



**ILUKA**

## South West Newsletter – July 2023

### → Supporting local schools

Iluka is proud to have supported the Dandelions WA “Back to School” Campaign for 2023, to help students in need in some of the local communities in which we operate.

Dandelions WA helps Western Australian primary and high school students who are facing hardship by supplying backpacks containing essentials, such as stationery, lunchboxes and footwear. Each year schools are invited to place orders with Dandelions WA for backpacks on behalf of students in need, and this year a huge 162 schools placed orders for over 4000 backpacks.

The Iluka sponsorship of \$40,550 supplied backpacks in the Southwest and Midwest regions, with team members from our North Capel and Narngulu sites volunteering to deliver them to local schools.

During the visit to Busselton Primary, our team learned that the school also strives to provide vulnerable students with a school shirt to help them feel included, however they were short on funds this year.

To further support the school, Iluka also provided a donation to fill the gap and ensure all students were given a school shirt this year. It is our hope that through contributions like these, we can help our future generations and that some of these students may end up as future engineers or operators at Iluka.

For more information on Dandelions WA, visit [www.dandelionswa.org.au](http://www.dandelionswa.org.au)



*Supporting Dandelions WA's backpack donation to West Busselton Primary School*



## → Rehabilitation continues at Capel Wetlands

For decades, Iluka has been a leader in land rehabilitation in Western Australia, with a dedication to ensuring successful biodiversity and environmental outcomes. The Capel Wetlands are no exception.

Throughout these 300 hectares of land, there is past and present evidence of the successful rehabilitation programmes overseen by Iluka. A recent example of rehabilitation work includes a soil improvement trial and tree planting with local natives.

Prior to tree planting, a specialised digging mixer method was used to mix clay deep into the sandy soil, thus allowing for a greater depth of water storage and improving survival rates in planted seedlings.

This method was originally developed by for Iluka's rehabilitation operations in Sierra Leone, however was also identified as being suitable to improve the sandy soils at the Capel Wetlands.

The trial began in 2022, with initial results being encouraging and highlighting the importance of continuous research and experimentation in improving environmental rehabilitation practices.

Iluka will continue to monitor the progress of the vegetation growth in these areas.



*Specialised digging mixer method used to mix clay deep into sandy soil for soil improvement trial to support vegetation growth*

### Developing summer refuge pools at Gravel Pool

Last year Iluka engaged Murdoch University, through the Centre of Sustainable Aquatic Ecosystems at the Harry Butler Institute, to complete a benchmark study into the Capel Wetlands.

Harnessing the extensive data on the region, the university was able to complete a baseline study of the area including both the wet and dry seasons and recently shared their findings. The assessment recommended developing artificial pools to improve the survival of aquatic species, such as the Carter's freshwater mussel, Southwestern snake-necked turtle and native fish, during the dry season.

Developing artificial pools has involved digging small holes within dry lake beds, approximately one metre deep and three to four metres wide, with soil

embankments surrounding them to allow vegetation to be planted later this year. The vegetation will eventually create shade to prevent high water temperatures in the pools, and artificial shading will be used until the vegetation has grown. Rocks and timber will be placed in the pools to create more habitat for aquatic species, and additional soil mounds will be created to encourage the growth of wetland plants such as paperbarks, increasing habitat diversity.

The Capel Wetlands play an important role in the survival of vulnerable species in the area, and in developing pools and creating more habitat diversity, Iluka aims to ensure these wetlands remain healthy and sustainable for future generations to enjoy.





*Creating artificial pools in dry lake beds within the Capel Wetlands*



*Conducting research on species found within the Capel Wetlands, including Southwestern snake-necked turtle and Carter's freshwater mussel*



## → Tutunup Mineral Sands Project Proposal

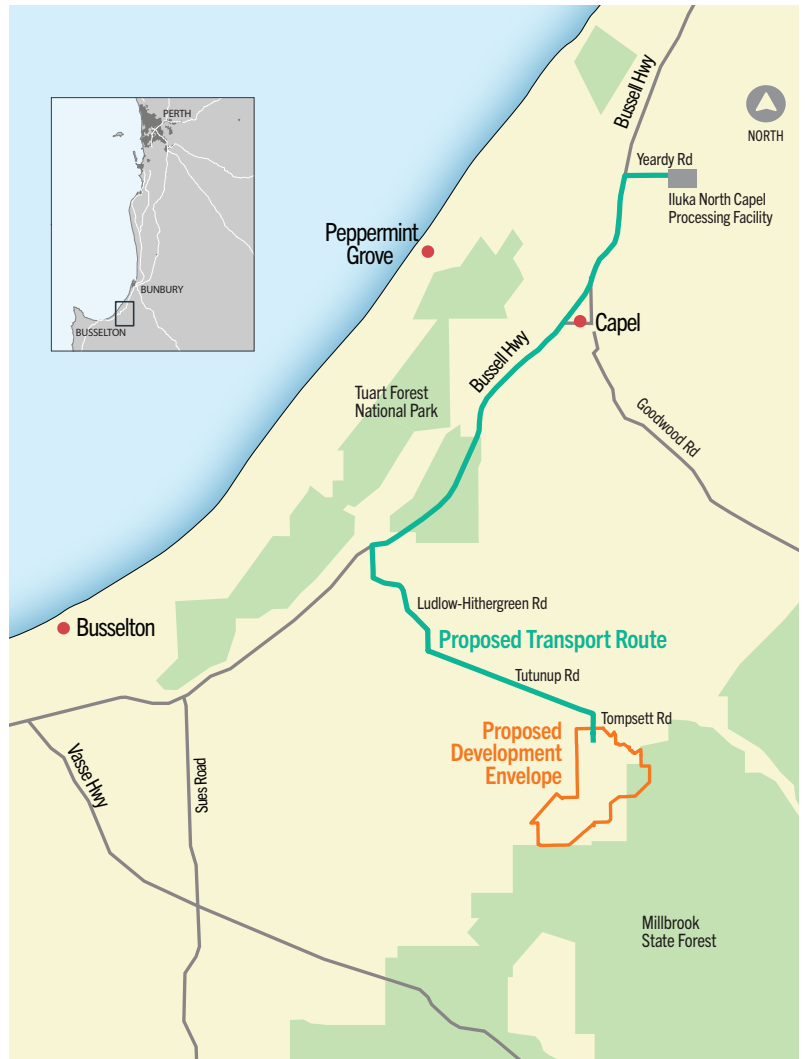
The pre-feasibility study for the Tutunup Mineral Sands Project was completed in early 2023, following significant progress on various environmental and technical studies since the last project update in March 2023, with the analysis of environmental field study data ongoing.

The project has since progressed to the Definitive Feasibility Study (DFS) phase, following approval by the Iluka Board.

Iluka is committed to involving key stakeholders and community members in the planning and decision-making process of the Tutunup Mineral Sands Project. Iluka has engaged Umwelt Environmental and Social Consultants (Umwelt) to conduct a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) to inform the Environmental Review Document for submission to the Environmental Protection Authority.

The team attended the Captivate Capel fair in March to engage the local community, gather feedback, answer questions, and share information on the Tutunup Mineral Sands Project, as well as Iluka's broader operations. It was great to speak with so many people about their experiences with Iluka, and useful commentary was captured to inform continuous improvement to our engagement approach and operational efforts. Following on from Captivate Capel, the team also had a stall at the Boyanup Markets in May, resulting in another valuable community engagement session.

If you are interested to take part in the engagement survey as part of the SIA, please scan the QR code and record your views.



*Proposed development envelope and transport route*



*The Iluka team at Captivate Capel in March*



**To find out more about Iluka's projects, you can reach us at:**

Email: [southwest.community@iluka.com](mailto:southwest.community@iluka.com)

Call our 24-hour community line on 1800 305 993

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