

15/04/2026

Audit and Assurance Section
Compliance and Enforcement Branch
Environmental Assessment and Compliance Division
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Attention: Chief Executive Officer
Submitted via: Email – epbcmonitoring@dcceew.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Yilgarn Operations –Mt Jackson J1 Deposit (EPBC 2008/4449) 2025 Annual Compliance Assessment Report

Yilgarn Iron Pty Ltd (Yilgarn) operates its Yilgarn Operations – Mt Jackson J1 Deposit under approval EPBC 2008/4449 granted under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

In accordance with Condition 6 of EPBC 2008/4449, Yilgarn is required to prepare and publish an annual Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) on the Yilgarn Iron Pty Ltd website by 30 April each year. This report and associated attachments will be publicly available at:

<https://yilgarniron.com.au/environmental-reporting/>

An electronic (PDF) copy of the report is attached to this submission.

Should you have any questions regarding this submission or require further information, please contact the Yilgarn Iron Environmental Team at compliance@yilgarniron.com.au.

Kind Regards

Tina-Marie Bethel

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Compliance Assessment Report

EPBC 2008/4449

**Windarling Range, Mt Jackson Range,
and Deception Deposit**

Reporting Period: 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

Declaration of AccuracyDeclaration of Accuracy – EPBC 2008/4449

In making this declaration, I am aware that sections 490 and 491 of the *Environmental 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: 

Full Name: FERGUS CAMPBELL

Position: DIRECTOR

Organisation: Yilgarn Iron Pty Ltd

Date: 8 APRIL 2026

Proponent Information

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Document Information

Document Title	Compliance Assessment Report – EPBC 2008/4449
Document Number	Mt Jackson Range J1 Deposit
Prepared For:	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
Prepared By:	Tina-Marie Bethel – Site – Environmental Manager
Reporting Period	1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

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1. Introduction

1.1 Project Overview

Mining within the Koolyanobbing region has occurred since the 1960s. The operations were originally developed by BHP Pty Ltd, which mined iron ore in the area until the early 1980s. Following a period of closure, the operations were recommissioned by Portman Mining in the early 1990s and subsequently operated by Cliffs Asia Pacific Iron Ore Pty Ltd (Cliffs) from 2008 until early 2018.

Cliffs ceased mining operations at Koolyanobbing in early 2018 and the assets were subsequently acquired by Mineral Resources Limited (MinRes) in June 2018. MinRes recommenced mining operations in September 2018 and continued operations across the Yilgarn Hub until December 2024, when mining activities ceased and the operations were placed into operational pause.

Yilgarn Iron Investments Pty Ltd (Yilgarn) purchased the Yilgarn Operations from Mineral Resources Limited, with the sale finalised in August 2025.

The operations are located approximately 50km north-northeast of Southern Cross and comprise several discrete mine areas connected via a private haul road network. This report specifically relates to the Windarling Range and Mt Jackson Range mining areas.

Yilgarn recommenced mining within the Koolyanobbing operations in October 2025 using conventional open pit mining methods. Mining activities during the reporting period were limited to the Koolyanobbing pits, which are outside the EPBC 2008/4449 approval area. Drill and blast techniques are used to fragment ore and waste material, with blasted rock mined using hydraulic excavators. Iron ore is extracted from open pits, blended, crushed and screened prior to being transported by rail from Koolyanobbing to the Port of Esperance for export.

At the time of reporting the Mt Jackson Range remains in an operational pause.

1.2 EPBC 2008/4449

From 2003 to 2012, the Yilgarn Operations were regulated by seven Ministerial Statements issued by the Western Australian Minister for Environment under section 45(5) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) and two approvals issued by the Department of Environment and Energy (DoEE) under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

On 24 September 2014, Cliffs was granted approval to consolidate these previous statements under sections 45C and 46 of the EP Act through the issue of Ministerial Statement 982 (MS 982).

A variation to the conditions of EPBC 2008/4449 was granted under section 143 of the EPBC Act on 19 September 2016. This variation revoked several redundant conditions and amended the remaining conditions to reflect the operational status of the proposal. A summary of these amendments is provided in Table 1-1.

Table 1-1: Key EPBC 2008/4449 Approval Amendments

Date	Amendment	Approval
08 December 2003	Removal of Condition 1-8	Replaced with current conditions 1-8
	Remove Annexure A & B	Substituted with Attachment 1 & 2
	Revoke Annexure C & D	Removed
	Remove definitions	Replaced with current definitions

Responsibility for the EPBC 2008/4449 was transferred to MinRes in 2018 following the sale of the Koolyanobbing operations. Ownership and responsibility for the proposal were subsequently transferred to Yilgarn in 2025. All obligations transferred are being met by Yilgarn.

EPBC 2008/4449 outlines conditions regulating the mining of iron ore at Mt Jackson Range J1 Deposit, which is located approximately 70 km north of Koolyanobbing (Figure 1).

The approved action for EPBC 2008/4449 is:

To construct and operate the J1 iron ore mine and haul road on the Mount Jackson Range, approximately 100 kilometres north-north-west of Southern Cross Western Australia, as described in the referral submitted 5 September 2008 (EPBC 2008/4449 and as described in the Environmental Impact Assessment (Revision C) documentation submitted 29 June 2009.

Error! Reference source not found. highlights the location of operations relating to this EPBC Approval.

This Annual Compliance Assessment Report (ACAR) was prepared in accordance with EPBC 2008/4449 conditions for the reporting period 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025.

1.3 Project Status

The Mt Jackson Range, J1 Deposit project remained under operational pause during the reporting period. As no ground-disturbing or operational activities were undertaken within the EPBC approval area during the reporting period, no actions were taken that would trigger additional condition requirements.



Figure 1: EPBC 2008/4449 Locality

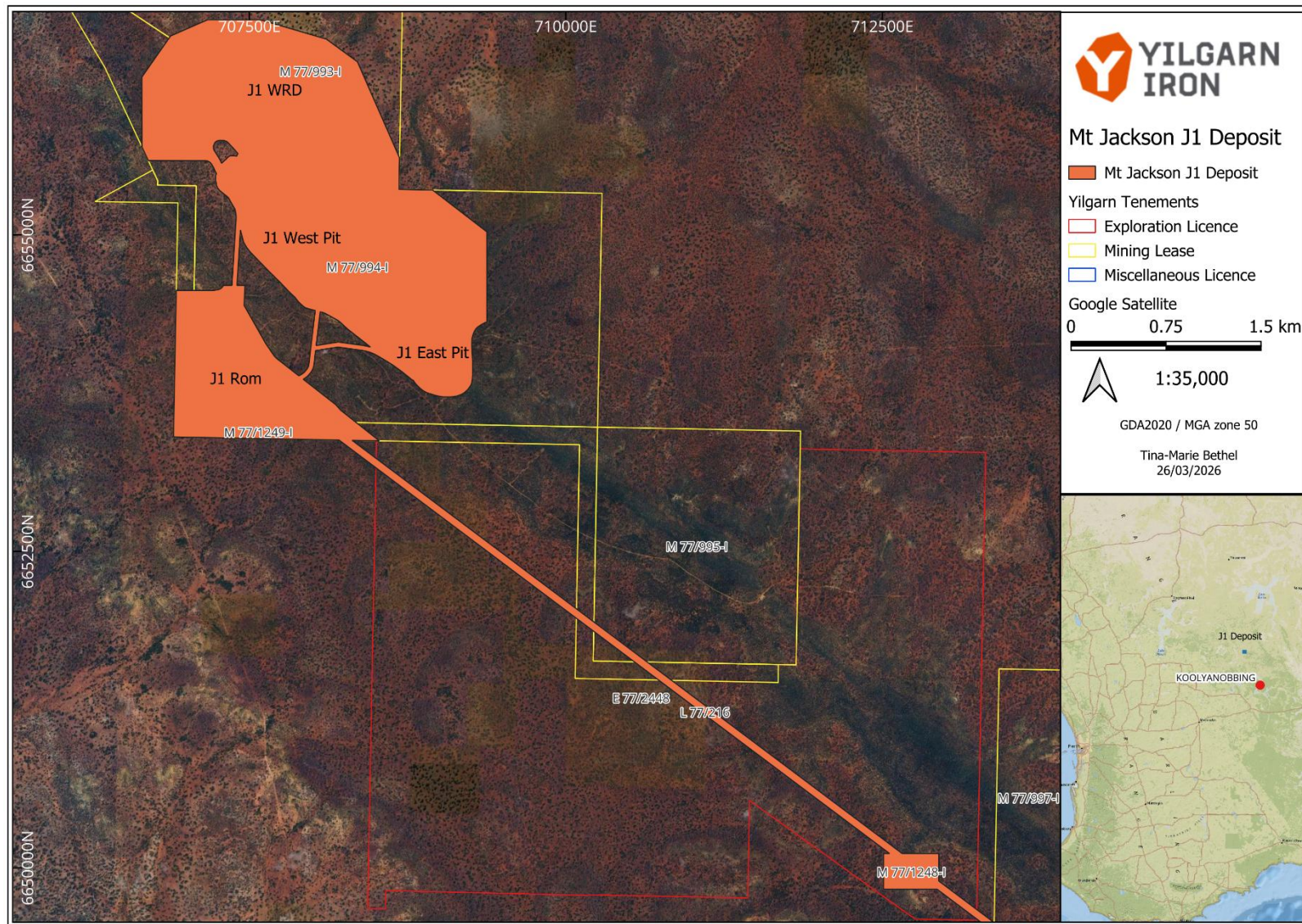


Figure 2: Mt Jackson (J1 Deposit) 2025 Disturbance

2. Compliance

2.1 Non-Compliance and Corrective Actions

No non-compliances were recorded during the 2025 reporting period.

2.2 Statement of Compliance

Yilgarn was in full compliance with all conditions of EPBC 2008/4449 for the 2025 reporting period. Refer to Appendix A, Declaration of Accuracy – EPBC 2008/4449

2.3 Details of Declared Compliance Status

Assessment of Compliance - EPBC 2008/4449 Audit Table (Appendix B) details the compliance status of each implementation condition for the 2025 reporting period.

3. Approval Conditions

This report provides an assessment of conditions for the reporting period and details the compliance status of all conditions contained within EPBC 2008/4449.

An EPBC Approval Conditions Compliance Table is provided as Appendix B. The audit table has been prepared and maintained in accordance with the EPBC Act Annual Compliance Report Guidelines.

The table includes the full wording of all conditions under the Approval, the condition reference number, a designation regarding compliance or non-compliance of each condition, a summary of evidence and comments to support compliance designation and references to relevant sections of this report.

The management plan required under the Approval is included as and Appendices:

- Appendix C – Yilgarn Fauna Management Plan

The specifics of the management plan are detailed in Section 3.1.

Yilgarn Iron will undertake a review of the above management plan to ensure they are aligned with current commitments and management intent, and operational context.

Accurate records of all activities associated with, or relevant to, the conditions of approval are maintained and can be made available to the Department upon request.

3.1 Yilgarn Fauna Management Plan

In accordance with Condition 2 of the Approval, the Yilgarn Fauna Management Plan (FMP), Revision 3, dated 4 July 2020, was approved by the Minister for the Environment. The objective of the FMP is to outline the management actions Yilgarn will implement to address the environmental risks and regulatory obligations associated with fauna. While the primary focus of this plan is on the protection of fauna of conservation significance, the scope of the plan includes other native fauna.

3.1.1 Management Controls and Actions

Section 6.1 of the FMP outlines the management approach and mitigation measures to be implemented to meet the stated objective of the FMP, and the Condition requirements identified in the Approval. The management actions are identified according to the potential impacts of the Project, including:

- Fire
- Open drill holes
- Vehicle strike
- Feral fauna
- Drowning in sumps
- Unauthorised disturbance
- Weeds
- Saline Water
- Altered surface water flow
- Dust

Performance indicators are attributed to the management actions, including:

- 100% compliance with the GDP and Ground Disturbance Procedure
- Annual weed monitoring and reporting in the AER
- Monthly dust deposition readings at impact sites
- Maintain an incident reporting system
- Feral fauna control program
- Exploration rehab procedure
- Fencing and egress matting of lined sump
- Mine planning process

In accordance with Condition 2 of the Approval, *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) monitoring, management, Trigger Criteria, and a long-term monitoring program to measure the presence of malleefowl, and any population changes, are described in the FMP.

3.1.2 Malleefowl Monitoring Program

A malleefowl monitoring program is undertaken for the period of the Project approval, with a focus on malleefowl mound numbers and activity status as the proposed proxy measure of abundance of the local malleefowl population. Monitoring includes annual inspection of known mounds and five yearly re-survey for potential new mounds.

Routine (annual) monitoring of fauna is undertaken for malleefowl. Malleefowl occur in vicinity of parts of Yilgarn mining areas, with the largest population occurring in the Mt Jackson Range area. Relatively few mounds have been located at the Windarling and Koolyanobbing sites. Annual monitoring of malleefowl is focused on the Mt Jackson Range.

The nominated trigger criterion of 35% decline in breeding activity between consecutive years is intended to represent a value that is likely to be outside the typical annual variability, based on observed fluctuation of malleefowl populations at Mt Jackson.

3.1.3 Monitoring During the Report Period

Annual monitoring of Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) mounds was undertaken at the Mt Jackson site in December 2025 in accordance with the FMP, consistent with the National Malleefowl Monitoring Manual and relevant survey guidelines by Onshore Environmental (Appendix F). Monitoring at this site has been conducted annually since 2005 to assess trends in the local breeding population.

A total of 133 mounds were assessed during the 2025 survey, including three newly identified mounds. Of the mounds assessed:

- 21 were active, indicating current breeding activity;
- 16 were inactive (sub-class 1), showing recent signs of use;
- 22 were inactive (sub-class 2), with no recent activity but suitable condition;
- 43 were classified as long unused; and
- 31 were classified as extinct.
- An additional 19 mounds were not assessed, primarily due to time constraints.

Long-term monitoring indicates that the number of active mounds at Mt Jackson typically ranges between 15 and 30 per year, with 21 active mounds recorded in 2025, consistent with historical variability. Overall, the available data suggests the local malleefowl population is stable or showing a slight increasing trend, although interannual variability is evident.

Variability in breeding activity is strongly correlated with annual rainfall patterns, with increased activity generally following periods of above-average rainfall. Above-average rainfall recorded in 2024 and 2025 likely contributed to favourable breeding conditions during the 2025 monitoring period.

No unexpected impacts to malleefowl populations attributable to project activities were identified. Monitoring outcomes are consistent with regional trends and known ecological drivers for the species.

Ongoing management includes continued annual monitoring of known active mounds, refinement of the monitoring program to improve efficiency (including reduced frequency for long unused/extinct mounds), and contribution of data to the National Malleefowl Monitoring Database.

Appendices

Appendix A – Declaration of Accuracy

Declaration of Accuracy – EPBC 2008/4449

In making this declaration, I am aware that sections 490 and 491 of the *Environmental 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: 
Full Name: **FERGUS CAMPRELL**
Position: Director - Yilgarn Iron Pty Ltd
Organisation: Yilgarn Iron Pty Ltd (CAN 626 035 078)
Date: **8 APRIL 2026**

Appendix B – Assessment of Compliance – EPBC 2008/4449 Audit Table

Status of compliance with conditions of Approval EPBC 2008/4449

- The Audit Table provides a summary interpretation of the condition requirements applying to the Proposal under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act).
- Status C = Compliant; CLD = Completed; DEL = Deleted; NC = Non-Compliant; NR = Not Required at this stage; NA = Not Audited

Condition No.	Condition	Status	Evidence
1	The person taking the action must not clear an area greater than 605 hectares within the area designated as 'Area approved for clearing (605 hectares maximum)' as shown in Attachment 1 and Attachment 2	C	385.97 hectares within the approved area has been cleared to date. No additional clearing occurred during the 2025 reporting period. See Appendix C – Mt Jackson Clearing
2	To manage the impact on the <i>Leipoa ocellata</i> (Malleefowl) the person taking the action must implement the Fauna Management Plan approved in accordance with condition 9 of the Western Australian Ministerial Statement 982	C	The Yilgarn Operations Fauna Management Plan June 2016 (revision G) was submitted to OEPA in June 2016. OEPA approval of the Plan was granted on 22 September 2016 (OEPA Ref: 16-030656, revised in February 2020). Yilgarn continues to implement the approved Yilgarn Operations Fauna Management Plan (Revision 1) in accordance with the requirements of condition 9 of MS982. The Yilgarn Operations – Fauna Management Plan contains environmental criteria as required by MS 982: 9 for malleefowl mound activity, which if exceeded, initiates response actions in addition to monitoring of malleefowl breeding activity, conducted annually. All operational activities are assessed against relevant trigger criteria and remained compliant with throughout the reporting period. The annual malleefowl survey was conducted by Onshore Environmental in 2025. The survey report is available in Appendix D
3	The person taking the action must implement the Mine Closure Plan approved in accordance with condition 11 of the Western Australian Ministerial Statement 982	C	The licensee continues to implement the approved Yilgarn Operations Mine Closure Plan (Revision 4, 2023) in accordance with condition 11-3 of MS 982.

4	Within 90 days after the commencement of the action. The person taking the action must advise the Minister of the actual date of commencement of the action.	CLD	The project commenced on 15 February 2011, and the Minister was formally advised of this commencement via letter on that date.
5	The person taking the action must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to the conditions of approval, including measures taken to implement the management plans required by this approval, and make them available upon request to the Department. Such records may be subject to audit by the Department of an independent auditor in accordance with section 458 of the EPBC Act, of used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval. Summaries of audits will be posted on the Department's websites. The results of audits may also be publicised through the general media.	C	All records relating to EPBC 2008/4449 are maintained within the licensee's internal electronic and / or hard copy filing systems in line with statutory records management requirements. Annual reports outlining activities conducted and approved management plans (as required) are made publicly available on the Yilgarn website. https://yilgarniron.com.au/environmental-reporting/
6	By 30 April of each year after the date of the approval, the person taking the action must publish a report on their website addressing compliance with the conditions of the approval over the preceding calendar year, including implementation of any management plans as specified in the condition. The person taking the action must provide the Department with evidence of publication on the same day the report is published. The person taking the action must continue to meet the requirements of this condition until such time as agreed to in writing by the Minister	C	The 2025 Annual Compliance Assessment Report and management plans specified in the conditions will be published by 30 th April 2026 in accordance with this condition. https://yilgarniron.com.au/environmental-reporting/
7	The person taking the action must notify the Department within seven business days of first becoming aware of potential non-compliance with a condition of the approval. The notification must include details of the potential non-compliance as	NR	No non-compliance with approval conditions were identified during the reporting period.

	well any remediation activities that have been undertaken		
8	If the action has not been substantially commenced within 5 years of the date of this approval the action must not commence without the written agreement of the Minister	CLD	The project officially commenced 15 February 2011 as evidenced by response to Condition 4. The substantial commencement that has occurred is evidenced by submission of the Annual Compliance Reports to DCCEEW.

Appendix C – Yilgarn Fauna Management Plan



**YILGARN OPERATIONS
FAUNA MANAGEMENT PLAN
242-EN-PLN-0003**

Revision Number	Issue Date	Prepared By	Approved By	GM Signature
00	20/03/2019	Mandy Flowers	Tim Berryman	
01	14/11/2019	Mandy Flowers	Tim Berryman	

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1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Yilgarn Iron Ore Pty Ltd's (YIPL) Yilgarn Operations includes mineral exploration and mining operations at the Koolyanobbing Range, Mt Jackson Range, Windarling Range, Johnston Range (Deception Deposit), ore processing at Koolyanobbing and road and rail transport between these operations and the Port of Esperance. The location of YIPL's Yilgarn Operations is shown in Figure 1.

The environmental aspects of YIPL's Yilgarn Operations are managed in accordance with YIPL's Environmental Policy and Environmental Management System (EMS). While not accredited, the EMS has been developed and is implemented in accordance with Australian and New Zealand Standard ISO Standards. The Fauna Management Plan forms part of YIPL's EMS. This management plan has been prepared to address:

- Environmental risks associated with fauna for all of YIPL's Yilgarn Operations, as depicted in Figure 1.
- Statutory obligations relating to fauna under Ministerial Statement 982 (see Section 2, below) applying to YIPL's operations at Windarling Range, Mt Jackson Range, Deception Deposit and the hauls road and associated infrastructure linking these operations to Koolyanobbing.

The purpose of this plan is to outline the management actions YIPL will implement to address the environmental risks and regulatory obligations associated with fauna. While the primary focus of this plan is on the protection of fauna of conservation significance, the scope of the plan includes other native fauna. The plan applies to all of YIPL's Yilgarn Operations, as shown in Figure 1.

2. LEGISLATION AND GUIDELINES

The legislation and associated guidelines and standards relevant to fauna and this management plan include:

- a) *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (WA) (EP Act). Specific environmental approvals applying to YIPL's Yilgarn Operations under the EP Act are contained in Ministerial Statement 982 (WA Minister for the Environment 2014).
- b) Environmental Assessment Guideline for Preparation of management plans under Part IV of the EP Act (EAG 17, Environmental Protection Authority, August 2015).
- c) *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (WA).
- d) *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (C'wth) (EPBC Act).
- e) Conservation Codes for Western Australian Flora and Fauna (DBCA 2019).

3. CONSERVATION SIGNIFICANT FAUNA

Fauna species may be afforded special protection under the EPBC Act, with similar protection also available under the BC Act.

For the purpose of this management plan, "conservation significant fauna" is taken to mean those species classified as "Threatened" under the EPBC Act, or as "Threatened" or "Priority Fauna" by the DBAC. The classifications used are as follows:

Threatened Species

Threatened Species of fauna may be declared by the Commonwealth Minister for Environment for protection under the EPBC Act as a matter of national environmental significance for it being extinct, facing a risk of extinction, or in need of a conservation program to prevent the species from a risk of extinction.

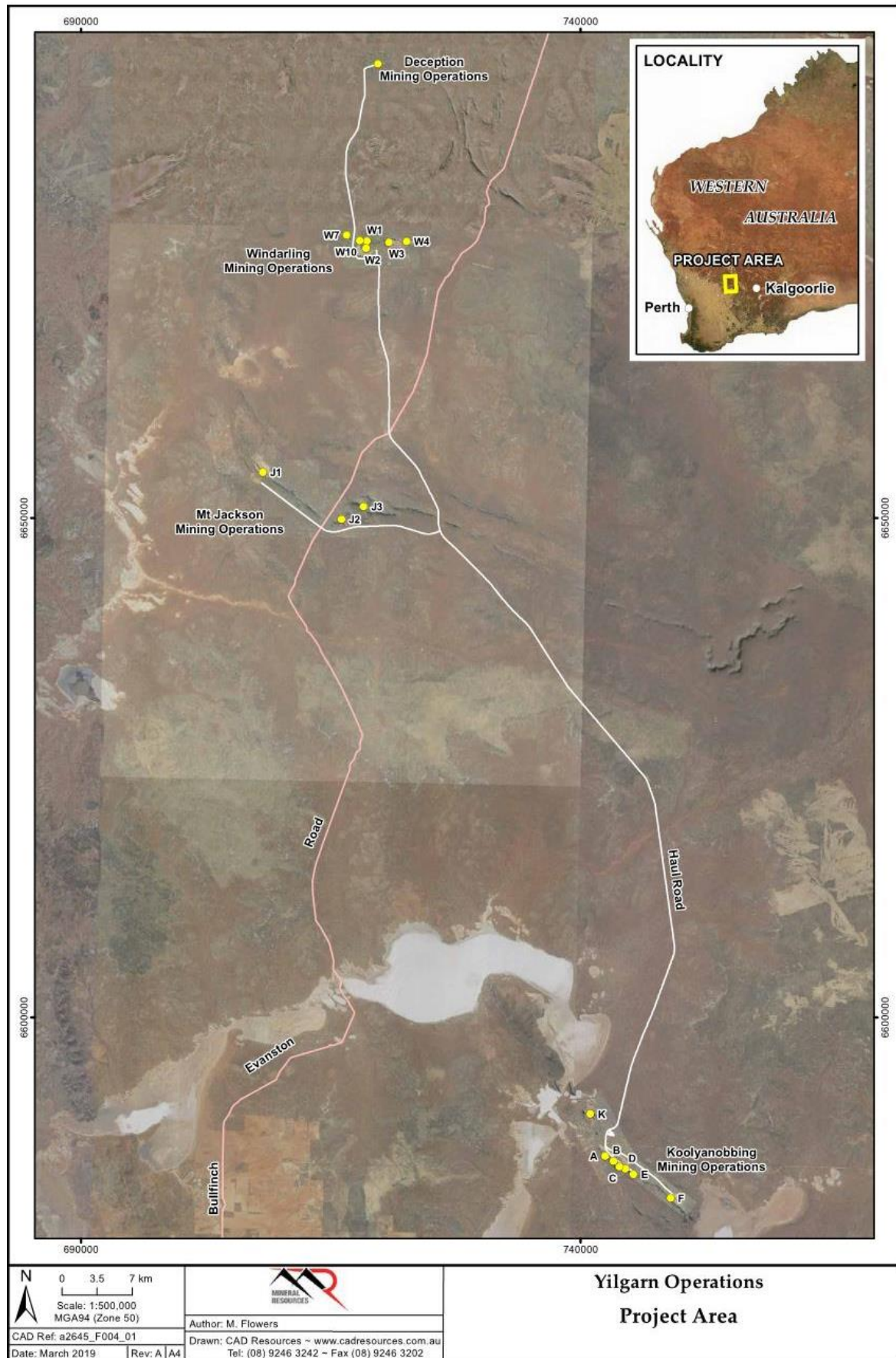


Figure 1 – Location of YIPL's Yilgarn Operations

The BC Act provides for species, subspecies or populations of native animals (fauna) to be listed as Specially Protected, Threatened (Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable) or Extinct in Western Australia. Threatened fauna is that subset of 'Specially Protected Fauna' listed under schedules 1 to 3 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018 for Threatened Fauna.

Specially Protected Species

Under section 13(1) of the BC Act, species may be listed as Specially Protected if they meet one or more of the following categories: species of special conservation interest; migratory species; cetaceans; species subject to international agreement; or species otherwise in need of special protection. Threatened species cannot also be listed as Specially Protected Species. They are published under schedules 5 to 7 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice 2018.

Priority Fauna

Priority Fauna is a classification system developed by the DBCA for fauna taxa which are known from one, a few or several occurrences, which may or may not be under threat, or may otherwise be rare. Four priority categories are used, with Priority 1 (P1) being of the highest conservation significance. Priority Fauna are identified and determined by DBCA.

The conservation significant fauna occurring in the vicinity of YIPL's Yilgarn Operations are listed in Schedule 2 of Ministerial Statement 982 as including, but not limited to: *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl). A full list of conservation significant fauna occurring in the vicinity of YIPL's Yilgarn Operations is provided in Attachment 1.

4. ASPECTS REQUIRING MANAGEMENT

The relevant aspects identified in the YIPL's EMS and in Ministerial Statement 982 as requiring management to address potential effects on fauna are:

- Unauthorised disturbance;
- Saline water;
- Altered surface water flow;
- Fire;
- Dust;
- Weeds; and
- Feral fauna.

The YIPL EMS has identified the following additional risks requiring management controls:

- Open drill holes (exploration)
- Vehicle strike
- Drowning in sumps or dams

Management controls to address each of the above aspects are listed in Section 6.

5. MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE

The management objective is:

- a) To ensure that the implementation of the proposal (as per Ministerial Statement 982) is carried out in a manner that minimises the direct and indirect impacts to conservation significant fauna; and
- b) To minimise environmental effects on native fauna generally from YIPL's Yilgarn Operations

6. MANAGEMENT CONTROLS AND ACTIONS

YIPL has implemented a range of management controls to minimise the potential for project activities to adversely affect fauna. The following table summarises the controls YIPL will maintain to manage the aspects nominated in Section 4.

Table 6.1 – Aspects, Associated Risks and Risk Ranking, and Management Controls

Aspect	Risk/Potential Impact*	Risk-based Priority*	Management Controls
Fire	Decline or loss of fauna habitat due to fire.	1	• Inductions and awareness training • Fire control plan and supporting procedures • Fire breaks • Fire fighting vehicles and equipment
Open drill holes (exploration)	Loss of small native fauna as a result of falling into open drill holes.	2	• Exploration rehabilitation procedure • Exploration checklist • Drill program audits
Vehicle strike	Death or injury to native fauna due to vehicle strike.	3	• Inductions and awareness training • Speed limits • Signage in areas of higher concentration of Malleefowl • Reporting of Malleefowl deaths to DBCA and C'th Department of the Environment and Energy
Feral fauna	Decline or loss of fauna habitat due to predation by feral fauna.	4	• Fauna sightings and interaction register • Annual feral fauna control program. Feral fauna control measures to include baiting, trapping and/or culling for the feral cat (<i>Felis catus</i>), feral dog (<i>Canis lupis</i>), the European red fox (<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>) and the European rabbit (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>) • Pets prohibited from the mine site
Drowning in sumps or dams	Death of native fauna due to drowning in mine sumps or dams.	5	• Fencing and egress matting of lined sumps • Daily inspections

Aspect	Risk/Potential Impact*	Risk-based Priority*	Management Controls
Unauthorised disturbance	Decline or loss of fauna habitat due to physical disturbance.	6	- Site disturbance permit process - Inductions and awareness training - Incident reporting and corrective action process - Clearing procedures - Approvals implementation process - Unauthorised off-road vehicle use prohibited
Weeds	Decline or loss of fauna habitat due to weed invasion.	7	- Weed register - Weed control program
Saline water	Decline or loss of fauna habitat due to uncontrolled release of saline water or spray drift.	8	- Inductions and awareness training - Incident reporting and corrective action process - Containment infrastructure (V drains, bunding, shut off valves) - Daily saline water infrastructure inspections
Altered surface water flow	Decline or loss of fauna habitat due to altered surface water flow.	9	- Mine planning process - Approvals implementation process
Dust	Decline or loss of fauna habitat due to smothering by dust.	10	Dust control procedures

*The risk/potential impact column refers to a risk or potential impact from YIPL's mining and exploration activities. The risk-based priority column shows the relative risk posed by each issue in the absence of management controls. The risk ranking is based on the results of the environmental risk assessment that forms part of the YIPL's EMS.

7. MONITORING

Routine (annual) monitoring of fauna is undertaken for *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl). Malleefowl occur in the vicinity of parts of YIPL mining areas, with the largest population occurring in the Mt Jackson Range area. Relatively few mounds have been located at the Windarling and Koolyanobbing sites. Annual monitoring of Malleefowl is focused on the Mt Jackson Range.

Annual Malleefowl surveys in the Mt Jackson area were conducted from 2004-2011 and have covered the entire Mt Jackson Range within YIPL's tenements. These surveys included an autumn search for breeding mounds within potential habitat and a late spring or summer survey for breeding activity across all previously recorded mounds. The preferred Malleefowl habitat at Mt Jackson has been identified as the slopes of hills where conditions for mound construction are more suitable than on the surrounding plains or on the tops of hills. A total of 300 Malleefowl mounds have been located in over 4000ha of surveyed area. Based on the information from breeding activity in recent years, the local population is estimated to be comprised of up to 30 breeding pairs.

The Mt Jackson Malleefowl monitoring program provides an indirect measure of population size by identifying the number of active breeding mounds within a fixed area. Annual monitoring of Malleefowl mounds is undertaken during the breeding season from October to March. Monitoring of mounds involves recording the details of Malleefowl activity as outlined in the National Manual for the Malleefowl Monitoring System (National Heritage Trust undated). Due to the large number of mounds present at Mt Jackson, and based on recommendations from Dr Joe Benshemesh (Manager of the National Malleefowl Database), the area has been divided into “core” and “non-core” mounds. The core mounds category includes those mounds recorded as active during one or more monitoring seasons (44 mounds in total). The core mounds category also includes five inactive mounds in each of five areas of increasing distance from the J1 Pit (Attachment 2), giving a total of 69 core mounds. J1 pit is the only active pit in the Jackson Range area. Core mounds are monitored annually. Annual monitoring of core mounds commenced in 2013.

Non-core mounds are all other mounds recorded in the Mt Jackson area. The non-core mounds will be monitored when time and resources permit – once every three years as a target frequency. Any newly located mounds found to be active will be considered for inclusion as core mounds.

An animal sightings register is maintained by YIPL and provides a general indication of Malleefowl abundance over the wider area of YIPL’s Yilgarn Operations. Hence a check is available of whether the Malleefowl activity levels recorded at Mt Jackson are generally consistent with the frequency of sightings in the region.

8. TRIGGER CRITERIA

The Mt Jackson Malleefowl monitoring program utilises an indirect measure of population size (i.e. the number of active breeding mounds). Differentiating between natural variation in the population size and any effects of human induced change is problematic due to the small sample size and typically high variability in annual breeding activity. Hence trigger criteria will utilise a combination of factors, including between-year change and longer term trends, spatial variation (near-mine versus sites located further from mining) and the results obtained from the sightings register.

For Malleefowl, reporting and contingency actions will be triggered if any of the following occur:

- Annual monitoring indicates a decline in Malleefowl breeding activity (as measured by the number of active core mounds) of >35% between consecutive years, and a decline of similar magnitude is not reflected in the animal sightings register.
- Annual monitoring indicates a consistent pattern of decline in Malleefowl breeding activity over a timeframe of three years or more and a similar decline is not reflected in the sightings register.
- Annual monitoring indicates a spatial trend of declining breeding activity that may be related to proximity to mining operations.

The trigger criteria for Malleefowl have been developed with reference to the (limited) information available from the monitoring of Malleefowl at Mt Jackson from 2013 to 2015. Annual changes of 15% (increase) and 32% (decrease) were recorded for 2013-2014 and 2014-2015, respectively. The nominated trigger criteria of 35% decline in breeding activity between consecutive years is intended to represent a value that is likely to be outside the typical annual variability, although the small sample size and likely high variability of inter-annual breeding activity mean that this value is difficult to determine in the absence of a longer time series. This figure will be reviewed after a period of five years, at which point it can be replaced by a figure based on a defined measure of variability e.g. standard deviation from the mean.

9. REPORTING AND CONTINGENCY ACTIONS

Where any of the above trigger criteria are met, YIPL will report the findings to the Executive Director - EPA Services of the Department of Water and Environment Regulation (DWER) within 21 days of the decline being identified and provide information which allows determination of the cause of the decline. If the decline is determined by the DWER to be a result of activities undertaken in implementing the proposal (WA Minister for the Environment 2014), YIPL will submit actions to be undertaken to remediate the decline to the DWER within 21 days of the determination made by the DWER. YIPL will implement the actions to remediate the decline upon approval of the DWER, on advice of BDCA Parks and Wildlife Service, and continue until such time as the DWER, on advice of BDCA, determines that the remedial actions may cease.

10. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The performance indicators applying to this management plan shall be:

No detectable effect on the abundance of Malleefowl in the vicinity of YIPL's operations as a result of YIPL's activities, as measured by annual mound monitoring, i.e. no spatial pattern of decreased breeding activity closer to mine operations, and breeding activity is broadly consistent with prevailing environmental conditions (rainfall, fire etc.) and the number of Malleefowl sightings on the fauna sightings and interaction register.

11. RECORDS

Records and data relating to the activities outlined in this document shall be maintained as part of this management plan.

12. REVIEW

YIPL will review and update the management actions contained in this management plan in accordance with the Environmental Management System Manual. Any significant changes to this management plan will be referred to the relevant regulatory authorities for approval prior to implementation of such changes.

13. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- 242-EN-PLN-0014 Fire Management Plan
- 242-EN-PRO-0001 Groundwater Management
- 242-EN-PRO-0002 Land Clearing
- 242-EN-PRO-0003 Saline Water Infrastructure
- 242-EN-PRO-0007 Dust Management
- 242-EN-PRO-0008 Fauna Management
- 242-EN-PRO-0010 Site Disturbance Permit
- 242-EN-PRO-0011 Weed Management
- 242-EN-WIN-0005 Botanical Surveys – Exploration
- 242-EN-WIN-0016 Malleefowl Monitoring
- 242-EN-WIN-0024 Environmental Approvals and Implementation

- 242-EN-FRM-0003 Fauna Sightings and Interaction Register
- Safety Incident Procedures

The above documents are internal YIPL EMS documents and do not form part of this management plan.

14. REFERENCES

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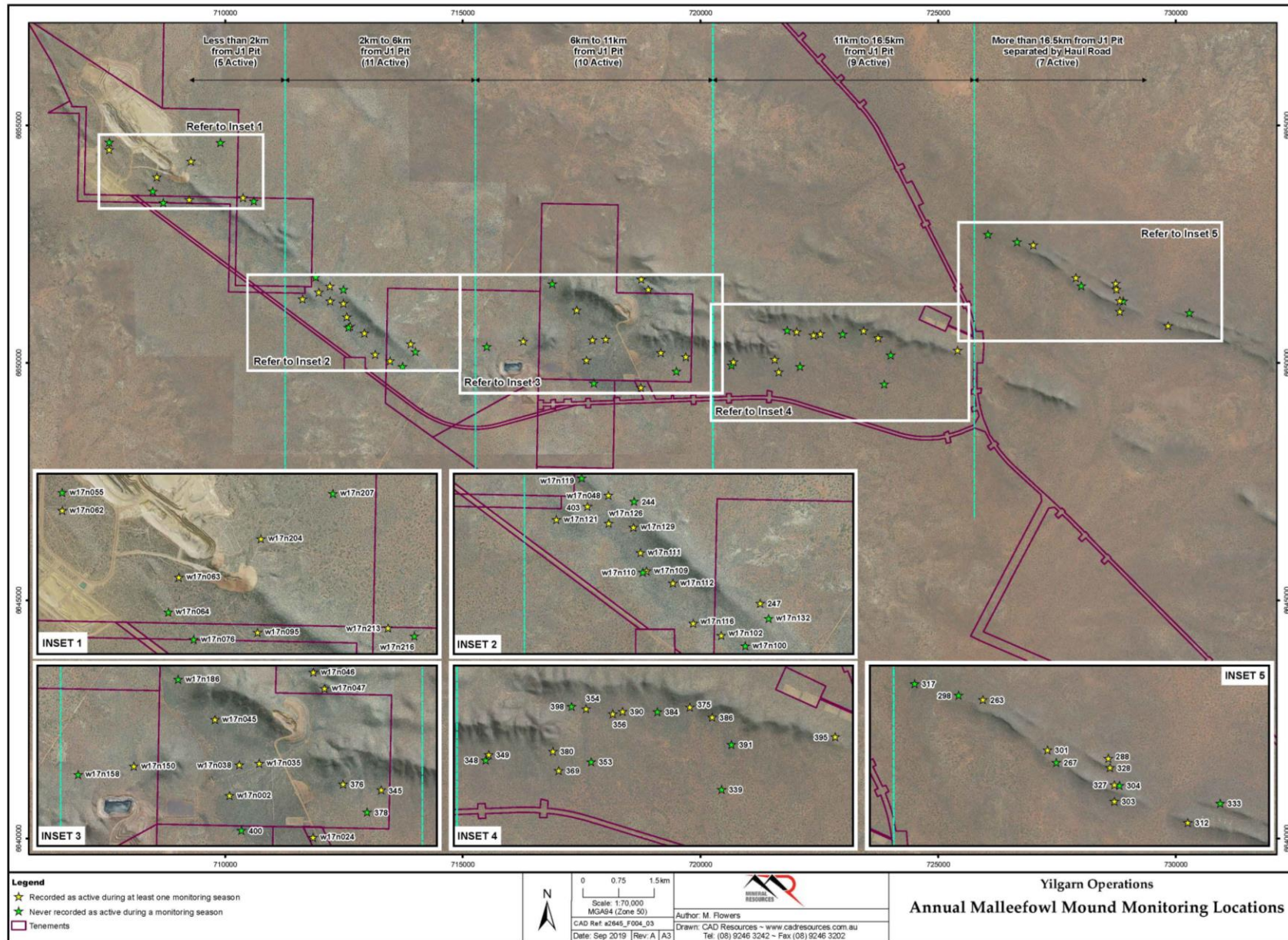
Attachment 1 – Conservation Significant Fauna Occurring in the Vicinity of YIPL's Yilgarn Operations

Table A.1 – Conservation Significant Fauna Occurring in the Vicinity of YIPL’s Yilgarn Operations

Species	Status*		Koolyanobbing Range	Mt Jackson Range	Windarling Range	Deception Deposit	Haul Roads
	BC Act	EPBC Act					
Threatened or Specially Protected Fauna							
Leipoa ocellata (Malleefowl)	VU	VU	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Falco peregrines (Peregrine Falcon)	OS	-	✓	✓	✓		
Merops ornatus (Rainbow Bee-eater)	-	Ma	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Priority Fauna							
Aganippe castellum (Tree-stem Trapdoor Spider)	P4	-	✓	✓	✓		

* VU – Vulnerable species, OS - Other Specially Protected species (BC Act), Ma – Marine species (EPBC Act), P4 - Rare, Near Threatened and Other Species in Need of Monitoring.

Attachment 2 – Mt Jackson Annual Malleefowl Mound Monitoring Locations



Appendix D – Annual Mt Jackson Malleefowl Monitoring Report



Mt Jackson Malleefowl Monitoring 2025

**Prepared for Yilgarn Iron Pty Ltd
3 March 2026**



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Yilgarn Iron Ore Project comprises six individual mine sites (Koolyanobbing, Carina, Mt Jackson, Mt Manning, Windarling and Parker Range) located between 50 kilometres (km) and 150 km from Southern Cross in the Yilgarn Region of Western Australia.

Monitoring of Malleefowl mounds has been undertaken at Mt Jackson annually since 2005. A total of 133 mounds were assessed during the 2025 field assessment. The total includes three new mounds identified during the 2025 field assessment and two previously known mounds found opportunistically. Twenty-one active mounds were recorded during the 2025 field assessment with a further 16 mounds categorised as inactive (sub-class 1) and twenty-two mounds classed as inactive (sub-class 2). Additional mounds assessed were classified as long unused (43 mounds) and extinct (31 mounds). A total of 19 mounds were not assessed due to time constraints noting these were likely to be long unused or extinct mounds.

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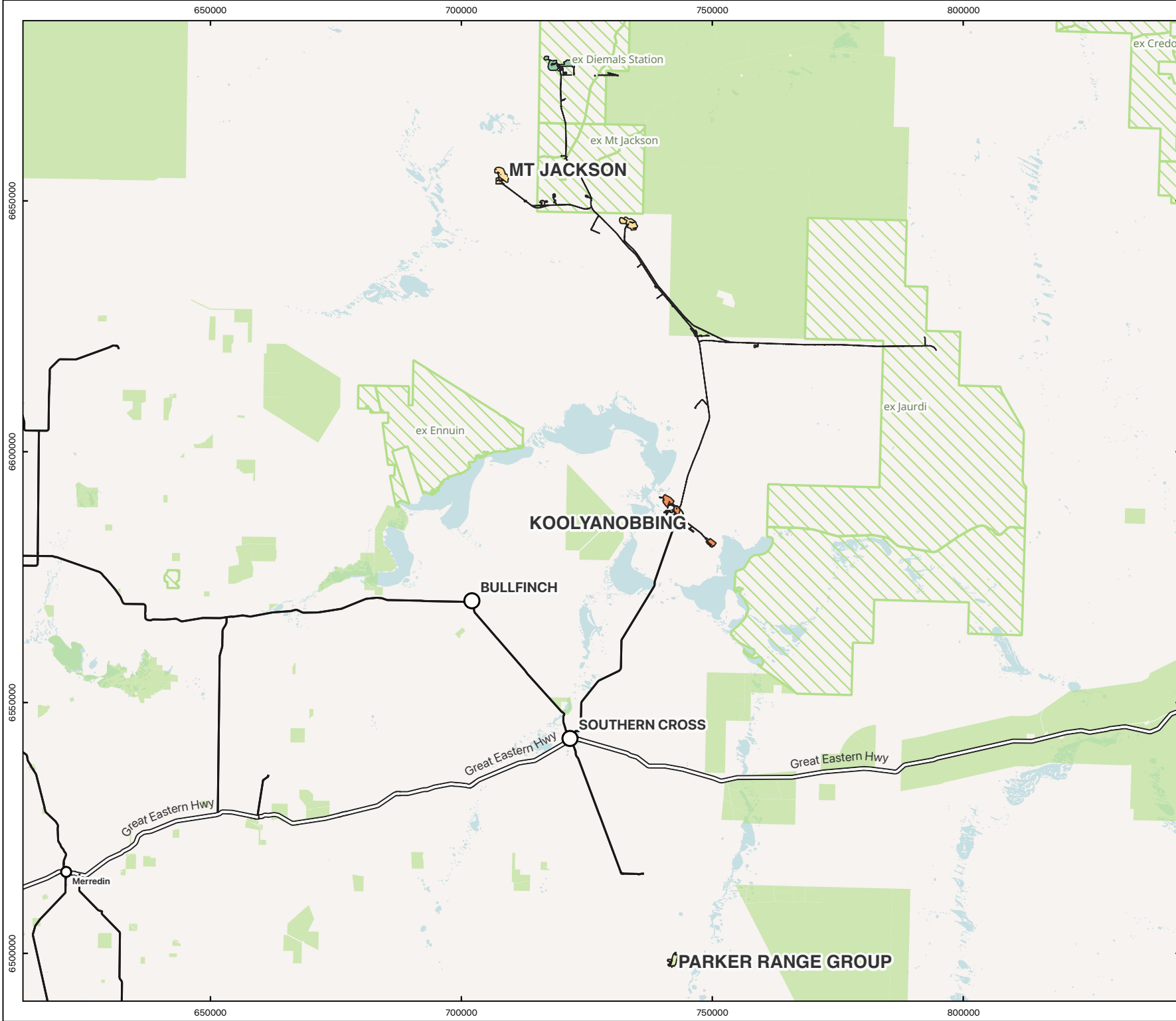
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Preamble

The Yilgarn Iron Ore Project is located approximately 47 km north-east of Southern Cross in the Yilgarn Region of Western Australia (Figure 1). Operations are located within the local government areas of Shire of Yilgarn and Shire of Menzies. Cliffs Asia Pacific Iron Ore Pty Ltd (Cliffs) operated the mining operation from 1994 to 2018, with Mineral Resources Limited (MRL) and its wholly owned subsidiary Polaris Metals Pty Ltd (Polaris) purchasing the operations in mid-2018. Yilgarn Iron Investments Pty Ltd (YI IPL) recently purchased the Yilgarn Iron Ore Project from MRL with mining re-commencing in October 2025. YI IPL currently manages the sites of Koolyanobbing, Carina, Mt Jackson, Mt Manning, Windarling and Parker Range, plus exploration targets (Figure 1).

Onshore Environmental was commissioned by Yilgarn Iron to undertake Malleefowl mound monitoring at the Mt Jackson Project area. Monitoring has been undertaken at the site since 2005. The aim of the 2025 monitoring program was to describe trends in the breeding population of Malleefowl in the area.





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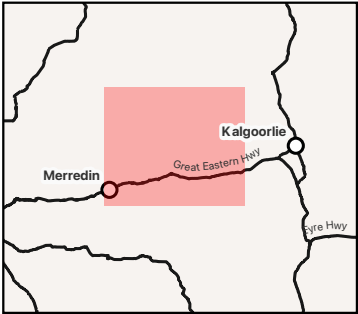
Figure 1: Location of the Mt Jackson Project Area

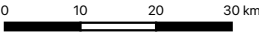
Legend

- DBCA Managed Lands
- Former leasehold proposed for conservation

Yilgarn Iron Project Areas

- Koolyanobbing
- Mt Jackson
- Parker Range Group
- Windarling





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2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Project Location

The Yilgarn Iron Ore Project occurs within the Southern Cross subregion of the Coolgardie Bioregion, within the local government authority Shires of Yilgarn and Menzies. The sites of Koolyanobbing, Carina, Mt Jackson, Mt Manning, Windarling and Parker Range are located between 50-150 km from Southern Cross, with Parker Range approximately 15 km from Marvel Loch. Mt Jackson is situated approximately 110 km north north-west of Southern Cross (Figure 1).

2.2 Climate

The Southern Cross subregion is described as an arid to semi-arid warm Mediterranean climate, receiving on average between 250-300 mm of annual rainfall, predominantly during winter months (Cowan *et al.* 2001). The closest Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) weather station that provides continuous reliable temperature and rainfall data is the Southern Cross Airfield (station number 12320), situated approximately 120 km south of Mt Jackson. Rainfall is also recorded at the Bullfinch weather station, situated 80 km south of the Project Area.

Annual rainfall was above average (302.6 mm) at Southern Cross Airfield in both 2024 (324.2 mm) and 2025 (387.2 mm) (BoM 2026). Five months in 2025 exceeded the long-term monthly average, most noticeably April (62.2 mm), August (111.2 mm) and November (39.4 mm) (Figure 3). High and consistent rainfall throughout 2024 and 2025 contributed to good seasonal conditions at the time of the December 2025 field monitoring program. The long-term mean maximum annual temperature is 26°C at the Southern Cross Airfield (BoM 2025).

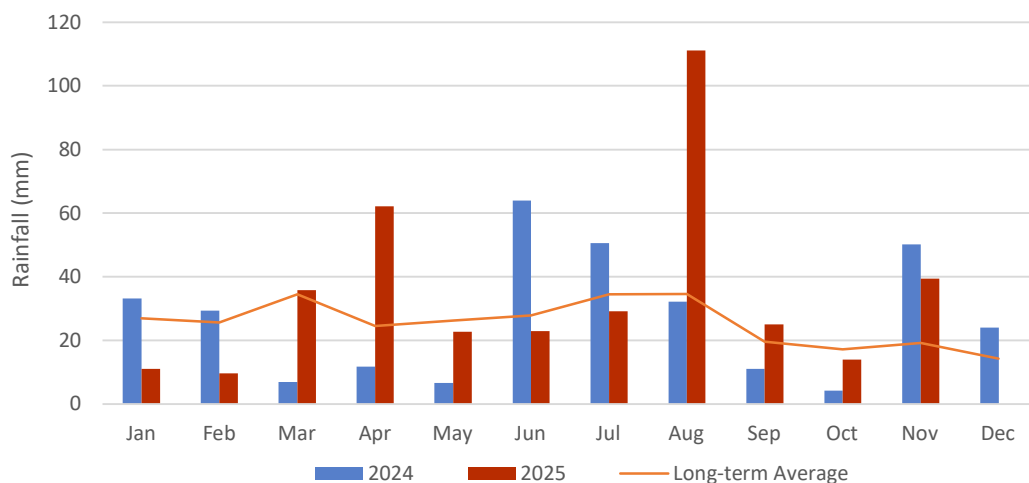


Figure 2 Long term and monthly rainfall for 2024 and 2025, Southern Cross Airfield (BoM 2025).

2.3 Malleefowl Ecology

Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) are listed as a Vulnerable species under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) and the Western Australian *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act). Malleefowl are large, ground-dwelling birds approximately the size of a domestic chicken, with adults weighing between 1.5 and 2.5 kg. Historically, Malleefowl occurred across much of the southern half of Australia including the south-west of Western Australia, however more recently the species range has contracted and fragmented due to land clearing (DCCEEW 2024, DBCA 2017). In Western Australia, Malleefowl are now most common within the Wheatbelt and Goldfields regions.

Malleefowl inhabit arid and semi-arid areas dominated by mallee eucalypts, acacia, paperbark, she-oak and other shrublands on sandy soils or gravelly soils (Pizzey and Knight 2012). They require habitat with sandy substrates and abundant leaf litter in order to build large mounds for nesting.

2.4 Previous Monitoring

The National Malleefowl Monitoring Program is coordinated by the National Malleefowl Recovery Group (NMRG). As birds are often shy and elusive, population trends are assessed through monitoring of conspicuous Malleefowl breeding mounds. The NMRG provides field monitoring methods as described in the National Malleefowl Monitoring Manual (2025) and maintains the National Malleefowl Monitoring Database (NMMD). Monitoring has been undertaken at the Mt Jackson site (National Malleefowl Monitoring Site number W17) since 2005 when the site was managed by Cliffs. Data collected at Mt Jackson has been contributed to the NMRG and entered into the National Malleefowl Monitoring Database.

Monitoring is undertaken annually during the breeding season (October to early January) for mounds placed on an annual monitoring list. Long-unused or extinct mounds that are severely degraded are monitored every five years.

Malleefowl monitoring at Mt Jackson was completed in October 2024 by the National Malleefowl Recovery Group (NMRG 2024). A total of 144 mounds were visited during the monitoring assessment. A total of 27 active mounds were recorded in 2024. An additional 38 mounds on the annual list were not monitored in 2024 due to unforeseen circumstances. None of the additional mounds had previously been identified as active mounds.

3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Legislation and Guidance

The Malleefowl monitoring survey was carried out in a manner that was compliant with requirements for the environmental surveying and monitoring of threatened fauna in Western Australia:

- National Malleefowl Monitoring Manual (NMRG 2025); and
- Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA) (2010) Survey Guidelines for Australia's Threatened Birds.

3.2 Timing and Personnel

The 2025 annual Malleefowl monitoring program was conducted by Principal Zoologist Mr Mike Brown between 11th and 15th of December 2025. The Principal Zoologist was assisted by Principal Botanist Dr Jerome Bull and Ecologist Mr Bede Chandler during the survey.

3.3 Desktop Review

A review of all previously available data and reports for Malleefowl monitoring was conducted including the following reports:

- NMRG (2024) Malleefowl Monitoring at w17 Mt Jackson Mine, Western Australia: 2024/25 Season;
- Anditi (2022) Mt Finnerty Malleefowl Mound Detection Via Lidar;
- Phoenix Environmental Services (2023) Targeted Malleefowl survey for the Mt Richardson Project; and
- Umwelt (2024) Targeted Malleefowl Mound Survey – Koolyanobbing Minesite, Mineral Resources Ltd.

3.4 Field Survey

The monitoring was carried out based on methods described in the National Malleefowl Monitoring Manual (NMRG 2025). A number of issues and inconsistencies have been identified in the dataset collected at the Mt Jackson site (NMRG 2024). A review of previous data and surveys at the site identified a total of 150 mounds with coordinates to be monitored during the 2025 assessment. Additional Malleefowl mounds occur at the site but coordinates for these mounds were not available from previous reports and/or existing databases. Most of the mounds without coordinates are likely to be long unused or extinct mounds.

At each of the mound locations the characteristics of the mound was described, and a photograph of the mound was taken. The profile of the mound and other factors were assessed to determine whether the mound was active or inactive. A data template utilised for the assessment is provided in Appendix 1.

Characteristics recorded at the mounds assessed during the survey included:

- Site number and mound number;
- Date mound was visited;
- Photograph of the mound;
- Whether the mound is known or newly discovered;
- Profile of the mound (as per diagrams in NMRG 2025);
- Whether the mound was classified as active or inactive;
- Whether the surface of the mound had been scraped;
- Presence of eggshells, lerps, footprints and scats; and
- Dimensions of the mound.

As per the monitoring manual, active Malleefowl mounds were defined as those currently being used as an incubator and likely to contain eggs. Mounds were not identified as active where Malleefowl activity was evident e.g. evidence of litter, prints or scrapes, but the mound was not considered to be currently used for incubation.

To match previous surveys mounds were classified as one of the following categories (Phoenix 2023, Umweltl 2024) based on the results of the field assessment:

- Active: Currently being used by Malleefowl as an incubator and likely to contain eggs.
- Inactive (sub-class 1): Mound shows signs of recent Malleefowl activity, such as fresh scats, tracks or scrapings. Mound does not appear to be currently incubating eggs.
- Inactive (sub-class 2): No evidence of recent activity but mound remains well formed and in good condition for future use.
- Long unused/Extinct: Evidence of an extended period of inactivity such as dense shrubs or trees growing from hollow or mound very degraded/poorly formed. Highly unlikely to become Active in the future.

Malleefowl mounds classified as long unused are mounds that are in a very degraded state and are unlikely to be used again by Malleefowl. Monitoring of these mounds are considered optional, and these mounds are placed on the 5-year monitoring list. Removal of mounds from the monitoring schedule is based on meeting one of the following criteria:

- mound deemed not to be a Malleefowl mound;
- mound could not be found despite attempts over 2 to 3 seasons to locate the mound;
- mound known to have been destroyed due to clearing or disturbance e.g. mining, land clearing or roads.

Locations of mounds removed from the monitoring schedule have been retained in the database with a classification of omit to ensure that they are not classified as new mounds in subsequent monitoring years.

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 2025 Mound Monitoring

A total of 133 mounds were assessed during the 2025 field survey (Figure 3). The total included three new mounds identified during the field assessment and two previously known mounds found opportunistically. A total of 19 mounds were not assessed due to time constraints. Appendix 2 shows the details of all mounds assessed during the 2025 field survey.

Table 1 Summary of Malleefowl mounds assessed in December 2025.

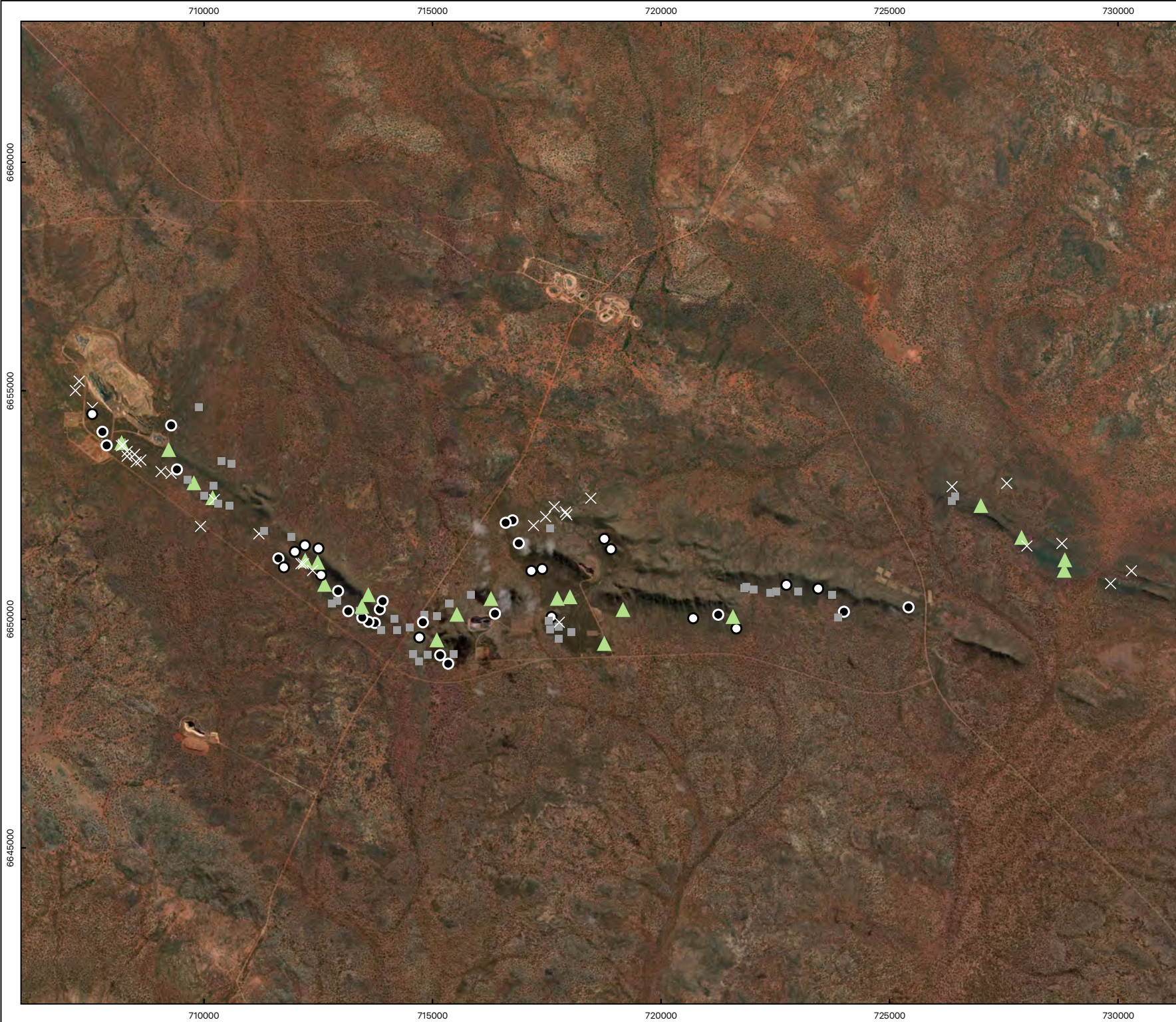
Status 2025	No. Mounds
Active	20
Inactive (sub-class 1)	16
Inactive (sub-class 2)	21
Long unused	45
Extinct	31
Not found	3
Not assessed	19
Total	155

A total of 21 active mounds were recorded during the field assessment (Figure 3). A further 16 mounds were categorised as inactive (sub-class 1). These mounds were not considered to be currently active but showed signs of recent visitation or use by Malleefowl. Twenty-two (22) mounds were classed as inactive (sub-class 2), i.e., showing no signs of recent use or visitation, but maintaining the typical mound profile. An additional 43 and 31 mounds were classed as long unused and extinct respectively.

Three new mounds were recorded during the survey. One of the mounds was an active mound found in close proximity to an existing mound; W17N057. This mound was named W17N057B. A second new active mound was recorded as W17N453. The third new mound (W17N452) was classified as inactive (sub-class 2).

Table 2 New mounds identified at Mt Jackson during the 2025 monitoring assessment.

New Mound No.	Easting	Northing	Comment
W17N452	716599	6652116	New mound, inactive (sub-class 2)
W17N057B	708196	6653871	New active mound in vicinity of W17N057
W17N453	709226	6653718	New active mound



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**Figure 3: Location of the
malleefowl mounds monitored
at the Mt Jackson Project
Area**

Legend

Mounds

-  Active
-  Inactive (class 1)
-  Inactive (class 2)
-  Long unused
-  Extinct



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Data sources: Data WA - ESRI Satellite	

4.2 Active Mounds

Active Malleefowl mounds at Mt Jackson have been monitored since 2005 (Figure 3 and 4). Appendix 3 details the history these active mounds between 2005 and 2025 noting that no active mounds were recorded in 2007 and monitoring was not undertaken in 2009. A total of 58 mounds have been recorded as active at least once in the 20 year monitoring period. Three of the mounds have been active on a total of 12 occasions and a further five mounds have been recorded as active on eleven occasions (Appendix 3).

The number of active mounds recorded annually is variable but ranges between 15 and 30 mounds (Figure 4). From the available data, the number of active Malleefowl mounds show an increasing trend¹ (Figure 4 and 5). The number of active mounds being monitored has increased since 2005 with additional mounds being discovered through ongoing monitoring. To account for this discrepancy and the variability in the number of mounds monitored, Figure 5 shows the percentage of the historically active mounds that were active in each year excluding those that were not monitored.

Malleefowl population dynamics and nesting activity have been linked to annual rainfall (Boyle and Hone 2012, Priddel and Wheeler 2003, Benshemesh *et al.* 2020). Variability in the number of active mounds at Mt Jackson appears primarily driven by annual rainfall. Annual rainfall data is recorded from Bullfinch (approximately 80 km south) and Southern Cross (approximately 120 km south).

Low numbers of active mounds were recorded in 2007, 2008, 2010 and 2020, correlating with years of below average annual rainfall (Figure 4). Priddel and Wheeler (2003) noted that Malleefowl pairs may fail to breed in years of low rainfall. Conversely, above average annual rainfall received in 2011, 2015, 2022 and 2025 and was generally followed by an increase in breeding activity in subsequent years (Figure 4). The effect of above average annual rainfall on breeding activity may be delayed, with the number of active mounds peaking up to two years following significant rainfall. Peaks in the number of active mounds were recorded in 2013, 2014, 2016, 2022 and 2024. A similar lag effect has been noted in analysis of long-term monitoring data across Australia (Benshemesh *et al.* 2020). The timing of significant rainfall events also influences breeding activity with winter rainfall positively associated with breeding activity (Benshemesh *et al.* 2007, Walsh *et al.* 2012, Benshemesh *et al.* 2020).

¹ Trends in the number of active mounds at Mt Jackson may be obscured by variation in the number of mounds monitored annually, and inconsistencies between which mounds were monitored each year.

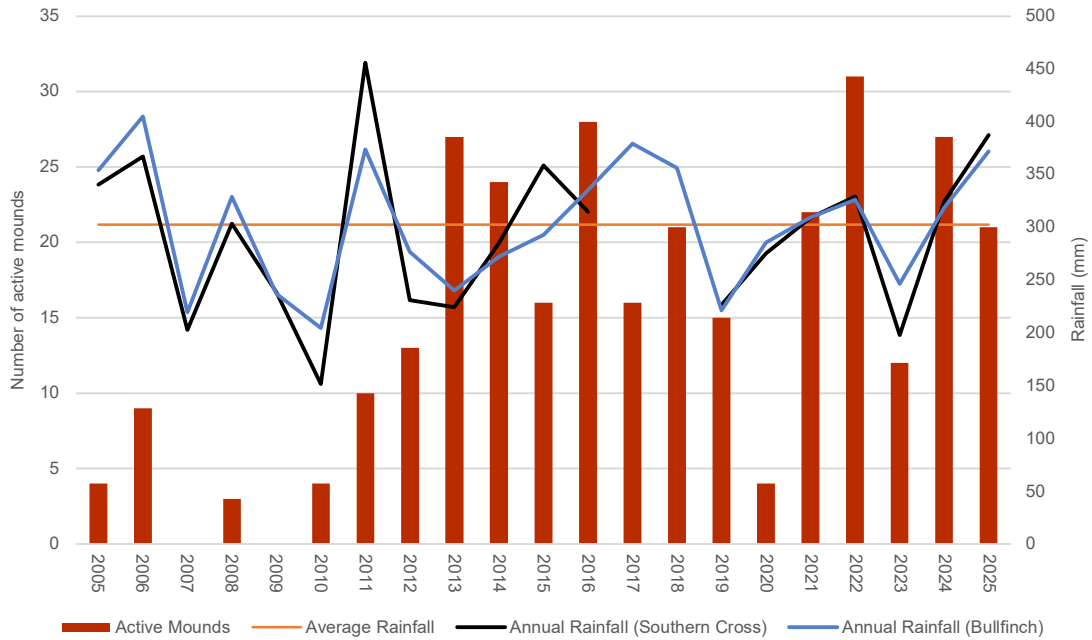


Figure 4 Number of active mounds recorded between 2005 - 2025 and annual rainfall recorded at Bullfinch and Southern Cross Airfield (BOM 2026).

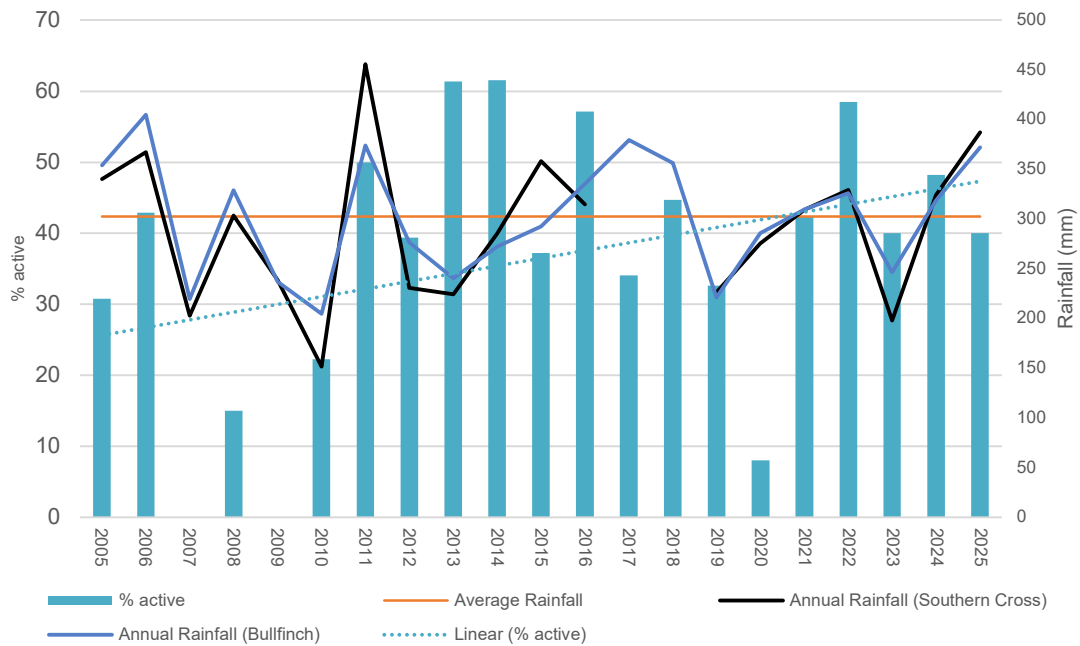


Figure 5 Percentage of historically active mounds recorded as active between 2005 - 2025 and annual rainfall recorded at Bullfinch and Southern Cross Airfield (BOM 2026).

5.0 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A total of 133 Malleefowl mounds were assessed during the 2025 field survey. The total included 21 active mounds and 38 inactive mounds (16 inactive sub-class 1 and 22 inactive sub-class 2). An additional 43 mounds were classed as long unused, and 31 mounds were classified as extinct. Based on the available data, the trend in the Malleefowl population at Mt Jackson is likely stable or increasing slightly. Variability in breeding activity between years is primarily driven by variation in annual rainfall and is consistent with the positive correlation with winter rainfall described in the literature. Recommendations for future monitoring include:

- Undertake consistent monitoring of 58 known active mounds at the Mt Jackson site;
- Continued removal of extinct mound from annual monitoring and change to five year monitoring interval to improve efficiency; and
- Contribute data gathered in 2025 to the National Malleefowl monitoring database.

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APPENDIX 1

Data template used for Malleefowl monitoring assessment at Mt Jackson
(based on NMRG 2025)

Attribute	Description	Example
Site	Name of site	Mt Jackson
Site_Code	Unique site number to indicate the state and the number of the site (Mt Jackson)	W17
Recorder	Initials of name of observer in field	JW
Mound_Number	XXX : Unique code for each mound	001
SiteName	W17_XXX Combination of the site and mound codes	W17_001
DateObs	Date of observation during the field survey	2025-10-01
Easting	Easting in GDA2020/MGA Zone 50	712487
Northing	Northing in GDA2020/MGA Zone 50	6651257
New_Known	Known mound : is a mound that has previously been recorded and is 'known' to the NMMD New mound : is a previously undiscovered mound that has been found during the routine monitoring process	Known mound
Sought	Revisited : A known mound is 'Revisited'. Sought, not found : a mound is sought but is not able to be located. Not sought : a mound that is not sought for any reason. It may be a new mound to the site or a known mound that has been found during monitoring.	Revisited
Found	Yes/No/New	Yes
Needs_stake	Yes/No	Yes
Needs_Tag	Yes/No	Yes
Profile	As per diagrams in NMRG 2025 Inactive: Typical crater with raised rim this is the typical shape of an inactive (dormant) mound. Dug out: Mound fully dug out the crater slopes down steeply and at the base the sides drop vertically to form a box-like structure with sides usually 20-30cm deep. Often litter will have been raked into windrows and may have started to enter the mound. Mound with litter: This is the next stage after Profile 2. Litter will have been raked into the mound by Malleefowl, and thick layers of litter are evident on the surface. There may or may not be some sand mixed with the litter at this stage. Active (mounded up): Mound mounded up (no crater) an active but unopened Malleefowl mound. Active (with peak): Mound that has a sandy crater with peak in centre an active mound which is in the process of being closed by Malleefowl. Long unused: Mound low and flat without peak or crater a very long unused mound, or a deliberately flattened mound late in a breeding season to capture heat from the sun. Very large flat: mound very broad and flat and will generally measure in excess of 10m in diameter. These mounds are thought to have been made by a species of megafauna, a bird similar to Malleefowl but much larger. The mega mound may have a more recent mound on top of it.	- Inactive - Dug out - Mound with litter - Active (mounded up) - Active (with peak) - Long unused - Very large flat
ActiveMound	Active : Active mounds are those that are currently being used by Malleefowl as an incubator for their eggs and are likely to contain eggs. Inactive : an inactive mound, includes mounds where Malleefowl activity, e.g. litter trails, prints, scrapes are obvious but not the mound is not being used for breeding. Do not record a mound as active when only such Malleefowl activity is present	Active
X_Sticks	Two or three Xsticks (about 50cm long X 2cm wide) are routinely placed in a cross at the centre of inspected inactive mounds on departure from the mound. Monitors need to decide on the status of the Xsticks placed during monitoring the previous year. In Cross : If the Xsticks still form a X when a mound is inspected, the mound has obviously not been disturbed since it was last visited in the previous season Displaced on mound: Xsticks may still be present on the mound, but have been disturbed and no longer form a X Gone : Xsticks may be gone from the mound	Displaced

Attribute	Description	Example
Sticks_Replaced	Yes/No	Yes
Freshly_Scraped	The critical test for this category is to disturb a small area of sand on the rim of the mound and to compare this with neighbouring, undisturbed areas of sand. Yes Freshly Scraped: the disturbed surface is not visibly distinct: the mound is regarded as scraped No Not freshly scraped; the disturbed surface is distinct: the mound has probably not been worked by Malleefowl for at least a day or so (or it is very windy or wet from recent rain)	Yes/No
Eggshell	Lots: 10 or more pieces are clearly visible Some: 1 to 10 pieces are visible None	Lots
Lerp	Lots : 10 or more lerp on the mound Some: 1 to 10 lerp on the mound None: No lerp are visible on the mound after a good look	Some
Prints_MF	Whether prints of malleefowl, fox or other species are present within the mound Yes/No	Yes
Prints_Fox	Yes/No	Yes
Prints_Roo	Yes/No	Yes
Prints_Other	Yes/No	Yes
Scats_MF	Whether scats of malleefowl, fox or other species are present within the mound Yes/No	Yes
Scats_Fox	Yes/No	Yes
Scats_Roo	Yes/No	Yes
Scats_Other	Yes/No	Yes
Inner_Crust	Level of crusting within the inner surface of the mound None/Some/Lots	None
Inner_Moss	How much of the inner surface of the mound is covered with moss and/or lichen None/Some/Lots	None
Inner_Herbs	How many herbs are present on the inner surface of the mound; None/Some/Lots	None
Height_North	The height (cm) of the mound above the ground. See diagrams in NMRG (2025). The Height North (Ht Nth) and Height South (Ht Sth) are both measured. For mounds with a crater, the height measures are those between the ground level at the perimeter and the line formed by sighting along the top of the rim on either side of the mound	100
Height_South	See above	90
Depth	The measure (cm) taken is the vertical distance from the base of the crater to a horizontal line drawn from the top of the rim on the north side to the top of the rim on the south.	30
Outer_diameter	The outer diameter (cm) is the outer most limit of the mound; the distance across the mound from the northern outer edge to the southern outer edge. Sometimes a mound will have two outer diameters, where a mound has been built upon an older and larger mound. In this case, measure the larger. The best way to estimate an indistinct perimeter is to follow the general outline of the mound from a standing position.	500
Rim_diameter (cm)	The rim diameter (cm) is the distance across the mound from the top of the northern rim to the southern rim.	200
Comments	Additional information	Mound is vegetated
Photo	Photo Numbers	375-376

APPENDIX 2

Details of Malleefowl monitoring assessment at Mt Jackson assessed December 2025

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17n024	718756	6649477	4. Mounded up	Active	Active	
W17n035	718006	6650499	5. With peak	Active	Active	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17n038	717729	6650464	4. Mounded up	Active	Active	
W17N057B	708196	6653871	5. With peak	Active	Active	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N073	709777	6652991	5. With peak	Active	Active	
W17N083	710189	6652667	5. With peak	Active	Active	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N109	712636	6650770	5. With peak	Active	Active	
W17N126	712212	6651298	4. Mounded up	Active	Active	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N129	712486	6651253	5. With peak	Active	Active	
W17n150	716278	6650460	4. Mounded up	Active	Active	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17n167	715532	6650116	4. Mounded up	Active	Active	
W17n184	715093	6649555	4. Mounded up	Active	Active	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N222	713594	6650545	5. With peak	Active	Active	
W17N223	713452	6650289	5. With peak	Active	Active	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N263	726996	6652495	4. Mounded up	Active	Active	
W17N301	727887	6651798	5. With peak	Active	Active	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N303	728819	6651078	5. With peak	Active	Active	
W17N327	728833	6651307	5. With peak	Active	Active	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17n376	719166	6650219	4. Mounded up	Active	Active	
W17N380	721571	6650065	4. Mounded up	Active	Active	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N452	709226	6653718	4. Mounded up	Active	Active	
W17n002	717603	6650055	2. Dug out	Inactive	Inactive (class 1)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17n028	717161	6651064	2. Dug out	Inactive	Inactive (class 1)	
W17n045	717399	6651104	2. Dug out	Inactive	Inactive (class 1)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17n046	718758	6651763	2. Dug out	Inactive	Inactive (class 1)	
W17n047	718902	6651538	2. Dug out	Inactive	Inactive (class 1)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N048	712206	6651622	2. Dug out	Inactive	Inactive (class 1)	
W17N062	707552	6654493	2. Dug out	Inactive	Inactive (class 1)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N111	712562	6650972	2. Dug out	Inactive	Inactive (class 1)	
W17N136	711748	6651141	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 1)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17n194	714712	6649607	2. Dug out	Inactive	Inactive (class 1)	
W17N244	712503	6651554	2. Dug out	Inactive	Inactive (class 1)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N349	720701	6650026	2. Dug out	Inactive	Inactive (class 1)	
W17N369	721647	6649803	2. Dug out	Inactive	Inactive (class 1)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N373	722741	6650756	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 1)	
W17N375	723437	6650675	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 1)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N403	711987	6651482	2. Dug out	Inactive	Inactive (class 1)	
W17N056	707777	6654106	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N099	713846	6650222	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	
W17N100	713736	6649924	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N101	713599	6649949	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	
W17N102	713461	6650042	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N112	712933	6650622	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	
W17N116	713156	6650182	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N121	711627	6651336	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	
W17n166	716365	6650127	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17n177	716749	6652168	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	
W17n185	714788	6649939	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17n186	716886	6651668	5. With peak	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	
W17n189	715342	6649032	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17n191	715165	6649218	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	
W17N204	709281	6654245	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N247	713908	6650401	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	
W17N368	721250	6650104	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N391	724000	6650169	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	
W17N395	725413	6650267	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17N408	707869	6653809	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	
W17N452 (new)	716599	6652116	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
w17n095	709407	6653282	1. Inactive	Inactive	Inactive (class 2)	
MTJL003	712916	6650401	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
MTJL009	717543	6649977	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
MTJL010	717574	6649783	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
MTJL011	717764	6649839	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
MTJL012	718040	6649721	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
MTJL013	715844	6650540	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17n057A	708194	6653865	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17n080	710314	6652537	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17n081	710561	6652496	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
w17n085	710210	6652929	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N088	711309	6651941	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N094	710010	6652711	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N097	714218	6649763	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N098	713881	6649772	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N107	712804	6650349	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N117	713402	6650183	7. Very large flat	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N119	711907	6651812	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N131	714167	6650017	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17n155	715353	6650356	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17n161	715090	6650080	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17n168	714823	6650107	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17n175	715377	6650351	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17n181	714700	6649088	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N188	717569	6651989	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17n190	715464	6649241	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17n192	714895	6649232	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17n193	714575	6649250	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N207	709893	6654644	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N213	710384	6653471	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N216	710605	6653400	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N220	709636	6653060	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17n230	714493	6649828	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N294	726364	6652595	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N354	722023	6650653	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N356	722386	6650585	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N360	723878	6650048	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N384	722993	6650612	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N386	723736	6650533	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N389	721865	6650716	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N390	722523	6650615	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N398	721823	6650691	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N400	717759	6649577	6. Long unused	Inactive	Long unused	
W17N409	726436	6652688	1. Inactive	Inactive	Long unused	
MTJL008	717772	6649938	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N055	707557	6654633	1. Inactive	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N058	708316	6653571	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N061	707268	6655213	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N064	708480	6653613	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N065	708616	6653487	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N066	708229	6653817	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N068	708513	6653448	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N071	709923	6652035	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
w17n072	709058	6653235	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N074	708318	6653676	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
w17n077	709279	6653195	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N078	708193	6653800	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17n093	711200	6651874	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	

SiteName	Easting	Northing	Profile	ActiveMound	Category	Photo
W17n096	710224	6652623	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N125	712121	6651221	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N127	712375	6651072	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
w17n137	712173	6651219	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17n140	717209	6652055	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17n142	718462	6652652	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17n144	717938	6652290	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17n171	717662	6652467	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17n172	717473	6652248	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
w17n174	717907	6652351	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N267	728003	6651608	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N287	728769	6651662	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N296	726365	6652905	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N312	729834	6650786	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N322	727562	6652978	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N333	730290	6651064	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	
W17N402	707184	6655008	6. Long unused	Inactive	Extinct	

APPENDIX 3

Details of all active Malleefowl mounds assess at Mt Jackson between 2005-2025

A= Active,
n= not active
Blank= not monitored

SiteName	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Years active	2025 Comment
W17n024	n	n	n	n		n	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	n	n	n	n	n	A	A	10	
W17n028	n	n	n	n			n			n		n	n		A	n	n	n	n	n	n	1	
W17n035	n	n	n			n	n	n	A	A	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	A	n	A	A	5	
W17n038	n	n	n			n	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	n	n	A	A	n	A	A	12	
W17n57B																					A	1	New mound near existing W17N057
W17n045	A	A	n	A			A		A	A	n	A	n	n	n	n	A	A	n	A	n	10	
W17n046	A	A	n	n			A		A	A	n	A	n	A	A	A	A	A		n	n	11	
W17n047	n	A	n	n			A		A	A	A	A	A	n	n	n	A	A		n	n	9	
W17n048	A	n	n			n	A	n	n	A	A	A	n	A	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	6	
W17n057	n	n		n		n	n	n	n	A	n	A	n	A		n	n	A	A	A	n	6	
W17n062	n	n				A	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	1	
W17n073	n			n							n			n			A	A		A	n	3	
W17n083	n	n	n	n							n			n			n			A	A	2	
W17n095	A	A	n			n	A	A	A	A	n	n	n	A	A	n	n	A	A	A	n	11	
W17n100		n	n	n					A	n	n	n	A	n	n	n	n	A	n	n	n	3	
W17n109		A	n	n					A	A	n	A	n	n	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	11	
W17n111		A	n	n					n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	1	
W17n112		A	n	A					A	A	n	A	A	n	n	n	n	A	n	A	n	8	
W17n121		n	n	n		n	A	A	n	n	n	n	A	n	n	n	n	n	A	A	n	5	
W17n126		A	n	n		n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	A	2	
W17n129		A	n	n		n	n	n	n	n	n	A	n	n	n	n	A	n	A	A	A	6	
W17n136		n	n	n			n				A	n	n	A	n	n	n	n	n	A	n	3	
W17n150							A		A	A	A	A	n	A	n	n	A	A	n	A	A	10	
W17n167		n	n				n				A	A	A	A	n	n	n	n	n	n	A	5	
W17n184											A	A	n	A		n	A	A	A	A	A	8	
W17n186				n			n		n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	A	n	n	n	1	
W17n204				n		n	n	A	n	A	n	n	n	n	A	n	n	n	n	n	n	3	
W17n222				n					n			n	n	A	n	n	n	n	A	A	A	4	
W17n223				A					A			A	A	A	n	n	A	A	A	A	A	10	
W17n247						n	A	A	n	n	n	n	n	A	n	n	A	A	A	n	n	6	
W17n263						n		A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	n	A	n		A	A	11	
W17n283						A		A					n			A	A	A		A		6	Not assessed, two mounds in close proximity
W17n288						n		n	A	n	A	A	A	n	n	n	n	A		n		5	Not assessed, two mounds in close proximity
W17n301						A			A	A	A	A	A	A	A	n	A	A		A	A	12	
W17n303						A		A	A	A	n	A	A	A	A	n	A	A		A	A	12	
W17n327						n		n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n		n	A	1	
W17n345								A	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n		1	

SiteName	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Years active	2025 Comment
W17n349								n	A	A	n	A	A	n	n	n	n	n		n	n	4	
W17n354								n	n	n	n	n	n	A	n	n	n	A		n	n	2	
W17n356								A	A	A	n	n	n	n	A	n	n	n		n	n	4	
W17n360								n	n			n			A	n	n	n		n	n	1	
W17n368								n	A			A	n	n	n	n	n	A		A	n	4	
W17n369								n	n	A	A	A	A	n	n	n	A	A		n	n	6	
W17n373								n	A			A			A	A	A	n		A	n	6	
W17n375								A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	n	A	A		n	n	10	
W17n376								n	A	A	A	A	n	A	A	n	A	A	A	A	A	11	
W17n380								A	A	n	n	n	n	A	A	n	A	n		n	A	6	
W17n386								n	A	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n		n	n	1	
W17n389								n	A			n			A	n	n	A		n	n	3	
W17n391								n	n	A	A	A	n	n	n	n	n	n		n	n	3	
W17n395								n	A	A	A	A	A	A	n	n	A	A		n	n	8	
W17n403								n	A	A	n	A	n	n	n	n	A	A	A	A	n	7	
W17n409												A	n	n		n	n	A		n	n	2	
W17n415																			A	A		2	No coordinates available from previous assessment
W17n418																			n	A		1	No coordinates available from previous assessment
W17n436																		A		n		1	No coordinates available from previous assessment
W17n448																		A		n		1	No coordinates available from previous assessment
W17N452																					A	1	New mound 2025
Monitored	13	21	19	20	0	18	20	33	44	39	43	49	47	47	46	50	52	53	30	56	50		
Active	4	9	0	3	0	4	10	13	27	24	16	28	16	21	15	4	22	31	12	27	20		
Not active	9	12	19	17	0	14	10	20	17	15	27	21	31	26	31	46	30	22	18	29	30		