

Environmental Review Document

Round Hill

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Revision Register

REV	DATE	NAME	DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES
0	16/1/2026	Preston Consulting Pty Ltd	Initial Document
1	19/1/2026	HanRoy	Review and update
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2A	18/05/2026	HanRoy	Review and update
3	22/05/2026	HanRoy	Finalise for submission to EPA

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Summary

Proposal

The Round Hill Project (Proposal) is a proposed iron ore mine that lies approximately 40 km northwest of Newman in the eastern Pilbara region of Western Australia (WA; Figure 1-1). The Round Hill deposit is separated into two hematite-goethite deposits (Round Hill Main and North), located either side of the Great Northern Highway.

The Round Hill Main deposit is the subject of this Proposal. The Round Hill Main deposit is the subject of this Proposal. It is situated within pending M47/1636 and replacement mining lease application M47/1670, of which Hancock Prospecting Pty Ltd (HPPL) is the applicant.

HPPL is an independent, privately owned Australian company which has many subsidiaries, including HanRoy. HPPL is proposing to develop the Proposal, however HanRoy is the current managing body for the approvals.

The Proposal is expected to provide iron ore feed for the Roy Hill operation. It involves developing a new greenfields iron ore mine at Round Hill Main with a transport link to deliver 5 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa) Direct Shipped Ore product (DSO) or Run of Mine (ROM) ore to the Roy Hill hub.

The Proposal includes a disturbance footprint (DF) of approximately 989 ha of clearing within a defined Development Envelope (DE) of 1,703 ha (Figure 1-5).

A summary of the Proposal is provided in Table 0-1 and the key proposal elements (e.g. development, action, activities, or processes) which are likely to cause an impact on the environment are summarised in Table 0-2.

Table 0-1 Key characteristics of the Proposal

Proposal Title		Round Hill Project				
Proponent Name	Hancock Prospecting Pty Ltd					
Short Description	<p>The Proposal is for an iron ore mine that lies approximately 40 km northwest of Newman in the eastern Pilbara region of WA. Round Hill deposit is separated into two hematite-goethite deposits (Round Hill Main and North), located either side of the Great Northern Highway.</p> <p>The Round Hill Main deposit is the subject of this Proposal. The Proposal is expected to provide iron ore feed for the Roy Hill operation. It involves developing a new greenfields iron ore mine at Round Hill Main with a transport link to deliver 5 Mtpa DSO or ROM ore to the Roy Hill hub.</p> <p>The Proposal will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The development of a series of above water table (AWT) open mine pits;• Ore processing facility (crushing and screening);• Groundwater abstraction for water supply (for the mine and all associated infrastructure);• Waste rock landforms (WRL);• Mine-associated infrastructure and supporting facilities, including but not limited to energy supply system, wastewater treatment plant, landfill, administrative buildings, workshops, and equipment laydown areas. <p>Upgrade of the Great Northern Highway intersection with the mine access road within the DE.</p>					

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Proposal Title	Round Hill Project
	The Proposal will require up to approximately 989 ha of clearing within a defined DE of 1,703 ha.

Table 0-2 Location and proposed extent of physical and operational elements

Element	Location / Description	Maximum extent, capacity, or range
Physical Elements		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AWT mine pits; • Ore processing facility (crushing and screening); • WRLs; • Associated infrastructure and support facilities (energy supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment plant, landfill, offices, workshops, laydown areas, etc.); and • Upgrade of the Great Northern Highway intersection with the mine access road within the DE. 	Figure 1-5	Clearing of no more than 989 ha within a 1,703 ha DE.
Construction Elements		
Groundwater abstraction	Figure 1-4	Abstraction of no more than 0.95 gigalitres per annum (GLpa).
Operational Elements		
Ore processing	Figure 1-5	Production of up to 5 Mtpa of iron ore.
Groundwater Abstraction	Figure 1-4	Abstraction of no more than 0.95 GLpa.
Greenhouse gas emissions		
Construction		
Scope 1	32,438 t CO ₂ -e	
Scope 2	N/A	
Scope 3	N/A	
Operation		
Scope 1	582,215 t CO ₂ -e over the life of the Proposal averaging 47,281 t CO ₂ -e per year.	
Scope 2	N/A	
Scope 3	50,664,412 t CO ₂ -e over the life of the Proposal averaging 3,897,262 t CO ₂ -e per year.	
Rehabilitation and closure		
Final closure and rehabilitation expected within 1 year of cessation of operations.		
Commissioning		
Commissioning of the processing facility to be undertaken subject to operational limits.		
Decommissioning		
Removal of all above surface and buried infrastructure within 2 years of cessation of operations.		
Other elements which affect extent of effects on the environment		
Proposal Time	Maximum project life	16 years
	Construction phase	Approximately 1 year
	Operations phase	Up to 10 years
	Decommissioning and	Approximately 5 years

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Element	Location / Description	Maximum extent, capacity, or range
	closure phase	

Environmental Factors

Table 0-3 summarises relevant information on the potential impacts, mitigation, residual impacts, outcomes, and offsets for each of the relevant Key Environmental Factors. The appendices provided include supporting studies and investigations undertaken to inform this Environmental Review Document (ERD), the key elements of which are included in this document.

Table 0-3 Summary of potential impacts, proposed mitigation, residual impacts, and outcomes

Flora and Vegetation	
Potential environmental impacts	<p>General native flora and vegetation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of up to 989 ha of native vegetation through clearing, considered to be in Good to Excellent condition; Reduction in vegetation health as a result of potential indirect impacts. <p>Significant Flora</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Threatened Flora recorded within the DE; Loss of Priority Flora species by clearing, including the following Rapallo (2024) records and historic records: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One <i>Ipomoea racemigera</i> (P2) record; One <i>Indigofera gilesii</i> (P3) record; and Seven <i>Rhagodia sp.</i> Hammersley (P3) records. Loss of up to 989 ha of native vegetation, some of which may provide habitat for these species; and Loss to individuals or potential habitat by clearing is possible if individuals are found to be present.
Mitigation hierarchy	<p><u>Avoid:</u></p> <p>HPPL has conducted extensive flora and vegetation surveys of the areas within and surrounding the DE and has utilised this information to revise the Proposal design. Drainage vegetation has been avoided almost completely.</p> <p><u>Minimise:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement industry best practice management measures for flora and vegetation; Obtain and comply with approvals; Ensure direct impacts to Priority Flora within the DE do not exceed defined limits; Implement measures to minimise the risk and impact of hydrocarbon spills; Comply with Water Quality Protection Guidelines and guidance notes; <p><u>Rehabilitate:</u></p> <p>A Mining Development and Closure Proposal (MDCP) will be prepared to support the Proposal. The MDCP describes the preliminary approach to the rehabilitation and closure of the Proposal, and associated management and monitoring proposed during the closure phase including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials balance for closure and rehabilitation demonstrating the quantities, availability, and management for all rehabilitation materials; Identified knowledge gaps to be filled prior to closure; Lists of closure tasks; and Completion criteria, monitoring, and reporting during closure. <p>The key rehabilitation measures from the MDCP that relate to flora and vegetation are summarised below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All infrastructure will be removed; The mine will be progressively recontoured during operations;

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The mine will be revegetated with local native species and/or crops, including species of cultural value; and All long-term cleared areas will be respread with topsoil (or ripped and seeded if topsoil is no longer viable) and rehabilitated; All earthmoving equipment will be cleaned free of any soil material to minimise the risk of weed introduction or spread; and Impacted Priority Flora will be included in the rehabilitation seed mix where feasible. <p>Where practicable, depressions attributable to mining operations will be shaped to reduce the likelihood of new semi-permanent water sources forming. A final Mine Closure Plan (MCP) will be submitted to Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE) for assessment and approval under the <i>Mining Act 1978</i> (Mining Act) in accordance with DMPE Guidelines (2025a) prior to the closure of the Proposal and will be reviewed and revised in accordance with the conditions of an Approvals Statement issued under the Mining Act.</p>
Residual impacts	<p>Loss as a result of clearing to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 989 ha of native vegetation; and Priority Flora individuals.
Expected environmental outcomes	<p>The Environmental Protection Authority’s (EPA) environmental objective for this factor is “to protect flora and vegetation so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained”. In the context of this objective: “ecological integrity” is listed as the composition, structure, function and processes of ecosystems, and the natural range of variation of these elements (EPA, 2016a). HPPL conducted extensive flora and vegetation surveys of the areas within and surrounding the DE. HPPL has incorporated extensive avoidance and minimisation measures into the Proposal design and operational processes, however direct impacts to flora and vegetation are unavoidable.</p> <p>The Proposal will result in the clearing of up to 989 ha of native vegetation.</p> <p>All clearing will include Good to Excellent condition native vegetation, with all clearing occurring within vegetation associations with more than 99% of their pre-European extent remaining.</p> <p>Significant flora were recorded and there is the potential for individuals to be disturbed.</p> <p>The predicted outcomes and objectives for flora and vegetation are therefore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing of no more than 989 ha native vegetation; No disturbance or adverse impacts to Rapallo (2024) and historical Priority Flora records other than the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One occurrence record of <i>Indigofera gilesii</i> (Priority 3); One occurrence record of <i>Ipomoea racemigera</i> (Priority 2); and Seven occurrence records of <i>Rhagodia</i> sp. Hamersley (Priority 3). Ensure that the proposal does not cause or contribute to the introduction and/or spread of weeds. <p>Based on the above, the Proposal is expected to be able to meet the EPA’s objective for this factor.</p>
Terrestrial Fauna	
Potential environmental impacts	<p>General fauna and habitat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of up to 989 ha of native fauna habitat as a result of clearing Earthmoving or vehicle movements resulting in fauna death or injury; Introduction of weeds or feral fauna, resulting in competition with native fauna and a reduction in health of surrounding habitat; Alteration of fauna behaviour due to light or noise emissions; and Alteration of local hydrology, resulting in changes in habitat composition in affected areas. <p>Significant fauna – clearing of habitat for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilbara Olive Python (<i>Liasis olivaceus barroni</i>; VU – <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (BC Act) and <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act)); Long-tailed Dunnart (<i>Antechinomys longicaudatus</i>; P4 - Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCAs)); Western Pebble-mound Mouse (<i>Pseudomys chapmani</i>; P4 - DBCA); and

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gane’s Blind Snake (Pilbara) (<i>Aniliios ganei</i>; P1 - DBCA) • Two other significant species; the Ghost Bat (<i>Macroderma gigas</i>) and the Grey Falcon (<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>) that are considered likely to occur, and 13 significant species that are considered to possibly occur with the Survey Area. <p>Short Range Endemic (SRE) Fauna have been recorded within the Survey Area (Bennelongia, 2025):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Missulena faulderi</i>; and • <i>Antichiropus cristatus</i>. <p>Neither SRE species is listed as Priority or Threatened by the DBCA (2025) and both are known to occur outside of the Proposal. In addition, the SRE survey recorded 1 Likely Potential SRE, 10 unlikely SREs and 7 Data Deficient Potential SREs.</p>
<p>Mitigation hierarchy</p>	<p><u>Avoid:</u></p> <p>HPPL has conducted numerous ecological surveys, and this information has been utilised to design the Proposal and its final DE boundaries to avoid a significant portion of drainage habitat.</p> <p><u>Minimise:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement industry best practice management measures for terrestrial fauna; • Limit clearing of ‘Drainage’ habitat to a maximum of 4 ha; • Limit clearing of ‘Rocky Hill’ habitat to a maximum of 95 ha; • Obtain and comply with approvals; • Implement the measures listed in Section 4.4 to minimise the risk and impact of hydrocarbon spills and other contamination; and • Comply with Water Quality Protection Guidelines and guidance notes. <p><u>Rehabilitate:</u></p> <p>A MDCP will be prepared to support the Proposal. The MDCP describes the preliminary approach to the rehabilitation and closure of the Proposal, and associated management and monitoring proposed during the closure phase including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All infrastructure will be removed from site; • All long-term cleared areas will be respread with topsoil (or ripped and seeded if topsoil is no longer viable) and rehabilitated; • All earthmoving equipment will be cleaned free of any soil material to minimise the risk of weed introduction; <p>Where practicable, depressions attributable to mining operations will be contoured to reduce the likelihood of new semi-permanent water sources forming. A final MCP will be submitted to DMPE for assessment and approval under the Mining Act in accordance with DMPE Guidelines (2025a) prior to the closure of the Proposal and will be reviewed and revised in accordance with the conditions of an Approvals Statement issued under the Mining Act.</p>
<p>Residual impacts</p>	<p>Impacts of up to 989 ha of supporting native fauna habitat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5 ha of drainage habitat, potentially utilised by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pilbara Olive Python (dispersal and foraging); ▪ Grey Falcon (foraging); ▪ Ghost Bat (foraging); ▪ Northern Quoll (dispersal and foraging); ○ 292.0 ha mulga woodlands habitat, potentially utilised by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ghost Bat (foraging); ○ 94.2 ha rocky hill habitat, potentially utilised by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Grey Falcon (foraging); ○ 236.6 ha spinifex plains and rises habitat, potentially utilised by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Grey Falcon (foraging); ▪ Ghost Bat (foraging); and ○ 360.6 ha tussock grasslands habitat, potentially utilised by:

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Grey Falcon (foraging).
Expected environmental outcomes	<p>The EPA’s environmental objective for this factor is to “protect terrestrial fauna so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained”. In the context of this objective: “ecological integrity” is listed as the composition, structure, function and processes of ecosystems, and the natural range of variation of these elements (EPA, 2016b).</p> <p>HPPL has incorporated extensive avoidance, minimisation and rehabilitation measures into the Proposal design and operational processes, however some direct and indirect impacts to terrestrial fauna are unavoidable. The Proposal will result in the loss of up to 989 ha of native terrestrial fauna habitat. All vegetation of the DE is considered to be in Good to Excellent condition. All of these habitats are however well distributed throughout the region and species that potentially use the DE generally have relatively wide-ranging distributions and/or will persist in adjoining unaffected areas given the presence of extensive areas of similar habitat nearby.</p> <p>Significant fauna and SREs were recorded or considered likely to occur and there is the potential for habitat loss for several of these species.</p> <p>The predicted outcomes for Terrestrial Fauna are therefore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearing no more than 989 ha of native fauna habitat which includes no more than <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5 ha of Drainage habitat; and ○ 105 ha of Rocky Hill habitat. <p>The above outcomes can all be assured by the conditions of a Native Vegetation Clearing Permit (NVCP) if the Proposal is not assessed under Part IV of the EP Act.</p> <p>If assessment under Part IV of the EP Act is undertaken, then limits in the conditions of the Ministerial Statement that reflect the outcomes above would be appropriate.</p> <p>An objective-based condition is considered to be appropriate for indirect impacts, for example:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“The proponent must ensure the implementation of the proposal achieves the following environmental objective:</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Avoid, and where unavoidable, minimise impacts to terrestrial fauna and their habitat, from vehicle strike, dust emissions, or spread of environmental weeds, fire, altered hydrological regimes and contamination.”</i></p> <p>An offset condition that would require payments under the PEOF would also be applied (discussed in Offset section (Section 5).</p> <p>Based on the above, the Proposal is expected to be able to meet the EPA’s objective for this factor.</p>
Social Surroundings	
Potential environmental Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage values identified during Aboriginal heritage surveys; and • Impacts to traditional uses of the land
Mitigation hierarchy	<p><u>Avoid:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The key avoidance mechanism implemented by HPPL was the design of the DE and Proposal infrastructure to avoid key features relevant to this factor, including Aboriginal heritage sites and drainage features where possible; and • Alterations to surface water flows will be, minimised as far as practicable. • HPPL will enforce the Ethnobotanical Management Areas (EMAs) to avoid direct impacts to important species (TEK) within these areas. <p><u>Minimise:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain and comply with Works Approval and Licence issued under Part V of the <i>Environment Protection Act 1986</i> (EP Act); • Implement and comply with the Round Hill Project Agreement; • Implement industry best practice measures for Aboriginal Heritage; • Implement industry best practice management measures for flora and vegetation; and

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where impacts are unavoidable (outside of TEK EMAs), HPPL will facilitate seed collection, potential plant relocation, weed management planning, and progressive rehabilitation using local native species. • During construction and operations, safe access within the controlled site will be facilitated for KNAC, including the TEK EMAs; • During construction and operations, HPPL will identify the two EMAs within its Ground Disturbance Permit processes, ensuring that no direct impacts to the trees of significance result from the implementation of the proposal. • HPPL will ensure that the trees of significance within EMAs are protected from indirect impacts such as altered hydrological regimes, dust deposition and weed infestation. • Monitoring of the EMAs will be incorporated into the proposal’s future site-wide monitoring program. <p><u>Rehabilitate:</u></p> <p>A MDCP will be developed for the Proposal. The MDCP will describe the preliminary approach to the rehabilitation and closure of the Proposal, and associated management and monitoring proposed during the closure phase including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials balance for closure and rehabilitation demonstrating the quantities, availability, and management for all rehabilitation materials; • Identified knowledge gaps to be filled prior to closure; • Domain specific closure tasks; • Completion criteria, monitoring, and reporting during closure; • The key rehabilitation measures from the MDCP that relate to air quality are summarised below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All infrastructure will be removed; ○ The mine will be progressively reshaped and recontoured as the site progresses; ○ The mining area will be revegetated with local native species; and ○ All infrastructure (including land access barriers) will be removed. <p>A final MCP will be submitted to DMPE for assessment and approval under the Mining Act in accordance with DMPE Guidelines (2025a) prior to the closure of the Proposal and will be reviewed and revised in accordance with the conditions of an Approvals Statement issued under the Mining Act.</p>
<p>Residual impacts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts to other heritage sites identified during heritage surveys and onsite consultations, including one lodged Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site; • Impacts to creeklines and surface water flows; • Temporary and permanent (post-closure) disturbance of Country; and • Restriction of access for traditional uses during the life of the Proposal.
<p>Expected environmental outcomes</p>	<p>The EPA’s environmental objective for this factor is to <i>“protect social surroundings from significant harm”</i> (EPA, 2023a).</p> <p>The Proposal has incorporated extensive avoidance, minimisation and rehabilitation measures into the Proposal design and operational processes to ensure that social surroundings impacts are minimised.</p> <p>The Proposal is expected to result in negligible impacts to local residents, tourism and community given the lack of observed recreational or other use of the land. Impacts associated with dust and noise will be managed by a works approval under Part V of the EP Act and no sensitive receptors are in close proximity to the Proposal.</p> <p>There are no listed European Heritage values within the DE and therefore there are no predicted impacts to European Heritage and values.</p> <p>HPPL has conducted extensive Aboriginal heritage, Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Social Surroundings surveys and across the DE. HPPL have endeavoured to avoid any sites identified during these surveys through site design and planning.</p>

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	<p>The predicted outcomes for Social Surroundings are therefore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Impacts to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage will be managed under the AH Act in consultation with the Nyiyaparli People; and• Minimal restrictions on Traditional Owners' access to Country, unless for safety reasons. <p>Based on the above, the Proposal is expected to be able to meet the EPA's objective for this factor.</p>
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Environmental factors considered unlikely to be Key Environmental Factors are described in Appendix 3.

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1 Proposal

1.1 Overview

The Round Hill Project (the Proposal) is a proposed iron ore mine that lies approximately 40 km northwest of Newman in the eastern Pilbara region of WA (Figure 1-1). The Round Hill deposit is two separate hematite-goethite deposits (Round Hill Main and North), located either side of the Great Northern Highway.

The Round Hill Main deposit is the subject of this Proposal. The Proposal is situated entirely within mining tenements, within pending M 47/1636 and replacement mining lease application M47/1670, of which HPPL is the tenement applicant. The Proposal is expected to provide up iron ore feed for the Roy Hill operation. It involves developing a new 5 Mtpa greenfields iron ore mine at Round Hill Main with ore to be transported link as DSO product or ROM ore to the Roy Hill hub.

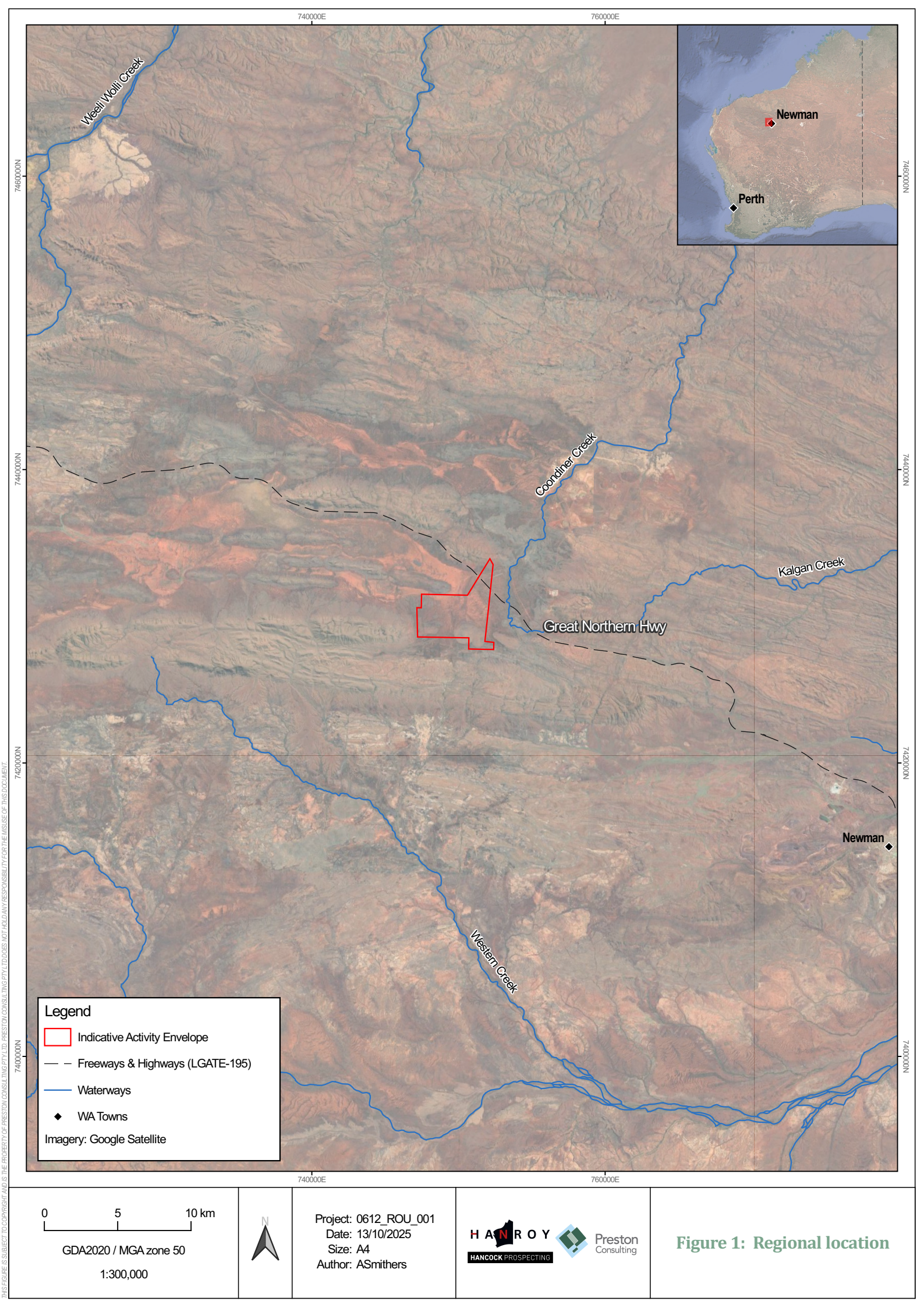
The Proposal will require up to 989 ha of vegetation clearing within a defined DE of 1,703 ha (Figure 1).

Legislative context relevant to the Proposal is provided within Appendix 1.

The maximum extent of key environmentally relevant Proposal elements is detailed in Appendix 2.

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Legend

- Indicative Activity Envelope
- Freeways & Highways (LGATE-195)
- Waterways
- WA Towns

Imagery: Google Satellite

0 5 10 km

GDA2020 / MGA zone 50

1:300,000



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Figure 1: Regional location

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Round Hill

1.2 Detailed Description

The Proposal involves Above Water Table (AWT) mining at the Round Hill Main deposit and transporting an estimated 5 Mtpa of DSO product or ROM ore to the Roy Hill hub. The Proposal is expected to provide iron ore feed for the Roy Hill operation across a period of up to 10 years.

The Proposal will include:

- The development of a series of AWT open mine pits;
- Ore processing facility (crushing and screening);
- Groundwater abstraction for water supply (for the mine and all associated infrastructure);
- Waste Rock Landforms (WRL);
- Mine-associated infrastructure and supporting facilities, including (but not limited to) energy supply systems, wastewater treatment plant, landfill, administration buildings, workshops, laydown areas, and associated utilities; and
- Upgrade of the Great Northern Highway intersection with the mine access road within the DE.

1.2.1 Mine Pits

Prior to commencement of mining, where possible, topsoil and vegetation will be removed and stockpiled in designated topsoil stockpiles. Topsoil stockpiles will be managed in accordance with mining and environmental approvals. Topsoil stockpiles will be managed so the material will be available for future rehabilitation operations. The material removed during the pre-stripping will be stockpiled according to the chemical and physical characteristics of the material.

Two AWT open mine pits will be constructed and operated using the Drill, Blast, Load & Haul method to separate mineralised ore from waste rock. The East pit will be approximately 65 ha (2 km x 0.5 km at the widest points). The West pit will be approximately 51 ha (2 km x 0.4 km at the widest point).

The transport, storage and use of explosives will be subcontracted to a licensed service provider. Ammonium nitrate-based explosives will be detonators, ripcords, and any other site-stored explosives. All explosives material and equipment will be stored in a magazine compliant with the *Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004* (WA).

1.2.2 Ore Processing

Ore will be crushed and screened to separate the ore into DSO and ROM ore. DSO will be processed to an ore sizing of less than 14 mm and transported to the Roy Hill hub for blending. ROM and desands will be processed to a maximum size of 200 mm and transported to the Roy Hill hub, where the ore will be upgraded (Figure 1-2).

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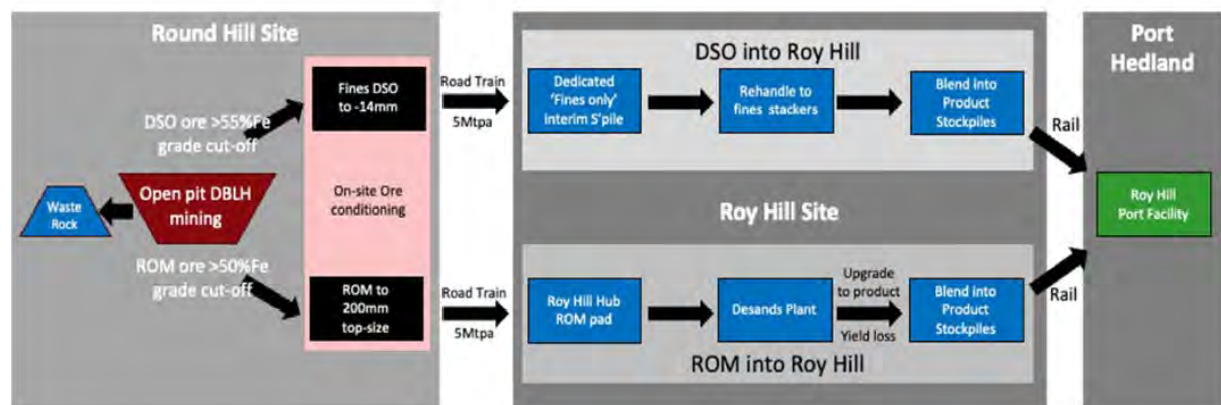


Figure 1-2 Ore flow chart

1.2.3 Water Supply

A mine water balance has been constructed to assess water supply requirements for the Proposal. As there is no below water table component associated with the Proposal, the water demand estimate is directly tied to the Proposal's water supply requirements.

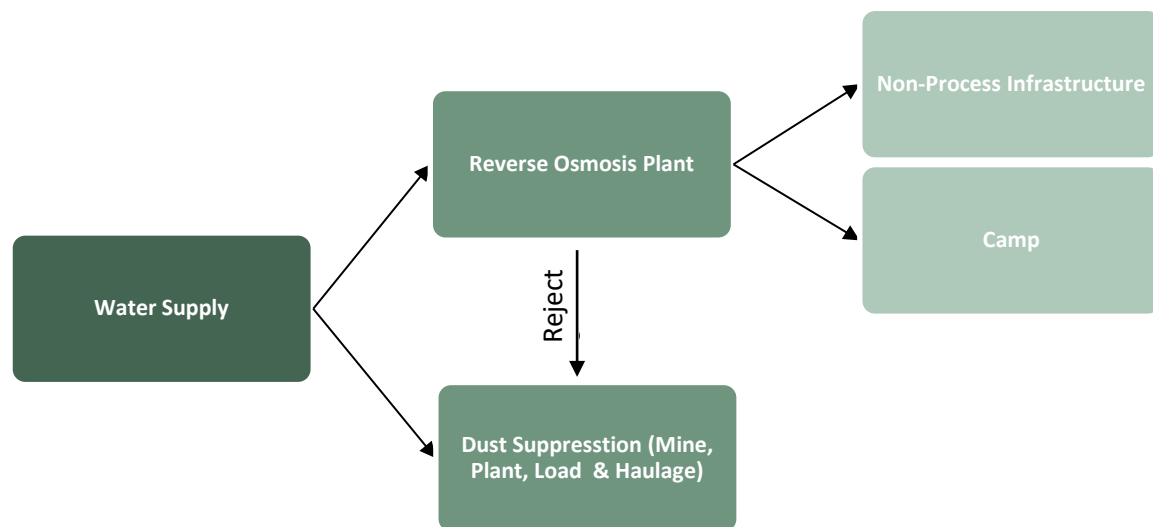


Figure 1-3 Conceptual water balance for the Proposal

The Proposal water demand is predicted to be 0.95 GLpa, as per the breakdown below:

- Mining dust suppression (~0.70 GLpa);
- Plant dust Suppression (~0.06 GLpa);
- Haulage dust suppression (~0.15 GLpa);
- Drilling (~0.001 GLpa); and
- Potable water (~0.04 GLpa).

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Three production bores have been constructed for the Proposal's water supply (Figure 1-4):

- Two sites in the Round Hill Main area (EAPB1300, screened in the Brockman Formation, and EAPB1303, screened in the Wittenoom Formation); and
- One site in the Manhattan area (EAPB1302, also screened in the Brockman Formation).

It is proposed that the two near-mine abstraction bores, EAPB1300 and EAPB1303, are used as the primary water supply sites due to their proximity to the primary water demand areas. There is however flexibility in the distribution of abstraction between the three established water supply sites. All sites are equipped to meet the operational capacity at which they were tested (20 litres per second) to allow for the ability for any one site to meet a majority of the Proposal's water demands.

The two proposed primary water supply sites, EAPB1300 and EAPB1303, are proximal to operational areas associated with the bulk of water demand. It is expected that incorporation of these sites into the water network will be straightforward. Due to its location on the opposite site of the Great Northern Highway to the Proposal, EAPB1302 is not proposed as a primary water supply site.

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747500E

750000E

752500E

Legend

Development Envelope

Disturbance Footprint

Water Supply Bores

Primary Water Supply Bore

Secondary Water Supply Bore

Freeways and Highways (LGATE-195)

Imagery: Google Satellite

7433600N

7433600N

7431000N

7431000N

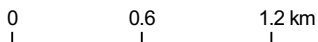
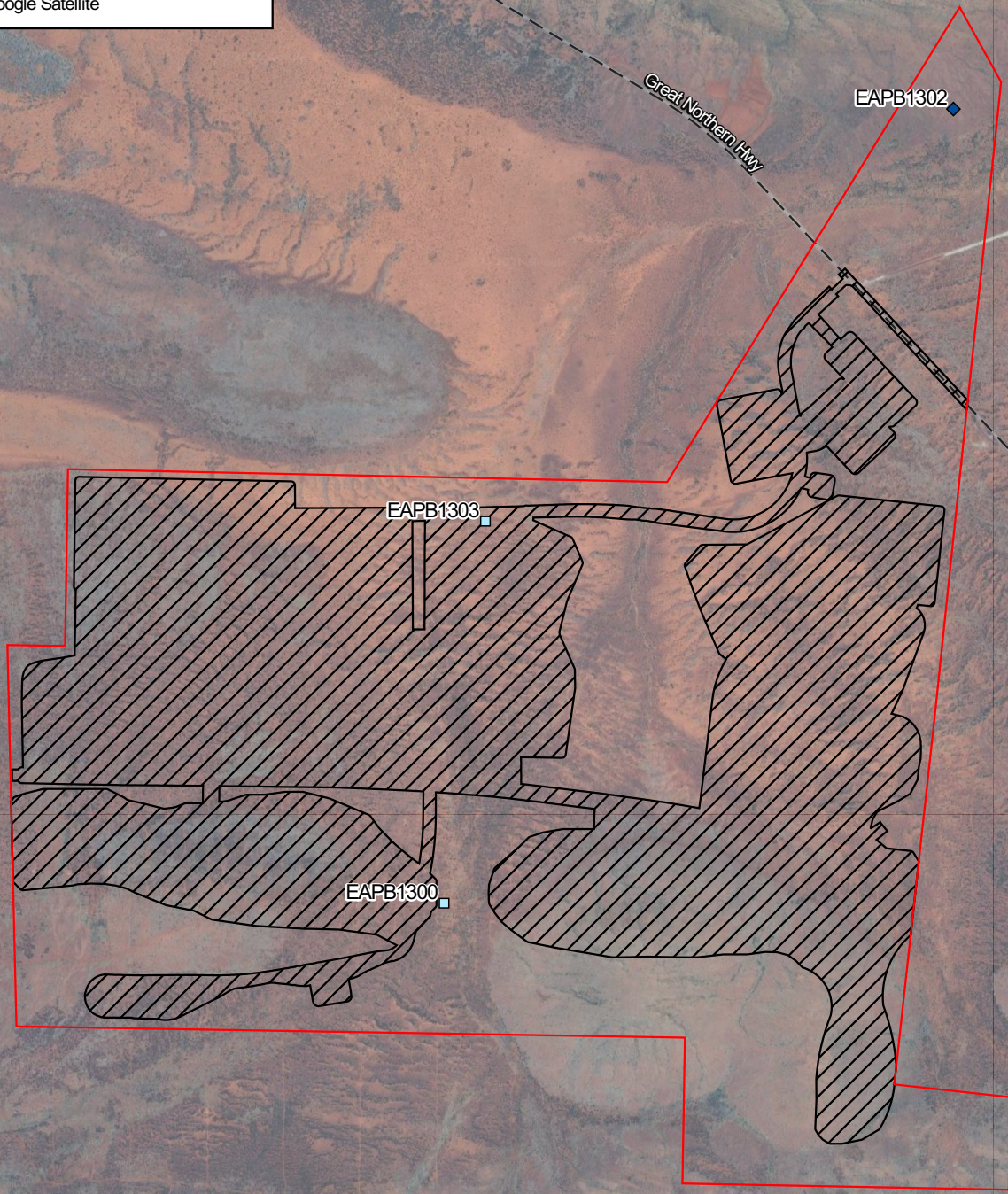
7428600N

7428600N

747500E

750000E

752500E



GDA2020 / MGA zone 50

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Figure 1-4 Production bore locations

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Round Hill

1.2.4 Mine Associated Infrastructure

To facilitate the Proposal, the following supporting infrastructure may also be developed:

- Administration offices;
- Camp;
- Mine and plant maintenance;
- Laydown/storage facilities;
- Power generation;
- Wastewater treatment plant;
- Landfill; and
- Refuelling and maintenance facilities.

An indicative layout of site infrastructure is provided in Figure 1-5.

1.2.5 Ore Transport

Product will be hauled off site via access to existing public road infrastructure that can facilitate delivery of processed ore to the Roy Hill hub. An intersection upgrade is expected to be required where the Proposal haul road connects to the Great Northern Highway.

1.2.6 Closure and Rehabilitation

The operational life of the Proposal, including construction, is expected to be up to 10 years. Within two years after the completion of mining and processing operations, HPPL intends to remove all non-essential surface infrastructure, including processing and support facilities. These areas will be rehabilitated to an agreed land-use (e.g. native vegetation).

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747500E

750000E

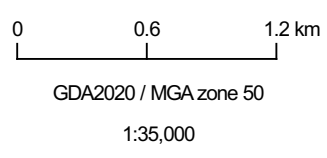
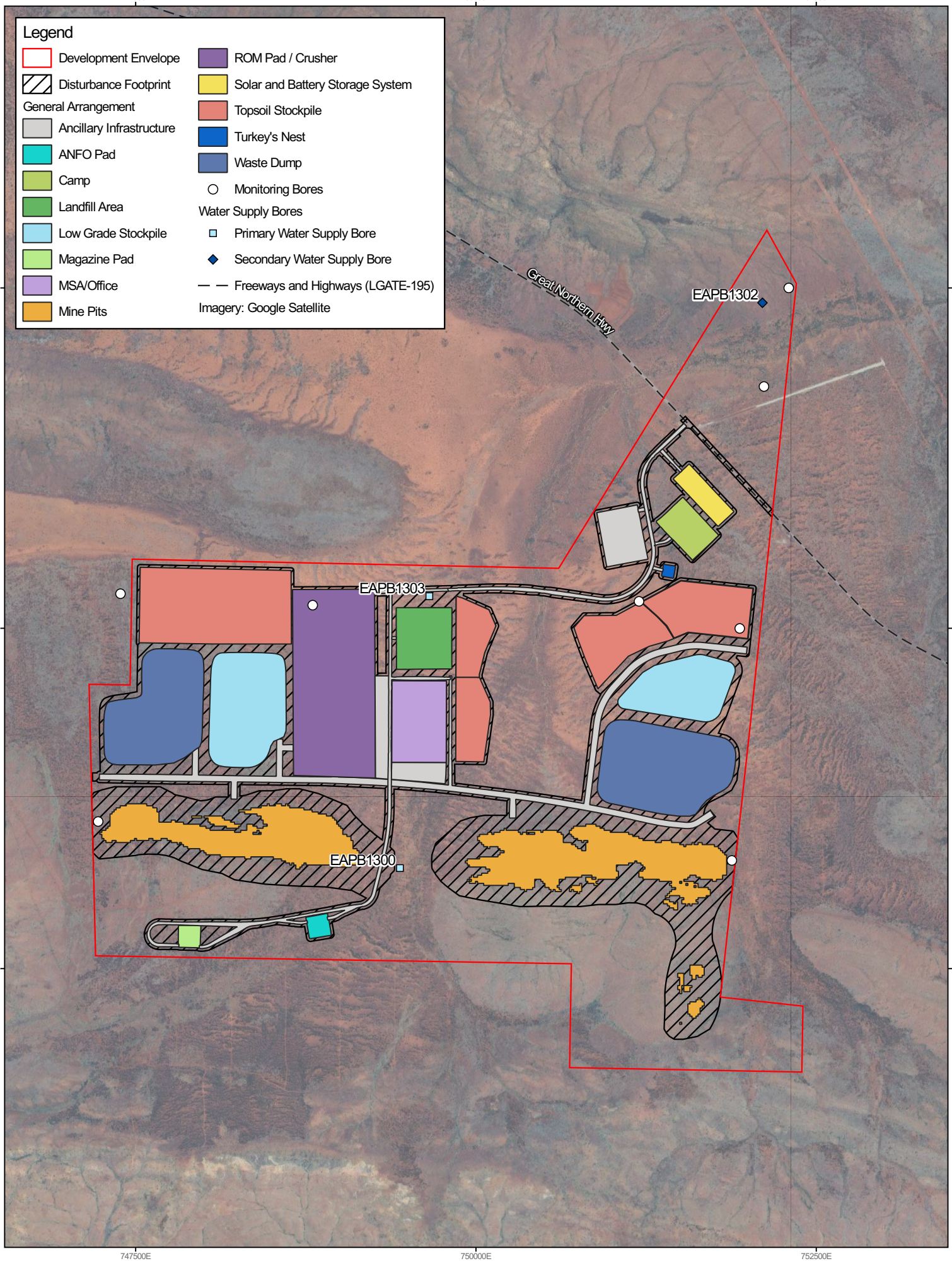
752500E

Legend

- Development Envelope
- Disturbance Footprint
- General Arrangement
- Ancillary Infrastructure
- ANFO Pad
- Camp
- Landfill Area
- Low Grade Stockpile
- Magazine Pad
- MSA/Office
- Mine Pits
- ROM Pad / Crusher
- Solar and Battery Storage System
- Topsoil Stockpile
- Turkey's Nest
- Waste Dump
- Monitoring Bores
- Water Supply Bores
- Primary Water Supply Bore
- Secondary Water Supply Bore
- Freeways and Highways (LGATE-195)
- Imagery: Google Satellite

7433600N
7431000N
7428600N

7433600N
7431000N
7428600N



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Figure 1-5 Proposal layout

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1.3 Proposal Alternatives

Table 1-1 provides an analysis of the alternatives considered in the development of the Proposal.

Table 1-1 Proposal Alternatives

Alternative	Discussion
Activity	HPPL has investigated various Proposal designs and operational methods. The Proposal presented in this ERD has considered technical and environmental risks and is the preferred feasible option.
Element	The Proposal will involve best practice methods for iron ore mining in the region. Proposal elements have been strategically designed to reduce impacts on heritage sites, vegetation, and water flows. As such any changes to the Proposal elements would result in increased impact to the surrounding environment.
Location	This is not being considered as the mineralisation is unique to this location. The layout of the Proposal supporting infrastructure has been designed to reduce impacts to significant flora, fauna, water flows, and Aboriginal heritage sites. Multiple site layouts have been investigated by HPPL in consultation with KNAC. The Proposal presented within this ERD is restricted tightly around the orebody and reduced impacts to surface water flows, as requested by the Traditional Owners. The proposal will make use of existing disturbed areas, aligning haul road with existing roads to reduce new clearing.
No Development	The Proposal has been and will be subject to thorough feasibility studies to ensure that financial aspects are considered, and potential profits justify the capital and operational expenditure. Based on this outlook, HPPL predicts a strong demand for its product. The 'do nothing' approach to the Proposal represents a lost commercial opportunity to HPPL. Therefore the 'do nothing' approach is not considered appropriate.
Technology	The Proposal will utilise best practice technology where practicable. This includes implementing a combination of hybrid power technologies to provide power for the Proposal
Timeline	This is not being considered.

1.4 Local and Regional Context

1.4.1 Land Use and Other Developments

The Proposal is located within the Shire of East Pilbara. The nearest town is Newman, which is located approximately 40 km to the southeast of the DE.

The dominant land use within the Hamersley subregion is grazing, with lesser areas of unallocated Crown land and Crown reserves, native pastures, conservation, mining and urban (Kendrick, 2001a).

Currently land use within the Proposal is predominantly underlying unallocated Crown land with minor intersections with a road reserve (Great Northern Highway; Land ID number 3299861).

The Great Northern Highway connects in the northern portion of the DE. There are several existing rail alignments within proximity to the Proposal, the Hamersley Iron Ore Railway traverses approximately 8 km north of the Proposal before crossing the Great Northern Highway. The Mount

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Newman railway is located approximately 25 km southeast of the Proposal and traverses through Newman and the Marble Bar Road.

There are several existing and reasonably foreseeable projects within 50 km of the Proposal (Figure 1-6):

- Pilbara Energy Project Expansion, located 0.4 km east at the closest point (easement);
- Hope Downs 4 Iron Ore Mine, surrounds the Proposal, with the closest point being 2.6 km east; and
- Rhodes Ridge Iron Ore Project, located approximately 15 km north east.

These projects are considered in the cumulative impact assessment for each environmental factor.

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740000E

750000E

760000E

744000N

743000N

742000N

744000N

743000N

742000N

740000E

750000E

760000E

Mindy South Iron Ore Mine

Rhodes Ridge Iron Ore Project




Hope Downs 4 Iron Ore Mine

Great Northern Hwy

Pilbara Energy Project Expansion

Newman Hub (Western Ridge)

Legend

-  Indicative Development Envelope
-  EPA Referred Significant Proposals (DWER-120)
-  10 km Buffer

Imagery: Google Satellite

0 2 4 km

GDA2020 / MGA zone 50

1:150,000



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Figure 1-6: Nearby Projects

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1.4.2 Tenure and Native Title Determinations

The Proposal is located is situated within pending M47/1636 and replacement mining lease application M47/1670, of which Hancock Prospecting Pty Ltd (HPPL) is the applicant. Underlying *Land Administration Act 1997* tenure is unallocated Crown land, with minor intersections with a road reserve (Great Northern Highway; Land ID number 3299861).

The Proposal lies entirely within the Nyiyaparli native title determination area (WCD2018/008). Karlka Nyiyaparli Aboriginal Corporation (KNAC) is the registered native title body corporate which holds native title rights and interests in trust for the Nyiyaparli People. HPPL and KNAC are parties to the Round Hill Project Agreement dated 12 December 2025.

1.4.3 Environmental Setting

The Proposal does not overlap any recognised conservation or environmentally sensitive areas. The closest sensitive area (a Threatened Flora record) is located approximately 8 km northeast of the Proposal (Table 1-2; Figure 1-7). No indirect impacts to conservation or environmentally sensitive areas are expected due to the distance from the Proposal.

Table 1-2 Environmental areas of significance within 100 km of the Proposal

Classification	Name	Proximity to DE
DBCA Legislated Lands		
National Park	Karrijini National Park	~82 km Northwest*
Nature Reserve	Fortescue Marsh Nature Reserve	~52 km North
Environmentally Sensitive Areas		
Environmentally Sensitive Area - Threatened Flora	N/A	36 records within 100 km, with the closest being ~8 km Northeast
Environmentally Sensitive Area - Threatened ecological community	N/A	~29 km Southeast
Environmentally Sensitive Area - Register of the National Estate	Karrijini National Park	~87 km Northwest*
Environmentally Sensitive Area - World Heritage Properties	Fortescue Marsh	~72 km North

**Varying classifications of areas has resulted in different boundary sizes for the Karrijini National Park.*

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700000E

750000E

800000E

745000N

746500N

748000N

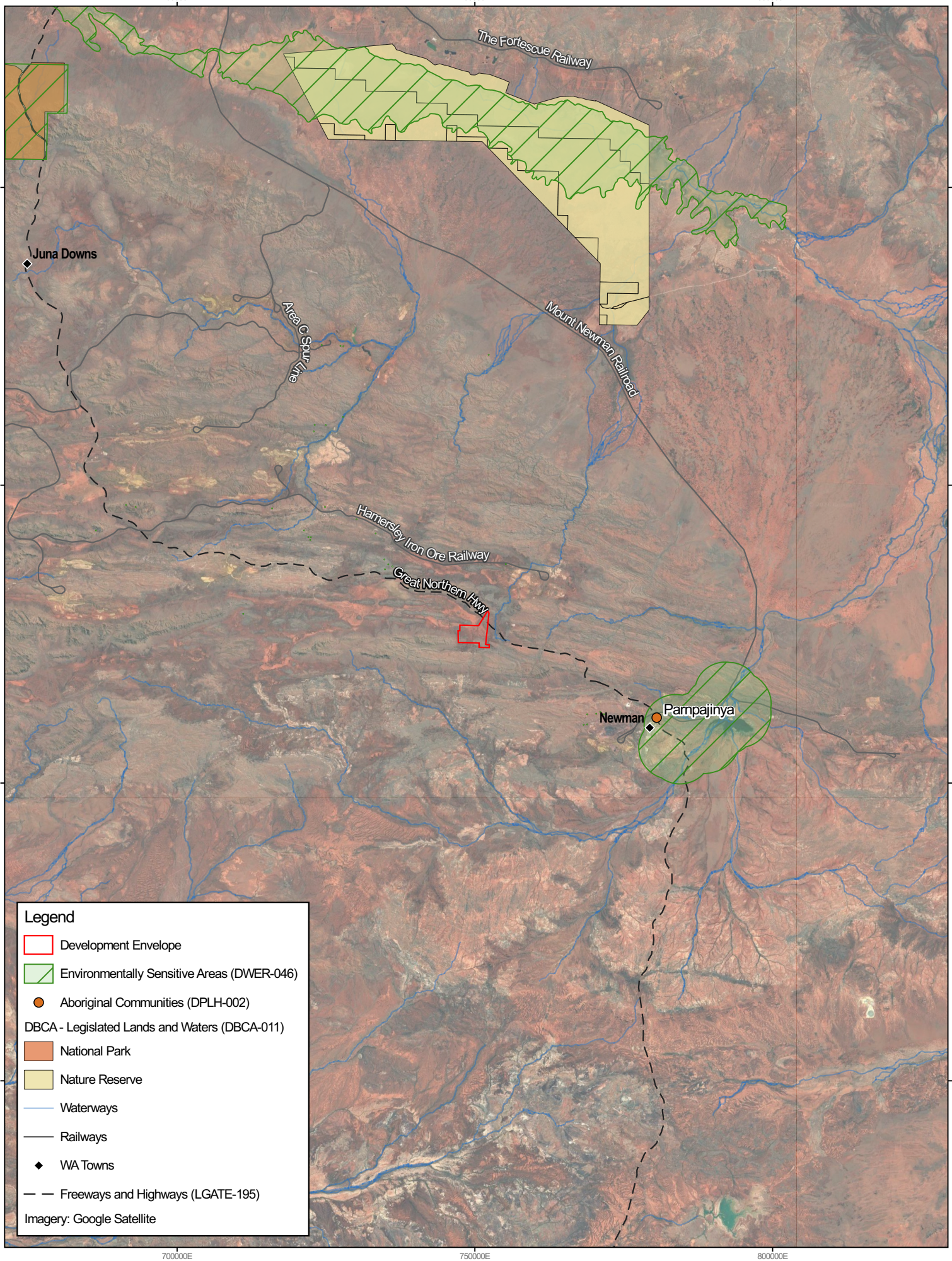
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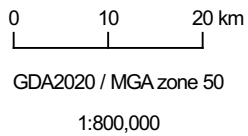
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- Development Envelope
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas (DWER-046)
- Aboriginal Communities (DPLH-002)
- DBCA - Legislated Lands and Waters (DBCA-011)
- National Park
- Nature Reserve
- Waterways
- Railways
- ◆ WA Towns
- Freeways and Highways (LGATE-195)
- Imagery: Google Satellite

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Project: 0612_ROU_019
 Date: 22/05/2026
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Figure 1-7: Key local and regional context

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2 Stakeholder Engagement

2.1 Key Stakeholders

The Australian Commonwealth Government, WA Government, Local Government and community groups, Traditional Owners, nearby mining companies, and landowners are considered key stakeholders for the Proposal.

The following stakeholders have been or will be consulted with regarding the Proposal:

Commonwealth Government:

- DCCEEW.

State Government:

- Main Roads WA;
- DBCA;
- DMPE;
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER); and
- EPA.

Other:

- Rio Tinto;
- Association of Mining and Exploration Companies (AMEC);
- Chamber of Minerals and Energy WA (CMEWA);
- Karlka Nyiyaparli Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC (KNAC); and
- Shire of East Pilbara.

2.2 Stakeholder Engagement Process

HPPL has a consultation strategy which identifies key external stakeholders and is proactively engaging with these stakeholders regarding the potential implementation and resulting impacts of the Proposal. The extensive consultation aims to develop productive relationships that ensure the Proposal is underwritten by sustainable agreements. The consultation strategy also includes consultation to secure the statutory approvals necessary for the construction and operation of the Proposal.

HPPL has consulted with KNAC and relevant Local, State and Commonwealth Government stakeholders. HPPL has held pre-referral meetings with DWER and DCCEEW regarding the Proposal, and feedback has been incorporated into this Document where applicable.

2.3 Stakeholder Consultation Outcomes

HPPL has a Stakeholder Consultation Register which maintains records of all consultation. The Register summarises key issues raised by stakeholders during the consultation process and describes how HPPL has responded to those issues. Consultation with Main Roads WA has been included within this

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register regarding upgrades to a section Great Northern Highway to accommodate entrance and exit of trucks. A copy of the register can be found in Appendix 4.

During consultations and negotiations, KNAC noted that the Ophthalmia Range is a place of significance to the Niyaparli People and identified concerns regarding the partial overlap of Round Hill mining lease application M47/1636 with the Ophthalmia Range and proposed Ophthalmia Range Exclusion Zone (Exclusion Zone), to the south of the Proposal's DE.

HPPL consulted with KNAC to identify options which would address KNAC's concerns and their requested limits to mining-related activity within the Exclusion Zone. A joint site visit was undertaken to consider the area and potential options. The parties ultimately agreed that a 'replacement' mining lease application would be lodged which did not:

- extend into the Exclusion Zone; or
- overlap elevated portions of the Ophthalmia Range outside the Exclusion Zone, largely to prevent potential disruption to natural water courses resulting from mining activities.

Subsequent consultation with KNAC identified a clear priority to minimise impacts to surface water flows from the Round Hill catchment. Further information regarding consultation with the Traditional Owners is provided in Section 5.4.

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3 Flora and Vegetation

3.1 EPA Environmental Factor and Objective

The EPA Objective for this Environmental Factor is to protect flora and vegetation so that biological diversity and ecological integrity are maintained.

3.2 Relevant Policy and Guidance

Relevant State and Commonwealth Government guidance documents for flora and vegetation are summarised in Table 3-1.

Table 3-1 Policy and guidance relevant to the Flora and Vegetation Environmental Factor

Policy and Guidance	How guidance has been considered
WA Government	
Key EPA documents	
Statement of Environmental Principles, Factors, Objectives and Aims of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA; EPA, 2023b)	This document was considered in the preparation of this ERD and to inform EIA. It was used identify the Environmental Factors likely to be impacted by the Proposal and the EPA's objective for each factor.
EIA (Part IV Divisions 1 and 2) Procedures Manual (EPA, 2024b)	This document has been considered in planning for the Part IV approval process and has been used to inform the preparation of this ERD.
EIA (Part IV Divisions 1 and 2) Administrative Procedures (EPA, 2024c)	This document has been considered in planning for the Part IV approval process and has been used to inform the preparation of this ERD.
Instructions on how to prepare an Environmental Review Document (EPA, 2025a)	This document has been considered in planning for the Part IV approval process and has been used to inform the preparation of this ERD.
EIA Practice Guide (EPA, 2025b)	This document has been considered in planning for the Part IV approval process and has been used to inform the preparation of this ERD.
<i>Guideline for Cumulative Impact Assessment (EPA, 2026)</i>	This document was considered in the preparation of this ERD and to inform EIA.
Relevant EPA Factor Guidelines	
Environmental Factor Guideline - Flora and Vegetation (EPA, 2016a)	This document was considered in the preparation of this section (Section 3) of the ERD.
Relevant EPA Technical Guidance	
Technical Guidance – Flora and Vegetation Surveys for EIA (EPA, 2016c)	This document was used to inform the survey effort required to undertake EIA for the Proposal and is referenced throughout the Flora and Vegetation report for the Proposal.
Guidance Statement 6 – Rehabilitation of Terrestrial Ecosystems (EPA, 2006)	This document has been considered in the design and planning of the Proposal, it has also been considered in the preparation of mitigation measures for the Proposal.
Other Legislation, Policy, and Guidance	
Guideline for preparing Mining Development and Closure Proposals (DMPE, 2025a)	This document has been considered in the design and planning of the Proposal, it has also been considered in the preparation of mitigation measures for the Proposal.

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Policy and Guidance	How guidance has been considered
<i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007 (BAM Act)</i>	This Act was considered during the assessment of weeds recorded in the Survey Area.
Commonwealth Government	
Key Documents	
Generic guidelines for the content of a draft EPBC Act Public Environment Report (PER)/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS; including the objects and principles of the EPBC Act, 1999; Department of the Environment and Energy (DotEE), 2016a)	This document was considered and notes addressed where relevant (noting this is not an accredited assessment).
EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy (Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (DSEWPaC), 2012a) – including the Offset Assessment guide	This document was considered when determining whether offsets were expected to be required for this factor under the EPBC Act, and if so, to ensure alignment with proposed offsets in this ERD.
EPBC Act Condition Setting Policy (Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE), 2020)	This document was used as guidance where relevant (noting this is not an accredited assessment).
EPBC Act Outcomes-based conditions policy (Department of the Environment (DotE), 2016)	This document was used to assist in developing the outcomes for Flora and Vegetation where relevant (noting this is not an accredited assessment).
Relevant Technical Guidance	
Relevant EPBC Act listed species-specific survey guidelines and protocols.	This document was used as guidance when undertaking surveys of EPBC Act listed species and potential survey limitations.
Relevant EPBC Act listed species-specific Recovery plans, Threat Abatement Plans, Approved Conservation Advice (ACA), and other documents.	This document was used as guidance to assess and manage EPBC Act listed species that may be impacted by the Proposal.

3.3 Receiving Environment

Information within this section has been sourced from the Detailed flora and vegetation survey of the Round Hill project (E47/1313) (Rapallo, 2024; Appendix 5.1), undertaken for the Proposal.

3.3.1 Surveys and Studies

Rapallo was commissioned by HPPL to undertake a detailed flora and vegetation survey for the Proposal. The purpose of the survey was to delineate key flora values for the Proposal to inform the environmental assessment and approvals process, as well as provide context for the preparation of EIA documentation. Surveys were completed over two seasons, and included a desktop study, field survey, and reporting. The ‘Survey Area’ is comprised of one 1,900 ha area and a 197 ha northern area and includes the entirety of M 47/1636 (of which the Proposal is a part of) and a section of E 47/1313 (Figure 3-1).

Several biological database searches were undertaken to identify and prepare lists of significant flora and vegetation communities that may occur within the Survey Area. A literature search was conducted for accessible reports for biological surveys conducted within a 50 km radius of the Survey Area to build on the lists developed from the database searches.

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3.3.1.1 Desktop Assessment

A desktop assessment of relevant databases, literature and spatial data preceded the field assessments to:

- Produce a species list that represents the likely flora assembly of the Survey Area;
- Identify the possible occurrence of threatened and priority flora; and
- Identify the possible occurrence of Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) and Priority Ecological Communities (PEC).

The databases and literature used to inform the objectives of the desktop assessment were:

- DBCA Threatened and Priority Flora Database;
- DBCA TEC/PEC database;
- Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) database;
- FloraBase (WA Herbarium, 1998-);
- DCCEEW (2025) Protected Matters Search Tool; and
- Historical studies for nearby projects (e.g. Rhodes Ridge Iron Ore Project).

3.3.1.2 Field Assessment

A two-season detailed flora and vegetation survey was completed over the Survey Area from 22 - 30 September 2023 (Spring), and from 8 - 16 April 2024 (Autumn). The majority of the Survey Area was accessed by four-wheel drive vehicle using existing tracks. Parts of the Survey Area located further away from tracks were accessed on foot (Figure 3-1).

3.3.1.2.1 Quadrats

Quadrat locations were selected to ensure that an accurate representation of the major vegetation types within the Survey Area were sampled adequately, with a minimum of at least three quadrats per vegetation type. Rapallo (2024) sampled a total of 41 quadrats across the Survey Area. Quadrat sampling dimensions were 50 m x 50 m in accordance with EPA guidance for the Eremaean Botanical Province (EPA, 2016a).

The quadrats were selected within all preliminary vegetation types discernible through aerial photography interpretation, topography, and pre-European vegetation and landform mapping, in combination with on-ground observations.

The following information was collected from each quadrat:

- Site name, date, photographs, GPS coordinates, or corner points;
- Landform, aspect, slope;
- Soil type, soil colour;
- Rock type, rock cover, rock size;
- Vegetation condition rating (EPA, 2016c);

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- Disturbances noted in the area including estimated fire history; and
- Vascular plant species – including height and approximate foliage cover.

3.3.1.2.2 Relevés, vegetation notes, and opportunistic collections

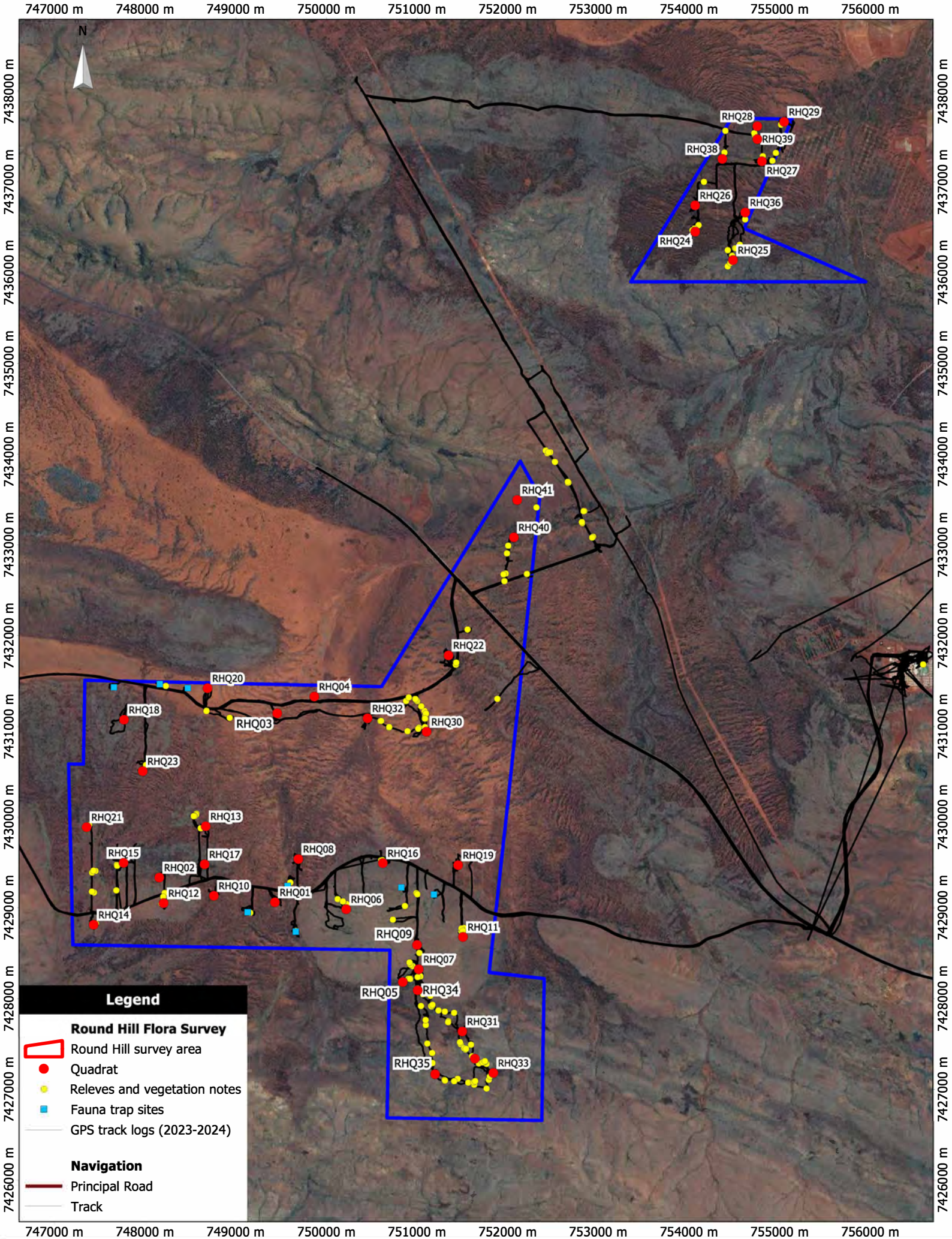
Relevés were comprised an unbounded search of a central point with data recorded for all dominant flora taxa. Nine relevés were sampled during the first survey season. Vegetation notes comprised photos, a brief vegetation description, and collection of one or more dominant taxa in order to further refine vegetation mapping.

Rapallo (2025a and 2025b) completed two fauna surveys over the Survey Area. Site photos and notes collected during these surveys were also used to verify and further refine vegetation boundaries.

Preliminary vegetation boundaries were mapped in the field using aerial photographs and GPS waypoints with associated vegetation notes.

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Hanroy / Hancock Prospecting
 Round Hill
 Detailed flora and vegetation survey
 (September 2023, April 2024)

Original Size: A4
 Scale: 1:50,000
 Datum: MGA94 Zone 50

0 1 km

Figure 3-1: Flora Survey Area

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3.3.1.3 Alignment with Technical Guidance

Rapallo designed and implemented field assessments based on the relevant State legislation and guidelines, as well as EPA technical guidance. Further detail on survey limitations is provided in Table 3-2 and Appendix 5.1.

Table 3-2 Flora and vegetation survey limitations

Potential Survey Limitation	Impact on Survey
Availability of contextual information at a regional and local scale	Not a limitation. Sufficient flora and vegetation information was available to place the Survey Area in a regional context.
Competency/experience of the team carrying out the survey, including experience in bioregion surveyed	Not a limitation. The survey was completed by a team of six botanist with experience completing biological surveys across WA. The senior botanists on the survey each have extensive (10+ years) experience conducting and leading Pilbara surveys.
Proportion of flora recorded and/or collected, any identification issues	Not a limitation. There were no identification issues.
Was the appropriate area fully surveyed (effort and extent)	Not a limitation. The entire Survey Area was accessed and surveyed a combination of vehicle access and access on foot. Quadrats were positioned in all preliminary vegetation types, and across the entire Survey Area.
Access restrictions within the Survey Area	Not a limitation. There were no survey limitations due to access restrictions.
Survey timing, rainfall, season of survey	Not a limitation. The first survey season was completed in September 2023, and the second season survey in April 2024, which falls within the secondary and primary recommended timing for surveys in the Eremaean botanical province (EPA 2016a).
Disturbances that may have affected the results of the survey (e.g. fire, flooding, clearing)	Not a limitation. The Survey Area has been affected by a variety of disturbances, with weeds, cattle, tracks, and fire. However, these disturbances were relatively minor, and extensive areas of undisturbed vegetation were available for sampling.

3.3.2 Existing Environment

3.3.2.1 Climate

The Pilbara region of WA has an arid to tropical climate with a hot dry summers and mild winters. The average annual rainfall at this location (Newman Aero; ID: 7176) is about 327.5 mm and the annual average minimum and maximum temperatures are 16.6°C and 32.3°C, respectively. Most rainfall occurs from January to March and August to October is dry (Bureau of Meteorology (BoM), 2025a).

The Newman Aero (ID 7176) was identified as the closest active weather station with monthly records for both rainfall and temperature, data from 2024 and average monthly temperatures have been presented in Figure 3-2.

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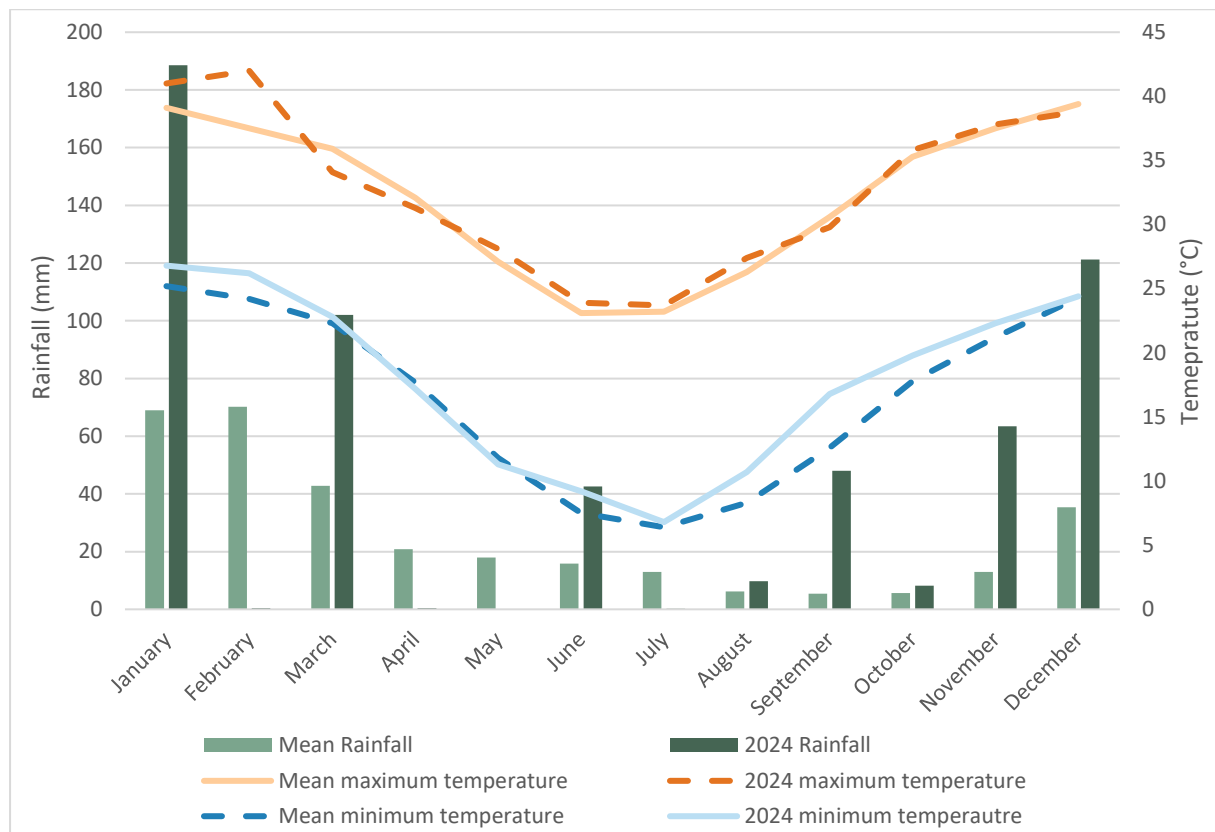


Figure 3-2 Climate data for Newman Aero (ID 7176)

3.3.2.2 Biogeographic Regions

The bioregions of Australia are described in the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) (Thackway & Cresswell, 1995). Bioregions are large, geographically distinct areas of land with common characteristics such as geology, landform patterns, climate, ecological features and plant and animal communities. The latest version, IBRA7, classifies Australia's landscapes into 89 large geographically distinct bioregions and 419 subregions (DotEE, 2012).

The Proposal is located in the Hammersley (PIL03) subregion of the Pilbara IBRA region (Figure 3-3). The Hammersley subregion comprises the southern section of the Pilbara Craton. Geology is defined by mountainous areas of Proterozoic sedimentary ranges and plateaux, dissected by gorges (basalt, shale, and dolerite). Vegetation comprises mulga (*Acacia aneura* complex) low woodland over bunch grasses on fine textured soils in valley floors, and *Eucalyptus leucophloia* (snappy gum) over *Tridodia brizoides* on skeletal soils of the ranges (Kendrick, 2001a).

3.3.2.3 Land Systems

The Land Systems of the Pilbara region are classified according to similarities in landform, soil, vegetation, geology, and geomorphology (Van Vreeswyk et al., 2004). The Proposal traverses five land systems, as summarised in Table 3-3 and shown in Figure 3-4.

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Table 3-3 Land systems of the Proposal

System	Land Type	Description	Extent in within DE
Boolgeeda Land System	Stony plains with spinifex grasslands	Stony lower slopes and plains below hill systems supporting hard and soft spinifex grasslands or mulga shrublands.	40.4 ha (2%)
Newman Land System	Hills and ranges with spinifex grasslands	Rugged jaspilite plateaux, ridges, and mountains supporting hard spinifex grasslands.	353.2 ha (21%)
Rocklea Land System	Hills and ranges with spinifex grasslands	Basalt hills, plateaux, lower slopes, and minor stony plains supporting hard spinifex (and occasionally soft spinifex) grasslands.	3.1 ha (0.2%)
Spearhole Land System	Wash plains on hardpan with mulga shrublands	Gently undulating gravelly hardpan plains and dissected slopes supporting groved mulga shrublands and hard spinifex.	783.3 ha (46%)
Wannamunna Land System	Wash plains on hardpan with mulga shrublands	Hardpan plains and internal drainage tracts supporting mulga shrublands and woodlands (and occasionally eucalypt woodlands).	522.5 ha (31%)

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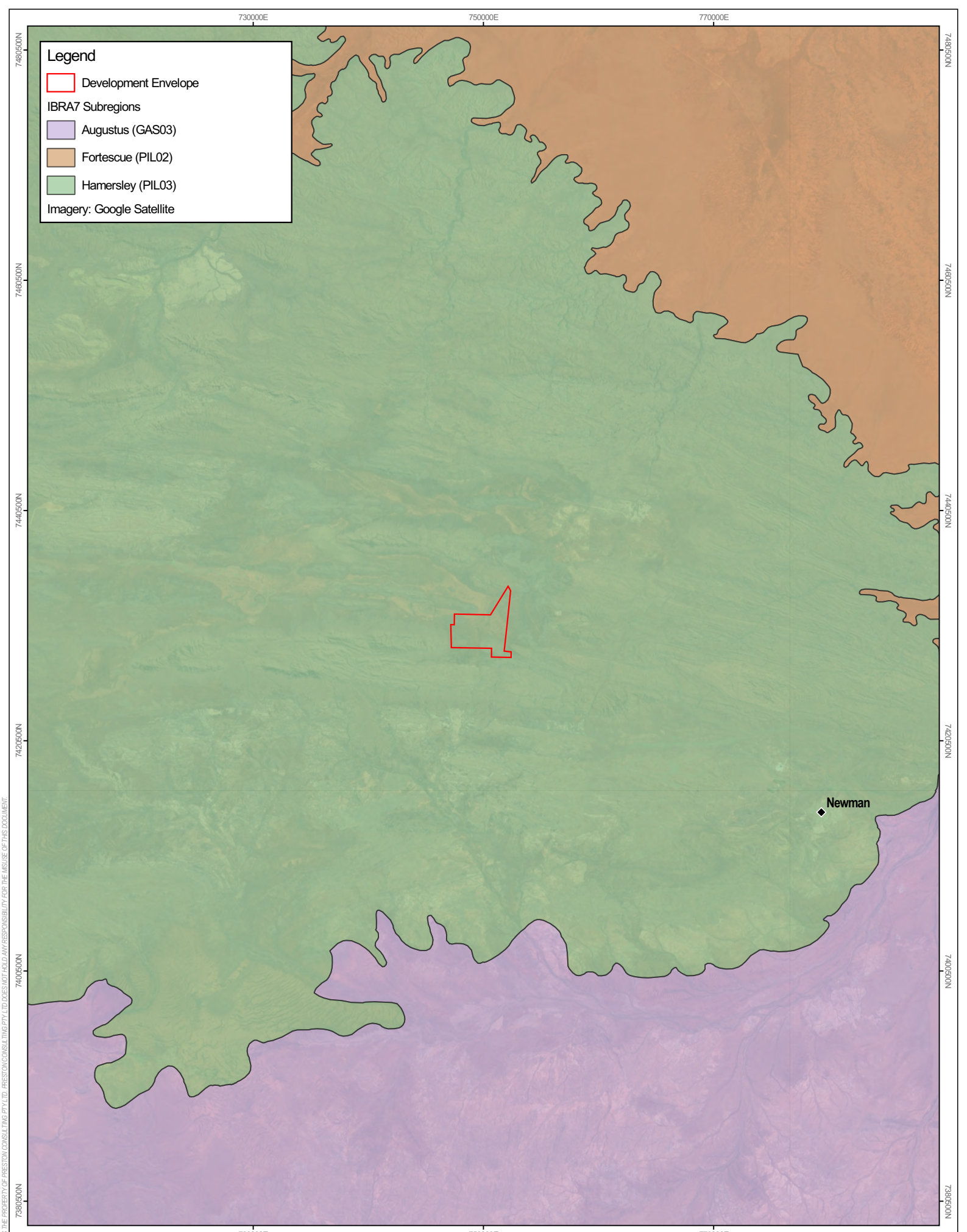


Figure 3-3: IBRA subregions

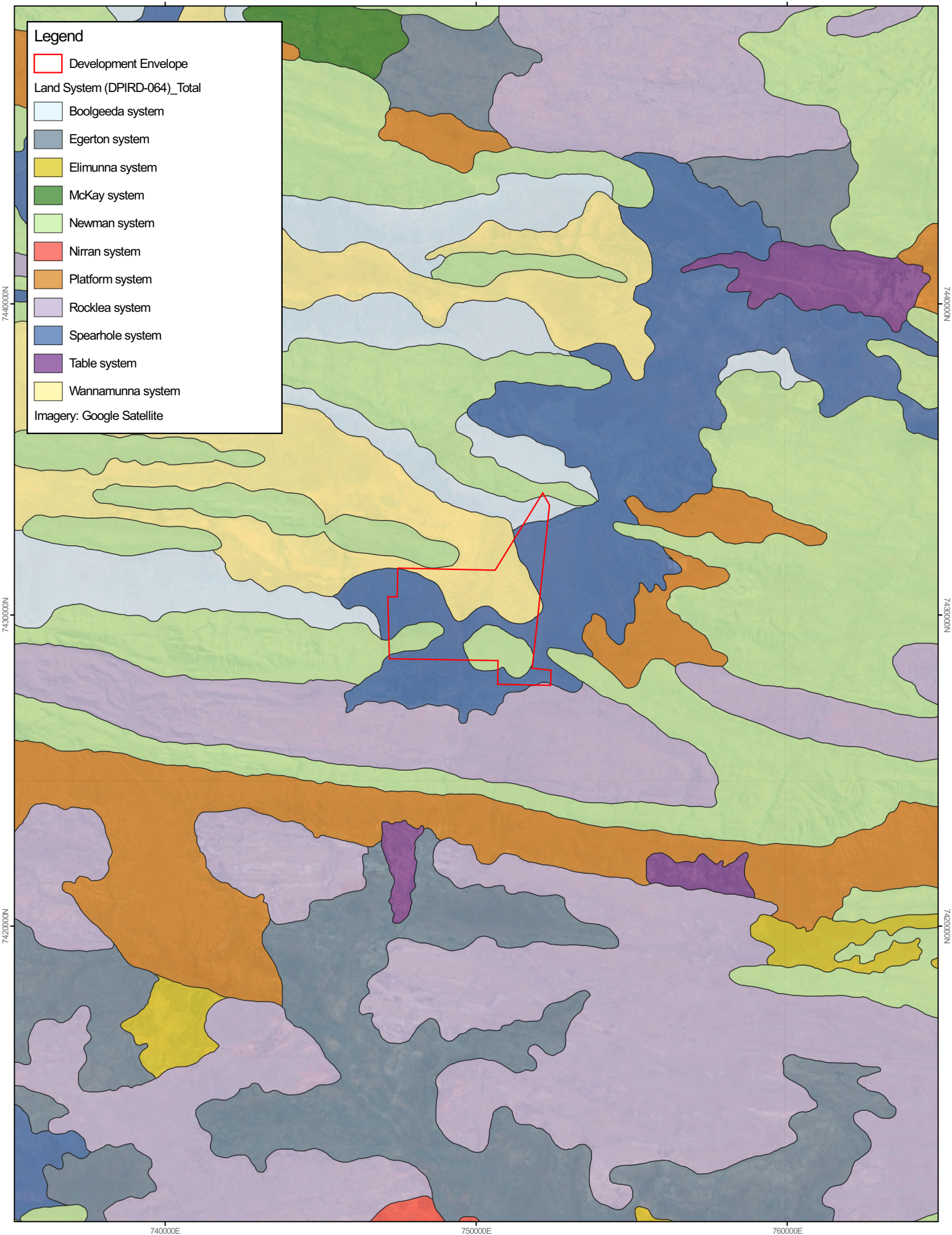
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- Development Envelope
- Land System (DPIRD-064)_Total
- Boolgeeda system
- Egerton system
- Elimunna system
- McKay system
- Newman system
- Nirran system
- Platform system
- Rocklea system
- Spearhole system
- Table system
- Wannamunna system
- Imagery: Google Satellite



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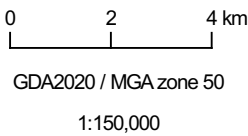
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 Author: ASmithers



Figure 3-4: Land Systems

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3.3.2.4 Flora

The desktop study returned 1,000 vascular plant taxa (species and sub species) representing 90 plant families from within 50 km of the Survey Area. These included 49 significant flora taxa representing 31 different plant families.

The two-season flora and vegetation survey of the Survey Area recorded 299 flora taxa from 47 different families. The most well represented families were Fabaceae (60 taxa), Poaceae (51 taxa), and Malvaceae (32 taxa).

3.3.2.4.1 Significant Flora

Rapallo's (2024) desktop review found records of 36 significant flora species within 50 km of the Survey Area. This includes one Priority 1, seven Priority 2, 21 Priority 3 and six Priority 4 species. No threatened flora listed under the EPBC Act and/or BC Act were identified within 50 km of the Survey Area.

The likelihood of occurrence of the listed Priority taxa within the Survey Area was completed by assessing factors including suitable habitat and distance of nearest records to the Survey Area.

Six priority flora species were confirmed to have previously been recorded within the Survey Area, six priority flora species were considered highly likely to occur, six priority flora species were considered likely to occur, ten priority flora species may possibly occur, and seven priority flora species were considered unlikely to occur. Priority taxa that were considered possible to occur or higher are detailed in Table 3-4.

Rapallo's (2024) field survey identified five significant flora within the Survey Area (Figure 3-5) all listed by DBCA as Priority Flora:

- *Aristida jerichoensis* var. *subspinulifera* (Priority 3);
- *Indigofera gilesii* (Priority 3);
- *Ipomoea racemigera* (Priority 2);
- *Isotropis parviflora* (Priority 3); and
- *Rhagodia* sp. Hamersley (Priority 3).

No Threatened Flora listed under the EPBC Act and/or BC Act were recorded within the Survey Area. Four of the Priority taxa recorded during the study had been recorded in the Survey Area previously as identified in the desktop study, while one taxon (*Ipomoea racemigera*, Priority 2) was new to the Survey Area.

Table 3-4 Priority flora potentially occurring within the Survey Area

Species	Likelihood of Occurrence
Priority 1	
<i>Paranotis</i> sp. Pilbara (H. Ajduk HAOP04a)	Confirmed (historical survey)
Priority 2	
<i>Aristida lazaridis</i>	Highly likely

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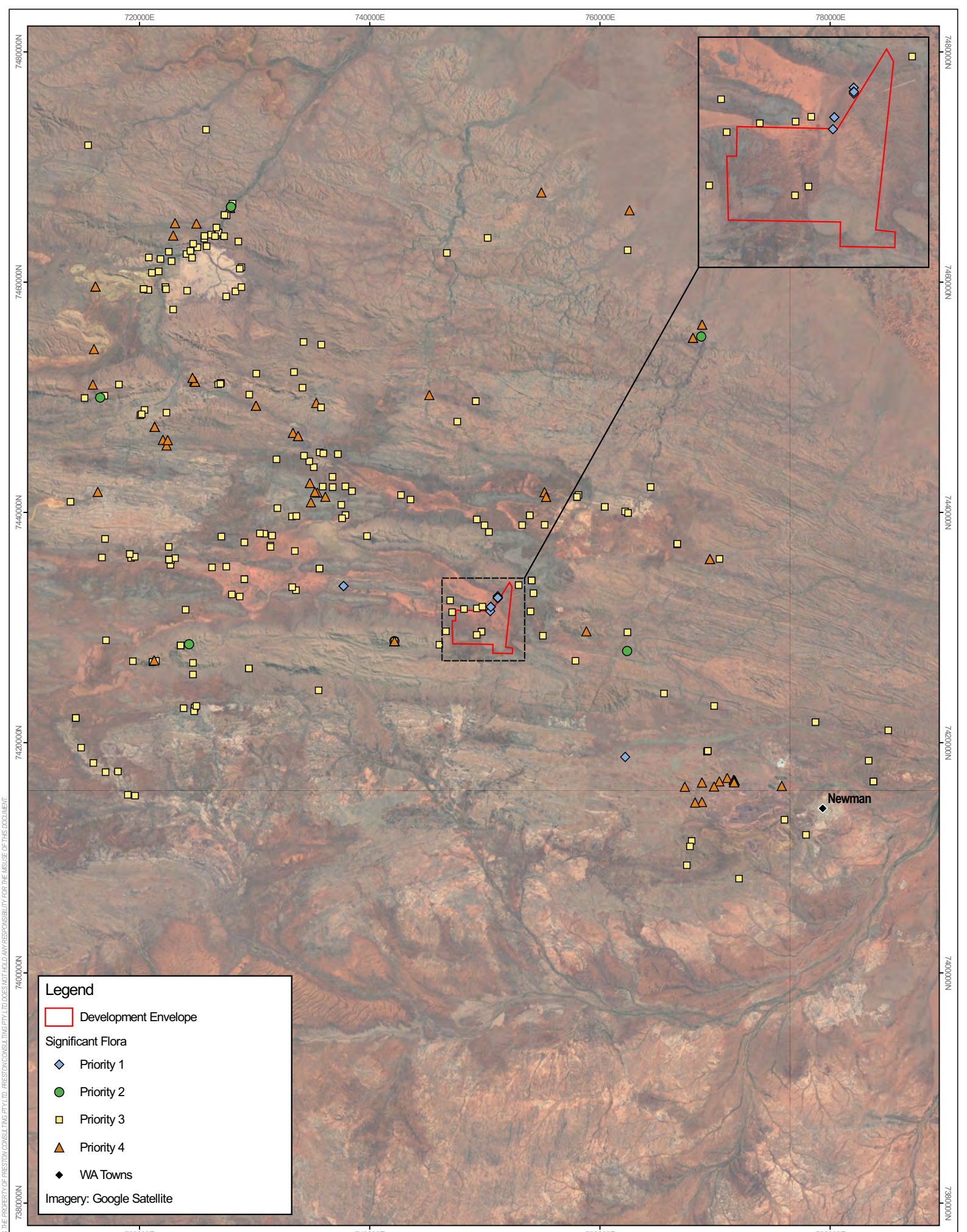
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Species	Likelihood of Occurrence
<i>Eragrostis</i> sp. Mt Robinson (S. van Leeuwen 4109)	Likely
<i>Eremophila</i> sp. West Angelas (S. van Leeuwen 4068)	Likely
<i>Gymnanthera cunninghamii</i>	Possible
<i>Ipomoea racemigera</i>	Confirmed
Priority 3	
<i>Acacia subtiliformis</i>	Possible
<i>Aristida jerichoensis</i> var. <i>subspinulifera</i>	Confirmed
<i>Crotalaria smithiana</i>	Possible
<i>Dampiera metallorum</i>	Likely
<i>Eremophila naaykensis</i>	Possible
<i>Goodenia</i> sp. East Pilbara (A.A. Mitchell PRP 727)	Highly likely
<i>Grevillea saxicola</i>	Likely
<i>Hibiscus</i> sp. Gurinbidy Range (M.E. Trudgen MET 15708)	Confirmed
<i>Isotropis parviflora</i>	Confirmed
<i>Rhagodia</i> sp. Hamersley (M. Trudgen 17794)	Confirmed
<i>Rostellularia adscendens</i> var. <i>latifolia</i>	Possible
<i>Solanum kentrocaule</i>	Possible
<i>Swainsona thompsoniana</i>	Possible
<i>Themeda</i> sp. Hamersley Station (M.E. Trudgen 11431)	Highly likely
<i>Triodia</i> sp. Mt Ella (M.E. Trudgen 12739)	Possible
<i>Vittadinia</i> sp. Coondewanna Flats (S. van Leeuwen 4684)	Likely
Priority 4	
<i>Acacia bromilowiana</i>	Highly likely
<i>Eremophila magnifica</i> subsp. <i>magnifica</i>	Highly likely
<i>Eremophila youngii</i> subsp. <i>lepidota</i>	Possible
<i>Lepidium catapycnon</i>	Highly likely
<i>Ptilotus mollis</i>	Possible
<i>Sida</i> sp. Barlee Range (S. van Leeuwen 1642)	Likely

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- Development Envelope
- Significant Flora**
- ◆ Priority 1
- Priority 2
- Priority 3
- ▲ Priority 4
- ◆ WA Towns

Imagery: Google Satellite

0 6 12 km

GDA2020 / MGA zone 50

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 Author: ASmithers



Figure 3-5: Flora desktop results

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743300N

743300N

743600N

743600N

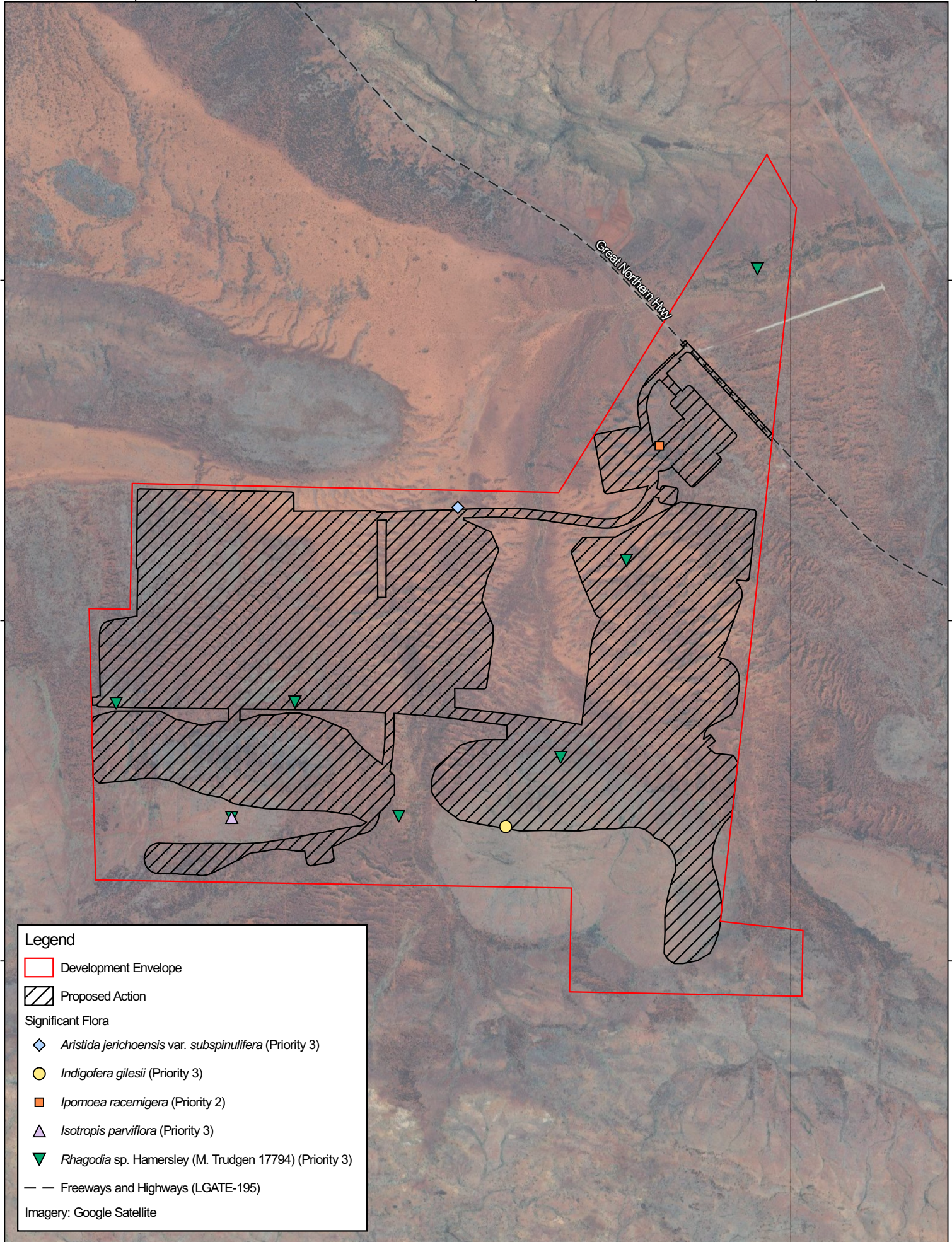
742800N

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Legend

Development Envelope

Proposed Action

Significant Flora

Aristida jerichoensis var. *subspinulifera* (Priority 3)

Indigofera gilesii (Priority 3)

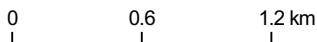
Ipomoea racemigera (Priority 2)

Isotropis parviflora (Priority 3)

Rhagodia sp. Hamersley (M. Trudgen 17794) (Priority 3)

Freeways and Highways (LGATE-195)

Imagery: Google Satellite



GDA2020 / MGA zone 50

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Figure 3-6 Significant flora recorded at the Proposal by Rapallo (2024)

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3.3.2.4.2 Introduced Species

Four introduced flora taxa (weeds) were recorded during the Rapallo (2024) survey (Figure 3-7). Weeds were recorded in five of the seven broad vegetation types identified during the survey, as summarised in Table 3-5.

The greatest number of weeds species were recorded from Vegetation Type A which supported all four weed taxa detected during the survey.

Table 3-5 Weeds recorded within the Proposal

Species	WA Organism List Status	Occurrence count*
<i>Bidens bipinnata</i> (Beggar's Tick)	Permitted - S11	19
<i>Malvastrum americanum</i>	Permitted - S11	2
<i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i> (Buffel Grass)	Permitted - S11	4
<i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	Permitted - S11	10

*Note: the occurrence count represents the number of quadrats where these species were recorded, not the number of individual plants at these locations, with presence of a weed species within a quadrat counted as one occurrence.

None of the weeds recorded during the survey were considered Weeds of National Significance (WoNS; Centre for Invasive Species Solutions, 2021), or listed as declared pests, prohibited, or requiring a permit under the BAM Act, nor were any of them identified by DBCA as 'Priority Alerts' for the Pilbara region.

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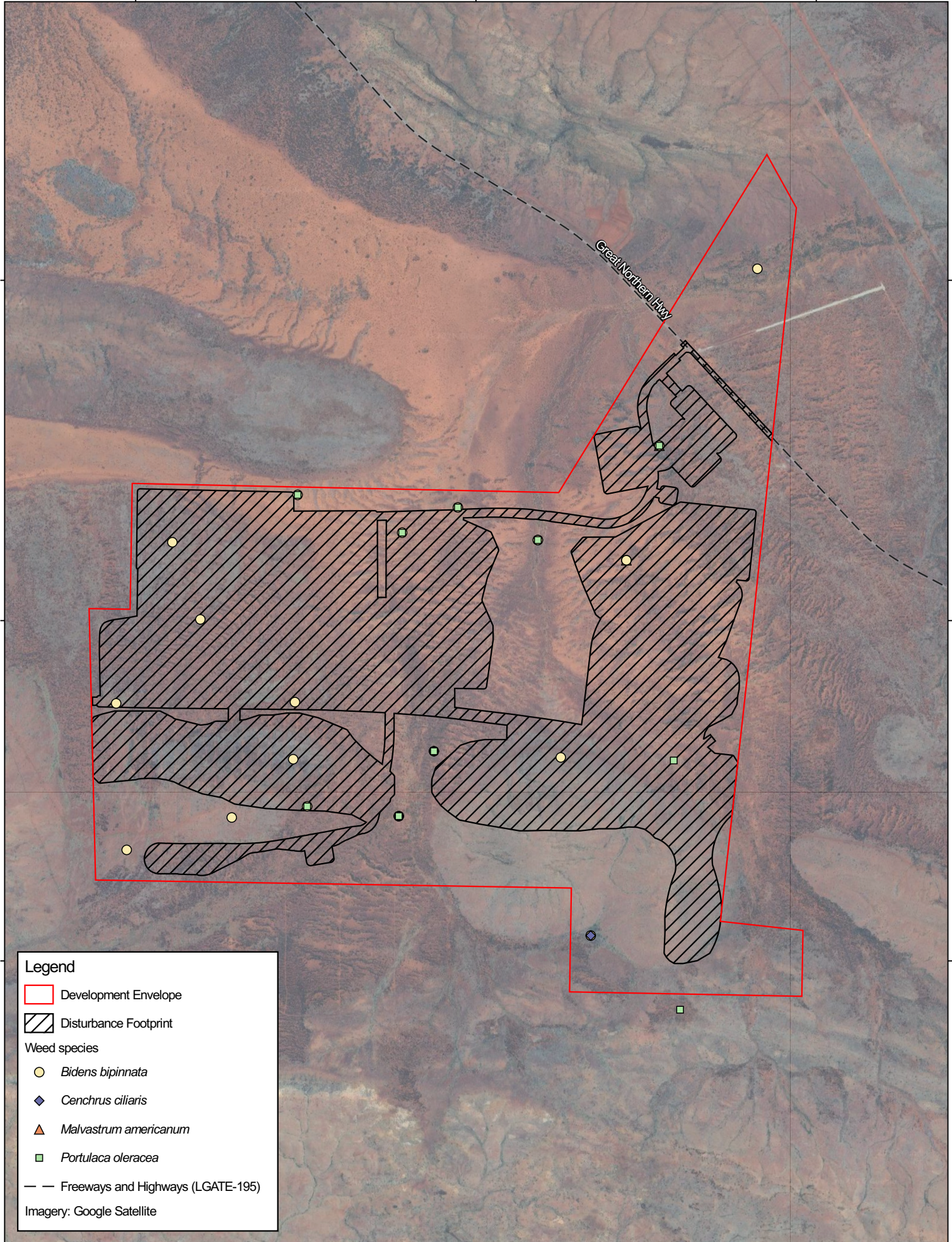
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742800N

747500E

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Legend

Development Envelope

Disturbance Footprint

Weed species

Bidens bipinnata

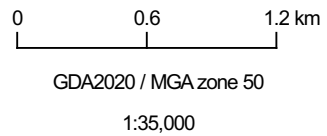
Cenchrus ciliaris

Malvastrum americanum

Portulaca oleracea

Freeways and Highways (LGATE-195)

Imagery: Google Satellite



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Figure 3-7 Weeds recorded at the Proposal

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3.3.2.5 Vegetation

3.3.2.5.1 Regional Native Vegetation Extent

Native vegetation within 10, 15 and 20 km of the DE was mapped using Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development's (DPIRD) Native Vegetation Extent dataset (DPIRD, 2025) and is shown in Figure 3-8. The extent of native vegetation surrounding the DE are summarised in Table 3-6.

Table 3-6 Native vegetation surrounding the Proposal

Radius (km)	Area of native vegetation remaining (ha)	% of native vegetation remaining
DE	1,703	100
10	53,423	100
15	102,575	99.97
20	167,441	99.98

3.3.2.5.2 Vegetation Associations

The Survey Areas are comprised of nine vegetation associations which are shown in Figure 3-8 and detailed in Table 3-7 and are based on the Pre-European Vegetation (DPIRD, 2019) dataset and the Native Vegetation Extent dataset (DPIRD, 2025).

Table 3-7 Vegetation Associations of the Proposal

Vegetation Association	Description	State-wide Pre-European Extent (ha)	Current extent (ha)	% Remaining	Extent in DE (ha)
Hamersley 18	Low woodland, open low woodland, or sparse woodland Mulga <i>Acacia aneura</i> and associated species.	19,892,306	19,843,148	99.75	1,477
Hamersley 82	Low tree-steppe Hummock grassland with scattered bloodwoods & snappy gum <i>Triodia</i> spp., <i>Corymbia dichromophloia</i> , <i>Eucalyptus leucophloia</i>	2,565,901	2,553,206	99.51	226
Hamersley 175	Grasslands, short bunch-grass savanna Annual grasses <i>Enneapogon</i> spp. <i>Aristida</i> spp. etc on dry plains and salt water grasses <i>Sporobolus virginicus</i> on the coast	526,958	524,640	99.56	0.02

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
Rev	Document Number	Author	Approver	Position	Issue Date	Page
3	RND-74210-EN-REP-0001	Preston Consulting	Brett McGuire	Manager Environment	25/05/2026	49 of 50

730000E

750000E

770000E

Legend

-  Development Envelope
-  Native Vegetation Extent (DPIRD-005)
-  Buffer
- Imagery: Google Satellite

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746000N

744000N

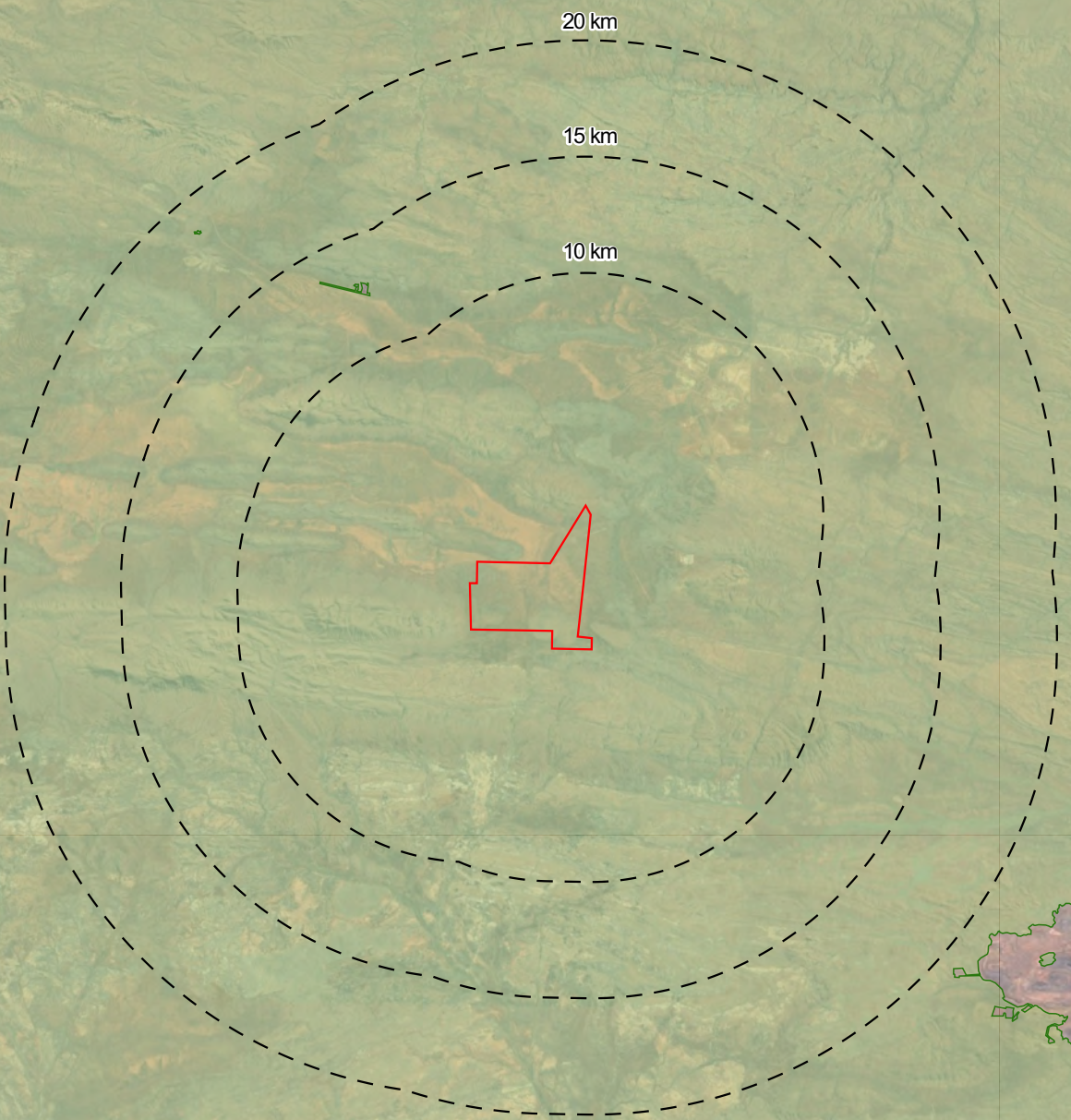
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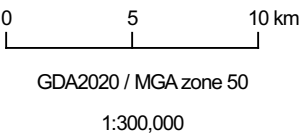
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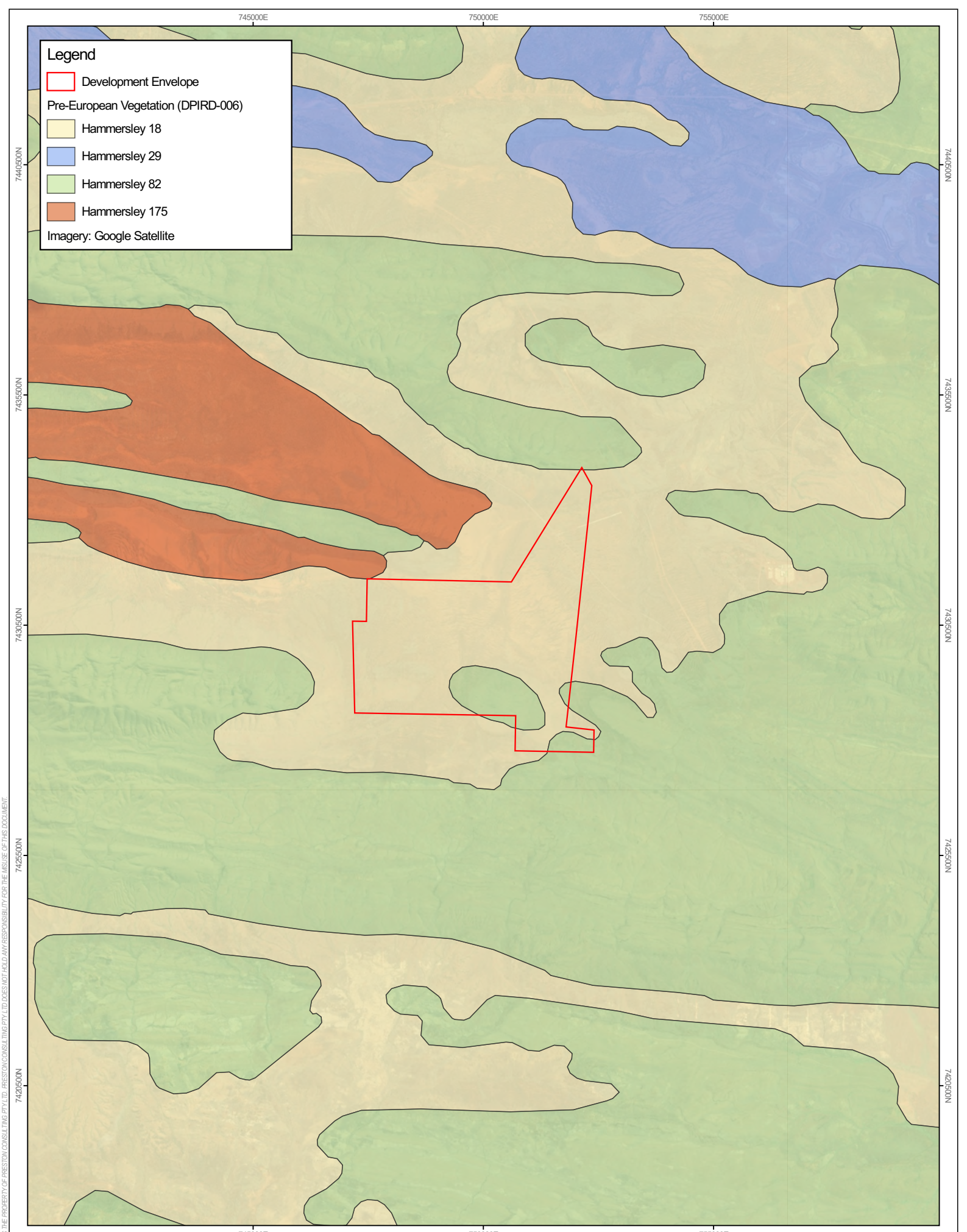


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Figure 3-8 Extent of native vegetation surrounding the Proposal

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Legend

- Development Envelope
- Pre-European Vegetation (DPIRD-006)
- Hammersley 18
- Hammersley 29
- Hammersley 82
- Hammersley 175
- Imagery: Google Satellite

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 Author: ASmithers



Figure 3-9 Pre-European vegetation

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3.3.2.5.3 Vegetation Communities

Rapallo (2024) recorded seven vegetation types within the Survey Area. The most dominant vegetation type accounting for 23% of the vegetation was vegetation type A (Table 3-8; Figure 3-10).

None of the vegetation types recorded within the Survey Area and surrounds are aligned with any listed TECs and the desktop study conducted by Rapallo (2024) concluded that the Survey Area is unlikely to contain any (currently) listed TECs.

Table 3-8 Vegetation types within the Proposal

Code	Description	Extent within Survey Area	Extent within DE	Extent within DF
A	Mulga woodland over diverse tussock grassland on plains	839	838.7	542.3
B	Banded mulga woodland over <i>Triodia pungens</i> and <i>Triodia vanleeuwenii</i>	507	375.0	211.0
C	<i>Eucalyptus leucophloia</i> over <i>Triodia vanleeuwenii</i> and <i>Triodia pungens</i> on stony plains and rises	200	168.7	99.9
D	<i>Acacia catenulata</i> , <i>Acacia citrinoviridis</i> , and <i>Corymbia Hammersleyana</i> over <i>Triodia pungens</i> and <i>Triodia vanleeuwenii</i> in drainage lines	9	0	0
E	<i>Acacia catenulata</i> and <i>Corymbia Hammersleyana</i> over <i>Triodia pungens</i> and <i>Themeda triandra</i> in drainage at the base of low hills	15	14.4	1.4
F	<i>Triodia vanleeuwenii</i> and <i>Triodia wiseana</i> spinifex grassland with emergent <i>Eucalyptus leucophloia</i> on low hills and stony rises	315	302.5	134.0
G	<i>Triodia wiseana</i> and <i>Triodia angusta</i> closed spinifex grassland with emergent mallees and shrubs on undulating stony plain	212	3.1	0

3.3.2.5.4 Vegetation Condition

The condition of the vegetation within the Survey Area ranged from Excellent to Good, with the majority of the area considered Very Good - Good according to the Keighery (1994) scale. The vegetation condition of the Survey Area is shown in Figure 3-11 and summarised in Table 3-9.

Table 3-9 Vegetation Condition

Condition	Extent within Survey Area	Extent within DE	Extent within DF
Excellent	501.1	317.2	107.7
Very Good	560.0	546.6	338.7
Very Good - Good	838.7	838.7	542.3

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747500E

750000E

752500E

Legend

Development Envelope

Disturbance Footprint

Vegetation Type

A

B

C

E

F

G

Freeways and Highways (LGATE-195)

Imagery: Google Satellite

743300N

743300N

743600N

743600N

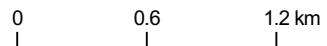
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Figure 3-10: Vegetation types

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