, within 12 <b>business days</b> of becoming aware of any incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual non-compliance, the details of that incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual non-compliance with the conditions or commitments made in a <b>plan</b>. The approval holder must specify:</p> <p>a. Any corrective action or investigation which the approval holder has already taken.</p> <p>b. The potential impacts of the incident and/or non-compliance.</p> <p>c. The method and timing of any corrective action that will be undertaken by the approval holder.</p>	Compliant	No incidents or non-compliances were occurred during the reporting period.
Variation dated 01/08/2023	12	The approval holder must ensure that independent audits of compliance with the conditions are conducted as requested in writing by the <b>Minister</b> .	Not Applicable	There have been no requests made by the Minister to conduct independent audit during the reporting period.

Date of Decision	Condition Number	Condition	Is condition compliant?	Evidence/Comments
Variation dated 01/08/2023	12A	<p>For each independent audit, the approval holder must:</p> <p>a. Provide the name and qualifications of the nominated independent auditor, the draft audit criteria, and proposed timeframe for submitting the <b>audit report</b> to the <b>Department</b> prior to commencing the independent audit.</p> <p>b. Only <b>commence</b> the independent audit once the nominated independent auditor, audit criteria and timeframe for submitting the <b>audit report</b> have been approved in writing by the <b>Department</b>.</p> <p>c. Submit the <b>audit report</b> to the <b>Department</b> for approval within the timeframe specified and approved in writing by the <b>Department</b>.</p> <p>d. Publish each <b>audit report</b> on the <b>website</b> within 15 <b>business days</b> of the date of the <b>Department's</b> approval of the <b>audit report</b>.</p> <p>e. Keep every <b>audit report</b> published on the <b>website</b> until this approval expires.</p>	Not Applicable	There have been no requests made by the Minister to conduct independent audit during the reporting period.
Variation dated 01/08/2025	12B	Each <b>audit report</b> must be completed to the satisfaction of the <b>Minister</b> and be consistent with the <i><b>EPBC Act Independent Audit and Audit Report Guidelines</b></i> , Commonwealth of Australia 2019.	Not Applicable	There have been no requests made by the Minister to conduct independent audit during the reporting period.
Variation dated 01/08/2025	13	If, at any time after eight years from the date of this approval, the person taking the action has not <b>commenced</b> the action, then the person taking the action must not <b>commence</b> the action without the written agreement of the <b>Minister</b> .	Compliant	The action commenced on 9 August 2023 as notified in writing to the Department on 14 August 2023. (Appendix D)

Date of Decision	Condition Number	Condition	Is condition compliant?	Evidence/Comments
Original dated 06/01/2017	14	<p>The person taking the action may choose to revise a <b>management plan</b> approved by the <b>Minister</b> under condition 2 without submitting it for approval under section 143A of the <b>EPBC Act</b>, if the taking of the action in accordance with the revised <b>plan</b> would not be likely to have a <b>new or increased impact</b>. If the person taking the action makes this choice they must:</p> <p>a. notify the <b>Department</b> in writing that the approved <b>plan</b> has been revised and provide the <b>Department</b> with an electronic copy of the revised <b>plan</b>;</p> <p>b. implement the revised <b>plan</b> from the date that the <b>plan</b> is submitted to the <b>Department</b>; and</p> <p>c. for the life of this approval, maintain a record of the reasons the approval holder considers that taking the action in accordance with the revised <b>plan</b> would not be likely to have a <b>new or increased impact</b>.</p>	Not Applicable	Management plans approved under Condition 2 were not revised during the reporting period.
Original dated 06/01/2017	14A	<p>The person taking the action may revoke their Condition 14 at any time by notice to the <b>Department</b>. If the person taking the action revokes the choice to implement a revised plan without approval under section 143A of the <b>EPBC Act</b>. The <b>plan</b> approved by the <b>Minister</b> must be implemented.</p>	Not Applicable	Management plans approved under Condition 2 were not revised during the reporting period.
Original dated 06/01/2017	14B	<p>Condition 14 does not apply if the revisions to the approved <b>management plan</b> include changes to environmental offsets provided under the <b>plan</b> in relation to a matter protected by a controlling provision for the action, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the <b>Minister</b>. This does not otherwise limit the circumstances in which the taking of the action in accordance with a revised <b>plan</b> would, or would not, be likely to have <b>new or increased impacts</b>.</p>	Not Applicable	Management plans approved under Condition 2 were not revised during the reporting period.

Date of Decision	Condition Number	Condition	Is condition compliant?	Evidence/Comments
Original dated 06/01/2017	14C	<p>If the <b>Minister</b> gives a notice to the person taking the action that the <b>Minister</b> is satisfied that the taking of the action in accordance with the revised <b>plan</b> would be likely to have a <b>new or increased impact</b>, then:</p> <p>a. Condition 14 does not apply, or ceases to apply, in relation to the revised <b>plan</b>; and</p> <p>b. The person taking the action must implement the <b>plan</b> approved by the <b>Minister</b>.</p> <p>To avoid any doubt, this condition does not affect any operation of conditions 14, 14A and 14B in the period before the day the notice is given. At the time of giving the notice the <b>Minister</b> may also notify that for a specified period of time that condition 14 does not apply for one or more specified <b>management plans</b> required under the approval.</p>	Not Applicable	Management plans approved under Condition 2 were not revised during the reporting period.
Original dated 06/01/2017	14D	Conditions 14, 14A, 14B and 14C are not intended to limit the operation of section 143A of the <b>EPBC Act</b> which allows the person taking the action to submit a revised <b>plan</b> to the <b>Minister</b> for approval.	Not Applicable	Management plans approved under Condition 2 were not revised during the reporting period.
Variation dated 01/08/2023	15	The approval holder must notify the <b>Department</b> electronically 60 <b>business days</b> prior to the expiry date of this approval, that the approval is due to expire.	Not Applicable	Not triggered - The approval (EPBC ref 2012/6509) expires on January 1, 2046.

Date of Decision	Condition Number	Condition	Is condition compliant?	Evidence/Comments
Variation dated 01/08/2023	16	Within 20 <b>business days</b> after the completion of the Action, and, in any event, before this approval expires, the approval holder must notify the <b>Department</b> electronically of the date of completion of the Action and provide <b>completion data</b> . The approval holder must submit any spatial data that comprises <b>completion data</b> as a <b>shapefile</b> .	Not Applicable	Action not completed and approval expiry date is 1 January 2046.

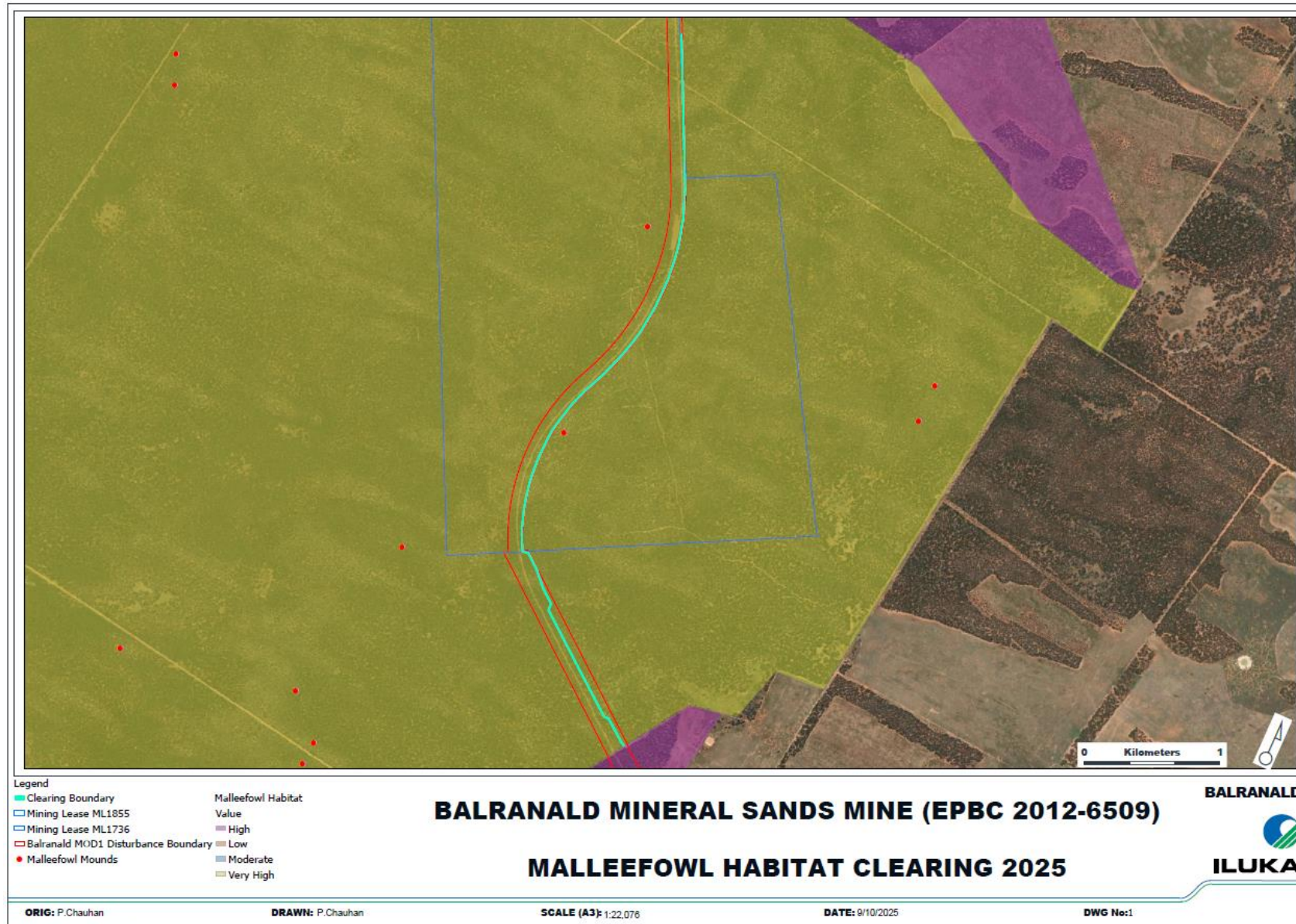


Figure 1 Malleefowl habitat clearing 2025

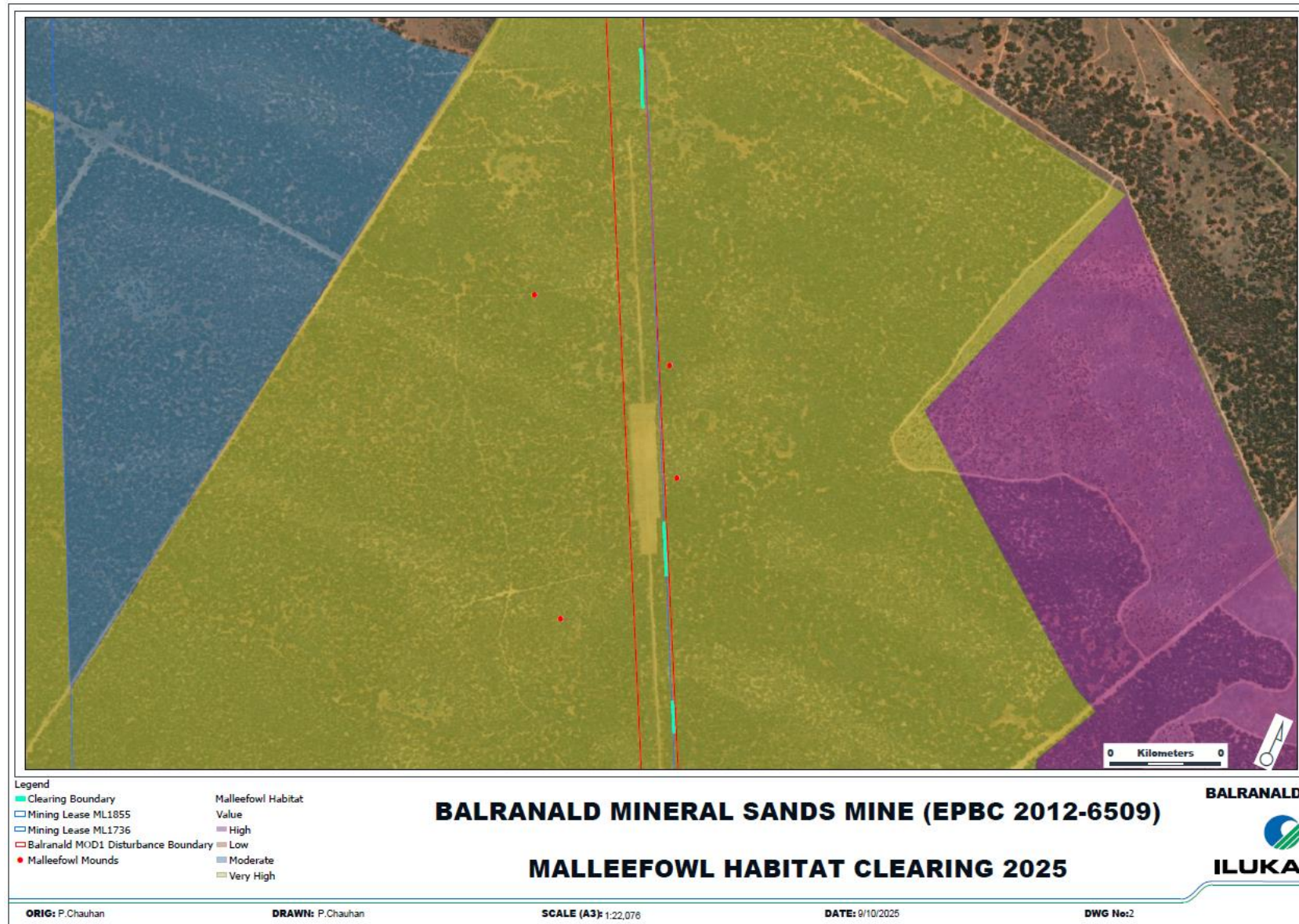


Figure 2 Malleefowl habitat clearing 2025

## **5. Correcting non-compliances**

No non-compliances were recorded during the reporting period.

## **6. New Environmental risks**

No new environmental risks became apparent during the reporting period.

## **Appendix A- Extension Grant for Stage 1 Offset Requirements**

Ben Kraft  
Principal Environmental Advisor – Approvals  
Iluka Resources Limited  
Level 17 240 St Georges Terrace  
Perth, WA, 6000

25/7/25

---

**Subject: Extension Request for Stage 1 Offset Requirements**

Dear Mr Kraft

I refer to your letter dated 17 July 2025 requesting an extension of time to retire the stage 1 biodiversity credits required under Schedule 3, Condition 16A of the development consent for the Balranald Mineral Sands Mine (SSD-5285).

The Department notes that construction commenced on 7 August 2023 within the stage 1 offset area and that Schedule 3, Condition 16A of the consent requires retirement of the stage 1 biodiversity credits within 24 months of the commencement of disturbance within the stage 1 offset area (i.e. 7 August 2025), unless otherwise agreed by the Secretary.

The Department has reviewed the information provided and is satisfied that it is reasonable to extend the timeframe for the biodiversity credits associated with the stage 1 offset area to be retired.

Accordingly, the Secretary has granted an extension of time until 31 October 2025 to retire the biodiversity credits associated with the stage 1 offset area.

If you wish to discuss the matter further, please contact Brittany Golding on 02 9995 5742.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "REH".

Rose-Anne Hawkeswood  
Team Leader  
Resource Assessments

As nominee of the Secretary

## **Appendix B- Notification of change to NSW Approval conditions**

23 July 2025

Mr Andy Huxham  
Director – Post Approvals (NSW, Act, Vic, Tas)  
Nature Positive Regulation Division Environmental Assessment (Vic, Tas) and Post Approvals Branch  
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water  
John Gorton Building, King Edward Terrace  
PARKEES ACT 2600

Dear Mr Huxham

**Balranald Mineral Sands Mine, Balranald, NSW (EPBC ref 2012/6509) – Notification of Change to NSW Approval Conditions**

In reference to condition 3B(ii) of EPBC Approval 2012/6509, which was included as part of the variation dated 16 June 2025, we wish to notify the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) of a change to the NSW approval conditions for Iluka's Balranald Project [Development Consent SSD-5285] that came into effect on 16 July 2025.

The change to the NSW approval conditions is for the development of up to a 21 MW solar farm, an estimated 10 MW/10 MWh BESS, associated ancillary components and additional groundwater bore, all within the approved EPBC 2012/6509 project area.

The change to the NSW approval conditions also includes a revision to the ecosystem credit staging requirements under the NSW approval, which relate to protected matters under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

The proposed change to the NSW approval was formally made by way of Modification of Consent application submitted to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) on 11 April 2025. This submission occurred prior to EPBC 2012/6509 variation decision on 16 June 2025.

A copy of the changed NSW approval conditions showing what changes have been made is attached (by email) and the Modification of Consent application is available on the NSW Major Project Portal: <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/mod-4-grid-energy-generation-and-revised-ecosystem-credits>

Should the Department have any queries, please contact Brendan Isaacs ([brendan.isaacs@iluka.com](mailto:brendan.isaacs@iluka.com) or 0455 470 233).

Yours faithfully



Brendan Isaacs

Environmental Rehabilitation & Community Relations Superintendent

## **Appendix C- Annual Malleefowl monitoring report 2024**



# **Annual Malleefowl Monitoring Program Balranald Mineral Sands Mine Project**


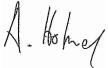
**2024 Monitoring Report**

Iluka Resources Limited

12 January 2025

**→ The Power of Commitment**



<b>Project name</b>		Iluka Resources Ltd - Annual Malleefowl Monitoring Program - Balranald Mine 2024					
<b>Document title</b>		Annual Malleefowl Monitoring Program Balranald Mineral Sands Mine Project   2024 Monitoring Report					
<b>Project number</b>		12648093					
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Status Code	Revision	Author	Reviewer		Approved for issue		
			Name	Signature	Name	Signature	Date
S3	0	R. Retallick.	D. Eyles		A Holmes		12/12/24
S4	1	R. Retallick.	D. Eyles		A Holmes		13/01/25

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# Executive summary

Iluka Resources Limited (Iluka) operates a mineral sands mine in south-western New South Wales, known as the Balranald Mineral Sands Mine Project (the Balranald Mine Project). The southern and northern ends of the site are located approximately 12 kilometres (km) and 66 km north-west of the town of Balranald, respectively.

The Balranald Mine Project was approved under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) and under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) (EPBC 2012/6509). A condition of approval is that Iluka must undertake annual monitoring for Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) in accordance with the approved Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) and the Malleefowl Monitoring and Management Sub Plan (MMMSPP). The Malleefowl is listed as endangered under the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act) and as vulnerable under the EPBC Act.

In accordance with the National Malleefowl Monitoring Manual (National Malleefowl Recovery Team 2020), the primary aim of the Malleefowl monitoring program is to track changes in the number of breeding birds inhabiting selected sites across the project area.

Annual monitoring of Malleefowl at the Balranald Mine Project commenced with baseline monitoring in December 2023 for the 2023-2024 breeding season (Year 1) (EMM 2024). GHD Pty Ltd (GHD) was engaged by Iluka to undertake monitoring for Malleefowl for the 2024-2025 (Year 2) season. This report presents the results of the Year 2 monitoring.

GHD's ecologists undertook the Malleefowl monitoring in October 2024. The monitoring comprised two parts:

- Monitoring of the three established 2 x 2 km sites/areas, and
- Monitoring of the area up to 200 m from the approved haul road disturbance boundary.

GHD also deployed motion-sensing cameras at selected locations, in an effort to record Malleefowl activity around mounds and potentially chick hatchings.

During the monitoring, 23 mounds or potential mounds were found and assessed. Six of the mounds were deemed 'active': three in Area 2 (mounds 1, 4 and 5), two in Area 3 (mounds 7 and 10) and one along the northern end of the Haul Road (mound 18). Seventeen (and possibly nineteen) of the 23 mounds had been detected and assessed in previous survey events.

Sightings of Malleefowl were recorded at six locations. Four birds were seen relatively close to active mounds and one bird was seen actively working on a mound.

All six of the mounds monitored by cameras shows signs of Malleefowl activity. All images of Malleefowl were of adult birds rather than chicks. At every mound, up to two birds were seen attending the mounds. No chick hatching was observed. All of the mounds monitored by cameras also shows signs of feral predator activity – cats, foxes, pigs.

The Malleefowl mound counts and the Malleefowl bird sightings made by GHD in October 2024 are similar to counts made in previous survey and monitoring events.

It was beyond the scope of this monitoring to evaluate the survey design and adequacy of sample sizes, as obtained by using only three areas and the haul road. However, with only one active mound found along the haul road and five elsewhere, finding the haul road mound to be inactive in future may present a considerable challenge – determining that its inactivity is not due to the project disturbance is likely to be difficult to show convincingly.

The use of motion-sensing cameras at active mounds showed clearly that feral animals continue to be a threat to Malleefowl breeding success. The results indicate that the feral predator control efforts to date need to be continued and possibly increased to reduce the threat to acceptably low levels.

Future management and monitoring of the site for Malleefowl should include:

- Continue or increase control efforts for the most prevalent feral predators – foxes and pigs.

- Consider targeted cat-control methods to reduce or eradicate the local population of cats
- Implement control methods for goats, to reduce the vegetation damage they cause to Malleefowl habitat
- Enforce slow traffic speed limits on any roads that pass close to known mounds or through Malleefowl high-use areas
- Continue to monitor known mounds and birds.

This report is subject to, and must be read in conjunction with, the limitations set out in sections 1 and 2 and the assumptions and qualifications contained throughout the Report.

# Contents

<b>1. Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
1.2 Scope and purpose of this report	1
1.3 Research questions	2
1.4 Limitations and assumptions	2
1.4.1 Accessibility of documents	2
1.5 Study site	3
1.6 Previous assessments	3
<b>2. Methods</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1 Malleefowl Habitat and Mound Monitoring	4
2.2 Cameras	4
2.3 Permits	5
<b>3. Results</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1 Malleefowl mounds	5
3.2 Malleefowl sightings	8
3.3 Cameras	9
3.4 Sightings of other threatened fauna	11
3.5 Weather	11
<b>4. Discussion</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>5. Recommendations</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>6. References</b>	<b>13</b>

## Table index

Table 1	Malleefowl mounds assessed by GHD in October 2024.	7
Table 2	Malleefowl sightings in October 2024	8
Table 3	Malleefowl sightings in previous surveys	8
Table 4	Results of cameras deployed at mounds	9
Table 5	Images of malleefowl from motion-sensing cameras	10
Table 6	Other threatened fauna observed during monitoring	11
Table 7	Temperature and rainfall during the monitoring (recorded at Mildura)	11

## Figure index

Figure 1	Malleefowl monitoring results, October 2024.	6
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## Appendices

Appendix A	Field Data
Appendix B	Mound Assessments - history
Appendix C	Images of mounds
Appendix D	Images of other native and non-native species
Appendix E	Historical map of mounds (Figure 2.1 from EMM 2024)
Appendix F	Map of mounds from baseline monitoring (Figure 4.1 from EMM 2024)

# 1. Introduction

Iluka Resources Limited (Iluka) operates a mineral sands mine in south-western New South Wales (NSW), known as the Balranald Mineral Sands Mine Project (the Balranald Mine Project). It includes construction, open-cut mining, primary processing, and rehabilitation of two linear mineral sand deposits, located approximately 12 kilometres (km) and 66 km north-west of the town of Balranald, respectively.

The Balranald Mine Project was approved under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) on 5 April 2016 and under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) (EPBC 2012/6509) on 6 January 2017. A condition of the approval requirements is that Iluka must undertake annual monitoring for Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) in accordance with the approved Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) and the Malleefowl Monitoring and Management Sub Plan (MMMSP). Iluka's MMMSP has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines provided in the National Manual for the Malleefowl Monitoring System (National Malleefowl Recovery Team, 2020) and the National Recovery Plan for Malleefowl (Benshemesh J., 2007). The Malleefowl is listed as endangered under the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act) and as vulnerable under the EPBC Act. The MMMSP outlines the life history, distribution and threats to Malleefowl and details measures for the management and monitoring of Malleefowl individuals and mounds within the project area.

Annual monitoring of Malleefowl at the Balranald Mine Project commenced with baseline monitoring in December 2023 for the 2023-2024 breeding season (Year 1) (EMM 2024). GHD Pty Ltd (GHD) was engaged by Iluka to undertake monitoring for Malleefowl for the 2024-2025 (Year 2) season. This report presents the results of the Year 2 monitoring.

## 1.2 Scope and purpose of this report

This report provides the results of Malleefowl monitoring for 2024 at the Balranald Mineral Sands Mine Project in accordance with the approved Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) and the Malleefowl Monitoring and Management Sub Plan (MMMSP).

In accordance with the National Malleefowl Monitoring Manual (National Malleefowl Recovery Team 2020), the primary aim of the Malleefowl monitoring program is to track changes in the number of breeding birds inhabiting selected sites across the project area.

The agreed scope for this monitoring is for GHD to undertake the following:

- Monitor existing mounds within three 2 x 2 km sites and record details as per the MMMSP.
- Conduct ground searches for new mounds.
- Conduct thermal imaging surveys using drone (drone supplied and operated by Iluka) – note that this was not completed in 2024, but should be used in future surveys and monitoring.
- Visit any suspected new mounds identified by thermal imaging and record details.
- Monitor existing mounds within 200 m of the MOD1 approval boundary.
- Conduct searches on foot for new mounds adjacent to the mine access road within 200 m of MOD1 approval boundary (10 km x 0.5 km section) within Malleefowl habitat and record details.
- Install remote cameras on any active mounds to record activity and chick hatchings. Retrieve cameras (to be done by Iluka) when breeding has ceased and assess data, recording number of hatchings.
- Use GPS to record and name/number all previously identified mounds and any new mounds identified (both in plots and in 200 m buffer of road).
- Collate all monitoring data and produce an annual report as per requirements of the MMMSP within 10 weeks of monitoring.
- Submit all raw data sheets to the National Malleefowl Monitoring Program.

GHD is to supply:

- Sufficient remote cameras for all active mounds located.

Iluka is to supply:

- Location details for currently known active or inactive mounds.
- Drone fitted with thermal camera;
- Drone pilot;
- Change out batteries in remote cameras as required until end of breeding season; and
- Postage / delivery of cameras back to consultants nominated office

As instructed by Iluka on site, the drone use and thermal imaging of mounds did not proceed for this round of monitoring in 2024.

## 1.3 Research questions

In addition to the primary monitoring aims, monitoring also aims to answer the following questions:

- Is vegetation clearing, increased noise and lighting resulting in a negative impact on Malleefowl breeding activity adjacent to the West Balranald Mine (MOD1)?
- Is fox and feral predator control under the BMP having a positive impact on Malleefowl breeding activity?
- Are bushfires having a negative impact on Malleefowl breeding activity?
- Are Malleefowl constructing new nests in rehabilitation areas?

It is understood that not all of these questions will be answerable after every monitoring event.

## 1.4 Limitations and assumptions

This report has been prepared by GHD Pty Ltd for Iluka Resources Limited and may only be used and relied on by Iluka Resources Limited for the purpose agreed between GHD and Iluka Resources Limited as set out in section 1.2 of this report.

GHD otherwise disclaims responsibility to any person other than Iluka Resources Limited arising in connection with this report. GHD also excludes implied warranties and conditions, to the extent legally permissible.

*The services undertaken by GHD in connection with preparing this report are limited by the following:*

*The field assessment:*

*Involved the use of Collector for ArcGIS mapping application to record site information. This mapping tool was accurate to within 10 m on site.*

*Did not involve any targeted surveys for species other than Malleefowl.*

*Was limited in Area 1 and the haul road by access constraints as directed by Iluka Resources Limited.*

*The opinions, conclusions and any recommendations in this report are based on conditions encountered, observations made, and information reviewed up to the date of preparation of the report. As GHD was only present on specific dates and certain time periods, this report is only indicative (and not definitive) of conditions present on the site(s). Conditions governing flora and fauna (whether in type or quantity) can change and fluctuate at different times throughout the year (due to factors including seasonal changes, external events or third-party intervention), and it is generally not possible to observe such changes or fluctuations where only a discrete site visit has taken place. GHD has no responsibility or obligation to update this report to account for events or changes occurring subsequent to the date that the report was prepared.*

*GHD has prepared this report on the basis of information provided by Iluka Resources Limited. GHD has not independently verified or checked this information beyond the agreed scope of work. GHD does not accept liability in connection with such unverified information, including errors and omissions in the report which were caused by errors or omissions in that information.*

### 1.4.1 Accessibility of documents

*If this report is required to be accessible in any other format, this can be provided by GHD upon request and at an additional cost if necessary.*

## 1.5 Study site

The Balranald Mine Project site is north of Balranald in south-west NSW. Access to the Balranald Mine Project site is approximately 12 km north of the Balranald township (Figure 1). From there, the project site itself extends approximately 60 km to the north-northwest.

For long-term monitoring of Malleefowl, three permanent monitoring sites (each 2 x 2 km) were established towards the southern end of the project site in December 2023 (EMM 2024) (Figure 1). Access to and within these locations is limited to foot only, with some limited vehicle access to the perimeter of the sites.

Within the Balranald Mine Project site is the MOD1 approval area, which is defined as the 'modified' area that contains all activities associated with the mining operation, construction, operations, haul road, rehabilitation and associated infrastructure and activities (Figure 1). Within and up to 200 m from the approved MOD1 disturbance boundary, monitoring is required of existing known Malleefowl mounds, and surveys for new mounds within suitable Malleefowl habitat are also required to identify any new mounds that may need to be protected during the breeding season (Sep-Feb).

The sites selected as part of this monitoring program are intended to form part of the National Malleefowl Monitoring System. Monitoring Malleefowl in relation to the Balranald Mine Project provides an opportunity to satisfy aim 2 of the National Malleefowl Monitoring System, namely 'interpret breeding density trends in the light of management practices and environmental variables'.

## 1.6 Previous assessments

ArcGIS data shows information from six previous Malleefowl mound assessments relating to the project:

- OEH 2013
- Ecotone 2013
- Niche 2015
- EMM 2022
- BWM 2023 (pre-clearance work)
- EMM 2024 (Baseline monitoring)

## 2. Methods

Four ecologists undertook the Malleefowl monitoring between 8 – 9 October 2024, reduced to two ecologists between 10 – 11 October 2024. Daily teams were formed as required from our Mildura-based ecology team: Alex Holmes, Dan Eyles, Will Wilson and Emma Pacholli.

### 2.1 Malleefowl Habitat and Mound Monitoring

The annual Malleefowl monitoring comprises two parts:

- Monitoring of the three established 2 x 2 km sites, and
- Monitoring of the area up to 200 m from the approved MOD1 disturbance boundary.

According to the MMMSP, annual monitoring of three 2 x 2 km sites is required between September and February (Malleefowl breeding season). For this assessment, monitoring of those sites was undertaken in early October. Monitoring immediately following rainfall was avoided, as rainfall could cause prints to be less obvious or completely washed away.

At each of the three sites, habitat condition was assessed by percentage cover of each vegetation stratum (ground-cover grass, ground-cover herbs, ground-cover other, small shrubs, medium shrubs, large shrubs and leaf litter) and a site photo was taken. Previously known mounds were visited and the location of new mounds (if any) were recorded.

For the monitoring of the area up to 200 m from the approved MOD1 disturbance boundary, existing (i.e., previously known and documented) mounds were visited and details recorded, and survey was undertaken for new mounds, to identify all mounds that may need to be protected during the breeding season (Sep-Feb).

For all monitoring, ground surveys were conducted in accordance with the National Malleefowl Monitoring Manual. At each mound, condition and activity was assessed using the 1 to 6 profile rating system of the National Malleefowl Monitoring Manual to define mound size, use and age. Data were collected in the field using datasheets from the MMMSP, and the following information was recorded at each mound identified:

- Observer and date.
- Site and mound number.
- GPS location of mound.
- Mound dimensions and profiles.
- Malleefowl activity (i.e. the occurrence of litter trails or any other signs that may indicate the mound is being prepared for breeding).
- Prints or tracks on the mound (i.e., Malleefowl, Fox, Kangaroo, other).
- Signs of predation (e.g., evidence of eggshell or feathers) (searched for at active mounds in a 20 m radius around the mound).
- Mound status including active mounds, leaf litter present, inactive mounds or long-unused mounds.

Mound status was assessed as per definitions provided in the MMMSP, p16 (active mound, leaf litter present, inactive mound, long-unused mound).

Data will be provided to Iluka in MS Excel spreadsheets (for contribution to a long-term monitoring dataset and for Iluka to hold on file). Raw data sets will be sent to the National Malleefowl monitoring program.

### 2.2 Cameras

With site-knowledge input from Iluka's environment team, GHD deployed motion-sensing cameras at selected locations, in an effort to record Malleefowl activity around mounds and chick hatchings. GHD deployed seven motion-sensing cameras at six active mounds. Cameras were retrieved by Iluka in early November, when breeding was expected to have ceased. Results from the cameras aimed to determine or confirm nest activity and predator activity around the mounds.

## 2.3 Permits

This monitoring was undertaken in accordance with conditions identified under Scientific License (license number SL100146) under section 132c of the NSW NPW Act 1974, and in accordance with the Standard Operating Procedures in place under GHD's animal ethics committee.

# 3. Results

## 3.1 Malleefowl mounds

During the monitoring, 23 mounds or potential mounds were found and assessed. The locations of the mounds are shown in Figure 1 and are summarised as follows:

- Area 1: 2 mounds, with another one being potentially an active mound
- Area 2: 8 mounds
- Area 3: 5 mounds
- Haul Road (in 200 m buffer area): 7 mounds

Six of the mounds were deemed 'active': three in Area 2 (mounds 1, 4 and 5), two in Area 3 (mounds 7 and 10) and one along the northern end of the Haul Road (mound 18).

Seventeen of the 23 mounds had been detected and assessed in previous survey events. Two others (mounds 13 and 17) may also have been detected and assessed in previous survey events. Determining corresponding previous identification numbers to some mounds was found to be difficult due to mound identification not being shown on the baseline monitoring maps (EMM 2024). The history of mound assessment is shown in Appendix B. Photographs of mounds in October 2024 are shown in Appendix C.

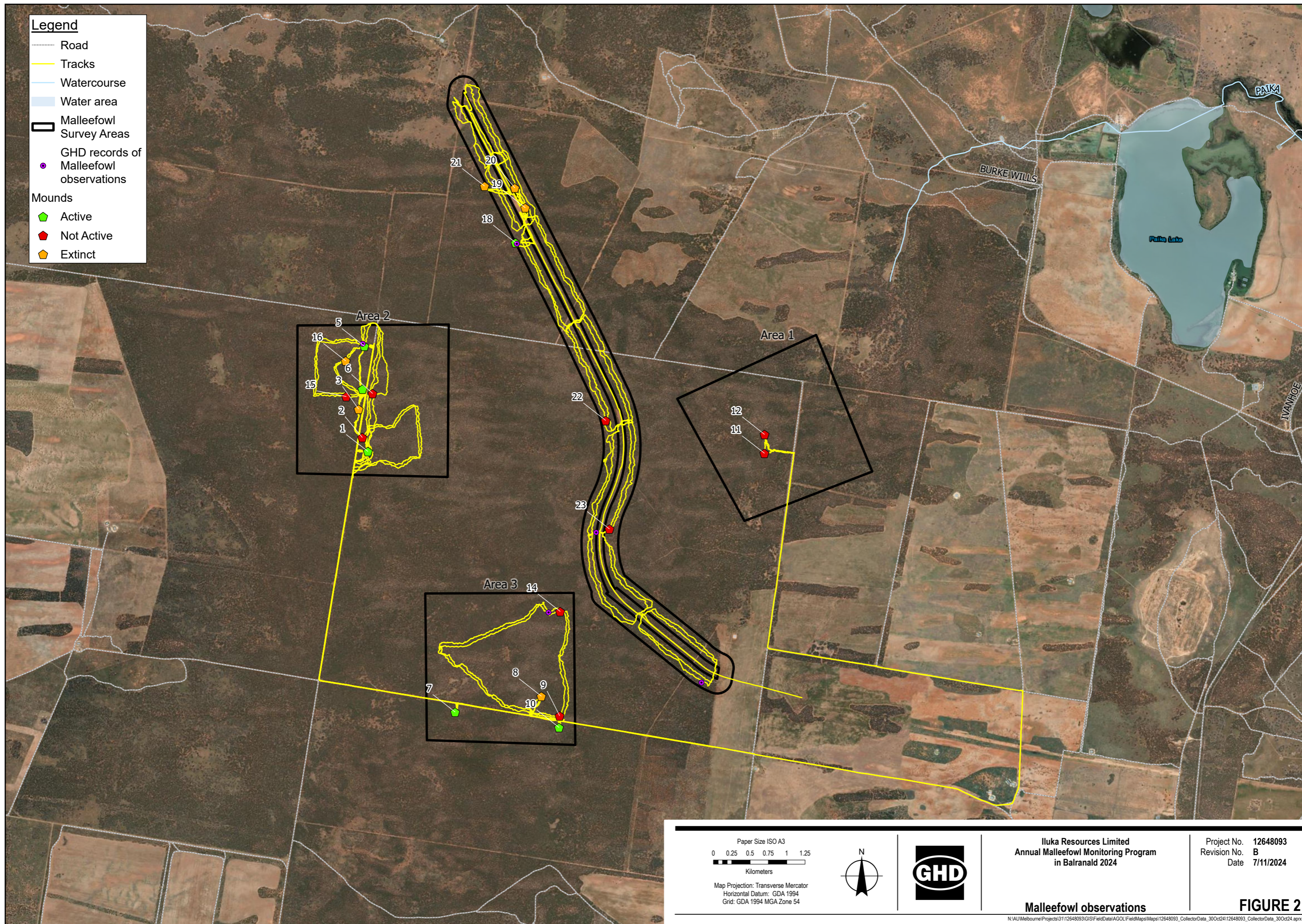
All mounds assessed as 'active' during the October 2024 monitoring had been detected and assessed in previous surveys. However, only three of those active mounds (mounds 4, 5 and 7) were assessed as part of the baseline monitoring (EMM 2024), because the baseline monitoring did not include the 200 m buffer area along the Haul Road.

Of the five mounds that have ever been assessed as 'active' in years past, one was found to be active in the October 2024 survey (mound 5 in Area 2). Of the 10 additional mounds that were ever assessed as 'potentially active' in years past, four were found to be active in the October 2024 survey (mounds 1, 4, 7, 10; two in Area 2 and two in Area 3).

Of the two mounds that have only ever been assessed as 'inactive' in years past, one (mound 18) was found to be active in the October 2024 survey, while the other (mound 20) was found to be 'long-unused'.

ArcGIS data show another 15 mounds in the general area that were not considered for this monitoring. Four of those mounds no longer exist (destroyed as part of the Iluka operations) and nine lie outside the designated survey area for annual monitoring.

Two mounds known from previous surveys that lie within the monitoring survey area (BWM8 along the Haul Road, and Ecotone FID38 in Area 1) were not assessed during the October 2024 monitoring. BWM8 was assessed as 'inactive' in pre-clearance surveys in 2023 and subsequently destroyed during the haul road construction, while Ecotone FID38 was assessed as 'inactive' by EMM (2024) and deemed to no longer be a mound in 2024 by GHD, as it has likely degraded to the point of no longer being perceptible.



**Table 1** Malleefowl mounds assessed by GHD in October 2024.

Mound number	Site	Active, as assessed (Y/N)	Active (camera)	Notes	Recorded historically?	When observed previously?
1	Area 2	y	Y		y	Niche 2015
2	Area 2	n			y	Niche 2015, EMM 2024
3	Area 2	n			y	Ecotone 2013, Niche 2015, EMM 2024
4	Area 2	y	Y		y	Ecotone 2013, Niche 2015, EMM 2024
5	Area 2	y	Y	Malleefowl present on mound	y	Ecotone 2013, Niche 2015, EMM 2024
6	Area 2	n			n	
7	Area 3	y	Y		y	EMM 2024
8	Area 3	n			y	Niche 2015
9	Area 3	n			y	EMM 2024
10	Area 3	y	Y		y	Niche 2015
11	Area 1	n			y	EMM 2024
12	Area 1	n			y	Ecotone 2013, EMM 2024
13	Area 1	n		Raised ground. Does not appear to be mound	n?	Likely previously Ecotone 2013 (FID38)
14	Area 3	n			y	Niche 2015
15	Area 2	n			n	
16	Area 2	n			n	
17	Haul Road	n		Not found - potentially destroyed	n?	Likely BWM 2023 (BWM8)
18	Haul Road	y	Y	Two Malleefowl present	y	BWM 2023
19	Haul Road	n			y	Niche 2015, EMM 2022, BWM 2023
20	Haul Road	n			y	BWM 2023
21	Haul Road	n			y	Niche 2015
22	Haul Road	n			y	Ecotone 2013, Niche 2015, EMM 2022, BWM 2023
23	Haul Road	n			n	

## 3.2 Malleefowl sightings

During the monitoring in October 2024, sightings of seven Malleefowl were recorded at six locations (two birds at one location) (Table 2). Four birds were seen relatively close to active mounds. One bird in Area 2 was seen actively working on mound 5.

ArcGIS information showed fifteen observations of Malleefowl birds, prints or feathers from previous surveys (Table 3).

**Table 2** *Malleefowl sightings in October 2024*

Observation	Location	Date	Count	Notes
bird	Area 2	8/10/2024	1	bird seen, working mound 5 (active)
bird	Area 3	9/10/2024	1	near mound 14 (inactive)
bird	Haul Road	10/10/2024	2	near mound 18 (active)
bird	Haul Road	10/10/2024	1	
bird	Haul Road	11/10/2024	1	near mound 23 (inactive)
bird	Haul Road	11/10/2024	1	

**Table 3** *Malleefowl sightings in previous surveys*

Observation	Survey	Location	Count	Notes
footprint	Ecotone 2013	Area 2	1	on road, not far from Mound 5
footprint	Ecotone 2013	Area 1	1	
footprint	Ecotone 2013	Area 1	1	near mound 12
footprint	Ecotone 2013	Outside monitoring area (southwest of Area 1)	1	
bird	Ecotone 2013	Outside monitoring area (southwest of Area 1)	1	
bird	Ecotone 2013	Outside monitoring area (southwest of Area 1)	1	near mound Niche FID9
bird	Niche 2015	Outside monitoring area (southwest of Area 1)	1	
footprint	Niche 2015	Outside monitoring area (southwest of Area 1)	1	
footprint	Niche 2015	Area 3	1	on road
footprint	Niche 2015	Outside monitoring area (south of Area 2)	1	
footprint	Niche 2015	Outside monitoring area (south of Area 2)	1	
bird	EMM 2023	Haul Road	1	near Mound 22
footprint	EMM 2023	Haul Road	1	near Mound 19
feather	EMM 2023	Haul Road	1	near Mound 22
footprint	EMM 2023	Haul Road	1	

### 3.3 Cameras

The seven cameras resulted in more than 13,000 images and 600 videos (Table 4). All six of the mounds monitored by cameras shows signs of Malleefowl activity. All images of Malleefowl were of adult birds rather than chicks. At every mound, up to two birds were seen attending the mounds and moving sand and leaf litter around; representative images are shown in Table 5.







No chick hatching was observed.

All six of the mounds monitored by cameras shows signs of feral predator activity – cats, foxes, pigs. Mound 4 (Area 2) showed particularly high activity of foxes.

**Table 4** Results of cameras deployed at mounds

Camera #	Mound ID	Location /area	# images	Malleefowl detected?	Red Fox detected?	Cat detected?	Pig detected?	Goat detected?	Other native species
1	1	2	2641	Y	Y		Y	Y	Kangaroo
2	4	2	1042	Y	Y (high activity)				
3	5	2	3002	Y	Y			Y	
4	7	3	2655	Y	Y	Y			Emu
5	10	3	264	Y	Y		Y		Kangaroo
6 and 7	18	Haul Road	1851 plus 617 videos (6) 1719 (7)	Y	Y			Y	

Table 5 Images of malleefowl from motion-sensing cameras

<p><b>Mound 1</b></p>  <p>2024-10-11 09:57:26 M 2/3 15°C HYPERFIRE 2 COVERT</p>	<p><b>Mound 4</b></p>  <p>041F 05C 13/10/2024 07:33:26</p>
<p><b>Mound 5</b></p>  <p>2024-10-31 09:11:54 M 1/3 19°C HF2 PRO COVERT</p>	<p><b>Mound 7</b></p>  <p>2024-10-27 08:45:57 M 2/3 19°C 35404</p>
<p><b>Mound 10</b></p>  <p>044F 06C 19/10/2024 08:01:25</p>	<p><b>Mound 18</b></p>  <p>2024-11-05 06:42:53 M 2/3 4°C A</p>

### 3.4 Sightings of other threatened fauna

Two other threatened species were observed during the Malleefowl monitoring (Table 6).

Table 6 Other threatened fauna observed during monitoring

Observation	location	Date	count
Chestnut Quail-thrush	Area 2	8/10/2024	1
Mallee Worm-lizard	Area 2	9/10/2024	1

### 3.5 Weather

The weather during the monitoring was appropriate for mound assessment, with clear skies, no rainfall and mild to warm temperatures. The two-week period prior to the monitoring saw 11 mm of rainfall at Balranald, none of which fell in the week prior to monitoring (last rain: 2.8 mm on September 30<sup>th</sup>).

Table 7 Temperature and rainfall during the monitoring (recorded at Mildura)

Date	Min temp (C)	Max temp (C)	Rain (mm)
8	6.9	20	0
9	3.2	24	0
10	8.8	28.9	0
11	8.2	24.8	0

## 4. Discussion

This assessment report documents the number of breeding birds observed to be inhabiting selected sites across the project area, which is the primary aim of the monitoring program, in accordance with the National Malleefowl Monitoring Manual (National Malleefowl Recovery Team, 2020). The sites selected for this monitoring program form part of the National Malleefowl Monitoring System.

The Malleefowl mound counts and the Malleefowl bird sightings made by GHD in October 2024 are similar to counts made in previous survey and monitoring events. The number of active mounds reported (6) is more than the three reported by EMM (2024), but the EMM (2024) monitoring did not include the haul road area.

It was beyond the scope of this monitoring to evaluate the survey design and adequacy of sample sizes, as obtained by using only three areas and the haul road. However, with only one active mound found along the haul road and five elsewhere, finding the haul road mound to be inactive in future may present a considerable challenge – determining that its inactivity is not due to the project disturbance is likely to be difficult to show convincingly.

The use of motion-sensing cameras at active mounds showed clearly that feral animals continue to be a threat to Malleefowl breeding success. Images of feral predators (foxes, pigs and cats) were common at all mounds, and are of greatest concern. This result indicates that the feral predator control efforts to date (fox baiting in February and May 2024 and pig baiting in March and May 2024, with 45 pig carcasses found thereafter; B. Isaacs, Iluka, pers. comm.) need to be continued and possibly increased to reduce the threat to acceptably low levels.

#### Monitoring questions:

As a result of the monitoring thus far, the research questions below can be responded to as follows:

- *Is vegetation clearing, increased noise and lighting resulting in a negative impact on Malleefowl breeding activity adjacent to the West Balranald Mine – Stage 1?*  
Vegetation clearing resulted in the documented destruction of some Malleefowl mounds, which is certainly a

short-term negative impact during construction. However, no birds were known to be injured or killed, so all breeding pairs near the mine site retain the opportunity to re-build existing inactive mounds, or create new mounds. Of the known mounds that were not destroyed during construction, there is no clear evidence of negative impact during mine operation, in terms of numbers of Malleefowl and mounds detected in the general area during this monitoring. However, with only one active mound known/found along the haul road buffer area and five elsewhere (i.e., Areas 1, 2 and 3), finding the haul road mound to be inactive in future may present a considerable challenge – determining that its inactivity is not due to the project disturbance is likely to be difficult to show convincingly.

- *Is fox and feral predator control under the BMP having a positive impact on Malleefowl breeding activity?*  
Despite control efforts to this point, feral predators continue to be prevalent at every mound that was monitored, and therefore continue to pose a threat to Malleefowl and their eggs and chicks. Increased control efforts, resulting in reduced numbers of feral predators, particularly foxes and pigs, are required before it can be concluded that control efforts are having a positive impact on Malleefowl breeding activity.
- *Are bushfires having a negative impact on Malleefowl breeding activity?*  
Not applicable – no bushfires have been recorded in the area since mine construction.
- *Are Malleefowl constructing new nests in rehabilitation areas?*  
Not applicable – no areas have yet reached the rehabilitation stage.

## 5. Recommendations

Future management and monitoring of the site for Malleefowl should include:

- *Continue or increase control efforts for the most prevalent feral predators – foxes and pigs.*
- *Consider targeted cat-control methods to reduce or eradicate the local population of cats, possibly shooting, or use of the Felixer trap.*
- *Implement control methods for goats, to reduce the vegetation damage they cause to Malleefowl habitat*
- *Enforce slow traffic speed limits on any roads that pass close to known mounds or through Malleefowl high-use areas.*
- *Continue to monitor known mounds and birds.*

## 6. References

Benshemesh, J.S. and Emison W.B. (1996). Surveying breeding densities of Malleefowl using an airborne thermal scanner. *Wildlife Research*, 23:121-141.

EMM (2024) Balranald Mineral Sands Project - West Balranald Mine (MOD1); Baseline Malleefowl Monitoring Report. Prepared for Iluka Resources. March 2024

National Malleefowl Recovery Team. (2020). National Malleefowl Monitoring Manual - Standards, Protocols and Monitoring Procedures.

National Malleefowl Recovery Team. (2020). National Malleefowl Monitoring Manual: Edition: v2020\_01 (Revised June 2020).

# Appendices

# Appendix A

## Field Data

Date	Site	observers	Nest number	Sought (V/x)	Found (V/x)	Staked (V/x)	Tagged (V/x)	Active (V/N)	Profile	X sticks	Scraped (V/N)	Eggshell (n/s/l)	Fire since last monitored? (Y/N)	Prints - Malleefowl	Prints - Kangaroo	Prints - Fox	Prints - other	Prints - Malleefowl	Scats - Kangaroo	Scats - Fox	Scats - other	outer nest - crust (n/s/l)	outer nest - moss (n/s/l)	outer nest - herb (n/s/l)	outer nest - shrub (n/s/l)	outer nest - tree (n/s/l)	inner nest - crust (n/s/l)	inner nest - moss (n/s/l)	inner nest - herb (n/s/l)	inner nest - shrub (n/s/l)	inner nest - tree (n/s/l)	Dimensions - Perimeter diameter (cm)	Dimensions - Rim diameter (cm)	Dimensions - Height North (cm)	Dimensions - Height South (cm)	Photo taken (Y/N)	x sticks replaced (Y/N)	Notes	crater depth
8/10/2024	Area 2	WW, DE, AH, EP	1	y	y	y	n	y	4	na	na	s	n	y					y			n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	430	120	68	66	y	y		0
8/10/2024	Area 2	WW, DE, AH, EP	2	y	y	n	n	n	1			n	n		y		y (raven)		y			n	n	n	y	n	n	n	s	n	550	230	41	39	y	y		30	
8/10/2024	Area 2	WW, DE, AH, EP	3	y	y	n	n	n	6			n	n		y		y (emu)		y			n	s	n	s	n	n	n	s	n	330	210	3	2	y	y		20	
8/10/2024	Area 2	WW, DE, AH, EP	4	y	y	y	y	y	5	absent		s	n	y				y	y			n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	350	150	98	75	y	y		15	
8/10/2024	Area 2	WW, DE, AH, EP	5	y	y	n	y	y	3			l	n	y				y	y	y		n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	600	210	85	82	y	n	malleefowl on mound	35	
8/10/2024	Area 2	WW, DE, AH, EP	6	n	y	n	n	n	1			s	n						y			n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	420	150	72	65	y	y		41	
8/10/2024	Area 3	WW, DE, AH, EP	7	y	y	y	y	y	5			s	n	y					y	y		n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	810	170	36	41	y	y		0	
8/10/2024	Area 3	WW, DE, AH, EP	8	y	y	n	n	n	6			n	n									n	n	n	n	n	n	n	y	n	390	180	25	28	y	n		2	
8/10/2024	Area 3	WW, DE, AH, EP	9	y	y	n	n	n	1			n	n						y	y (goat)		n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	250	150	10	5	y	y		40	
8/10/2024	Area 3	WW, DE, AH, EP	10	y	y			y	3		y	n	n	y					y	y (echidna)		n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	470	150	30	30	y	y		0	
9/10/2024	Area 1	WW, EP	11	y	y	x	x	n	1			s	n		y				y			n	n	n	n	n				150	150	30	35	y	y		0		
9/10/2024	Area 1	WW, EP	12	y	y	x	x	n	1			s	n				y (bird)		y	y		n	n	n	n	n				410	200	34	36	y	y		2		
9/10/2024	Area 1	WW, EP	13	y											y																			y		raised ground. Does not appear to be MFMount			

Date	Site	observers	Nest number	Sought (V/x)	Found (V/x)	Staked (V/x)	Tagged (V/x)	Active (Y/N)	Profile	X sticks	Scrapped (Y/N)	Eggshell (n/s/l)	Fire since last monitored? (Y/N)	Prints - Malleefowl	Prints - Kangaroo	Prints - Fox	Scats - Malleefowl	Scats - other	Scats - Kangaroo	Scats - Fox	Scats - other	outer nest - crust (n/s/l)	outer nest - moss (n/s/l)	outer nest - herb (n/s/l)	outer nest - shrub (n/s/l)	outer nest - tree (n/s/l)	inner nest - crust (n/s/l)	inner nest - moss (n/s/l)	inner nest - herb (n/s/l)	inner nest - shrub (n/s/l)	inner nest - tree (n/s/l)	Dimensions - Perimeter diameter (cm)	Dimensions - Rim diameter (cm)	Dimensions - Height North (cm)	Dimensions - Height South (cm)	Photo taken (Y/N)	x sticks replaced (Y/N)	Notes	crater depth
9/10/2024	Area 3	WW, EP	14	y	y	x	x	n	1			s	n		y		y (bird)		y	y		n	n	n	n	n						361	211	13	19	y	y		3
9/10/2024	Area 2	WW, EP	15	x	y	x	x	n	1			s	n						y			n	n	y	n	n	n	n	n	y	n	355	390	33	35	y	y	Fox appears to have dug in middle	8
9/10/2024	Area 2	WW, EP	16	x	y	x	x	n	6			s	n						y	y		n	n	s	s	n	n	n	s	l	n	520	190	42	24	y	y		25
10/10/2024	Haul Road	WW, EP	17	y	x																																	potentially destroyed	
10/10/2024	Haul Road	WW, EP	18	y	y	y		y	2			s	n	y			y					n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	380	105	60	55	y	n	two malleefowl present	25
10/10/2024	Haul Road	WW, EP	19	y	y	x	x	n	6	present and undisturbed		s	n		y				y	y		n	n	n	s	n	n	n	n	n	500	190	21	24	y	n		0	
10/10/2024	Haul Road	WW, EP	20	y	y	x	x	n	6			n	n							y		l	n	n	l	n	l	n	s	n	445	205	24	24	y	y		0	
10/10/2024	Haul Road	WW, EP	21	y	y	x	x	n	6			n	n								y (goat)	l	n	n	s	n	l	s	n	s	n	480	210	0	0	y	y		5
11/10/2024	Haul Road	WW, EP	22	y	y	y	y	n	2			l	n						y			n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	410	180	40	48	y	y	Iluka camera present	4	
11/10/2024	Haul Road	WW, EP	23	x	y	x	x	n	1			s	n						y			n	n	n	s	n	n	n	s	s	n	210	120	22	28	y	y		28

# **Appendix B**

**Mound Assessments - history**

Mound ID	Location	Date visited (GHD 2024)	GHD 2024	EMM 2024	BWM 2023	EMM 2022	Niche 2015	Ecotone 2013	OEH 2013	Notes
1	Area 2	8-Oct-24	a				pa			two mounds from Niche? 27 and 32
2	Area 2	8-Oct-24	ina	a			pa			EMM 2024 Mound 1; fid 50
3	Area 2	8-Oct-24	lum	ina			pa	pa		EMM 2024 Mound 2; fid 51
4	Area 2	8-Oct-24	a	ina			pa	pa		EMM 2024 Mound 3; fid 52
5	Area 2	8-Oct-24	a	a			pa	pa		Malleefowl present. EMM 2024 Mound 4; fid 53
6	Area 2	8-Oct-24	ina							not recorded before GHD 2024
7	Area 3	8-Oct-24	a	ina						
8	Area 3	8-Oct-24	lum				pa			
9	Area 3	8-Oct-24	ina	ina						
10	Area 3	8-Oct-24	a				pa			
11	Area 1	9-Oct-24	ina	ina						EMM 2024 Mound 9
12	Area 1	9-Oct-24	ina	a				pa		EMM 2024 Mound 10
13	Area 1	9-Oct-24	not considered mound	ina (if Ecotone FID38)				pa (if Ecotone FID38)		Not mound. Likely to be Ecotone FID38.
14	Area 3	9-Oct-24	ina				pa			
15	Area 2	9-Oct-24	ina							not recorded before GHD 2024
16	Area 2	9-Oct-24	lum							not recorded before GHD 2024
17	Haul Road	10-Oct-24	not found, potentially destroyed							could this be BWM8?
18	Haul Road	10-Oct-24	a		ina					BWM9
19	Haul Road	10-Oct-24	lum		ina	a	pa			BWM6
20	Haul Road	10-Oct-24	lum		ina					BWM10
21	Haul Road	10-Oct-24	lum				pa			
22	Haul Road	11-Oct-24	ina		a	a	pa	pa		BWM2, active, protected
23	Haul Road	11-Oct-24	ina							not recorded before GHD 2024

Mound ID	Location	Date visited (GHD 2024)	GHD 2024	EMM 2024	BWM 2023	EMM 2022	Niche 2015	Ecotone 2013	OEH 2013	Notes
BWM7	oma	-			activity not noted		a	pa		avoided
BWM8	Haul Road	-	lum (if Mound 17)		ina					Potentially Mound 17
Ecotone FID22	oma	-					a			
Ecotone FID30	oma	-					a			
Ecotone FID31	oma	-					pa			
Ecotone FID38	Area 1	-	lum (if Mound 13)	ina				pa		Visited, but no waypoint made. Potentially Mound 13
Niche FID11	oma	-					pa			
Niche FID12 13	oma	-					pa			two mounds?
Niche FID20	oma	-					pa			
Niche FID9	oma	-					pa			
OEH FID33	oma	-							pa	

a active

pa potentially active

ina inactive

lum long-unused mound

oma outside monitoring area

# Appendix C

Images of mounds



Mound 1



Mound 2



Mound 3



Mound 4



Mound 5



Mound 6



Mound 7



Mound 8



Mound 9



Mound 10



Mound 11



Mound 12

No photo

Mound 13

No photo

Mound 17



Mound 14



Mound 15



Mound 16



Mound 18



Mound 19



Mound 20



Mound 21



Mound 22



Mound 23

# **Appendix D**

**Images of other native and non-native species**

Red Fox (Mound 7)



Feral Cat (Mound 7)



Pig (Mound 10)



Goat (Mound 5)



Emu (Mound 7)



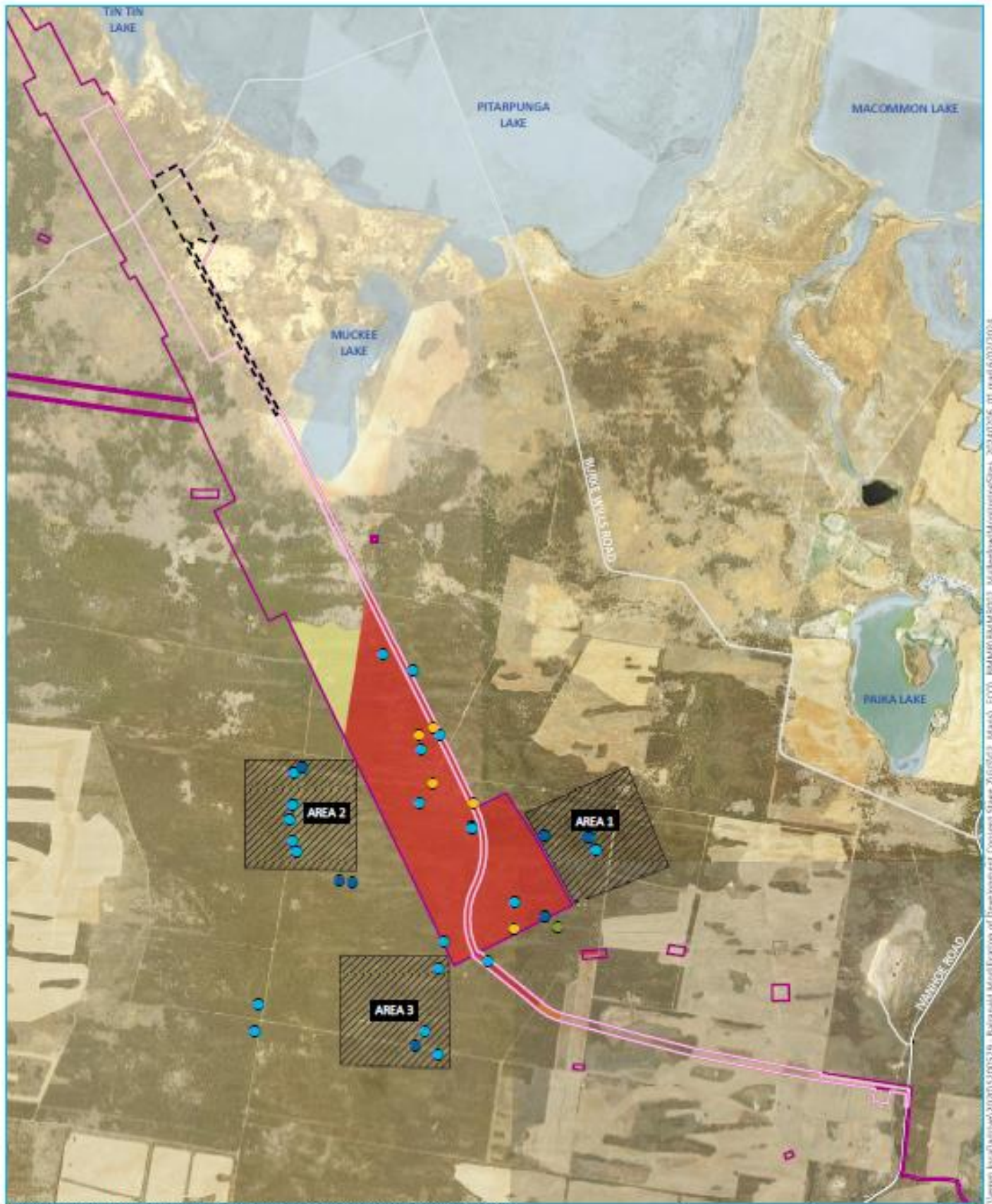
Kangaroo (Mound 1)



# Appendix E

Historical map of mounds

(Figure 2.1 from EMM 2024)



Source: EMM (2024); Julia Resource (2022); Ecotone (2013); Niche (2015); ESA (2024); DFS (2017); GA (2012)

**KEY**

- Revised Balranald Project Area 2023
- Proposed MOD1 study area
- MOD1 additional disturbance area
- Drone area of interest
- Existing environment
- Major road
- Minor road
- Named watercourse
- Named waterbody
- Recorded Malleefowl locations
- Malleefowl location (Ecotone 2013, Niche 2015)
- Active Malleefowl mound (Niche 2015, EMM 2022)
- Potentially active Malleefowl mound (OEH 2013, Ecotone 2013, Niche 2015, EMM 2022)
- Track/print (Ecotone 2013, Niche 2015)
- Malleefowl habitat potential
- Very High
- High
- Moderate

Malleefowl monitoring sites

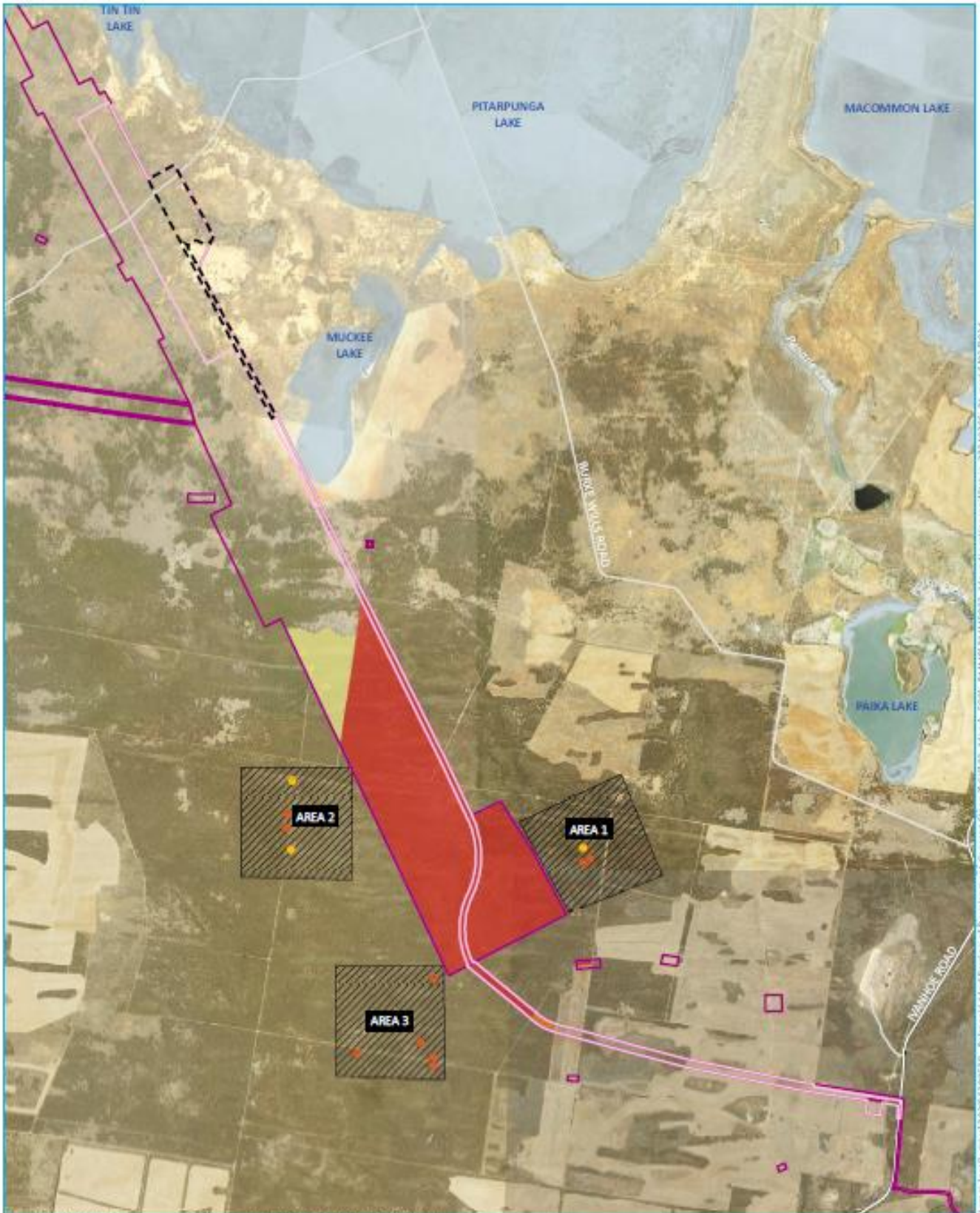
Balranald Mineral Sands Project  
Baseline Malleefowl Monitoring Report  
Figure 2.1



V:\env\joc\p\m\h\2020\51100519 - Balranald Mineral Sands Project of Development Consent Stage 2\051013\_Maps\ECO\_Balranald\MM\0033\_MalleefowlMonitoringSites\_20240226\_01.mxd 6/20/2024

# Appendix F

Map of mounds from baseline monitoring  
(Figure 4.1 from EMM 2024)



Source: EMM (2024); Bulka Resources (2022); Niche (2015); ESR (2024); DFSI (2017); GA (2011)

**KEY**

- Revised Balranald Project Area 2023
- Proposed MOD1 study area
- MOD1 additional disturbance area
- Drone area of interest
- Existing environment
- Major road
- Minor road
- Named watercourse
- Named waterbody
- Malleefowl mound location
- Active
- Not active
- Malleefowl habitat potential
- Very High
- High
- Moderate

Mound locations and status

Balranald Mineral Sands Project  
Baseline Malleefowl Monitoring Report  
Figure 4.1



I:\envm\local\air\mwd\202015\000519 - Balranald Mould Location of Development Consent Stage 2\GIS\ECV\_Maps\ECV\_BMM\BMM\F003\_MoundLocationsandStatus\_20240206\_01.mxd 5/02/2024



[ghd.com](http://ghd.com)

→ **The Power of Commitment**

## **Appendix D- Notification of commencement of the action**



**ILUKA**

14 August 2023

Iluka Resources Limited

Level 17, 240 St Georges Terrace  
Perth, WA, 6000

James Newman  
Senior Assessment Officer  
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment  
and Water | Nature Positive Regulation Division  
Environment Assessments (Vic, Tas) & Post Approvals

GPO Box U1988  
Perth, WA, 6845

**BALRANALD MINERAL SANDS PROJECT (EPBC ACT Ref 2012/6509)-  
COMMENCEMENT OF THE ACTION**

Dear James,

Please accept this letter as notification for the commencement of the action in accordance with Condition 8 of EPBC Act Approval 2012/6509.

Iluka commenced the action on 9 August 2023, for the construction of the Underground Mining Trial.

Development to be carried out during construction includes:

- clearing of vegetation and stripping of topsoil and subsoil;
- process water, potassium amyl xanthate (PAX) and fines dams;
- underground mining infrastructure;
- temporary stockpiles (topsoil, subsoil and overburden);
- timber stockpiles (felled vegetation);
- hardstand and laydown areas;
- site offices, warehousing, workshops, amenities and carparking;
- services and utilities infrastructure;
- fuel storage and dispensing area;
- telecommunications tower;
- mine access road and accommodation camp; and
- internal access tracks and roadway.

Yours Sincerely



**Brendan Isaacs** | Senior Environmental Specialist | Balranald NSW  
Iluka Resources Limited  
78 Market Street, Balranald NSW 2715 | PO Box 241, Balranald NSW 2715  
Mobile 0455 470 233



## **Appendix E- Biodiversity Management Plan commitments and implementation**

Environmental management measure		Implementation comment
Pre-disturbance surveys	Pre-disturbance surveys conducted by a suitably qualified environmental professional in accordance with <i>Survey Guidelines for Australia's threatened birds</i> (DEWHA 2010) in the disturbance areas mapped as 'moderate, high and very high Malleefowl habitat potential'.	Annual Malleefowl monitoring program was undertaken by GHD Pty Ltd prior to vegetation clearance. Refer Appendix C.
Clearing limits	Clear delineation of vegetation clearing limits on the ground (e.g. helicopter tape, 'exclusion no-go' signage) prior to clearing.	Site disturbance permit (BSDP042) included requirement for delineation of vegetation clearing limits and spotter with a hand-held GPS to be present during the clearing which was implemented.
	Restriction of vehicles and plant to designated roads and tracks.	Site disturbance permits (BSDP042) included permit impact boundary and these were adhered to.
	Designated areas for stockpiling of cleared vegetation and topsoil.	Stockpile locations were identified in Site Disturbance Permits and all the vegetation was stockpiled within the clearing boundary. .
	Awareness and education during the Iluka induction process.	Site Disturbance Permitting awareness training was delivered to clearing contractors. Records of training are maintained.
Timing restrictions on clearing	Malleefowl mounds identified during pre-disturbance surveys will be protected for the duration of that breeding season (September to end of February).	2024 Malleefowl monitoring program identified one active mound adjacent the access road. However, clearing was undertaken outside the Malleefowl breeding season in May 2025.
	Vegetation clearing in medium, medium-high or high tree hollow density is restricted to November to April (inclusive).	No clearing was undertaken within the Corben's Long-eared bat habitat.

<b>Environmental management measure</b>		<b>Implementation comment</b>
Staged clearing of breeding habitat and active roosts	‘Exclusion no-go’ signage will be installed at each active or potentially active Malleefowl mound identified during pre-disturbance surveys. The no-go area will comprise a 200 m circular ‘no go’ exclusion buffer around the mound.	Clearing was undertaken outside the Malleefowl breeding season in May 2025.
	Each individual Malleefowl mound will be inspected by a suitably qualified environmental professional at the end of breeding season (February) to confirm that breeding has concluded.	No mounds were within 200m of clearing and clearing was undertaken outside the breeding season.
	Clearing of Malleefowl mounds and the 200 m buffer can occur following confirmation from a suitably qualified environmental professional that breeding has concluded at all identified active and potentially active mounds.	No mounds were within 200m of clearing and clearing was undertaken outside the breeding season
	All trees with hollows above 1 m height in Corben’s Long-eared Bat habitat will be marked with a unique identifier prior clearing.	No clearing was undertaken within the Corben’s Long-eared bat habitat.
	All non-hollow trees and trees with hollows below 1 m height within Corben’s Long-eared Bat habitat will be cleared first.	No clearing was undertaken within the Corben’s Long-eared bat habitat..
	All trees with hollows above 1 m height in Corben’s Long-eared Bat habitat will be retained for two nights after surrounding vegetation has been cleared, prior to being felled.	No clearing was undertaken within the Corben’s Long-eared bat habitat.

<b>Environmental management measure</b>		<b>Implementation comment</b>
Clearing supervision	A person with qualifications in environmental science, biology or ecology and demonstrated experience in Malleefowl management will be present prior to clearing activities in areas identified as ' <i>moderate, high or very high Malleefowl habitat potential</i> ' to confirm that breeding has concluded at all Malleefowl mounds prior to the commencement of mound clearing.	Clearing was undertaken outside the Malleefowl breeding season and no mounds were cleared during the clearing.
	All felled hollow-bearing timber will be left in-situ for 24 hours to allow hollow-dependent fauna to self-relocate or inspection by a suitably qualified environmental professional.	No clearing was undertaken within the Corben's Long-eared bat habitat.
Fire management	Bushfire mitigation will be in accordance with the <i>Emergency Control and Response Plan</i> . of this BMP.	Firebreaks were maintained by grading site fence lines and tracks during the reporting period.

Environmental management measure		Implementation comment
Pest, predator and weed management	<p>Weeds will be managed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• inspection of vehicles and mobile plant on site entry and exit. Appropriate wash down and containment of sediment if required;</li> <li>• inspections for declared weeds will be undertaken bi-annually and weeds will be controlled via scalping or chemical spraying;</li> <li>• herbicide will be applied in accordance with industry best practice;</li> <li>• weed control will be undertaken in a manner that will minimise soil disturbance; and</li> <li>• weeds will be managed in consultation with Western Local Land Services (LLS), Balranald Shire Council and NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Agriculture.</li> </ul> <p>The following techniques will be employed by a suitably qualified and licensed contractor/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• baiting and fumigation of rabbit burrows;</li> <li>• mustering, trapping at water and shooting of goats; and</li> <li>• baiting for foxes and other feral predators (i.e. cats and pigs).</li> </ul>	<p>Pre-mobilisation checks are completed for all new plant and equipment arriving to site. Records of such checks are maintained.</p> <p>Noxious and declared weed inspections are carried out during monthly environmental inspections.</p> <p>Weed mapping is undertaken biannually and control measures applied if required.</p> <p>Spraying of Bathurst Burr (Declared noxious) was undertaken in January and February 2025. Records of chemical application are maintained.</p> <p>Baiting for foxes was undertaken in January 2025 in conjunction with surrounding landholders. 200 1080 chicken wing baits were laid, with a focus in Malleefowl habitat areas.</p> <p>A number of pig baiting programs using 1080 baits were implemented during February 2025, approximately 20 feral pigs were confirmed eradicated. Records of baiting and feral pig carcasses are maintained.</p>
Erosion and sediment management	<p>Implement best practice erosion and sediment control measures within and surrounding the buffer and retained habitats.</p>	<p>The Water Management Plan for the site outlines the erosion and sediment controls measures implemented.</p> <p>Erosion and sediment controls are also outlined in the Site Disturbance Permits when required. Generally open areas are contained by constructing a 0.5m high bund wall or silt fencing to prevent turbid water discharge.</p>
Speed limit restrictions	<p>If an active or potentially active Malleefowl mound is identified within 250 m of the access road, and the normal sign-posted speed limit of the nearby access road is 100 km/h, a reduced speed limit of 60 km/h will be applied for that nearby section of road for the duration of the applicable breeding season.</p>	<p>Portable signs have been procured for when the speed restrictions apply adjacent active or potentially active mounds adjacent the access road within 250m.</p>

<b>Environmental management measure</b>		<b>Implementation comment</b>
Dust and light spill management	A 200 m buffer will be designated around each identified Malleefowl mound will be identified.	No active or potentially active mounds identified within active work areas.
	Minimise the use of artificial lighting in the 200 m Malleefowl buffer.	No active or potentially active mounds identified within active work areas.
	Where artificial lighting is required within the buffer, directional lighting facing away from the Malleefowl mound(s) and retained habitats will be used if safe to do so.	No active or potentially active mounds identified within active work areas.

# EPBC Ref 2012-6509 Annual Compliance Report 2025\_Final

Final Audit Report

2025-10-10

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