



**ILUKA**



Tutunup South Mining Operations

## South West Newsletter – July 2022

Welcome to the July 2022 Iluka Resources update for the South West.

### → Tutunup South Mining Operation Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation of previously mined areas is a big part of Iluka's activities in the South West. Over a three year period, Iluka's rehabilitation team has successfully restored land disturbed by mining at Tutunup South, back to agriculture and native vegetation, including a wetland. Wetland vegetation was harvested prior to mining then maintained via irrigation in a nursery, before being returned to a similar location post mining.

In another part of the mine site, careful planning enabled Iluka to mine in close proximity to a wetland without adversely impacting it. Following mining, the mine pit was backfilled with suitable soils to ensure the return of groundwater flows and ongoing function of the wetland.

#### South Tutunup Rehabilitation facts:

- Mine Site – 1km wide by 3.5km long
- During mining approx. 80,000m<sup>3</sup> of ore processed per month
- 800m<sup>2</sup> of wetland vegetation including rare local flora relocated to a nursery for future replanting
- Relocated plants maintained for 10 years
- Successful rehabilitation across the mine site over a 3 year period



South Tutunup Post Mining Rehabilitation

## → Capel Wetlands Rehabilitation

The Capel Wetlands are part of Iluka's South Capel Mine, which operated from 1971 until 1991. The site has been partially rehabilitated to a series of wetland lakes. Iluka is committed to completing rehabilitation of the site and is working with the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions and Department of Mines, Industry, Regulation and Safety to determine the required rehabilitation standards. To support this process Iluka is undertaking ecological assessments to determine the current conservation values of the site and inform future land use and remaining rehabilitation obligations.

Surveys of the lakes have to date identified a healthy population of the endangered Carter's freshwater mussel in the Capel Wetlands, with encouraging signs that the population is growing.

Abundant populations of the southwestern snake-necked turtle have also been observed. This is an iconic species that only inhabits the wetlands of South Western WA, playing a crucial role in the aquatic ecosystem.

Similar surveys of dryland areas have identified the presence of Western Ringtail Possum, Quenda and a range of birds and reptiles.

Iluka is committed to returning the land to the State Forest. We are also supporting the evaluation of alternate land uses, including a proposal by Fostering and Assistance for Wildlife Needing Aid (FAWNA) for the Kaatijinup Biodiversity Park.

Every year FAWNA cares for orphaned and abandoned joey Western Ringtail Possums. In April 2019, Iluka entered into an agreement with FAWNA to establish and operate a "Possum Finishing School" at the Capel Wetlands. While the Possum Finishing School currently provides a valuable service for the care of orphaned and abandoned fauna, FAWNA's longer term vision is to develop the Capel Wetlands into a biodiversity park and wildlife hospital. Iluka and the Shire of Capel are assisting FAWNA in their evaluation of the feasibility of this concept.



The lakes at the Capel Wetlands are brimming with Oblong turtles! This species is endemic to south west WA

## → Iluka Vision - Showcase of South West Students Visual Art Creativity



Iluka Visions is an annual event at the Bunbury Regional Art Gallery. This event showcases the depth of talent and creativity in the visual arts space across high schools in the South West Region. First started in 1991, Iluka's sponsorship extends to participating on the judging panel and recognising outstanding artworks as well as presenting the overall prize.

In 2021, the South West Community celebrated the 30th Anniversary of Iluka Visions at the Bunbury Regional Art Gallery. Year 12 students from 23 high schools showcased artworks in the exhibition including, print making, ceramics, painting, photography, sculpture and drawing.

The winner of the Best Overall Award undertakes a 5 day supported residency at the Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts (PICA). To enter, applicants are required to submit a written application alongside their art work to be considered for the prize.

From across 69 artworks, the overall prize for 2021 was awarded to Saoirse Torr from Bunbury Senior High School with her piece entitled Social Distancing. The standard of submissions was of a very high calibre and Iluka would like to thank all of the students over the years who have submitted works and to encourage young artists to participate in the future.

## → Restart of SR1 Kiln at North Capel

Iluka's operations at North Capel produce synthetic rutile, which is a value added ilmenite product, processed from mineral sands. Synthetic rutile is primarily used as a feedstock to make titanium dioxide pigment, which is commonly used in a wide variety of consumer products including house and car paints, paper, laminate, plastic pipes and packaging, inks, clothing, sunscreen, toothpaste and make up.

Traditionally at our Capel processing hub, Iluka operated two kilns to upgrade ilmenite into a higher grade rutile. In 2009, the SR1 kiln was placed on care and maintenance due to the reduced product demand driven by the Global Financial Crisis. Fast forward 12 years and Iluka's Board approved the

restart of the kiln to meet the increasing demand for mineral sands.

On Friday 29 April 2022, a significant milestone was obtained for the SR1 Restart Project with the new SR1 110m chimney stack reaching its full height. Once commissioned, the new stack will take emissions from the SR1 kiln and dryer to a height of 127m above sea level where it is safely discharged. Refurbishment and upgrade works are progressing for its restart planned for Q4 2022, 13 years after it was idled.

Restarting the SR1 kiln will result in an additional 46 jobs at our North Capel hub. In support of recruiting locally, 70 regional contractors have been engaged to assist with various aspects of the SR1 Restart Project.



SR1 Kiln 110m Chimney Stack at North Capel

## → Tutunup Mineral Sands Project Proposal

Planning continues on Iluka's proposal to develop a mineral sands mine in Tutunup, 17km east of Busselton. The Tutunup Mineral Sands Project (the Proposal) includes the development of a mining operation and associated infrastructure including mine pit(s), a concentrator to process mineral sands, dams for water and clay fines management, material stockpiles, workshops, administration buildings and haul roads. The Proposal also includes rehabilitation works, monitoring and maintenance activities.

The Proposal is still in the pre-feasibility study phase and requires a series of government approvals to progress to the next stage. As part of the government approvals process, Iluka is required to conduct a range of studies addressing potential environmental impacts and how they will be avoided, remedied or mitigated.

Iluka is also required to show it understands the range of potential impacts across Proposal stakeholders. To achieve this, Iluka designed a targeted engagement programme to ensure stakeholder views are considered throughout the life of the Proposal and not just in the development phase.

On 3 December 2021, Iluka submitted to the State Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) its Tutunup Mineral Sands Project Section 38 Referral (the Referral). On 11 May 2022, the EPA completed its review of the Referral and set the level of assessment, via a Chair's Determination, as Environmental Review Document (ERD), also known as Public Environment Review (PER). This is the level of assessment that the Proposal had anticipated receiving.

The EPA identified the preliminary key environmental factors for the Proposal are:

- Flora and Vegetation;
- Terrestrial Fauna;
- Terrestrial Environmental Quality;
- Inland Waters;
- Social Surroundings; and
- Human Health.

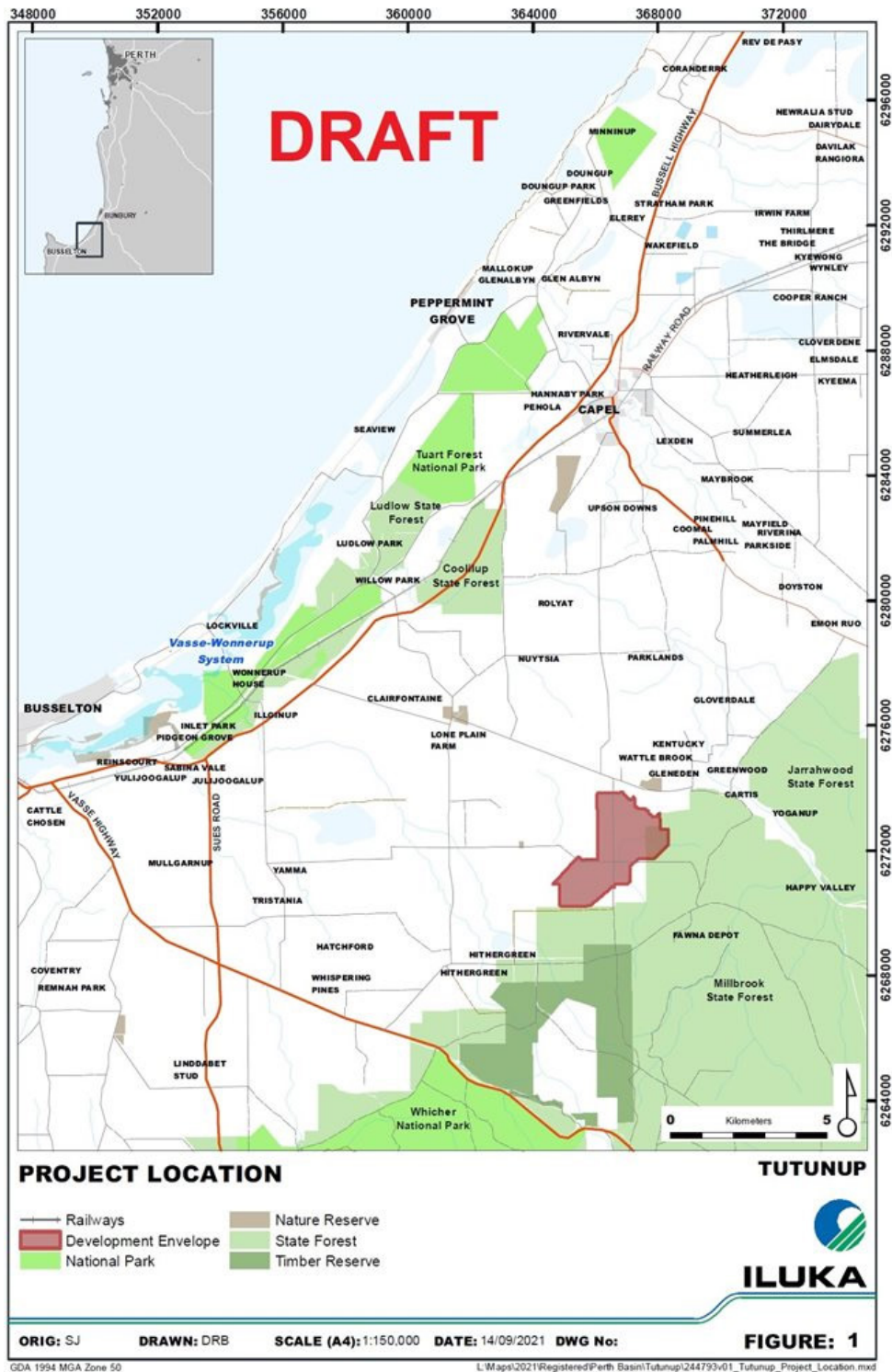
Iluka is now preparing the Environmental Scoping Document (ESD) to be developed in collaboration with, and approved by, the EPA. The ESD details the additional environmental studies required to inform the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to be undertaken for the Proposal. The outcomes of the EIA are used to identify and manage potential direct and indirect impacts to the preliminary key environmental factors that may occur as a result of the Proposal.

Following the completion of the studies detailed in the ESD, an ERD will be prepared, which includes the outcomes of the EIA, and made available for public review and comment as part of this process. The EPA has set the public review period for six weeks. Iluka will keep stakeholders updated on the public review period commencement date, and encourages interested stakeholders to visit the EPA website for further information on the assessment process.

The Commonwealth Referral was submitted to the Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment (DAWE), in April 2022. The Minister has yet to decide on the level and method of assessment, however this is expected to be made in the coming weeks. The Minister's decision will be based on the potential for significant impacts to Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES).

For more information, or if you have any further questions about the Proposal or the government approvals process and how you can be engaged, please visit the Iluka website and we encourage you to register for Proposal updates [www.iluka.com/engage/tutunup](http://www.iluka.com/engage/tutunup)

## Map of the Proposed Tutunup Mineral Sands Project Proposal Development Envelope



Please note the environmental and engineering studies required as part of the Proposal cover the entire development envelope. However the actual mine footprint, which is yet to be agreed, will be a smaller area contained within the development envelope.

Iluka acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the Country on which we work and live and pay our respect to Elders past and present.



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

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