



Action Plan for Tourism Recovery

Designing our Tourism Future

Focus: Geo-tourism

(Recreational Prospecting and Fossicking)

Small Business Submission by

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We acknowledge our resource pioneers, the individual prospectors, whose adventurous physical endeavours contributed to the early prosperity and development of this great Nation. Long may these traditions continue.

Preface to our role in the Isaac Region Tourism Identity

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Queensland Government's *Action Plan for Tourism Recovery*.

As residents of Clermont in the Isaac Region for 22 years, home-based business owners for 11 years and bricks and mortar business owners for over five years, we have a reasonable level of understanding of the local economic drivers; agriculture, mining and over the last twenty-five years, tourism, which in our local area centres primarily on metal detecting for alluvial gold in the historic Clermont Goldfields.

With over 25 years experience as electronic prospectors and more recently as certified Minelab dealers, (the world-leading Australian metal detector designer and manufacturer), we have seen the rising popularity and wider acceptance of metal detecting as a hobby and profitable pastime as well as the increased scrutiny placed on the regulation of this activity in the public landscape.

Since we commenced our Minelab dealership in late 2015, we have invested considerable time and energy to educate stakeholders and strongly advocate for solutions to land access issues at consumer, local and State government levels, with a particular focus on public lands such as State Forest and local Council managed areas.

To deliver an effective adventure-based tourism experience in Queensland where historic gold, gem and opal fields exist, our view is there is limited capacity to grow the 'geo-tourism' sector (including recreational prospecting and fossicking), unless secure and widely accessible public lands are available to the general public to enjoy these activities.

We therefore welcome the Government's acknowledgement within the Tourism Industry Reference Panel Discussion Paper Survey of the importance of identifying new opportunities to diversify Queensland's tourism experiences in a 'post-COVID' world.

Stakeholder engagement:

- November 2018 – submitted proposal for six new General Permission Areas (**GPAs**) in the Clermont region. New Flat Diggings GPA opened in October 2019 and another on State Forest currently under assessment (Aug 2020) ***see 001; 01; 01.1; 01.2 attached***
- Contributed to Isaac Regional Council’s (**IRC**) Tourism Strategy, released April 2019. Includes development of a regional gold prospecting strategy and identified actions to support existing and new tourism opportunities in this sector ***see 02 attached***
- May 2019 – invited to contribute to DNRME Fossicking Regulations Review 2009 ***see 03 attached***
- June 2020 – invited to attend DNRME teleconference with fossicking/Small Scale Mining reps ***see 03.1 attached***
- August 2020 – invited to contribute as consulting community stakeholder in developing an Australia-wide survey* “*Minelab Economic and social contribution study of recreational prospecting*”. **Estimated value to QLD economy in 2019: \$53.9m**
see 04; 04.1 attached *Note pending review on participant numbers
- Numerous online, TV, radio and print media engagements with ABC Regional Radio, ABC 7.30, CQ News, Daily Mercury ***see 05; 05.1; 05.2 attached***
- Regular attendee to community and inter-agency stakeholder meetings since 2010 (DNRME, QPWS, IRC). Numerous letters and emails to relevant Ministers to understand the complexities of current legislation and advocating for reform to ensure a sustainable future for geo-tourism in Queensland.

Recreational prospecting sector profile:

- Rising popularity* and wider acceptance of metal detecting and manual alluvial gold recovery as a hobby and profitable pastime (*particularly with recent record gold price and social impacts of the pandemic as people seek to re-connect with the bush.)
- Since approx 1995, significant increase in interest in geo-tourism, specifically metal detecting for alluvial gold in the historic Clermont Goldfields, discovered 1861;
- Interstate visitors and Queensland residents contribute greatly to our local economy in a similar manner to the CQ Gemfields via a 3-way benefit – initial purchase of equipment, visitor spend during their prospecting trips (seasonal visitation over many months each year) and through sale of gold finds to fund further purchases;
- Observation of our customer base indicates the activity supports the mental and physical health of a wide range of individuals, families, seniors, ex-military and those suffering personal distress. Metal detecting is also a popular recreational activity for the resource industry workforce in CQ mining regions;
- provides an important historic connection to our strong resource heritage for future generations
- Noting sales of QLD Fossicking Licences in 2019-2020, (9100+ issued – 45% increase over 5 years), there is a keen audience searching for opportunities to enjoy these activities;
- Increased popularity has driven increased scrutiny of the regulation of the activity on public land tenures; ***see 06; 06.1; 06.2 attached***

Supporting information:

Understanding the GPA structure as it applies to QLD State Forest

- QLD Fossicking Act 1994 requires Fossicking Licence holder to seek permission to access the land for the activity, including on State Forest, Stock Route or Council reserve ***S27 Licensee must get permission to fossick on occupied land etc.***
- **DES** - QLD Parks & Wildlife Service (**QPWS**) are the land managers of State Forest
- **DNRME** issue the grazing term leases over the Forest under the Land Act
- Forestry grazing lessee is considered 'owner' under the Fossicking Act, as defined in Mineral Resources Act
S8 Meaning of expressions used in this and other Acts
- Fossicking Act says 'no fossicking in State Forest unless GPA'
S 10 Act's application to State forests, timber reserves and forest entitlement areas
- Both **DES** Chief Executive and grazing lessee are required to grant joint permission for GPA ***see 06 and 010 attached***
- GPA is approved by DNRME and then declared with conditions and maps
See 001 attached
- No obligation on grazing leaseholders to give or **maintain** GPA permission, despite taxpayer investment in tracks and infrastructure, as is to the lessee's benefit when declared a GPA. So 'no permission = no GPA = no access for 'just' prospectors into State Forest, but all other permitted recreational users can still access State Forest, without needing leaseholder permission, as do neither commercial timber cutters or mining lease holders.
- Grazing lessee is **NOT** authorised to give individual permission to 'fossick' on State Forest

General Permission Area (GPA) background: (Clermont Goldfields)

- 11 GPAs – 12,000 ha – 7 on State Forest – 4 on Council land
- Of the approx 60,000ha of potential local State Forest, only 20% of this is currently declared as GPA and available to support our tourism economy. Unfair burden on existing GPA lessees to support tourism when activities are historically shown to be compatible, yet only impediment is 'lack of leaseholder permission';
- Due to legislative requirements under the Fossicking Act, the process to declare GPAs over State Forest is particularly complex and legally fraught, as consent must be granted from both the grazing leaseholder (considered the 'owner'), QPWS as the land managers, with approval by DNRME as issuer of the lease and regulator of the activity, with certain conditions attached;
- Due to the tenuous nature of the consent process, there is a very real risk that at any time a Forestry leaseholder may, without warning or reason, withdraw permission for the GPA, greatly restricting opportunity for recreational prospectors and thus our entire local tourism economy.

Discussion Paper Responses:

1. What could be done at a local level to increase the benefits of tourism?

Clermont in CQ was founded on the discovery of gold and is a popular destination for recreational prospecting (fossicking), yet our town lacks practical and informative tourism resources to effectively promote the activity and to assist visitors to identify the local areas where they can enjoy it.

Simple visual cues, such as signage at the large roundabout access into town stating, eg '*Welcome to the Clermont Goldfields*', (a sign actually states '*This way to the CQ Gemfields*' - an hour's drive away!), signs on the relevant road access to direct visitors to the General Permission Areas (GPAs), production of an informational booklet containing maps and promoting other local attractions (as does the CQ Gemfields) are greatly needed.

Dynamic and informative online resources are also lacking compared to other States eg <https://www.goldfieldsguide.com.au/> IRC's own website does not even mention 'gold fossicking' in the Clermont section. <https://www.isaac.qld.gov.au/about-our-region/clermont> Due to constant enquiries and this lack of available info, I submitted the GPA entry points myself to assist visitors find the [GPAs on Google Maps](#).

Where Clermont has the most accessible land in Queensland to enjoy recreational prospecting, there are very limited camping opportunities on the goldfields, unlike Victoria and NSW, where both camping and fossicking is permitted in State Forest.

Importantly, the best thing local and State government could do for Clermont is to make more public lands accessible for the activity. The desire of a prospecting enthusiast to visit a certain area is driven by the chance to find gold...'build it' and they will come! ***See 07; 07.1 attached...but where is the 'Clermont Goldfields' map resource?***

2. How do you want Queensland tourism to be defined in the 2020s?

To see local and State agencies and industry groups be attentive to the desire of tourism businesses to develop reliable and accessible domestic tourism experiences, over the pre-COVID tendencies to invest in the high-risk/high-return international tourism market. We need to promote the social and economic benefits of 'play local/spend local', and be willing to explore and invest in new tourism products that, for example, leverage the recreational values contained in under-utilised natural land assets such as State Forests, to offer a range of low-budget, family-friendly activities closer to home.

'Tourism' is a broad definition and to build a resilient tourism sector that can withstand ongoing market uncertainty over this next decade, we must broaden our capability to meet these changing demands. Government too, must do all things necessary to assist regional communities to diversify their economies, through identifying new tourism opportunities that also improve the livability of our towns.

3. How do we make the best use of our tourism assets? In your own words, what is missing?

Looking to NSW and Victoria with their inclusive approach to managing public land assets such as State Forest for commercial, recreational, cultural and environmental values, but particularly referring to gold prospecting and gem fossicking, frustratingly in Queensland, broader public access to suitable mineralised public land for these activities is extremely limited.

Because of this poor and uncertain land accessibility issue, Queensland is missing out on significant tourism revenue when prospectors and fossickers choose other more welcoming States to enjoy these activities, (where public land access is protected under law), noting most participants regularly spend many weeks/months each 'season' (approx April-Sept) engaged in the activity.

Through Queensland Government making genuine efforts to reform public land management to increase access for fossicking and related outdoor recreational activities, there is huge potential for Queensland to attract a keen and growing audience searching for opportunities to enjoy these activities.

See NSW Forestry Corporation <https://www.forestrycorporation.com.au/visit>

In regions where historic gold, gem and opal workings exist, the simplest tourist attraction to establish is a GPA. Define the area, survey the site for safety, tidy up the tracks, erect a sign, publish maps online and it's open for business. Recreational prospectors and fossickers will choose their own adventure and return these tourism dollars to Queensland regional economies. It's called a 'goldrush' for a reason!

4. What practical measures can and should be taken to ensure tourism helps regenerate natural environments, and bring greater awareness as well as economic benefit?

Most prospectors and fossickers have an appreciation for both environmental values and cultural heritage contained in our natural landscapes, where historic gold, gem and opal fields tell the story of our State's early development and prosperity. Through active engagement with the land, we maintain a connection to both the environment and our history.

Acknowledging that although digging in the dirt does impact the environment, it's also important to acknowledge that the very identity of the land upon which the activity is undertaken begins with its mineralised nature. Where there are many values attached to the same landscape (grazing, natural resource, environmental, cultural), and where this is public land, we should consider which of these values bring the best economic and social return to our communities, whilst also considering any possible impact on remaining values.

Whilst there is always a social and environmental benefit to educate and encourage participants to observe appropriate behaviours for any activity in the bush, understanding the inherent value of mineralised lands for this particular activity, we must be willing to accept that there will be a certain unavoidable impact to the land that will however, be limited to the specific gold, gem and opal fields areas. People will only dig where the resource is known to exist.

In the example of metal detecting for gold, it is the most low-impact, cost-effective means of resource-extraction available and we clean the bush of metal rubbish!

5. Do you see any additional trends or emerging changes that we must also consider?

The impact of COVID on our appreciation of local natural environments, where many people sought to re-connect to the bush, has seen a shift in the focus of what tourism looks like in Australia. During a very busy third quarter 2020, our small metal detecting sales/supplies business in Clermont saw many 'COVID-escapees' visit CQ - some on hard times, some retirees seeking new Aussie adventures and regional visitors looking for low-cost activities closer to home.

The desire to explore their own backyard, combined with higher gold prices, drove a huge interest in the geo-tourism sector and if Queensland is to meet this demand, we must ensure secured accessibility to suitable mineralised public land to enjoy it.

As we learn to live with COVID, it will further dilute the national target market, with competition from more accessible interstate geo-tourism destinations attracting Queensland residents away from their home State because of the lack of opportunity here to enjoy the activity. Noting that cross-border travel has been more widely available in 2021 (up until mid-late June), some participants have chosen to travel interstate to pursue their hobby, meaning that Queensland has already lost opportunities in 2021 to capture this very mobile and impulsive market.

6. What are your ideas for the future of Queensland's tourism industry?

'Celebrate Our Resource Heritage'

Imagine a State that recognised and celebrated its rich resource heritage and created opportunities for its residents and visitors to continue the traditions of its resource pioneers. Queensland, with its proud mining history, could be that State.

In our three million hectares of Queensland native State Forest, with additional areas of Council managed reserves and stock routes, we have a valuable resource pool of public land assets. As important natural bushland areas holding economic, social, cultural and environmental values, great gains could be made through meaningful public land management reform and proper resourcing of these vast public Forestry and community estates, providing increased economic and social returns to the people of Queensland.

Where other States acknowledge and value the contribution of their resource pioneers by providing protected public land access for recreational prospecting and fossicking, in Queensland, where current fossicking legislation does not honour this legacy, it seems we have forgotten our own heritage.

Instead, we need to celebrate it! ***see 08 attached***

#CelebrateOurResourceHeritage #IsaacsHiddenTreasures #digalittledeeperintheisaac



7. What do you see as the obstacles to progress?

To deliver an effective geo-tourism experience in Queensland where historic gold, gem and opal fields exist, our view is there is very limited capacity to grow this sector, unless secure and widely accessible public lands are available to the general public to enjoy these activities.

Specifically referring to recreational prospecting and fossicking, for local and State government and small businesses to promote and confidently invest in geo-tourism, specific public land access laws must be reformed under the Fossicking Act, to provide certainty to all stakeholders through protected right of access to suitable mineralised public lands, such as State Forest, Council reserves and stock routes.

Without these reforms, that must move to provide 'inclusive access for all' on public lands under the Queensland Fossicking Licence, (instead of 'exclusive access for the few', as current Queensland laws provide), we risk losing our identity in this Nation's strong resource heritage, through lack of opportunity to support inter-generational exchange of knowledge and skills. Every Queensland miner began life with a childhood curiosity in scratching in the dirt with family and friends to encourage and develop their interest. 'Geo-tourism' provides that opportunity to connect to this heritage and potentially develop further economic opportunities within the resource sector over time.

The primary issue:

Q: How can we promote, increase and protect regional tourism, dependent on the existing current Fossicking Act 1994 legislation?

A: Ensure all fossicking areas are protected under legislation

Current legislation does not support this position.

We seek the Panel's assistance to engage with relevant Ministers to resolve the identified legislative conflicts (***refer 09.1 attached***) and simplify public land access rights for the Queensland Fossicking Licence holder. ***See 09 – 09.9 attached***

Focus on State Forest: as custodians of State Forest, Government has a duty of care to manage it in accordance with the **Forestry Act 1959**, refer:

S 33 Cardinal principle of management of State forests

(1) ; and

(2) (a), (b) and (c) *the possibility of applying the area to recreational purposes.*

S 34 Use of State forests

1 (a) – (i) ; and

(j) *promote and encourage the use of a State forest or any part or parts thereof for recreational purposes.*

35 Granting of permit for land within State forest or timber reserve

(5) Special leases of land within State forests; and (6)

Secondary issues, to be examined in conjunction:

- **Social issue** - the loss of our most popular GPA, Bottom Apsley in 2018, when the Forestry grazing leaseholder unexpectedly withdrew permission after 20 years of compatible co-existence, greatly affected our local tourism economy and the recreational opportunities of grey nomads, the main visitors to this GPA, denying them 'natural enjoyment' of the Forest for the intended purpose. ***Government has a duty of care to manage the Forest in a way that returns the best social benefit to the community;***
- **Economic issue** - return to the taxpayer from these public lands must be an equal consideration. i.e. if an additional compatible economic activity can be identified, (that is consistent with the Forestry Act), ***Government has a duty of care to seek the best economic benefit for the taxpayers;***
- **Legal issue** - identified conflicts between Forestry Act and Fossicking Act in respect of the inherent legislated values of the Forest as being set aside for public purposes, and the inferred authority of a Forestry grazing leaseholder under the Fossicking Act to *selectively* restrict public access under the GPA structure. ***Government has a duty of care to uphold the law as it applies under the Forestry Act and, where laws are not fit for purpose and do not meet the needs of the community, amend those laws where inconsistencies are identified.***

Summary of concerns:

- the **tenuous nature** of GPAs as a mechanism to gain access to State Forest for 'fossicking' activities - no security for prospectors, the local tourism economy or QPWS investment into the Parks estate;
- the **discriminatory nature** of GPAs which allows Land Act grazing lessees to *selectively* restrict access to State Forest to only a particular sector of the general public - in breach of Rolling Term Lease Conditions 26 and 27 (Public Access) (**refer 09.6 attached**) and the QLD Forestry Act, S35 (5) and (6);
- the **unfair and flawed GPA assessment process** that prioritises the rights and interests of grazing activity in State Forest over that of QLD Fossicking Licence holders. *'Cows have more rights than prospectors?'*
- the **expectation of the Queensland public** for return on investment into public Forestry under a reformed Forestry management structure to leverage the economic and recreational value of our public Forestry assets.

Legislative solutions to gain security of tenure for recreational prospecting and fossicking on public lands:

- **Amend** definition of 'owner' under Fossicking Act to exclude Land Act lessees of State Forest leaving QPWS as the sole party to grant permission to declare a GPA;
- **Amend** Fossicking Act to declare Queensland State Forests open 'generally' to fossicking and prospecting activities where resources have been identified;
- **Redefine** recreational prospecting and fossicking as a 'permitted recreational activity' in all Queensland State Forests where resources have been identified, with excluded areas for identified environmental and cultural areas of significance and incompatible commercial activities, in accordance with QPWS own definition in operational policy 'Fossicking on QPWS Managed Areas'; **see 010 attached**

8. What should Queensland be doing to re-set, transform and embrace the opportunities a post COVID-19 world presents?

To support COVID recovery in the regions, many Queenslanders are looking to government to work collaboratively with the community to improve public recreational opportunities by investing in the 'social economy', to help re-connect and re-vitalise our Queensland communities. Increasing managed public access to State Forest for a range of activities provides this opportunity.

Regarding geo-tourism: For local and State government to show genuine commitment to open stakeholder dialogue on this issue to reassure Queenslanders of our elected representatives' genuine connection to, and respect for, our State's proud resource heritage. As with other resource-rich States like NSW, Victoria and WA that value the economic and social benefits of the recreational prospecting and fossicking sector, with appropriate legislative reform, Queensland is well placed to realise the potential of this untapped domestic tourism market.

With this in mind we ask: what's not to love about Queensland's geo-tourism story? Prospectors are the original miners of the Isaac region and in the heart of Queensland coal country, lies rich alluvial gold in Clermont, the 'heart of Queensland's goldfields'.

In accordance with former Queensland governments that recognised the value of promoting and encouraging geo-tourism, **(see 011 attached)** and through collaboration with Resource Minister Scott and Environment Minister Scanlon, Tourism Minister Hinchcliffe has an exciting opportunity to deliver on the Government's often quoted message to the recreational prospecting and fossicking community:

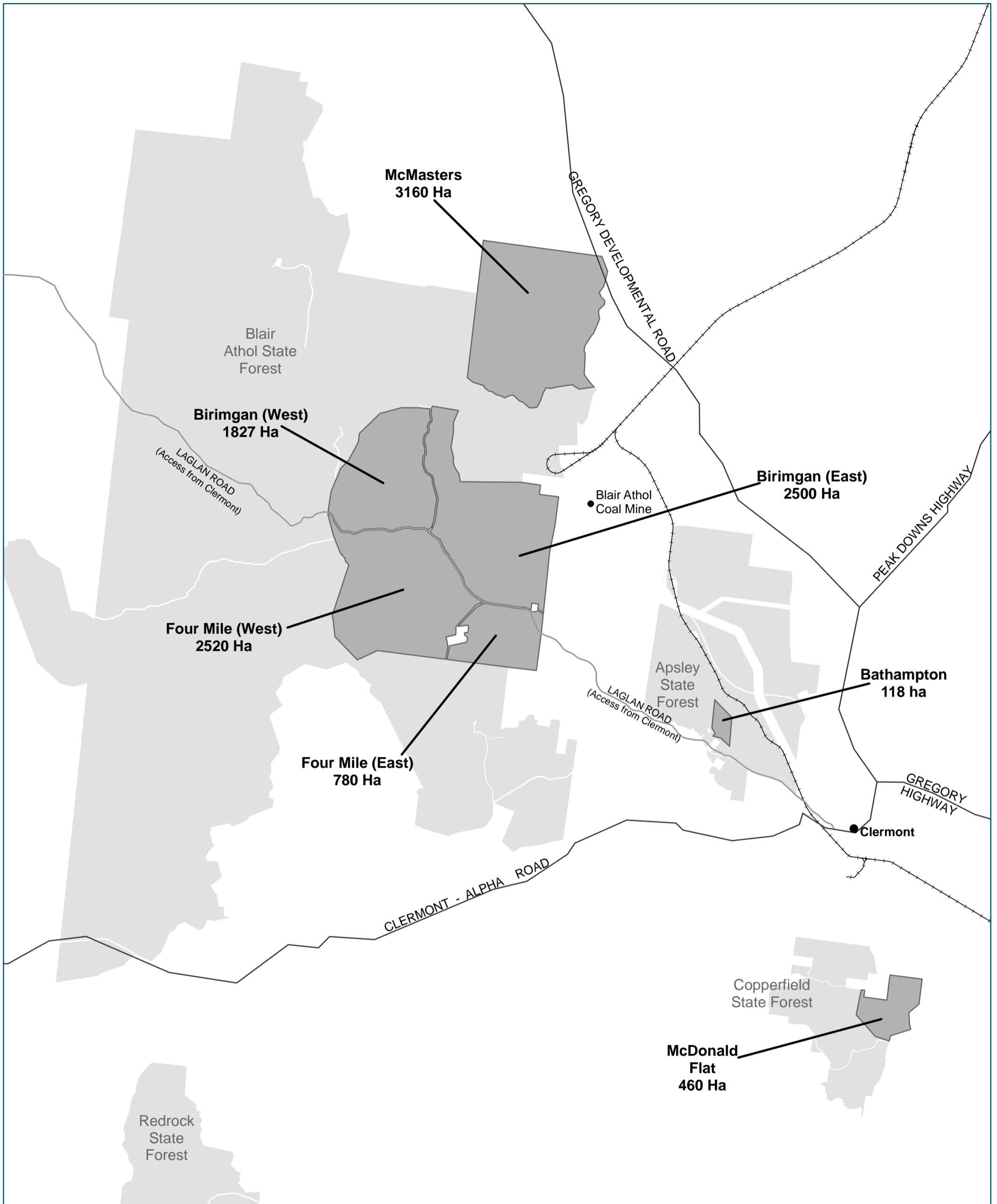
"The Queensland Government recognises the popularity and benefit of prospecting and fossicking activities and appreciates the value that recreational fossickers place on gaining access to suitable fossicking land."

General Comments re Isaac region tourism

- Requires recognition of recreational **prospecting** (gold) as a distinctly different activity from (CQ Gemfields) **fossicking**.
- Use of language specific to the activity is a significant step to differentiate from the well-known and long-promoted activities in our neighbouring LGA (Central Highlands RC).
- Gives the Isaac region a very different tourism 'product' to market and opens further tourism opportunities to meet the needs of visiting prospectors
- Suggest promote as "*Clermont...the dirt-fishing capital of Queensland!*" ??
No 'closed season', retain mining residential leisure dollars within the region.
- Importantly, changes the **attitude** at a regulatory level in terms of perceived impact on the environment and local residents by more accurately describing what we do in the Clermont Goldfields. i.e. selective extraction of a natural resource by means of low-impact, environmentally friendly, hand-operated device (metal detector and pick). We walk around the bush, identify a target, dig a hole then fill it in, unlike gemstone fossicking which requires bulk processing of large quantities of material where very often excavations are left open. This is quite important given the access issues into local State Forest areas, where many historic workings are located, BUT are substantially off-limits due to current legislative restrictions.
- Change the **language** – change the **attitude** – change the **outcome**

Attachments:

- **001** ALL Clermont GPAs Maps_Conditions
- **01** Outback Prospector_Clermont New GPAs Proposal 5Nov2018
- **01.1** Ltr from Minister Lynham re FlatDiggings GPA 231019
- **01.2** Reply James Newman QPWS_CTS 14286-20 180820
- **02** IRC Tourism Strategy excerpt
- **03** DNRME_Fossicking Regulation 2009 Review_Berry-Porter Submission 300519
- **03.1** DNRME Fossicking SSM stakeholder meeting agenda 120620
- **04** Minelab Economic Survey Rec Prospecting_Dec2020_QLD Data_pending review
- **04.1** Minelab Letter - The Outback Prospector 190524
- **05** Brothers strike gold in CQ with six nuggets worth 16K_CQ News_281020
- **05.1** Clermont_tourism_proposed Moorlands coalmine_ABC Rural_130220
- **05.2** Gold to be found but travel bans... Daily Mercury 060520
- **06** Ltr from DNRM Minister LynhamCTS 18226 17 14Aug17
- **06.1** Dale Last_Ltr to Minister Lynham re Clermont GPAs 160719
- **06.2** Dale Last_Media Release_No Prospect for Transparency 261119
- **07** Gemfields Treasure Map resource_front
- **07.1** Gemfields Treasure Map resource_back
- **08** Outback_Pro prospector_CelebrateourResourceHeritage
- **09** Gympie Times_ QSFUA_SF prospecting article 110121
- **09.1** Conflicts_GPA_public access_State Forest_QPWS email 070317
- **09.2** Email from Peter Moore_QPWS_Clermont GPA update request 080319
- **09.3**_Reply from LG Minister Hinchcliffe_MC18-5444_04Oct18
- **09.4** Bottom Apsley GPA closure_withdrawn lessee permission_010318
- **09.5** Ron_Bev_Marty_George_Roma_locked out Bottom Apsley GPA_Clermont
- **09.6** SF_Apsley_Scott RTL_40050262_131030_title_search
- **09.7** Locked gate Brigalow lease_Blair Athol State Forest
- **09.8** Existing & Proposed GPA_Cuesta Coal Project 2015_2016
- **09.9** Proposed Brigalow_gpa_map_17.11.15
- **010** QPWS_op-pk-vm-fossicking
- **011** Fossicking to be fuss free - Oct 07 2013, Ministerial Media Release

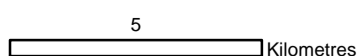


Legend

Protected Areas of Queensland

- State Forest
- General Permission Area
- Laglan Road (Access from Clermont)
- Sealed Road
- Railway Lines

**General Permission Areas
in Clermont 'State Forests'**



COORDINATE SYSTEM: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55
 PROJECTION: Transverse Mercator
 HORIZONTAL DATUM: GDA 1994

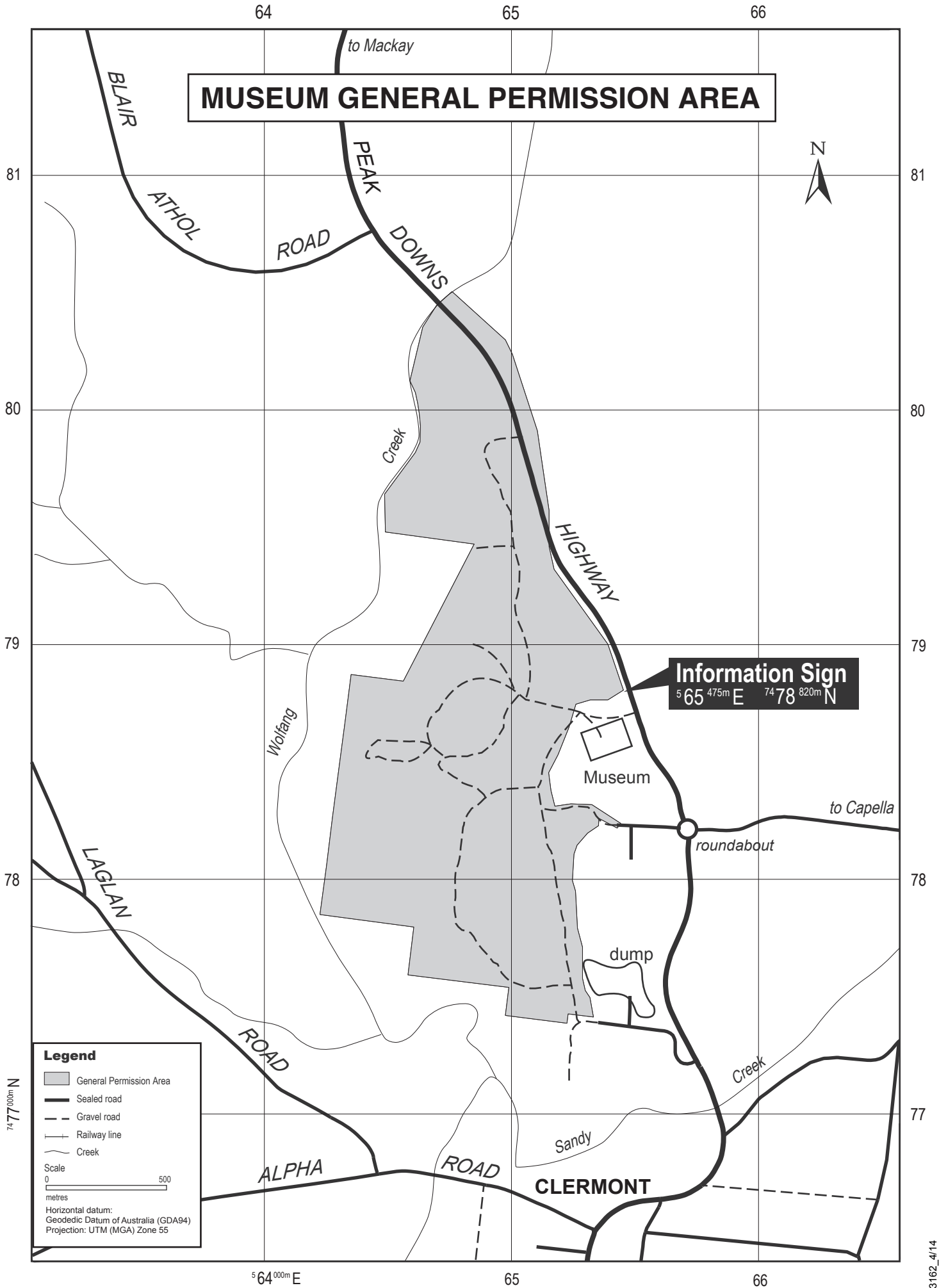
ACCURACY STATEMENT
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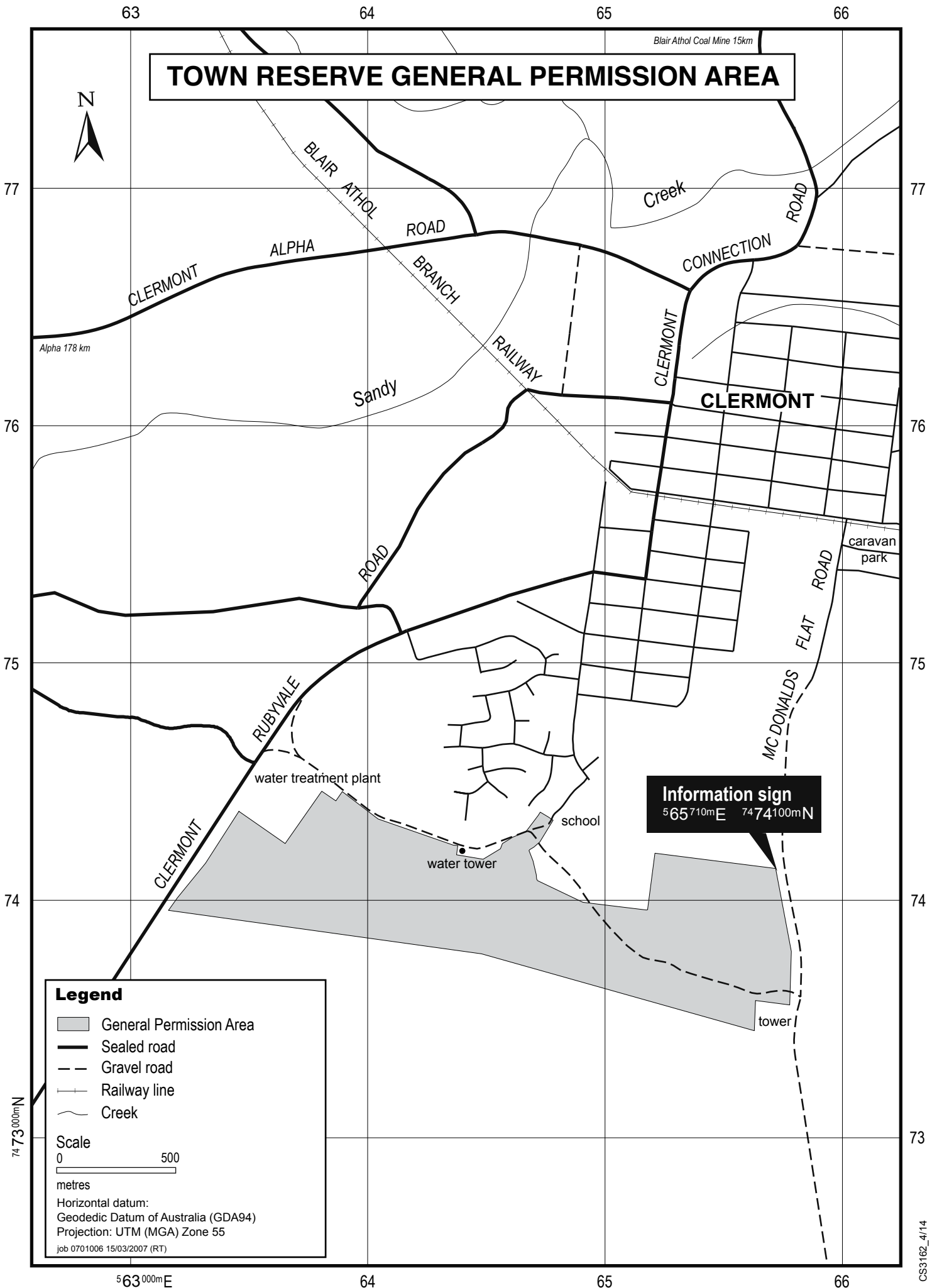
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66

67

68

Clermont 5 km

McDONALD FLAT GENERAL PERMISSION AREA



71

71

70

70

Information Sign
56° 66' 780m E 74° 69' 770m N

69

69

74° 68' 000m N

68

SF 145
COPPERFIELD STATE FOREST

56° 66' 000m E

67

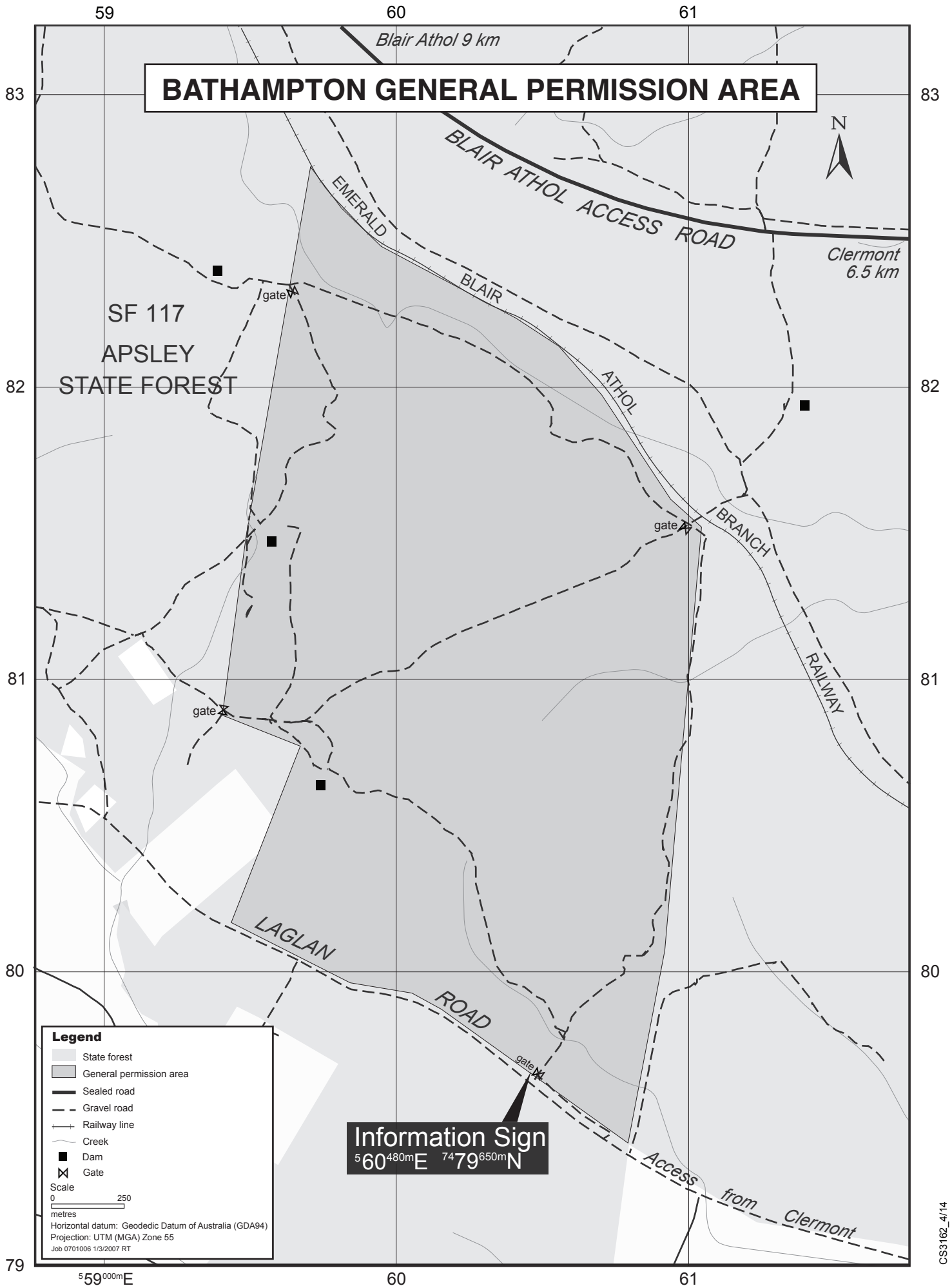
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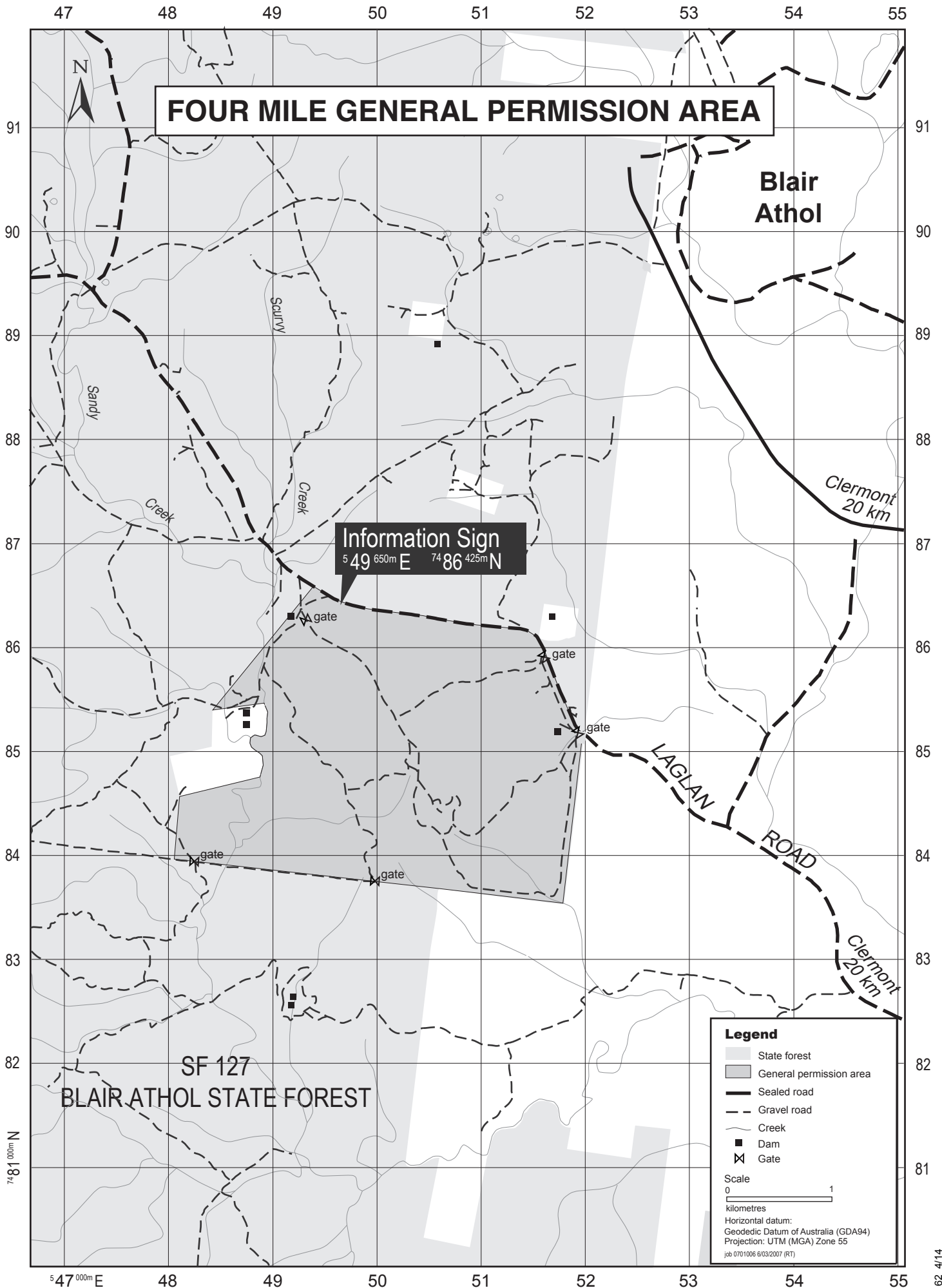
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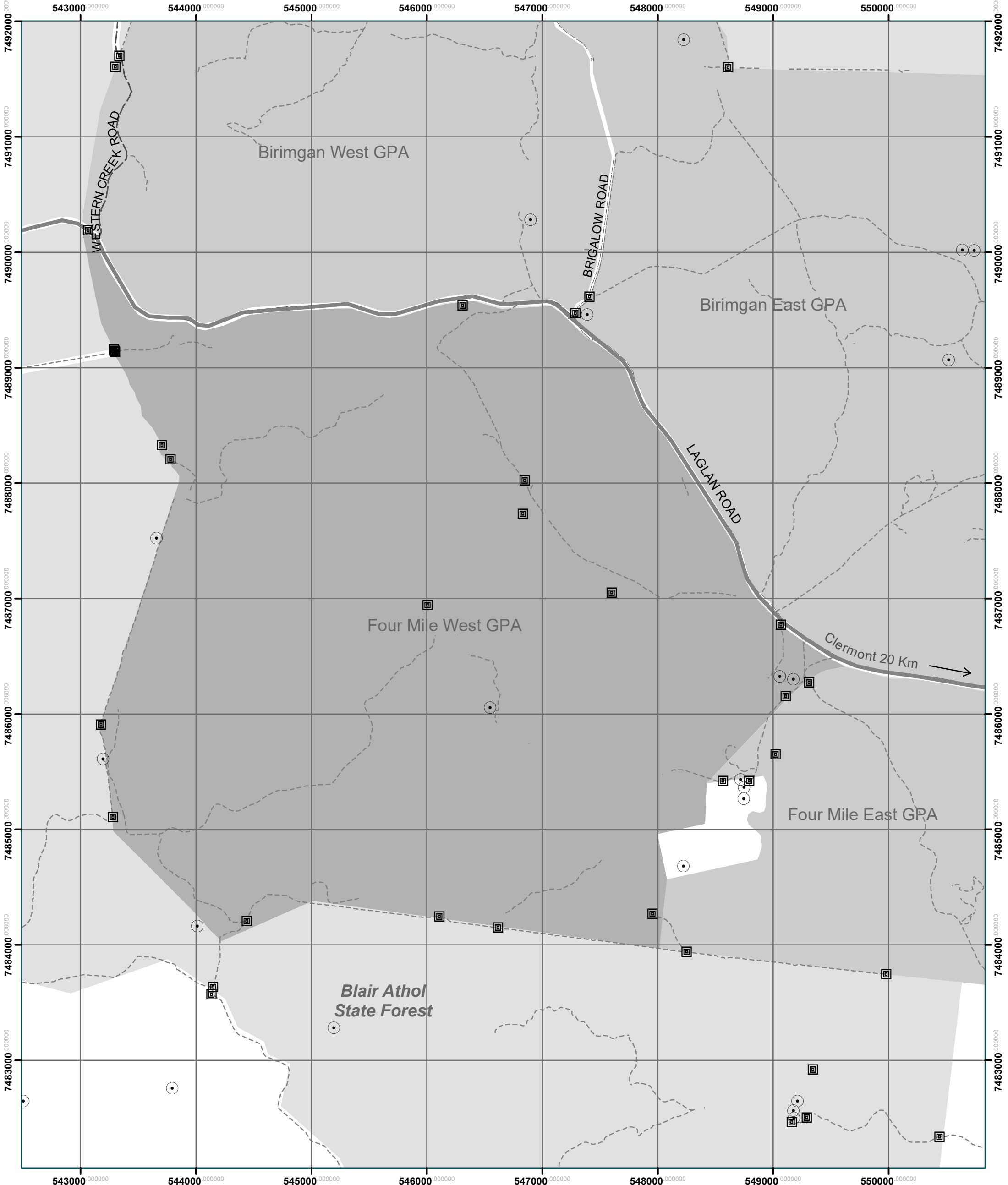
- State forest
- General permission area
- Sealed road
- Gravel road
- Creek
- Dam
- Gate

Scale
0 500
metres

Horizontal datum:
Geodetic Datum of Australia (GDA94)
Projection: UTM (MGA) Zone 55
job 0701006 8/03/2007 (RT)







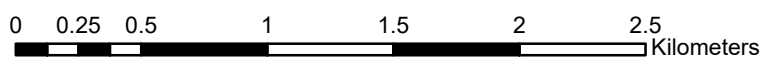
Legend

- Blair Athol State Forest
- Other GPA's
- Four Mile West GPA
- Dams & Turkeyneests
- Gates
- Laglan Road (Access from Clermont)
- Unsealed road
- Formed road
- Unformed road

Four Mile (West) General Permission Area (2520 ha)



1:30,000



COORDINATE SYSTEM: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55
 PROJECTION: Transverse Mercator
 HORIZONTAL DATUM: GDA 1994

ACCURACY STATEMENT

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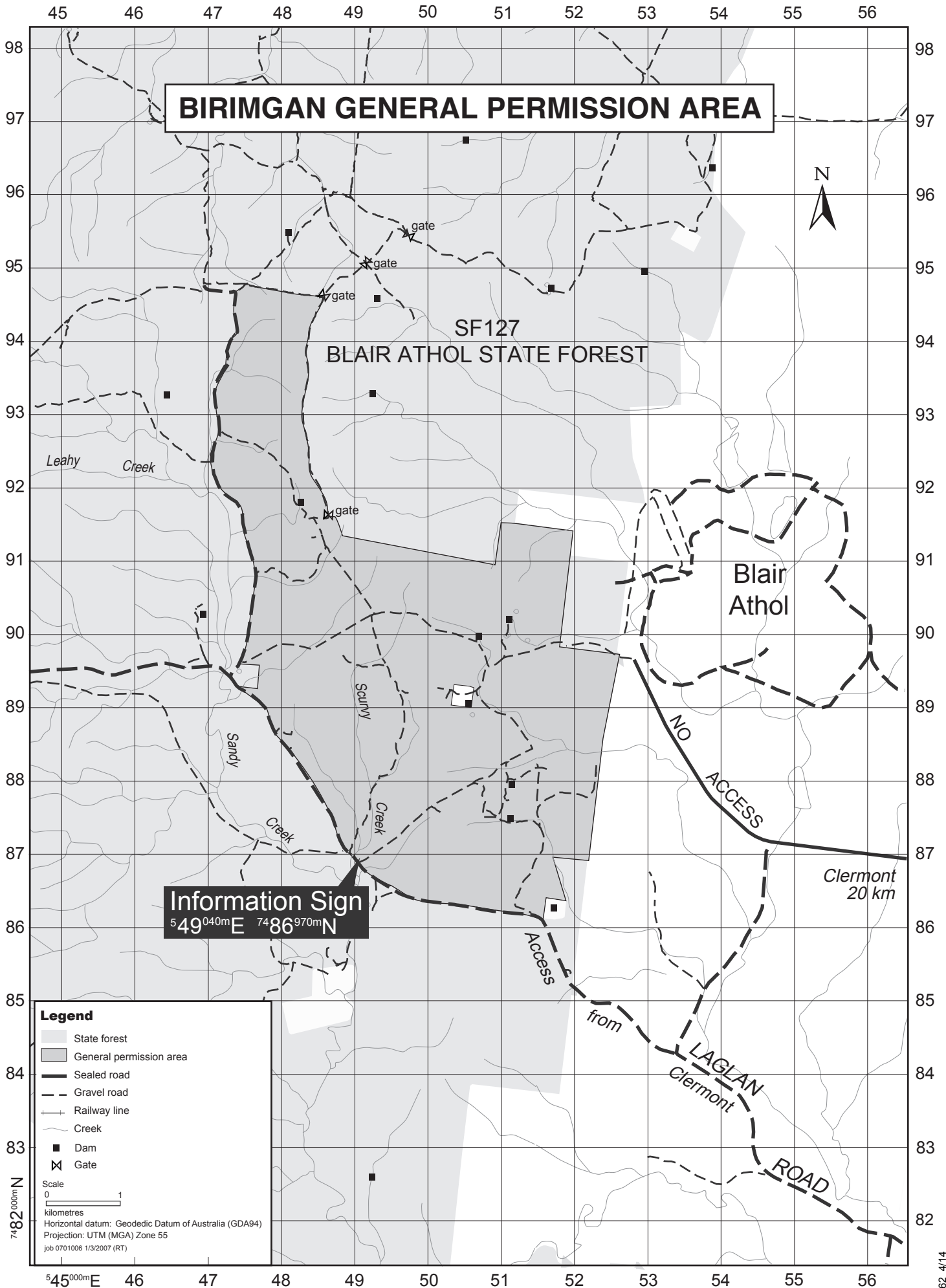
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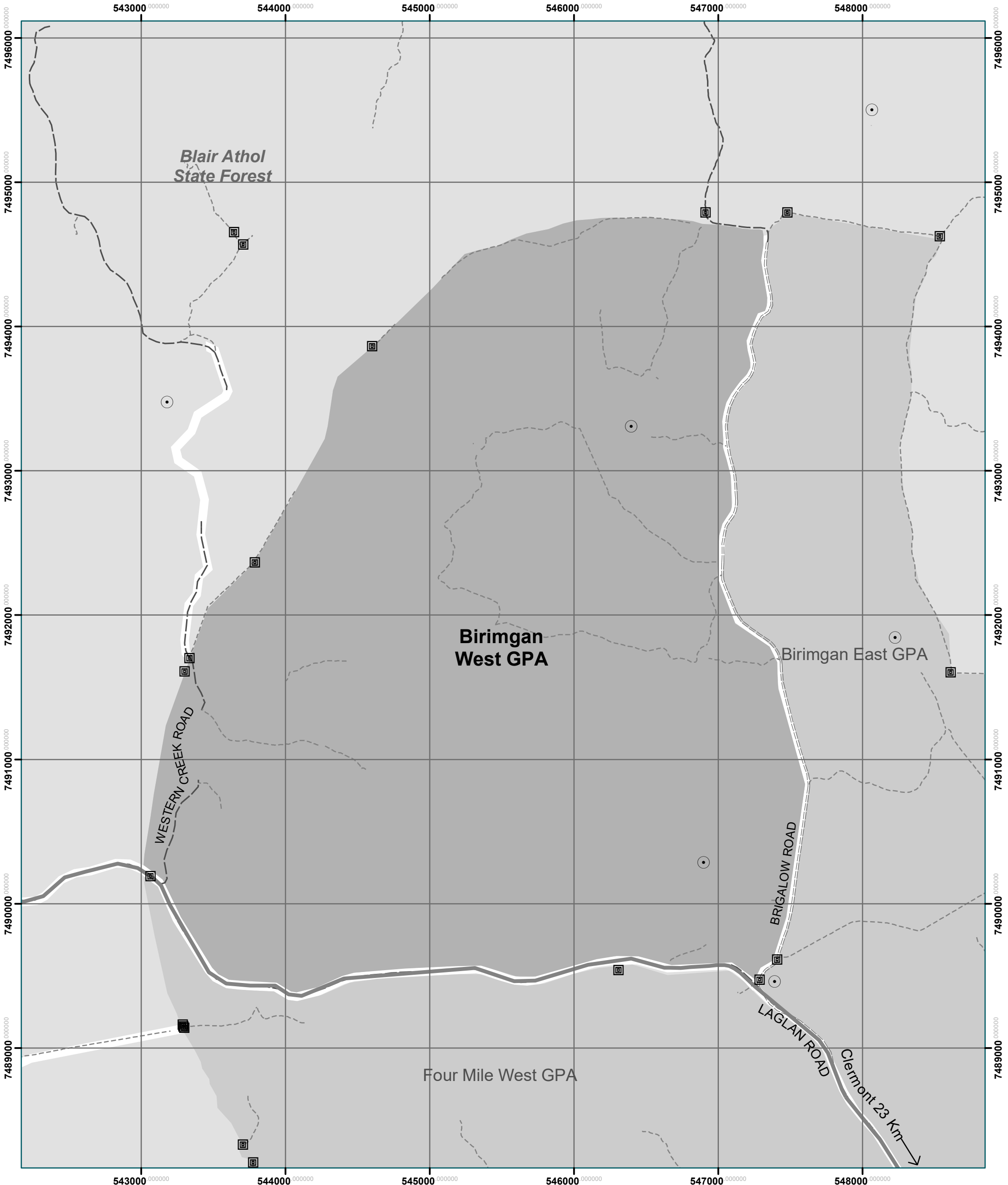
Four_Mile_West1_20180313 (adamsd)



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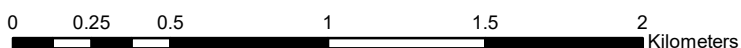
Legend

- Blair Athol State Forest
- Other GPA's
- Birimgan West GPA
- Dams & Turkeynests
- Gates
- Laglan Road (Access from Clermont)
- Unsealed road
- Formed road
- Unformed road

Birimgan (West) General Permission Area (1827 ha)



1:24,000



COORDINATE SYSTEM: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55
 PROJECTION: Transverse Mercator
 HORIZONTAL DATUM: GDA 1994

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MAP PRODUCTION

13 March 2018
 Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service,
 Department of Environment and Science

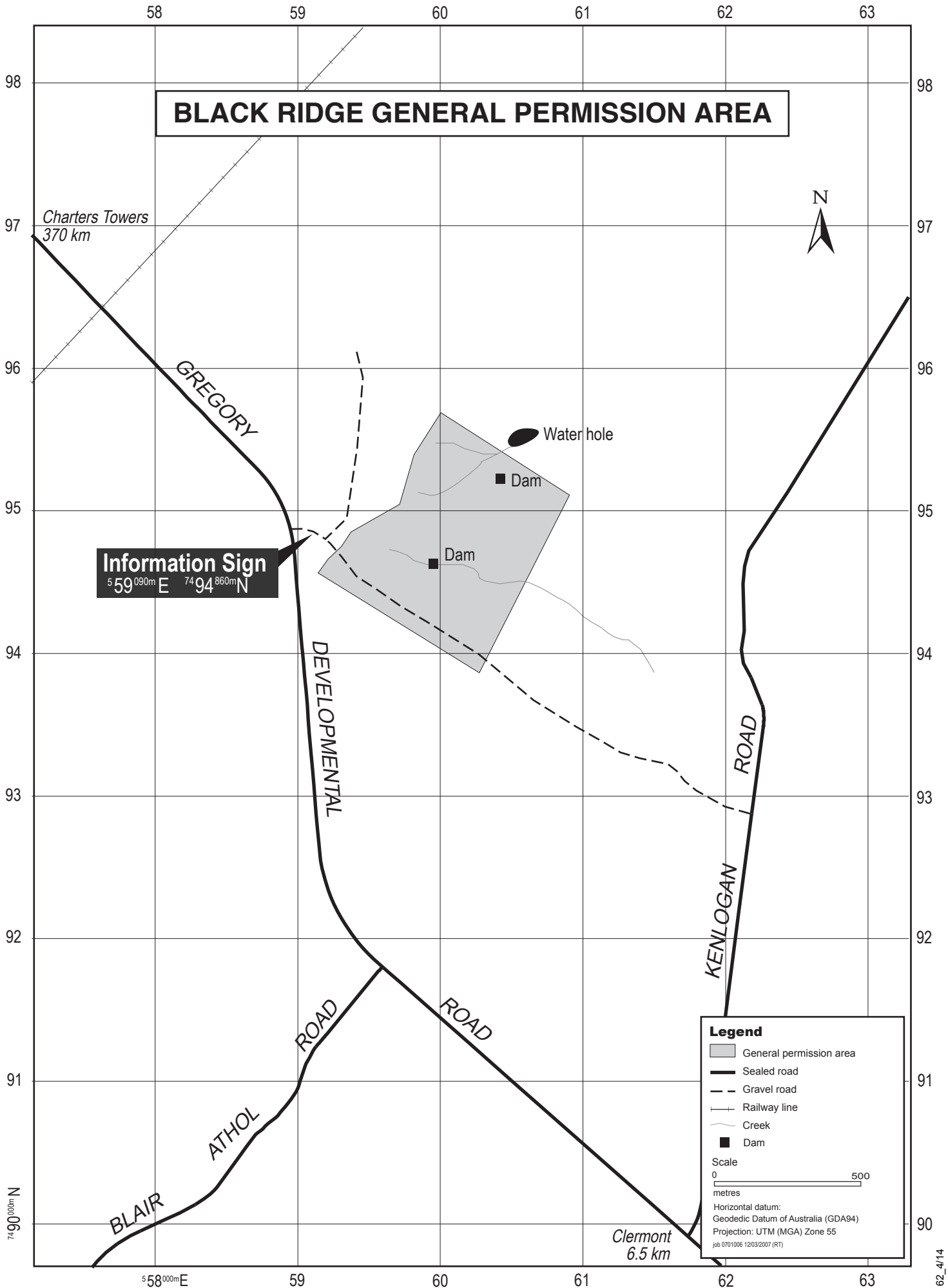
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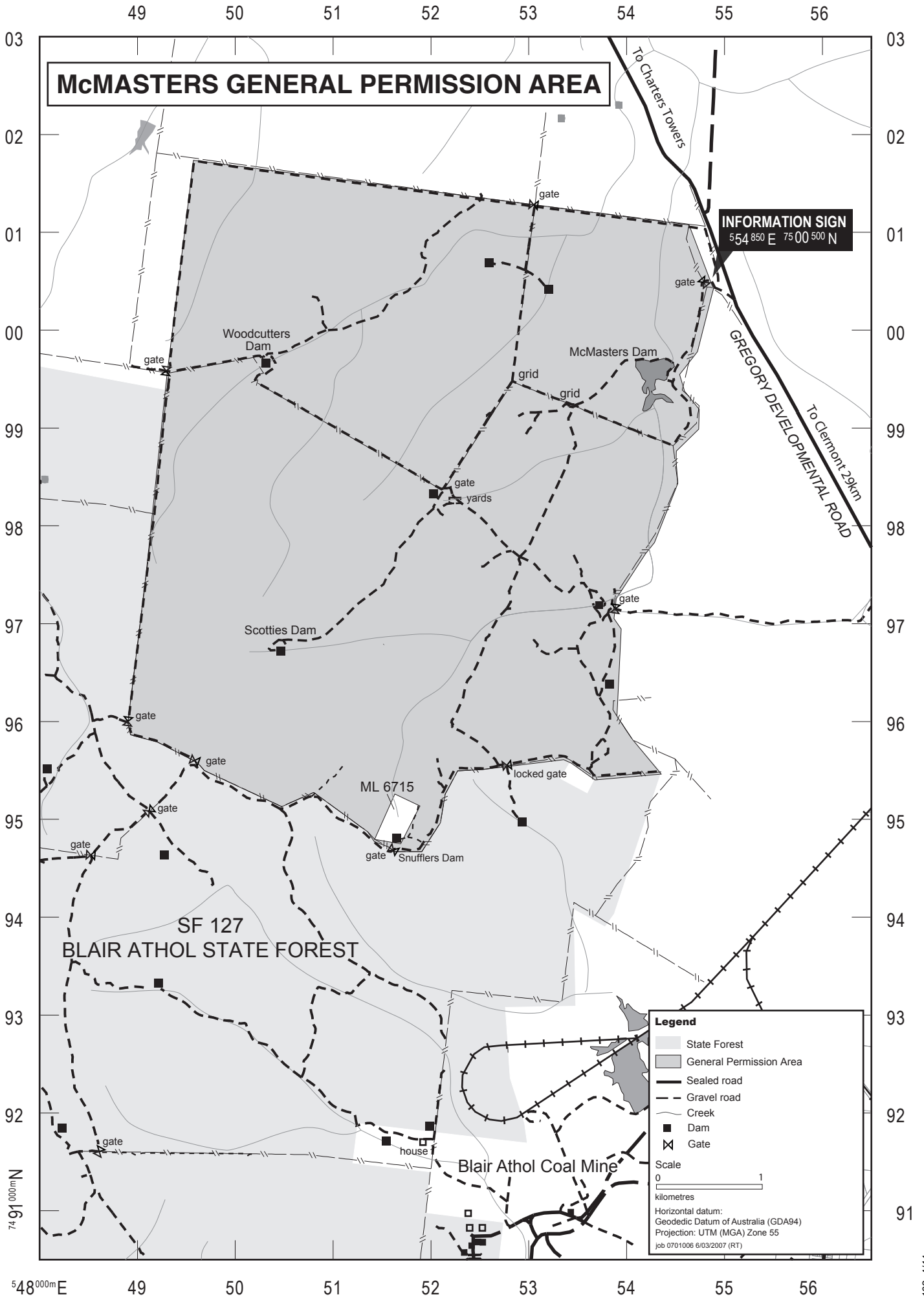
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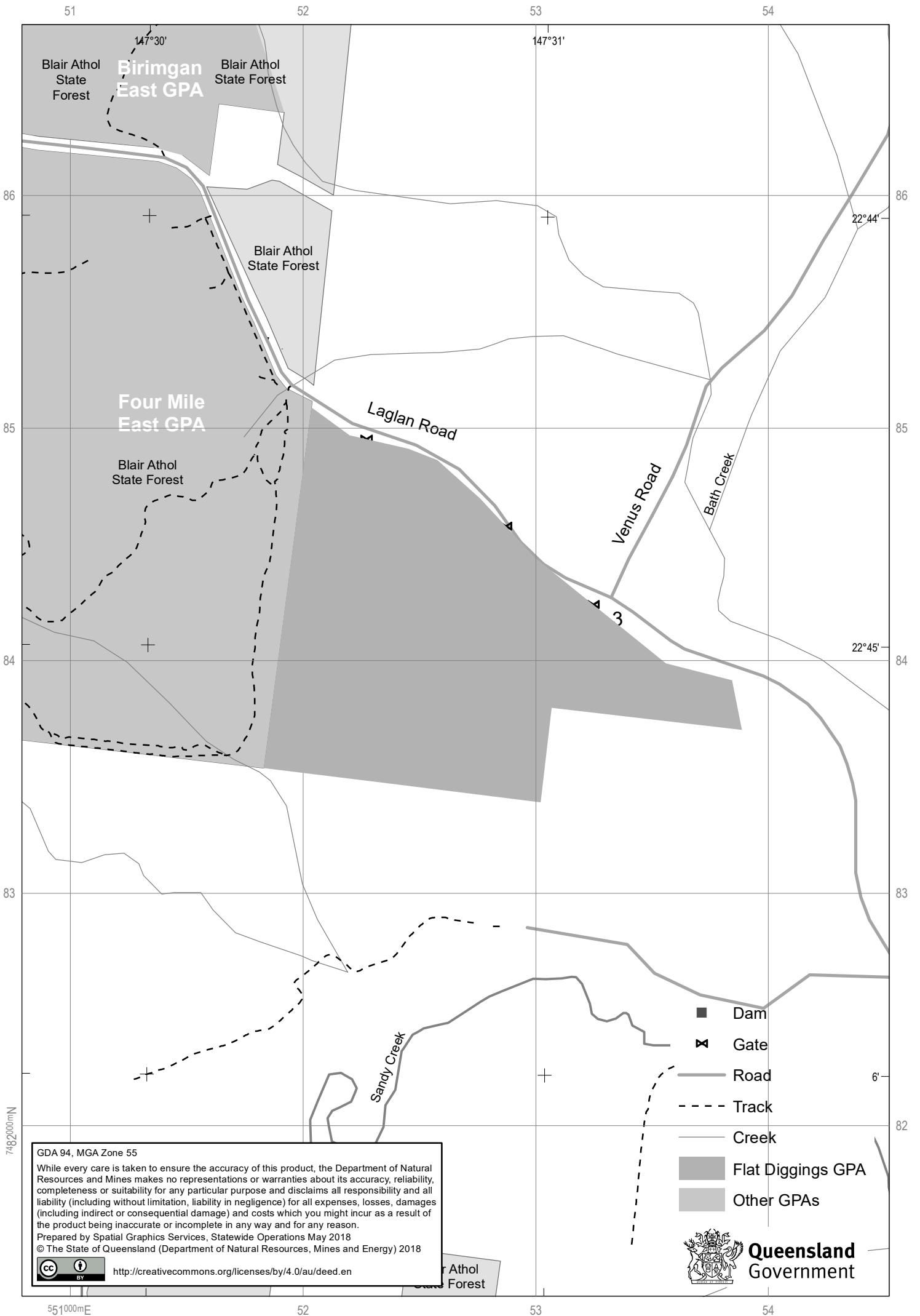


Queensland Government









GDA 94, MGA Zone 55

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Special Conditions

Fossicking in Flat Diggings Reserve

General Permission Area

- Fossicking will cease when the reserve is being used by travelling or agisting stock.
- No camping is permitted on the reserve at any time.
- Fossickers must have a current map and a copy of these 'Special Conditions' with them.
- Fossickers must not enter private property.
- Inside a GPA, gate posts painted with red paint indicate NO fossicking or entry past the point.
- Fossicking must only occur during daylight hours.
- Carry all water supplies - no potable water supply is available and water may not be taken from dams.
- Ensure children are supervised by an adult at all times.
- Hand tools ONLY are permitted.
- Educator dredges, sluices, dry blowers or machinery of any type are not permitted.
- No fires whatsoever.
- No water to be taken from Stock Route Water Facilities whatsoever.
- Use only safe working practices.
- Leave gates as they are found.
- Vehicles must be clean (free of plant or soil material) prior to entry.
- All rubbish (including organics) must be removed from the area and disposed of legally.
- All tools and materials must be removed from the reserve immediately after use - no equipment is to be left on the reserve overnight.
- Ensure excavations do not exceed dimensions of 2m x 1m and a maximum depth of 0.5m.
- Refill excavations immediately after use to make them safe for other visitors and stock and contour excavations to the surrounding land surface. Replace material that came from depth at depth, and replace surface material on the surface.
- No interference with Stock Route Water Facilities whatsoever.
- No fossicking activities within 300m of any water source on the reserve.
- Comply with any directions given by a sign or notice by Isaac Regional Council, Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy or any other authorised department.

Special Conditions

Fossicking in General Permission Areas

Clermont State Forests

- Fossicking may only occur within a General Permission Area on State forest.
- Fossickers must have a current map and these 'Special Conditions' with them.
- Fossickers must not enter private property.
- Inside a GPA, gate post's painted with red paint indicate no fossicking or entry past that point.
- Hand tools only are permitted (including metal detectors).
- Educator dredges, sluices, dry blowers or machinery of any other type are not permitted.
- The use of generators is not permitted.
- Keep noise and dust to a minimum.
- Do not excavate at the toe of the bank of a stream or in a gully.
- Do not excavate an earth face or create overhangs on steep land or river banks.
- Ensure excavations do not exceed dimensions of 2 metres x 1 metre and a depth of 0.5 metre.
- Refill excavations immediately after use to make them safe for other visitors and stock and contour excavations to the surrounding land surface.
- Replace material that came from depth at depth, and replace surface material on the surface.
- Use only safe working practices.
- Do not interfere with or fossick within 10 metres of any stock, infrastructure or improvements (including but not limited to roads, drains, fences, water bores, pump equipment, telecommunication towers, electricity transmitting towers, and gas, oil, or water pipelines).
- Do not interfere with any vegetation, stock or wildlife.
- Remain at least 100 metres from registered apiary sites (whether hives are present or not), and Apiary sites are indicated by signage.
- Leave gates as they are found (i.e. if gate is open – leave it open, if gate is closed, then open it to gain access then close immediately ensuring no animals pass through while open).
- Vehicles must be clean (free of plant or soil material) prior to entry.
- Keep vehicles to formed roads and tracks only, and bring no other machinery.
- Vehicles may not be parked within 100 metres of stock watering points or yards.
- Carry all water supplies as no permanent potable water supply is available, and no water may be taken from dams, water bores, pump equipment, etc.
- Ensure children are supervised by an adult at all times as possible hazards include old workings.
- All rubbish (including organics) must be removed from the area.
- As no ablution facilities are available, bury human toilet waste in a hole dug into the topsoil at least 10-15cm deep and 100m away from watercourses (or any body of water) or walking tracks, and fill and cover the hole.
- No dogs are permitted; camping is not permitted and fire is not permitted under any circumstances.
- Comply with any directions given by a sign or notice or by a QPWS or authorised officer.
- The QPWS Clermont Office can be contacted on phone number 07 4983 1211.

Special Conditions

Fossicking in General Permission Areas

Clermont

- Fossicking must only occur within the general permission area as per the attached map.
- Fossickers must not enter private property.
- Use only safe working practices.
- Hand tools only are permitted (including metal detectors). Educator dredges, sluices, dry blowers or machinery of any other type are not permitted.
- The use of generators is not permitted.
- Do not interfere with or fossick within 10 metres of any stock, infrastructure or improvements (including but not limited to fences, water bores, pump equipment, telecommunication towers, electricity transmitting towers, and gas, oil, or water pipelines).
- Remain at least 100 metres from registered apiary sites (whether hives are present or not). Apiary sites are indicated by signage.
- Carry all water supplies. No permanent potable water supply is available, and no water may be taken from dams, water bores, pump equipment, etc.
- Ensure children are supervised by an adult at all times. Hazards include old workings.
- Leave gates as they are found (i.e. if gate is open – leave it open, if gate is closed, then open it to gain access then close immediately ensuring no animals pass through while open).
- Do not interfere with any vegetation, stock or wildlife.
- Keep noise and dust to a minimum.
- Where dogs are permitted, they must be on a lead and under control at all times. Dogs are not to cause nuisance, or annoy other visitors, stock or wildlife. All dog faeces must be removed from the area and disposed of legally.
- All rubbish (including organics) must be removed from the area and disposed of legally.
- As no ablution facilities are available, bury human toilet waste in a hole dug into the topsoil at least 10-15cm deep and 100m away from watercourses (or any body of water) or walking tracks. Please fill, cover and disguise the hole.
- Do not excavate at the toe of the bank of a stream or in a gully.
- Do not excavate an earth face or create overhangs on steep land or river banks.
- Ensure excavations do not exceed dimensions of 2 metres x 1 metre and a depth of 0.5 metre. Refill excavations immediately after use to make them safe for other visitors and stock and contour excavations to the surrounding land surface. Replace material that came from depth at depth, and replace surface material on the surface.
- Keep motor vehicles to formed roads and tracks only, and bring no other machinery.
- Fires are not permitted and should not be lit under any circumstances in a State forest or regional park (resource use area).
- Comply with any directions given by a sign or notice or by a QPWS or authorised officer.

Proposal for

New General Permission Areas
Central Gold District
Clermont

Airport Reserve

Bathampton East

Flat Diggings Reserve

Leo's Flat Reserve

McDonald Flat Extension

Roundabout Reserve



Clermont GPA History

- Partnership between Dept Mines & Energy, Dept Primary Industries, Belyando Shire Council and local State Forest leaseholders to support local tourism for 'fossicking' activities in identified historical alluvial gold areas
- Five GPAs first established in 1997
- Four further GPAs opened 1998 - 2002, one closed 19?? (Douglas Ck)
- One GPA closed 01 March 2018
- Two GPAs opened 30 Mar 2018
- Currently ten GPAs in Clermont region – 7 QPWS; 3 IRC

Clermont GPAs (opening date)

- Blair Athol State Forest SF127
 - Birimgan East 1997
 - **Birimgan West 2018**
 - Four Mile East 1998
 - **Four Mile West 2018**
 - McMasters 2002
- Copperfield State Forest SF 145
 - McDonald Flat 1997
- Apsley State Forest SF 117
 - **Bottom Apsley 1998 (closed 2018)**
 - Bathampton 1997
- Council Trustees
 - Black Ridge 1997
 - Town Reserve 1998
 - Museum Reserve 1998

Clermont GPAs Current Status

- The opening of two new GPAs on 30 March 2018 has created great interest during the peak prospecting season April – September resulting in increased visitation from seasonal travellers and regional visitors to the Clermont Goldfields region for recreational prospecting activities.
- The closure of Bottom Apsley GPA after 20 years of access on 01 March 2018 has had an overall negative effect on the recreational prospecting experience for long-term visitors to our region.
- Senior prospectors (predominantly 'grey nomads') have expressed a high level of dismay and frustration at the unexpected closure of this most popular and accessible GPA, placing pressure on remaining areas of State Forest for unauthorised fossicking activities where alluvial workings are evident.
- Six potential new sites have been identified* by *The Outback Prospector* for consideration as GPAs by local and State authorities and external stakeholders:

*Lot/Plan/tenure pending verification by DNRME

Isaac Regional Council – **IRC**

Qld Parks & Wildlife Service – **QPWS**

Dept Natural Resources, Mines & Energy – **DNRME** and **SLAM**

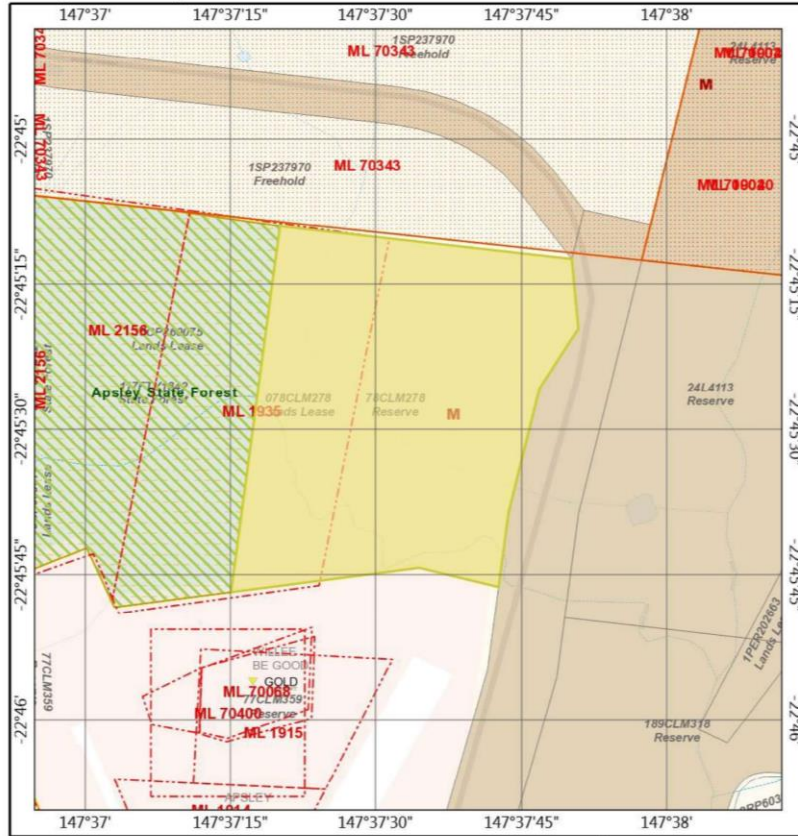
Term Leaseholder - **Ross Clein**

Airport Reserve GPA

LOT 78 CROWN PLAN CLM278

TITLE REF 49004781

- Adjacent to former Bottom Apsley GPA
- Gregory Hwy, north of Clermont Airport. 8.6km from PO
- Historical alluvial workings evident
- Stock Dip (Stock Route) – **IRC as Trustee**
- PO 0/240422 – Permittee Damien & Amanda Mason
- 89 ha



MinesOnlineMaps

Created By: Author
Created On: 28/10/2018 4:32:50 PM
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All enquiries and feedback:
email: MinesOnlineMaps@dmr.qld.gov.au

Selected Features
(see page 2 for a complete legend)

Scale 1:12,500

0 0.1 0.2 0.4 0.5
Kilometres

Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994 EPSG: 4283

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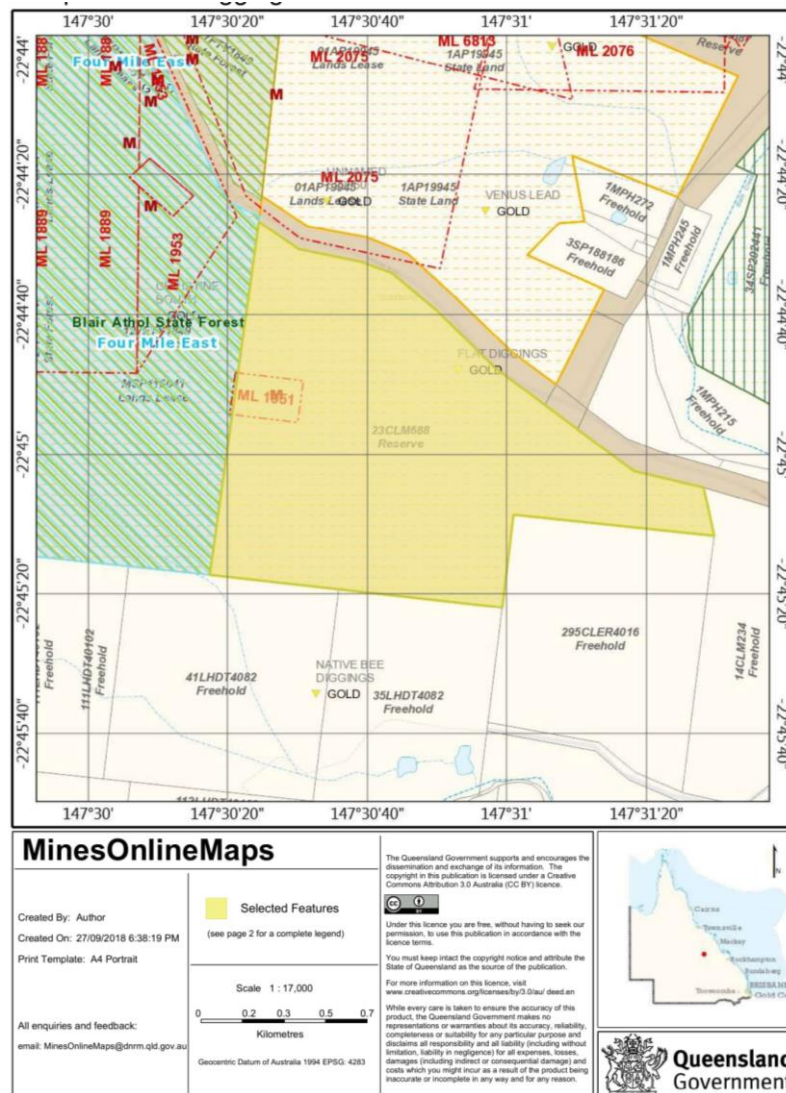
Queensland Government

Flat Diggings Reserve GPA

LOT 23 CROWN PLAN CLM688

TITLE REF 49018189

- Adjacent to existing Four Mile East GPA
- Laglan Road. 16.6km from PO
- Historical alluvial workings evident
- Camping & Water Reserve (Stock Route) - **IRC as Trustee**
- Forestry Management Area – **SLAM ?**
- 182 ha

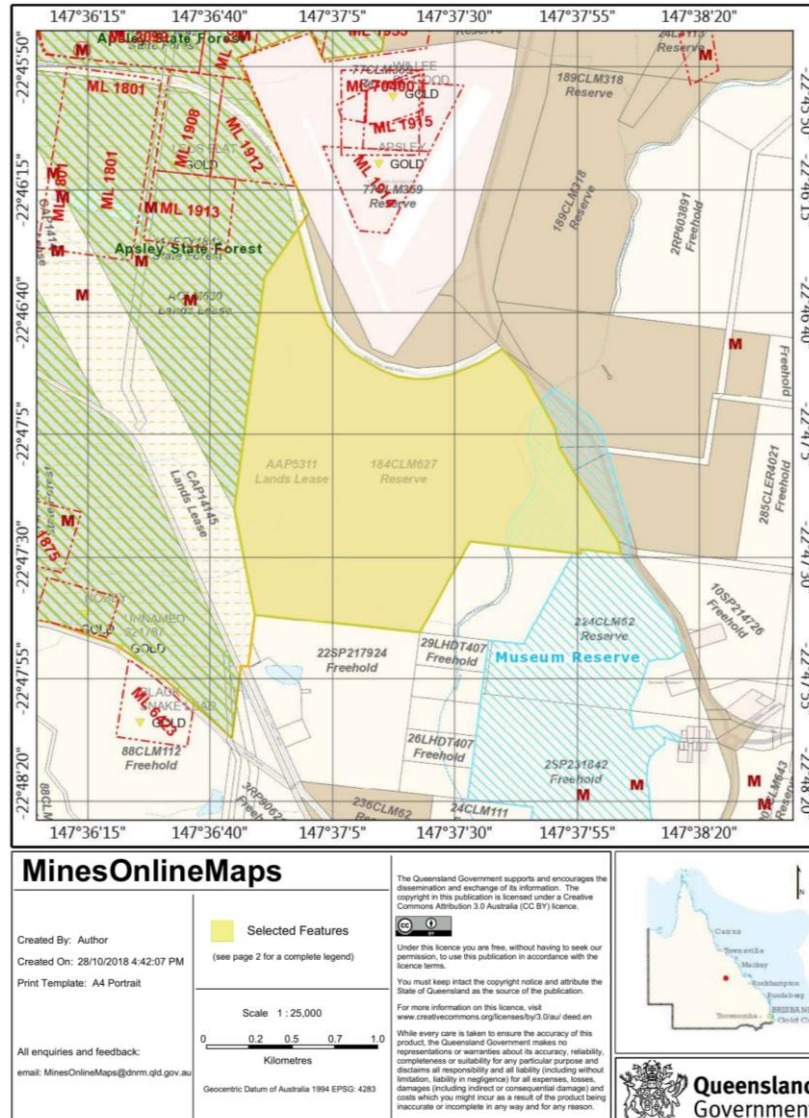


Leo's Flat Reserve GPA

LOT 184 CROWN PLAN CLM627

TITLE REF 49001337

- Adjacent to existing Museum Reserve GPA
- Blair Athol Mine Road. 6.6km from PO
- Historical alluvial workings evident
- Camping Reserve (Stock Route) - **IRC as Trustee**
- PO 0/214940 – Permittee Wayne & Karen Pidgeon
- 460 ha (less existing GPA portion)

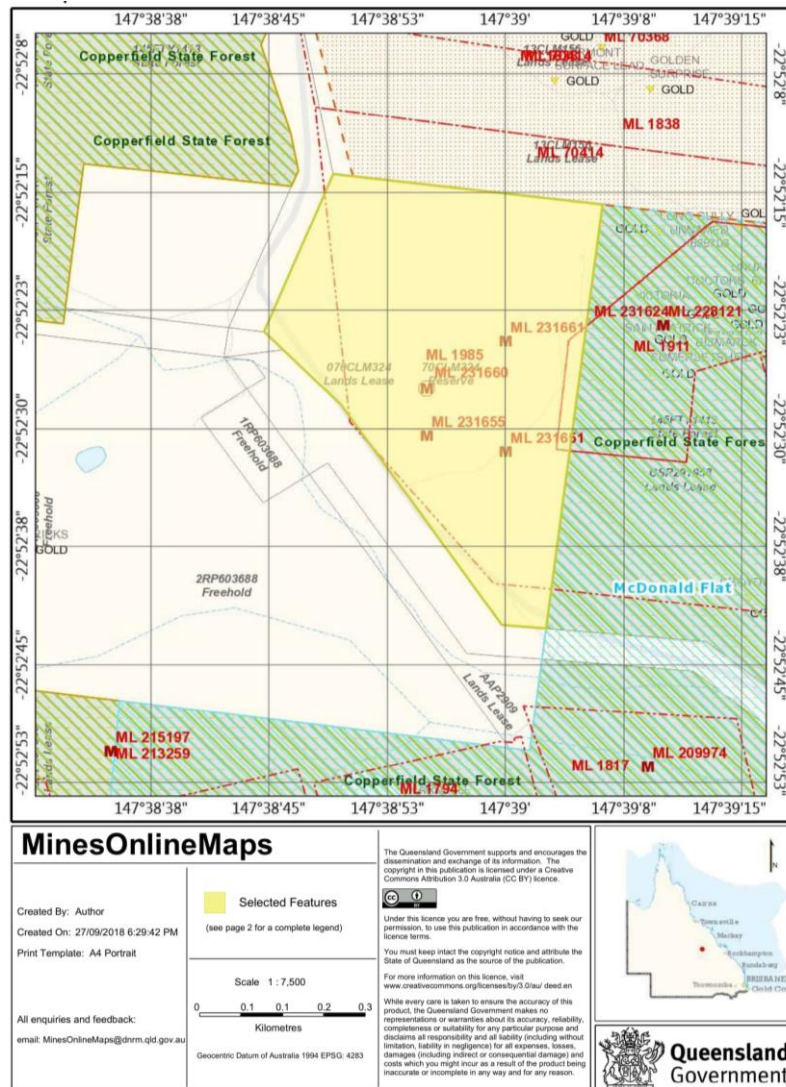


McDonald Flat Extension GPA

LOT 70 CROWN PLAN CLM324

TITLE REF 49008988

- Adjacent to existing McDonald Flat GPA
- McDonald Flat Road. 6.4km from PO
- Historical alluvial workings evident
- Water Reserve – **IRC as Trustee**
- TL 0/214877 **Ross Clein** – current lessee McDonald Flat GPA
- 42 ha

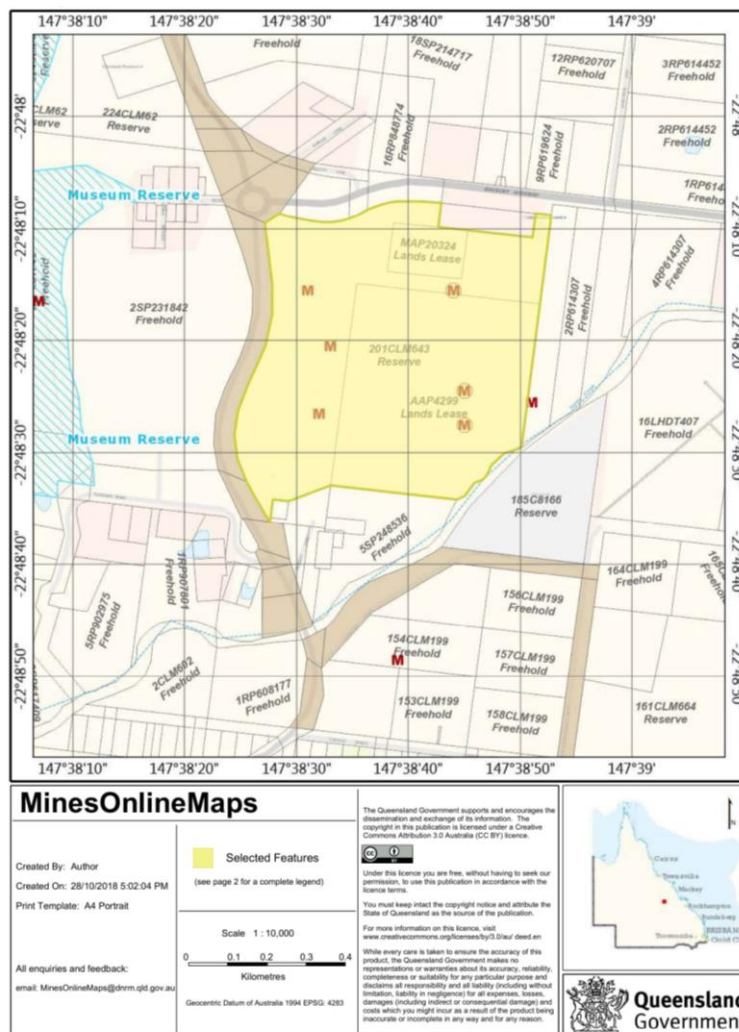


Roundabout Reserve GPA

LOT 201 CROWN PLAN CLM643

TITLE REF 49005316

- Close proximity to existing Museum Reserve GPA
- Cnr Gregory Hwy & Clermont Connection Road. 3.3km from PO
- Historical alluvial workings evident
- Township Reserve – **IRC as Trustee**
- PO 0/230834 – Permittee Carolyn Flohr
- PO 0/234754 – Permittee Vikavas Mataji Pty Ltd (excluded)
- 49 ha approx



Actions & Proposed Timeline

- **Ideally completed by start of April 2019 peak visitor period**
- November/December:
 - present formal proposal to IRC, QPWS and DNRME
 - obtain support from local and State authorities
 - confirm tenure and property boundaries: DNRME
- Identify key personnel to initiate permissions process
 - IRC:
 - DNRME:
 - QPWS:
 - obtain external stakeholder permissions
 - formalise GPA agreements and conditions of access
- January: assess and cost site works: IRC + QPWS
 - site inspection for potential hazards; removal of unauthorised waste disposal; required track maintenance; designate entry points; signage; boundary marking; potential infrastructure eg. entry grids; bush seating/tables
 - gather field data and assess signage requirements
 - cost works budget; obtain IRC/QPWS/DNRME approval for project expenditure
- February: commence site works
 - design and request signage
 - create GPA maps: DNRME/QPWS
 - supply print quality digital files for inclusion in IRC tourism publication
- March: continue site works
 - prepare website updates
<https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/activities/areas-facilities/fossicking/central-gold>
<https://www.isaac.qld.gov.au/clermont>
- April: install signage
 - submit Google Maps placemarkers
 - Ministerial and IRC Media Release



The Hon Dr Anthony Lynham MP
Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy

Ref CTS 27213/19

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Telephone +61 7 3719 7360
Email nrm@ministerial.qld.gov.au
www.dnrme.qld.gov.au

23 OCT 2019

Ms Frieda Berry-Porter
Outback Prospector
PO Box 553
CLERMONT QLD 4721

Dear Ms Berry-Porter

I am writing to you to thank you for your assistance in bringing to fruition the opening of the Flat Diggings General Permission Area (GPA) to recreational fossicking, comprising 181 hectares 15 km north-west of Clermont in Central Queensland.

I am very pleased that we have been able to add the new area of Flat Diggings GPA, which is an important addition to Queensland's world-renowned fossicking trails. The Central Gold District – based around Clermont – now has 11 fossicking areas for a total of 12 036 hectares, including seven on state forests.

I anticipate the new GPA will attract further visitors to the region, particularly in the cooler months, bringing economic and social benefits to the community.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and sincerely thank you for the efforts and enthusiasm you have put into this becoming a reality. This could not have come about without your strong support and partnership.

While the addition of Flat Diggings GPA provides a welcome boost to this extremely popular activity, I acknowledge that the Clermont Community and Business Group, Isaac Regional Council and fossicking and prospecting representatives have requested more areas be made available for fossicking. My department is committed to continuing to work with you and other key stakeholders toward this goal.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr Jason Turner, Principal Mining Registrar, Divisional Support, Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy who will be pleased to assist you and can be contacted on 4987 9372.

Yours sincerely



Dr Anthony Lynham MP
Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy



Department of
Environment and Science

Our Ref: CTS 14286/20

18 August 2020

Ms Frieda Berry-Porter
portergold@bigpond.com / frieda@theoutbackprospector.com.au

Dear Ms Frieda Berry-Porter

Thank you for your email of 30 June 2020 to the Honourable Leeanne Enoch MP, Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts regarding proposed General Permission Areas (GPA) in the Clermont State forests. The Minister has asked me to respond on her behalf. I apologise for the delay in responding.

I understand that the Flat Diggings GPA adjoins the Four Mile East GPA within Blair Athol State Forest, and is outside of the State forest boundary, as shown on the enclosed Flat Diggings GPA map. The former Department of Natural Resources – Forest Resources, now the Department of Environment and Science (DES) set up the Clermont Fossicking Committee (the Committee) in 1996. The Committee formed following major problems related to illegal fossicking. DES allocated significant resources to resolve the problems over a period of two years.

The declaration of the GPAs and the formation of the Committee decreased illegal fossicking and increased governance and coordination of fossicking requirements between all groups. The Committee, which involved community stakeholders, local government and Government departments (once located in Clermont), has now dissipated.

I am advised that the proposal to open a new GPA, known as 'Brigalow', was assessed in 2007. The proposal was not progressed further due to increasing coal exploration and the later lodgement of mining lease applications over part/most of the proposed GPA, and new GPA's need to consider the existing rights and interests present on/over the State forest.

Although exploration activities are not a limiting factor in the declaration of a GPA, the Department of Natural Resources Mines and Energy (NRME) advises that Miners hold exclusive rights to the surface area and minerals of their granted mining tenure. Explorative permissions do not usually take years to be granted to mining tenure, as has been the case

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Website www.des.qld.gov.au
ABN 46 640 294 485

with the Moorlands Coal Project. NRME can provide further information regarding the legislative obligations required to be satisfied to enable issuance of a mining tenure.

A fossicking licence entitles a licence holder to fossick on most 'occupied land' (land with an owner) if they have the written permission of the landowner/s. Where land is subject to a mining claim or lease, written permission is required from the lease or claim holder/s for a fossicking licence holder to fossick. Similarly, a grazing leaseholder is considered a landowner. While legislation obliges a landowner to provide permission to a GPA, it also allows permission to be withdrawn at any time.

DES remains committed to supporting fossickers and evaluating new opportunities as they arise. As per your telephone conversation of 30 July 2020 with Mr Andrew Colvill, Principal Ranger – Capricornia, Central Region, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and Partnerships, DES, the 'Bathampton East' area you suggested for a new GPA on Apsley State Forest will be investigated. DES advises that the area is currently being grazed and the impact of the grazing permission on the establishment of a GPA is being assessed. DES will provide an update to you when the impact of the current permission is known.

Should you require any further information, you may contact Mr Colvill on telephone (07) 4936 0101 or by email at andrew.colvill@des.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'James Newman', written on a light grey rectangular background.

James Newman
Executive Director
Northern Parks and Forests
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
Department of Environment and Science

STRATEGY 3: BUILDING OUR TOURISM OFFERING

Expanding and diversifying our tourism product

As an emerging visitor destination with an opportunity to shape our story, it is essential our region leverages its strengths and existing assets to capitalise on emerging tourism opportunities. Our ability to attract more visitors, more often will depend on the suite of products and experiences that extend the depth and breadth of our story's offering.

By increasing and diversifying the range of tourism product, we will continue to provide repeat interest and curiosity in our region. This goal focuses on initiatives that continue to develop iconic and authentic hero products and experiences.

STRATEGY 3 OUTCOMES

- Diversified and expanded tourism product
- New and genuine reasons for people to visit
- More visitors, more often

ACTION	PRIORITY	PARTNERS
3.0 Investigate the viability of tourism development projects identified in the Isaac Tourism Opportunities Paper and develop an investment prospectus for key feasible projects. See appendix 1	H	
3.01 Investigate opportunities for a Tourist Park in Moranbah.	M	
Adventure & Discovery		
3.1.1 Develop a gold prospecting strategy for the region (Clermont/surrounds and Nebo/Mt Britton) to drive increased visitation, participation and extended length of stay.	H	
3.1.2 Work with relevant stakeholders to encourage the opening of new prospecting general permission areas	M	
3.1.3 Work with Queensland Government to declare the Isaac Region the prospecting capital of Queensland.	M	
3.1.4 Partner with the mining industry to identify industry-based tourism opportunities and facilitate their development. E.g.: mine tours, viewing platforms.	M	
3.1.5 Redefine, re-brand and revitalise the Mining Trail to encompass the Central Highlands Gemfields	M	
3.1.6 Investigate the development of an Isaac Recreational Fishing Development Strategy.	H	
3.1.7 Work with QPWS to increase access to National Park areas through the development and reopening of walking trails, 4WD tracks, bird watching opportunities, campgrounds and interpretive signage.	M	
3.1.8 Investigate 4WD trail opportunities linking the coast to the 'convenient outback'	M	
Natural Encounters		

Fossicking Regulation 2009 DNRME Review 2019

and

Suggested amendments to Fossicking Act 1994

Submission by

Jonathan & Frieda Berry-Porter

The Outback Prospector

P O Box 553, Clermont QLD 4721

frieda@theoutbackprospector.com.au

07 4983 3856



Preface to our role in the Isaac Tourism Identity

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the 2019 Review of the QLD Fossicking Regulation 2009, which forms a critical regulatory platform to support regional tourism through promotion of fossicking activities.

As residents of Clermont in the Isaac Region for 20 years, home-based business owners for 11 years and bricks and mortar business owners for 3 ½ years, we have a reasonable level of understanding of the local economic drivers in the Central QLD regions; agriculture, mining and over the last 25-30 years, tourism, which in our local area, centres primarily on metal detecting for alluvial gold in the historic Clermont Goldfields. Interstate visitors and QLD residents undertaking this activity contribute greatly to our local economy in a similar manner to the Central QLD Gemfields, which is a large part of the subject of the Review.

With over 25 years experience as electronic prospectors and since late 2015 as certified Minelab dealers, (the world-leading Australian metal detector designer and manufacturer), we have seen the rising popularity and wider acceptance of metal detecting as a hobby and profitable pastime as well as the increased scrutiny placed on the regulation of this activity in the public landscape.

We have invested considerable time and energy to educate stakeholders and strongly advocate for solutions to land access issues at consumer, local and State government levels, with a particular focus on public lands such as State Forest and local Council managed areas.

We have also recently submitted our response to the Isaac Regional Council's (IRC) draft Tourism Strategy where the development of a regional gold prospecting strategy and implementation of practical measures to support existing and new tourism opportunities in this sector was identified. Our proposal for six new GPAs (five

on Council managed lands) has been favourably received by IRC and approved in principle through Council with site assessment, administrative and budget planning in progress.

To deliver an effective adventure-based tourism experience in QLD regions where historic goldfields and related fossicking areas exist, and to ensure a sustainable future for this popular tourism activity, our view is there is **limited capacity to grow the recreational prospecting and fossicking sector in QLD, unless secure and widely accessible public lands, such as State Forest and Council managed lands (eg. Stock Routes), are available to the general public to enjoy these activities.**

Comments re QLD Fossicking Regulation 2009

Consideration of Existing DFA/DFL vs GPAs

Given our engagement with DNRME, DES/QPWS and Isaac Regional Council over the last three years advocating for increased and secured access to suitable areas for recreational **prospecting**...for gold (distinct from '**fossicking**'...for gemstones and other defined fossicking materials such as fossils and opals), we provide comment to this Review from our understanding of the General Permission Area structure, which functions in a generally similar way to Designated Fossicking Areas/Lands of the Central QLD Gemfields (approx 90kms away) but without the certainty of 'tenure' on public lands such as State Forest.

Referring to **Part 2** of **QLD Fossicking Regulation 2009** *Designated fossicking land, fossicking areas and other land* and the **Schedules 2 and 3** detailing dedicated areas in the CQ Gemfields and other identified areas around QLD, we seek to highlight to the Department the disparity between regulatory structures in place for *fossicking* activities which grant protection to the Designated Fossicking Areas and Lands as stated on website:...

<https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/activities/areas-facilities/fossicking/rules/designated-areas>

Designated fossicking lands and fossicking areas

These areas have been established by the government in cooperation with local governments and landholders. They are signposted and publicised as part of a statewide network to assist the tourism industry. Commercial mining tenures are allowed in fossicking lands but not in fossicking areas.

...compared to the conflicting and insecure legislative framework governing **General Permission Areas**, specifically in QLD State Forest, where permission is dependent upon a Land Act lessee granting permission jointly with QPWS to declare a GPA, **such permission can be withdrawn at any time with no warning or reason**, placing the entire recreational prospecting community at risk of being 'locked' out of QLD State Forest, specifically should the four current Forestry leaseholders in Clermont withdraw permission for these GPAs. Mining leases have also been granted over existing Clermont GPAs, (unlike DFA which is protected under the Act), which reduces the accessibility of the GPA land area for the recreational prospecting activities, but not other recreational activities generally.

Given that recreational prospecting in the modern era (use of metal detectors) has occurred in Clermont for over 30 years, when compared to the CQ Gemfields, there has been no 'security of tenure' on public lands and very little dedicated funding support to safeguard, promote and develop these tourism attractions during this time.

There is one identified Fossicking Area *Restricted Area 189* in Clermont (see attached), yet this is not mentioned in the QLD Fossicking Regulation 2009.

FOSSICKING AREA CLERMONT Mines Online Maps

Restricted Area Number: 189 Reference: 68/B FOLIO 91

Purpose: FOSSICKING AREA CLERMONT

Act 1: MR1989 Act 1 Date Approved: 30/08/1990

Act 2: GEO2010 Act 2 Date Approved: 17/02/2012

Consider:

- declaring all State Forest in Clermont region as DFA (as identified and pre-existing goldfields – declared in 1862)
Creation of further Designated Fossicking Areas in Clermont would grant security to recreational prospectors and the many local business owners who welcome the tourist dollars they bring to our region and enable long-term planning and funding by DES/QPWS & DRNME for these tourist attractions
- declare other areas similar in tenure to RA 189 (Township) as DFA where historic alluvial gold workings exist in the Clermont region
eg LOT 201 CROWN PLAN CLM643 (Purpose: Township)
LOT 184 CROWN PLAN CLM627 (Purpose: Stock Route: Reserve - Camping)
- Referring **Schedule 5** – *Regulated Camping Land*, declaring camping areas in the Clermont region on suitable areas Stock Route: Camping

Noting sales of QLD Fossicking Licences in 2018, there is a keen audience searching for opportunities to enjoy these activities:

- 8300+ issued - double previous year's sales.
- 5.5% of statewide sales via our business Outback Prospector (400 Apr-Sept peak season)
- Further opportunity to develop and promote additional prospecting/fossicking locations in the Isaac region eg Mt Britton, Moranbah diamonds and other QLD regions where the resource is identified on public lands

Further comments re QLD Fossicking Act 1994 re GPAs

Consider:

- the **tenuous nature** of GPAs as a mechanism to gain access to State Forest for 'fossicking' activities - no security for prospectors, the local tourism economy or QPWS investment into the Parks estate due to requirement for permission from QLD Land Act lessee to 'allow' fossicking activities on what is public land. (which can be withdrawn at any time) eg Bottom Apsley GPA
- the **discriminatory nature** of GPAs which allows Land Act lessees to selectively restrict access to State Forest to only a particular sector of the general public - in breach of Land Act Rolling Term Lease **Conditions 26 and 27 (Public Access)** and the QLD Forestry Act, **S35 (5) and (6)**
Are our Ministers comfortable with a situation where an individual leaseholder of State Forest has greater authority than QPWS to, in effect, discriminate against recreational prospectors by 'locking them out' of public land?
- *where is genuine government support for recreational prospecting similar to Anakie/CQ Gemfields which have security of tenure and freedom of access?*
- Additionally, given the advice detailed below from Ranger in Charge, Clermont QPWS in March 2017 and the *inconsistencies between the laws governing fossicking activities within State Forests under Land Act lease tenure*, we seek clarification from the department of the correct interpretation of the Qld Fossicking Act 1994, the Qld Forestry Act 1959 and the Qld Land Act 1994 and how the application of the relevant Sections specifically affects the ability of recreational prospectors to access State Forest where Land Act leases exist, to undertake licenced fossicking activities and if there has been any amendment of QPWS policy as referred to below since these 'challenges' were identified.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **BAILEY Caleb** <Caleb.Bailey@npsr.qld.gov.au>

Date: **Tue, Mar 7, 2017** at 9:47 AM

Subject: RE: Four Mile GPA status? + road works

To: Frieda Aurum-OBP <frieda@aurumaustralis.com>

Good morning Frieda,

The following advice has been provided on the new GPA area for Clermont.

We are working through the following challenges regarding legislation:

- Land Act lease holders are considered a landowner under the Fossicking Act;
- Landowner consent must be provided for new GPAs;
- **The landowner can withdraw consent to the GPA at any time, which restricts access not only to the GPA but the State forest in general;**
- **The landowner may be breaching their lease conditions if they do restrict access to a State forest ;**
- The Department of Resources and Mines (DNRM) issue leases under the Land Act; and manage the Fossicking Act;
- **We are therefore seeking further clarification from DNRM;**

Our policy will then be amended to reflect the advice

So once these issues are sorted through there will be some developments.

I hope this helps.

Caleb

- As a low-impact activity which supports regional economies, why is recreational prospecting using metal detectors or pans not just another recreational activity permissible in State Forest or Stock Route, similar to other current permitted activities (eg. 4WD-ing, motorbike and MTB riding, bushwalking) and not be subject to a protracted and insecure permission process with an individual holding only grazing rights on these public lands? By removing the lessee 'permission' requirement, it would ensure return on taxpayer investment in areas of interest to prospectors and gives certainty to all stakeholders.

Case study: Bottom Apsley GPA, Blair Athol State Forest - closed 1st March 2018

- Declared in 1998 with permission from former RTL TL 0/230044 (grazing purposes) lessee Brian Sporne and the then DPI and DME
- Closed on 1st March 2018 without warning, reason or chance to discuss issues.
- See below excerpt from Clermont Community Facebook page 16.05.19
- New lessee David Scott has 'declined to agree' to re-open the GPA – restricting access to the public which is inconsistent with both lease conditions 26 & 27 (Public Access) and the Forestry Act S35 (5)

Clermont Community Group Frieda Home

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Clermont Community G...

Brian Sporne Again you have deflected the serve you must be one hell of a tennis player you two are the people who are making the most noise because you are making a living from other peoples land I had a great report with majority of fossicking people in fact several of them camped on my free hold country at copper field as for state Forrest being public land that was never the case at the time we purchased Apsley I do know how much the grey nomads bring to any small town and the only reason I withdrew permission is when I saw you wanted to bring b m x bikes to ride around Apsley a very different thing to people on foot scanning the ground . So you see your push for extra activity on Apsley no doubt to your financial gain was ,the last straw You Are Responsible For Me Closing Apsley No One Else

Like · Reply · 20h

Frieda Berry-Porter 🇺🇸 Perhaps you need a reminder of the conversation we were all having with QPWS at that last meeting in November 2017, which was about 'mountain bike riding', which has always been, and still is, permitted in Apsley State Forest and every other local State Forest without yours or any other leaseholder's permission, same as motorbike riding, bush-walking and 4WD.

Therefore your decision to withdraw permission for Bottom Apsley GPA has had zero impact on anyone's right to ride a mountain bike around the former Bottom Apsley GPA but has directly resulted in loss of income to many local businesses because the primary recreational usage of that block of PUBLIC Forest was for prospecting.

When you lock prospectors out of State Forest, they vote with their boots and many of those regulars have chosen not to visit Clermont this year, 'because Apsley is still closed.'

So there is no basis whatsoever to your justification for closing Apsley GPA other than perhaps you saw it as some kind of impediment for sale of the lease? We were at the auction so we heard the exchange of comments on this topic and it wasn't about mountain bike riders.

This action on the part of the former lessee Mr Sporne is a **GROSS ABUSE** of the inferred authority a State Forest lessee has over the access rights of the general public into State Forest. There was no justifiable reason for the withdrawal of permission for this GPA as related to prospecting activities and the perception that by closing it, it would somehow prevent access by 'BMX' or mountain bike riders onto this lease is completely irrelevant, without any legal grounds under both the conditions of lease or the Forestry Act and must be acknowledged as the **fundamental flaw** in the whole GPA structure...that through denial of lessee permission for GPA, it selectively discriminates against just one bush user group from accessing QLD State Forest...recreational prospectors.

We ask, **under which other Acts is a State Forest lessee (Rolling Term Lease) considered to be an 'owner'?** Where else do they have authority over land usage or access in State Forest? eg. over timber harvesting activities? – no authority. eg. if a culturally or environmentally sensitive site was identified and set aside for preservation, would this lessee have any authority to restrict that land usage?

Closing comments:

With 2019 being the **Year of Outback Tourism**, we appeal to local and State authorities and relevant Ministers to **seriously consider the impact the current regulatory structure governing access into public lands for fossicking and prospecting activities is having on our State's potential as a recreational prospecting destination of choice.**

As the representative officers and the interface between Ministers, government departments and the public, you are responsible for interpreting and enforcing the laws governing both the activity and the land and to engage with the public to determine if these laws are 'fit for purpose' in practical terms - why then are

responsible Ministers not hearing our calls for change in relation to the GPA structure within QLD State Forests? We seek your assurance to act in accordance with the needs of the public to simplify QLD Fossicking Licence holder access to public land such as State Forest and Stock Routes to attract these tourism dollars to QLD regional economies, in line with Minister Lynham's closing comments in his reply to our many enquiries on this matter.

The Queensland Government appreciates the popularity of fossicking as a recreational activity, the value that recreational fossickers place on gaining access to suitable fossicking land and the benefits fossickers bring to local tourism in regional towns such as Clermont.

"DNRME is committed to continuing to work with key stakeholders in identifying further opportunities within the Clermont District where additional GPAs may be established for regional tourism."

We seek the departments' assistance to inform our Ministers (Lynham, Enoch and Jones) of these issues, and through resolution of identified legislative conflicts, they can demonstrate their genuine support for Outback Tourism. In regions where the resource exists, the easiest tourist attraction to establish is a GPA. Define the area, survey the site for safety, tidy up the tracks, erect a GPA sign, publish maps online and it's open for business. Recreational prospectors and fossickers will choose their own adventure and are happy to support the local economy. On public land such as State Forest, prioritisation of land use activity and economic return to the taxpayer need to be the primary consideration, not the negative attitude of one individual leaseholder who declines to agree to a GPA, where they have no authority over any other recreational or commercial activity on these public Forestry estates.

Legislative Solutions:

- Amend definition of 'owner' under Fossicking Act to exclude Land Act lessees of State Forest so QPWSP is the sole party to permission to declare a GPA

- Amend Fossicking Act to declare QLD State Forests open 'generally' to fossicking and prospecting activities where resources have been identified
- Redefine recreational prospecting as a 'permitted recreational activity' in all QLD State Forest with excluded areas for identified environmental or cultural areas of significance and commercial activities, in accordance with QPWS own definition in operational policy 'Fossicking on QPWS Managed Areas'
- Declare Clermont State Forests as Designated Fossicking Areas, similar to CQ Gemfields to preserve access and protect from high-impact commercial mining activity, as was the original intent of GPAs when first developed in 1997.

Preferred Outcomes: Certainty for ALL Stakeholders

- Resolution of conflicting laws regulating activities and land management in QLD State Forest to restore goodwill between all stakeholders
- Granted recognition to the significant value of recreational prospecting to Clermont and QLD's tourism economy by partnering with Isaac Regional Council to, for eg. declare Clermont a 'Designated Fossicking District' – or the 'Central QLD Goldfields', similar to regions of NSW and the Anakie Gem Area, (Restricted Area 1) to properly promote and support this legitimate tourist attraction as a recreational activity to be enjoyed in our State Forests as any other.
- QLD Ministers genuinely **LISTEN** to all users of the public Forests – cultural, recreational, pastoral and commercial to understand their problems and meet expectations
- With considered policies, proper funding and resource allocation, we can preserve the status of QLD State Forest as a place of cultural respect, recreation and enterprise...**the People's Forest...a working Forest** in accordance with the QLD Forestry Act 1959 and an amended QLD Fossicking Act 1994.

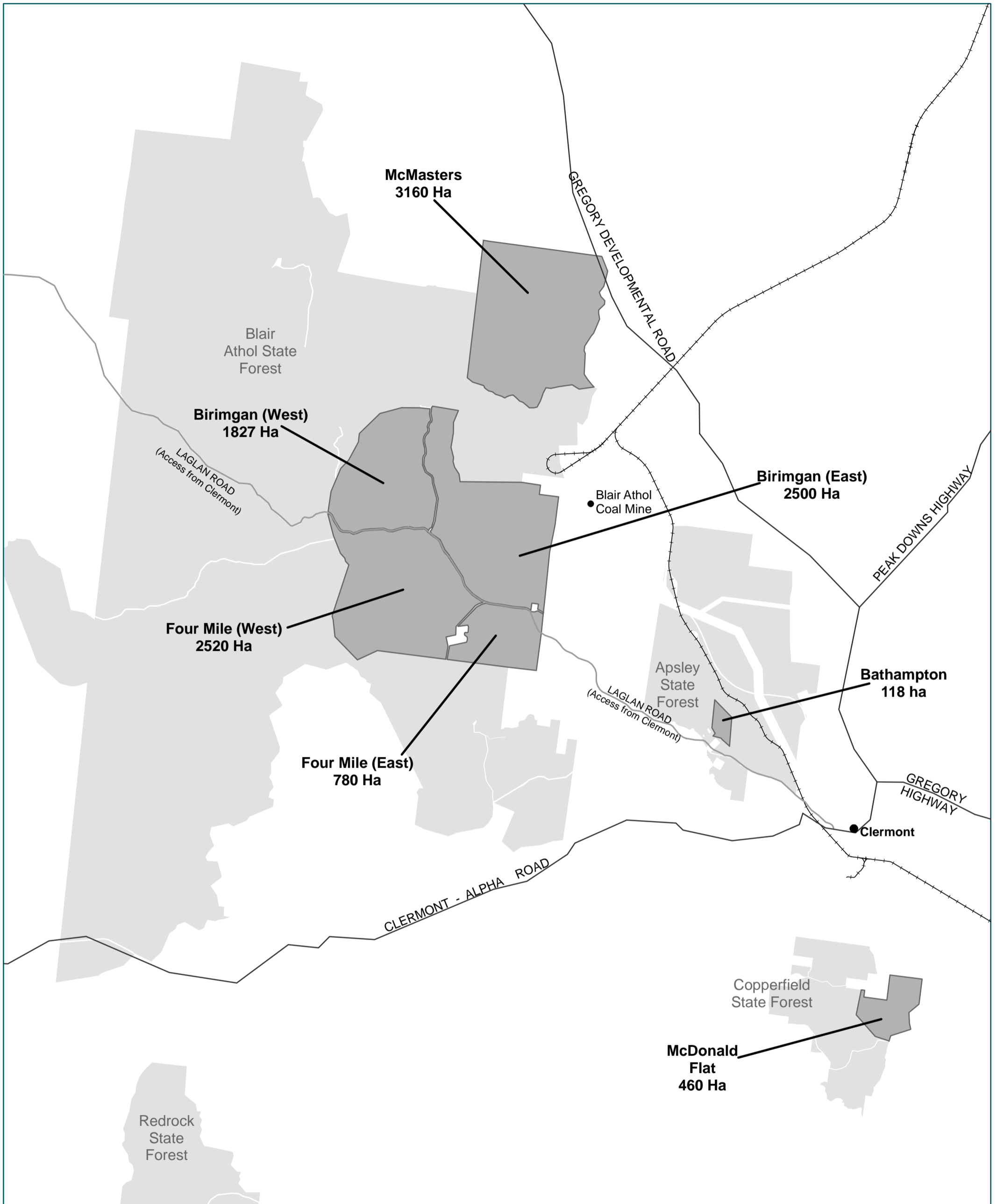
Note also that in the matter of access to public land such as State Forest and stock route, our focus is to seek **inclusive access for ALL, as opposed to exclusive access for the few** on freehold and other leased tenure, as the QLD Fossicking Licence encourages. The Miner's Right is uniquely Australian in that it allows the everyday man the opportunity to share in the 'common wealth' of this nation as originally won under the Eureka Flag. The QLD Fossicking Licence does not grant any 'rights' to this effect; it is an instrument of privilege, because it requires permission from a 'landowner' to 'fossick', even on public land such as State Forest where all others may freely access for 'permitted recreational activities', so not everyone has an equal opportunity to get value out of this Licence to 'fossick'.

Creating this opportunity for fair, equal and secured access to public land for the general public to enjoy these activities is the motivating factor in our lobbying efforts. It is because of these unfair laws that lock recreational prospectors out of our own public Forestry that we seek our elected representatives to:

Act with fairness and equality in the application of laws governing public access to State Forest for all permitted recreational activities by resolving the inconsistencies between the *Qld Fossicking Act 1994* and *Qld Forestry Act 1959*.

Attachments:

- **Clermont GPA Overview** – note access to only approx 20% of local State Forest
- **Fossicking Area 189** - Clermont
- **Former Bottom Apsley GPA** – closed March 2018
- **Proposed Brigalow GPA Maps** – failed to progress since 2006 due to government Forestry policy, pending ML 700040 and 70526
- **Letter of support from Minelab Electronics 24.05.19**



- Legend**
- Protected Areas of Queensland
- State Forest
 - General Permission Area
 - Lagan Road (Access from Clermont)
 - Sealed Road
 - Railway Lines

General Permission Areas in Clermont 'State Forests'



5 Kilometres

COORDINATE SYSTEM: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55
 PROJECTION: Transverse Mercator
 HORIZONTAL DATUM: GDA 1994

ACCURACY STATEMENT
 Due to varying sources of data, spatial locations may not coincide when overlaid.

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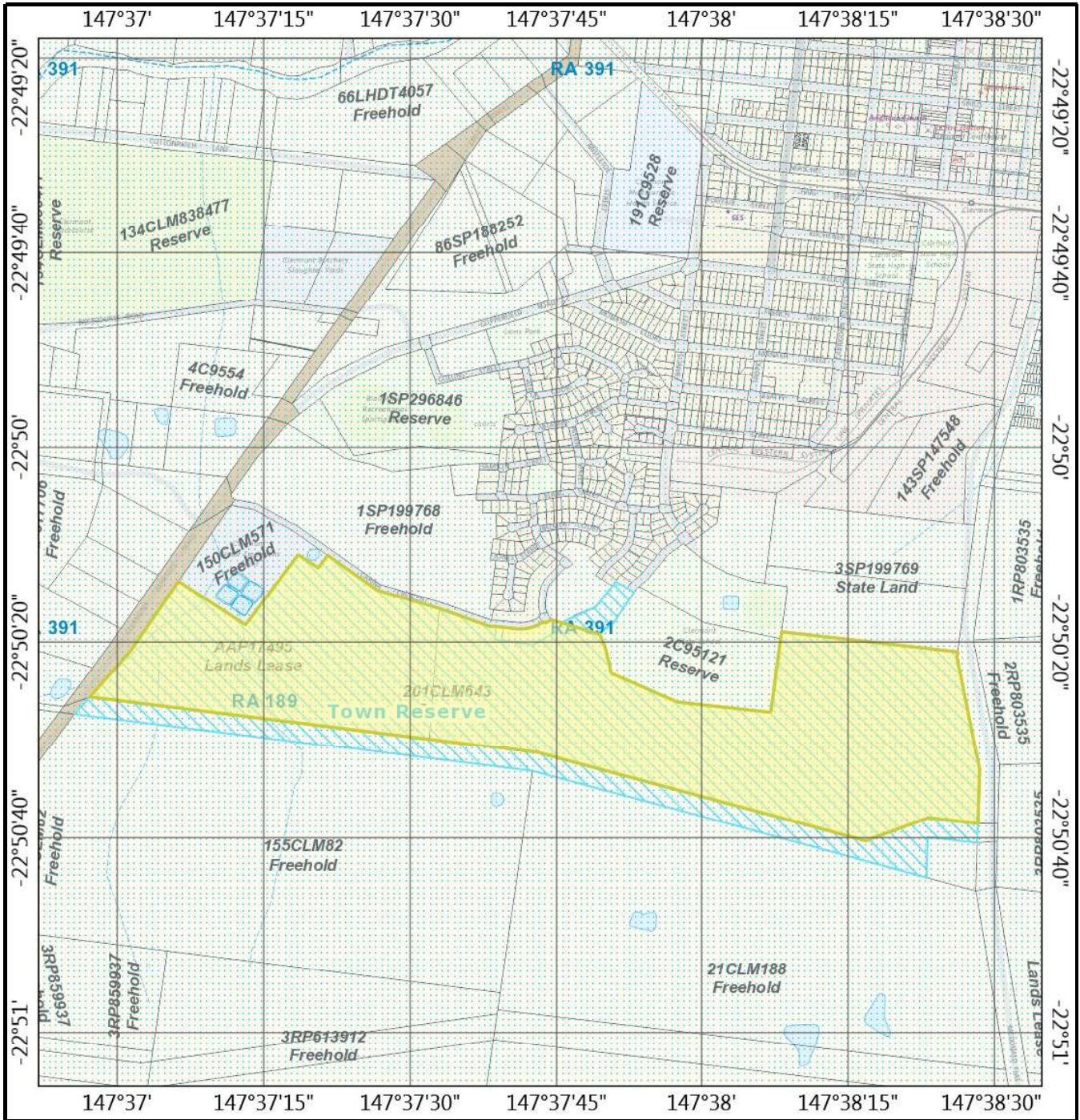
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Clermont Fossicking Area 189

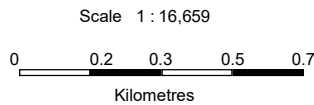


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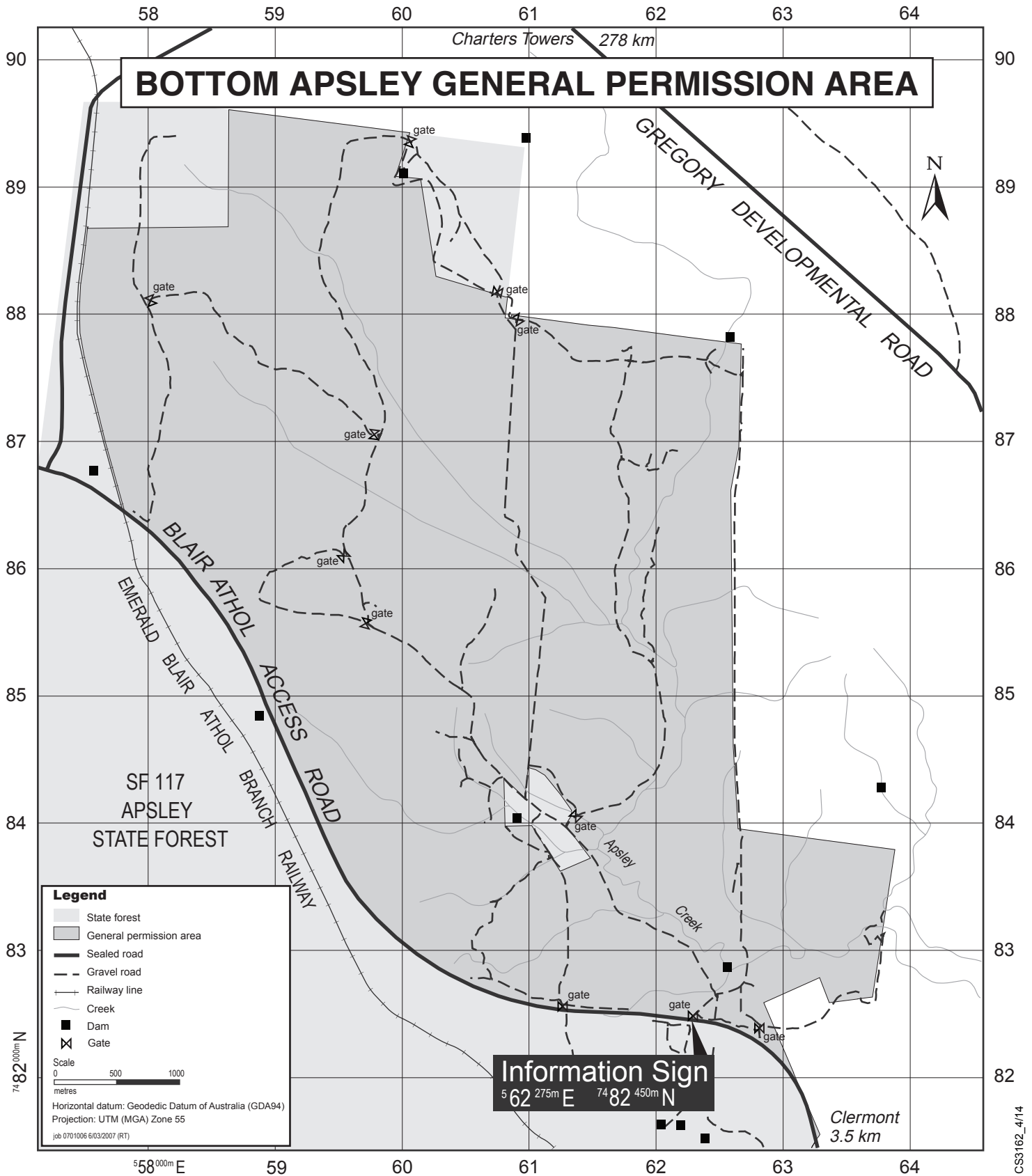
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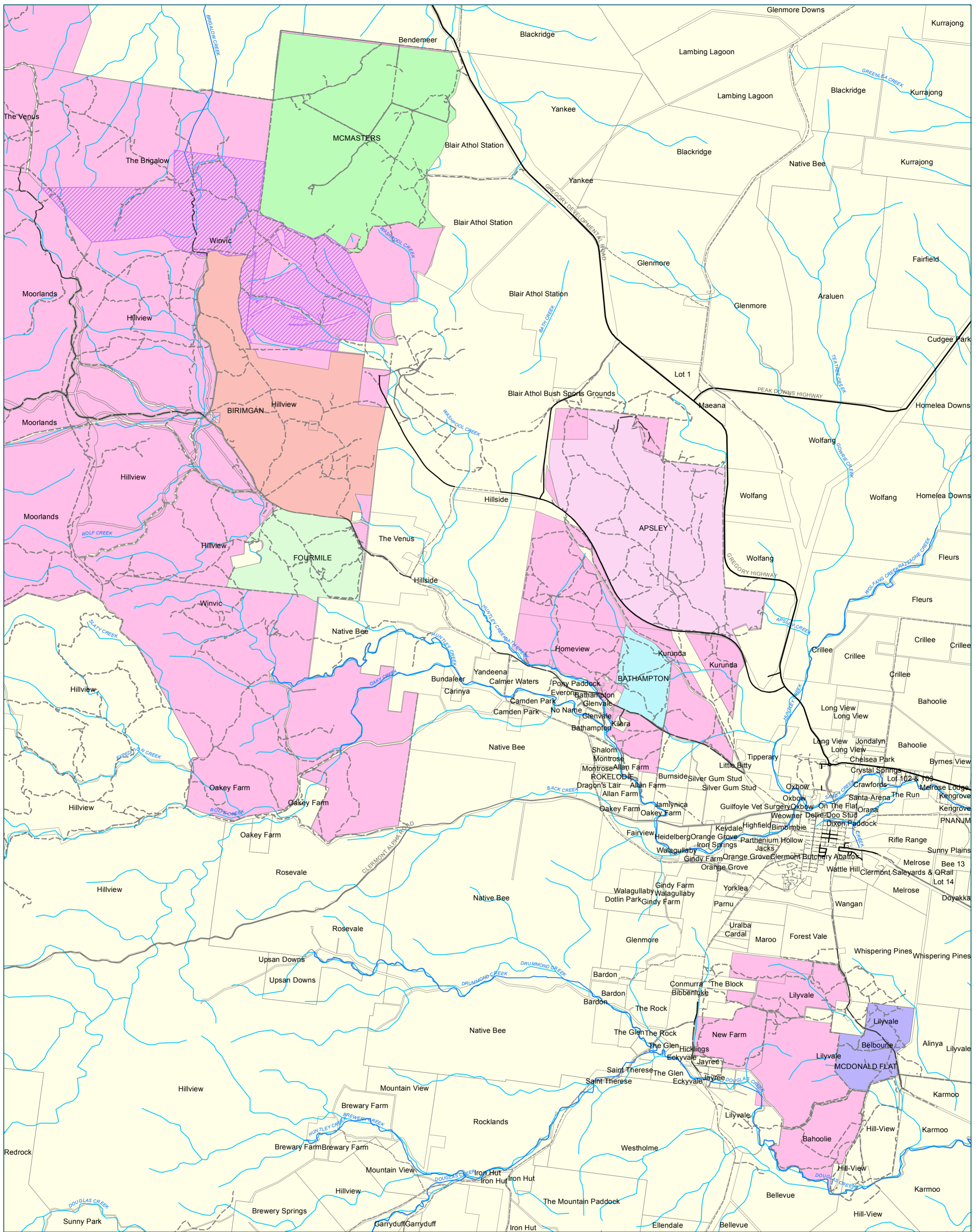
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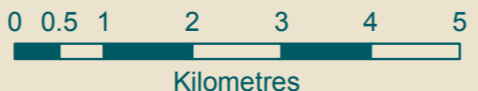
GPA_G94_ID

- McDonald's Flat
- Birimgan
- Four Mile
- Apsley
- McMasters
- Bathampton
- Proposed
- Rivers
(MapInfo Australia Pty Ltd, Date Unknown)
- Creeks
(Geoscience Australia, Date Unknown)
- DPI Agricultural Property System (APS)

Clermont GPs



1:85,000



NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

COORDINATE SYSTEM: GCS GDA 1994
HORIZONTAL DATUM: GDA 1994

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24.05.2019

To whom it may concern,

As a leading global supplier of prospecting equipment, Minelab has had an association with Clermont for more than 25 years. During this time, we have supported many local events and are major sponsors of the local Gold & Coal Festival.

Recreational prospecting is a substantial contributor to the local economies of many regional towns located near goldfields around Australia, mostly during the winter prospecting season but also for local residents year round.

We have seen continued growth in the numbers of people that enjoy metal detecting and prospecting, as a hobby that promotes outdoor lifestyle, and is suitable for a wide age range. Significant evidence also points to the physical and even mental health attributes of the hobby.

Since the early 1990's, Clermont has been a popular destination for CQ locals, Queensland and interstate visitors. Each year participation in recreational electronic prospecting grows, particularly for the winter months, and many enjoy the thrill of the find and health benefits this hobby brings.

The hobby of prospecting and metal detecting is an ecologically sound hobby with negligible environmental impact. The hobby promotes an outdoors lifestyle and rewards those who develop a complimentary interest in geology and topography, which in turn further encourages environmental awareness and consideration. As a company, we strongly promote minimal impact prospecting and communicate messages of awareness and consideration of others and the environment.

We support a number of bodies and groups nationally promoting the concept of combining (as coined elsewhere in NSW) '...leisure, pleasure and treasure.' This concept recognises the social and economic gains from a welcoming approach to recreational prospecting as particularly evidenced by Eurobodalla in NSW, which in 2017 declared the whole Shire a Fossicking District and encourages fossicking in their region.

Minelab's advice is that in March 2018, the most accessible and productive GPA, Bottom Apsley (2600ha) was closed when the leaseholder withdrew permission for the GPA after 20 years without reason or warning, significantly affecting visiting senior prospectors' ability to enjoy the activity through loss of access to these established goldfields. All other recreational users of the Forestry have always been and are still permitted access (4WD, motorbike, MTB riding, bushwalkers etc.) but due to identified conflicts between the QLD Fossicking Act and Forestry Act, the lessee has authority to restrict access to State Forest 'only' to prospectors.

Further, whilst the two new GPAs opened in March 2018, (Four Mile West and Birimgan West) are welcomed by prospectors; our understanding is that these areas are more suitable for experienced prospectors. In the Clermont area specifically, the loss of Apsley GPA has caused great distress for longer-term visitors (particularly grey nomads), who feel unfairly treated and extremely disappointed they are 'locked out' of this popular and productive area of public land.

In national and state terms, Fossicking and Prospecting continues to grow in popularity. In 2018 there were more than 8300 Queensland Fossicking Licences issued. As an indicator to the growing popularity of this pastime, this is double the amount of licenses issued in 2017. Around 5.5% of total statewide sales of these were in Clermont, via our partner The Outback Prospector.

Local authority Isaac Regional Council is actively working towards a declaration of Clermont as QLDs premier recreational prospecting destination and is focused on increasing visitation to the Central QLD Goldfields through opening of GPAs on Council managed land.

Minelab believes that the opening of new GPA's will result in higher volumes of recreational prospectors to the Clermont region. In areas where greater access has been successfully achieved, this brings direct economic benefit to a wide range of local businesses and enhances the social benefits for both the 'grey nomads' and the community in general. Through negotiating positive relationships between the relevant stakeholders to increase access to prospective areas within State Forests, local and State authorities have the opportunity to improve Clermont's appeal as a recreational prospecting destination and develop its economic potential as the heart of Queensland's Goldfields.

Our belief is that regional areas can celebrate the historical and cultural association they have with mineral resources such as Gold, in a way that encourages local tourism and drives economic growth while simultaneously being environmentally sound.

Regards

Fraser Kendall
General Manager, ANZ and East Asia

Minelab is a global company headquartered in Adelaide, South Australia. Minelab is a wholly owned entity of Codan Ltd listed on the ASX as CDA.



Agenda

12 June 2020	13.00-14.00	Location: Teleconference
Type of meeting :	Fossicking / Small Scale Mining Stakeholder Meeting	
Attendees:	<p>Warwick Squire, Executive Director, Divisional Support, Georesources (DNRME)</p> <p>Chris Shaw, Executive Director, Georesources Policy (DNRME)</p> <p>Cale Dendle, Executive Director, Mineral and Coal</p> <p>Ross Eddington, Director Regulatory Support and Performance (DNRME)</p> <p>Kahil Lloyd, Director, Georesources Policy (DNRME)</p> <p>Luke Croton, Director, Mineral Operations (DNRME)</p> <p>Dr Steven Ward, Director, Engagement and Compliance (DNRME)</p> <p>Ben Johns, Manager, Assessment, Mineral Operations (DNRME)</p> <p>James Said, President, North Queensland Mining Association</p> <p>Graham Byrne, V/President, North Queensland Mining Association</p> <p>Ben Stoverink, President, Yowah Opal Mining Association</p> <p>Len Coyte, President, Winton/Opalton, Boulder Opal Association.</p> <p>Kev Phillips, President, Quilpie Opal Mining Association.</p> <p>Frieda Berry-Porter, spokesperson, Clermont Community Business Group.</p> <p>Carol Graham, Secretary, Queensland Sapphire Miners Assn.</p> <p>Laurie Bell, Committee, Queensland Sapphire Miners Assn.</p> <p>Alan Freeman, V/President, Queensland Sapphire Miners Assn.</p>	
Teleconference Details		

Item No.	Agenda	Person Responsible
1.	Welcome and Introductions	Warwick Squire / all
2.	Context for meeting	Warwick Squire
3.	Small Scale Mining Cost Benefit Analysis a) Overview and process for Cost Benefit Analysis <i>For discussion: Next steps</i>	Chris Shaw / Kahil Lloyd



3.	Fossicking areas a) <i>For discussion:</i> Identification of new fossicking areas b) <i>For discussion:</i> Other potential opportunities outside the legislative/regulatory framework to encourage increase in fossicking activities.	Ross Eddington / all
4.	Fossicking legislation/regulatory issues a) <i>For noting:</i> Opportunity for Fossicking representatives to outline issues with regulatory framework	Alan Freeman
5.	Recap and matters arising	Warwick Squire
6.	Meeting close	



ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF RECREATIONAL PROSPECTING

MINELAB ELECTRONICS

4 DECEMBER 2020

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BDO would like to acknowledge the support and assistance from the following organisations and individuals for sharing their information, providing feedback and facilitating the distribution of the survey, including:

- ▶ Minelab
- ▶ Presidents and committee members of recreational prospecting associations and clubs:
 - NSW and ACT Prospectors and Fossickers Association
 - Prospectors and Miners Association Victoria
 - Amalgamated Prospectors and Leaseholders Association
 - Prospectors and Miners Association of Tasmania
 - Townsville Metal Detecting Club
- ▶ The Outback Prospector.

We are also grateful to the 2,933 anonymous individuals who provided usable survey responses via telephone and online.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Recreational Prospecting in this study is defined as the act of searching for gold and other metals (e.g. coin and relics) for non-commercial reasons, such as recreational, tourism or educational purposes, as well as small-scale professional reasons such as to make a living. For the purposes of this study, prospecting only considered activity that at minimum involved the use of a metal detector.

The discovery of gold in Australia in 1850s greatly changed the course of Australian history. The gold rush and the economic activities it brought expanded Australia’s population, boosted its economy, and led to the emergence of a new national identity.

While the remaining larger deposits continue to be mined and explored by corporate mining companies, recreational prospecting among hobbyists and small-scale professionals has grown in popularity over the past few years.

The resurgence in interest has not only stemmed from a decade long rise in gold price, but also the advancement in detecting technology which has made it easier for users to pinpoint the locations of the find. Apart from gold, treasure hunting (e.g. coin, relics) has also been on the rise off the back of the improvement in detecting technology.

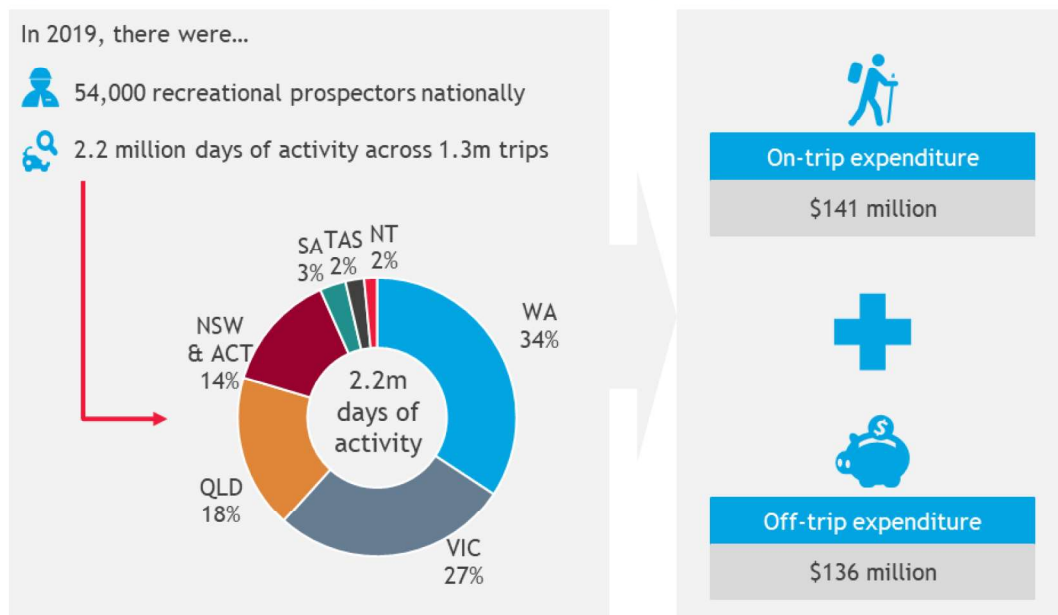
The “modern gold rush”, as media dubbed it, has not gone unnoticed. There is frequent media reporting on ordinary prospectors striking gold in all corners of Australia. Reality television shows like the Discovery Channel’s Aussie Gold Hunters, which is broadcast in 122 countries around the world, have also put prospecting in the spotlight, creating excitement among recreational prospectors and professionals alike.

Establishing the national footprint of recreational prospecting in Australia

Despite the regular coverage of recreational prospecting activities in the media, there is no official or consistent national statistics on recreational prospecting.

For the first time, through a national survey of recreational prospectors’ activity, expenditure, income and social information, this study has established first-hand information on the activity footprint of recreational prospectors in Australia.

Figure 1 Activity and expenditure profile of recreational prospectors, 2019



Source: BDO analysis

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (CONT'D)

Economic contribution of Minelab to South Australia

Minelab's global operations are primarily based in South Australia. The business employs high skilled staff in research and manufacturing with the lower valued manufacturing tasks occurring offshore. High skill employment is associated with high wages and these support a significant amount of economic activity in South Australia through consumption expenditure. Business expenditures by Minelab also support economic activity in South Australia.

In 2019/20, Minelab contributed an estimated \$218 million (in terms of GSP) and 669 FTE jobs to South Australia's economy (as shown in Figure 2):

- ▶ \$148 million and 100 FTE jobs were directly contributed through business expenditure.
- ▶ \$69.3 million and 569 FTE jobs were indirectly contributed through flow-on effects.

Conclusion

The recreational prospecting sector builds on the legacy of a rich history of Australian pioneers and prospectors that dates back to the gold rush century.

This study examined the role of recreational prospecting in facilitating business and economic activities.

The recreational prospecting sector is diverse, with different types of prospectors (hobbyists and professionals) and a wide range of prospecting targets (gold and varieties of treasure targets).

The activity pattern of the sector is mainly driven by prospectors' intrastate and interstate trips to prospecting destinations. Their expenditures on-trip and off-trip make important economic contributions to the national and regional economy.

The continuation of this economic contribution, however, is underpinned by a number of forces of influences, including the sustainability of the target reserves, accessibility to the areas for prospecting which is subject to different regulations in different state and territories and various licensing approvals.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS BY STATES AND TERRITORIES (CONT'D)

5.3.3 Queensland

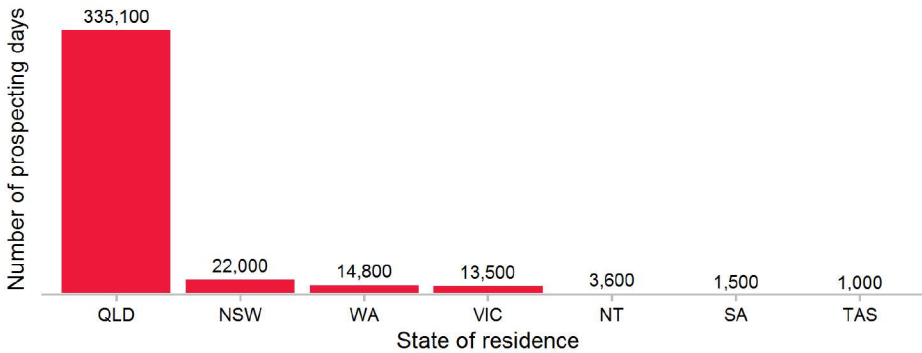
Prospecting activity

In 2019, it was estimated that there were 11,200 recreational prospectors in Queensland who undertook approximately 391,600 days of prospecting activity across 252,300 trips.

The majority of activity (approximately 86 per cent) in terms of prospecting days was undertaken by Queensland residents and the remaining 14 per cent of activity undertaken by 1,900 interstate visitors.

The majority of prospectors reported being active for less than 50 days in the past year and the most significant interstate visitation was from residents of NSW and ACT, and Western Australia. The number of days of activity by prospectors by state and territory of residence is illustrated in Figure 10.

Figure 10 Source of prospecting days in Queensland by state/territory of residence in 2019



Source: BDO survey of recreational prospectors 2020

Expenditure

Across all prospecting trips and days, approximately \$53.9m was spent by all recreational prospectors in Queensland:

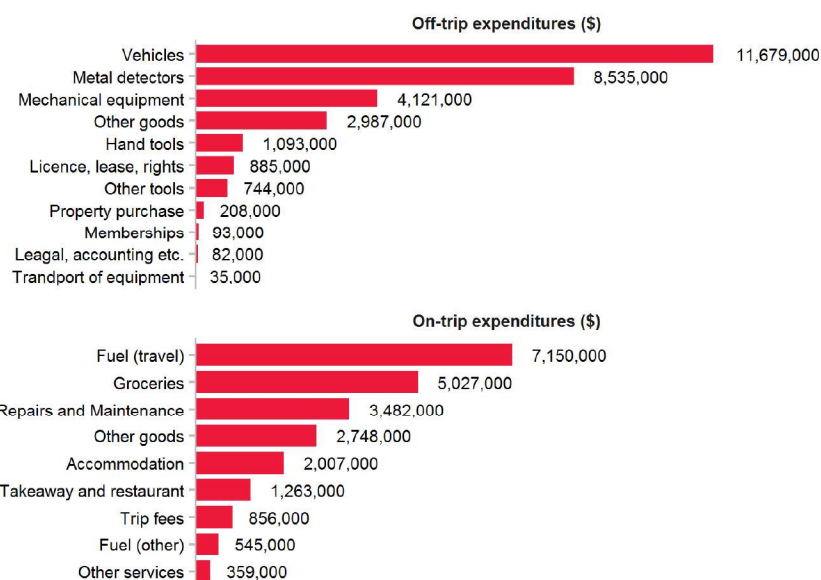
\$23.4m was spent on on-trip expenditure items where the most significant expenditure items were fuel and groceries.

\$30.5m was spent on off-trip expenditure items where the most significant expenditure items were on metal detectors and vehicles.

The distribution of expenditure spent in Queensland associated with recreational prospecting across various items is presented in Figure 11.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS BY STATES AND TERRITORIES (CONT'D)

Figure 11 Expenditures in Queensland in 2019 associated with recreational prospecting



Source: BDO survey of recreational prospectors 2020

Note: The value of vehicle purchases attributable to recreational prospecting was calculated by including only vehicles purchased with recreational prospecting in mind then adjusting the value down by the proportion of use that the respondent attributes to their prospecting activities.

Economic contribution

These economic activities generated by recreational prospectors contributed around \$54.3m (in terms of GSP) and 437 FTEs to the Queensland economy:

- ▶ \$25.3m and 203 FTEs were directly contributed from expenditure and people employed associated with recreational prospecting and income earned through recreational prospecting.
- ▶ \$29.1m and 234 FTEs were indirectly contributed from expenditure spent and people employed to support the flow-on activities associated with recreational prospecting.

Out of the top five sectors, the largest contribution was made in the retail trade sector and the contribution to the top five sectors represents around 37 per cent of the total (see Table 9).

Table 9 Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to Queensland by sector, top 5 sectors by GDP (2019)

Rank	Top 5 Sectors	GDP (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
1	Retail Trade	7.8	119
2	Wholesale Trade	4.5	44
3	Personal & Other Serv	3.4	48
4	Road Transport	2.6	22
5	Prof Scientific Tech Serv	1.8	19
	Other sectors	34.2	186
	Total	54.3	437

Source: BDO analysis

APPENDIX C - DETAILED ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS (CONT'D)

Table 17 Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to Queensland 2019

Top 5 Sectors		GDP (\$m)	Household income (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
Prospecting expenditure				
(1)	Direct	19.6	12.0	203
(2)	Flow-on	24.2	13.1	195
	▶ Production	9.2	5.4	77
	▶ Consumption	14.9	7.7	118
(1+2)	Total	43.7	25.1	398
Expenditure of finds				
	Direct	5.7	5.7	-
	Flow-on	4.9	2.5	39
	Total	10.6	8.3	39
Combined				
(1)	Direct	25.3	17.8	203
(2)	Flow-on	29.1	15.6	234
	▶ Production	9.2	5.4	77
	▶ Consumption	19.8	10.3	157
(1+2)	Total	54.3	33.4	437

Source: BDO analysis

Table: Established permitted and prohibited prospecting areas in each state and territory

Jurisdiction	Permitted areas	Restricted areas
Western Australia	A Miner's Right is required to prospect on unallocated / vacant Crown land, including pastoral leases (land used for grazing and timber). Miner's Right holders must notify pastoralists of their intention to prospect. Further, consent is required from mining tenement holders to prospect on mining tenements.	No prospecting is permitted in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Reserved Land ▶ National parks ▶ Nature Reserves ▶ Within Town Sites ▶ Classified Reserves (e.g. cemeteries)
Victoria	A Miner's Right is required to prospect (referred to as 'fossick' in Victoria) on except for prospecting at tourist mines and similar sites which charge a fee for entry. Areas permitted for prospecting include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Crown land other than prohibited and land where consent is required. ▶ Permitted Areas in State and National Parks - Beechworth Historic Park, Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park, Chiltern-Mt Pilot National Park, Heathcote-Graytown National Park, Reef Hills State Park Enfield State Park, Warrandyte State Park, Kooyoora State Park, Kara National Park, Paddy's Ranges State Park, Greater Bendigo National Park, Steiglitz Historic Park. ▶ Private land - consent from the land owner or occupier is required. ▶ Mining, prospecting or retention license areas but not exploration licence areas - consent must be sought from the licence holder. 	No prospecting is permitted in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Prohibited Crown land ▶ State Parks ▶ National Parks ▶ Select streams, creeks and rivers
Queensland	A license is required to prospect (referred to as 'fossick' in Queensland) on most land throughout Queensland, except for tourist mines and similar sites which charge a fee for entry. Area permitted for prospecting includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Occupied/private land (including both freehold and leasehold tenures) which requires written consent from the landholder. ▶ Unoccupied land - unless there has been a determination of native title. ▶ Road reserves - collection only, digging not permitted. ▶ Public gold prospecting areas comprising General Permission Area (GPA) and Designated Fossicking Areas (DFA), across <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clermont: 11 GPAs including 7 state forests areas and 4 council managed land areas - Warwick: 2 GPAs (Talgai, Durakai) and 1 DFA (Thames Creek) - Charters Towers: 1 GAP (Youngs Block) - Gympie: 1 DFA (Deep Creek). 	No prospecting is permitted in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ National Parks ▶ Conservation Parks ▶ High preservation areas ▶ Nominated waterways of wild river areas ▶ State forests and timber reserves ▶ Other areas declared by regulation which are signposted.
NSW/ACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Fossicking Districts ▶ Crown Land - requires consent from appropriate authority. ▶ Private land - consent must be sought from the landholder. ▶ Coal, Mineral and Petroleum Titles - consent must be sought from an authority, mineral claim or prospecting license holder. ▶ Mineral Claims and Prospecting Licenses - consent must be sought from the claim or license holder. ▶ State Forests - permit required. 	No prospecting is permitted in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ National Parks - consent may be provided in certain circumstances. ▶ Native Title - unless consent is sought from the relevant registered native title body corporate.
South Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Unalienated Crown land - consent must be sought from the Department of Environment and Water ▶ Established fossicking areas which have been established on part of the Echunga goldfields and Gumeracha goldfields. 	No prospecting is permitted in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ National Parks ▶ Conservation Parks ▶ Forest Reserves
Northern Territory	Prospecting is allowable on any land providing the correct notifications and consents are gained. This include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Vacant Crown land ▶ Declared prospecting areas. ▶ Application area of an exploration licence or extractive mineral exploration licence ▶ Granted area of an extractive mineral exploration licence. ▶ Private/occupied land - consent must be sought from the landholder. 	No prospecting is permitted in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Aboriginal sacred sites ▶ Commonwealth land, including defence facilities and national parks such as Uluru and Kakadu.

Tasmania

Prospecting is allowed in 10 declared fossicking areas in Tasmania. Outside of these areas, a license is required to prospect in the following areas:

- ▶ Private property - consent must be sought from the property owner.
- ▶ Existing mining leases, retention licences or exploration licences - consent must be sought from the mineral tenement holder.
- ▶ Unallocated or vacant Crown land - except pastoral leases (land used for grazing and timber) which requires a Miner's Right and prior written consent from land occupiers
- ▶ Land subject to an application for an exploration licence or mining lease only if consent is sought from both the applicant and Director of Mines
- ▶ Permanent Timber Production Zone Land, Future Potential Production forest, Regional Reserves and in some Conservation Areas.

No prospecting is permitted in the following areas:

- ▶ National parks
- ▶ Nature Reserves
- ▶ Nature Recreation Areas
- ▶ Historic Sites
- ▶ Conservation Covenanted Areas
- ▶ Public and municipal reserves (e.g. tips, cemeteries)

Source: Western Australia Government; Victoria State Government; Queensland Government; NSW Government; South Australia Government; Tasmanian Government; Northern Territory Government

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24.05.2019

To whom it may concern,

As a leading global supplier of prospecting equipment, Minelab has had an association with Clermont for more than 25 years. During this time, we have supported many local events and are major sponsors of the local Gold & Coal Festival.

Recreational prospecting is a substantial contributor to the local economies of many regional towns located near goldfields around Australia, mostly during the winter prospecting season but also for local residents year round.

We have seen continued growth in the numbers of people that enjoy metal detecting and prospecting, as a hobby that promotes outdoor lifestyle, and is suitable for a wide age range. Significant evidence also points to the physical and even mental health attributes of the hobby.

Since the early 1990's, Clermont has been a popular destination for CQ locals, Queensland and interstate visitors. Each year participation in recreational electronic prospecting grows, particularly for the winter months, and many enjoy the thrill of the find and health benefits this hobby brings.

The hobby of prospecting and metal detecting is an ecologically sound hobby with negligible environmental impact. The hobby promotes an outdoors lifestyle and rewards those who develop a complimentary interest in geology and topography, which in turn further encourages environmental awareness and consideration. As a company, we strongly promote minimal impact prospecting and communicate messages of awareness and consideration of others and the environment.

We support a number of bodies and groups nationally promoting the concept of combining (as coined elsewhere in NSW) '...leisure, pleasure and treasure.' This concept recognises the social and economic gains from a welcoming approach to recreational prospecting as particularly evidenced by Eurobodalla in NSW, which in 2017 declared the whole Shire a Fossicking District and encourages fossicking in their region.

Minelab's advice is that in March 2018, the most accessible and productive GPA, Bottom Apsley (2600ha) was closed when the leaseholder withdrew permission for the GPA after 20 years without reason or warning, significantly affecting visiting senior prospectors' ability to enjoy the activity through loss of access to these established goldfields. All other recreational users of the Forestry have always been and are still permitted access (4WD, motorbike, MTB riding, bushwalkers etc.) but due to identified conflicts between the QLD Fossicking Act and Forestry Act, the lessee has authority to restrict access to State Forest 'only' to prospectors.

Further, whilst the two new GPAs opened in March 2018, (Four Mile West and Birimgan West) are welcomed by prospectors; our understanding is that these areas are more suitable for experienced prospectors. In the Clermont area specifically, the loss of Apsley GPA has caused great distress for longer-term visitors (particularly grey nomads), who feel unfairly treated and extremely disappointed they are 'locked out' of this popular and productive area of public land.

In national and state terms, Fossicking and Prospecting continues to grow in popularity. In 2018 there were more than 8300 Queensland Fossicking Licences issued. As an indicator to the growing popularity of this pastime, this is double the amount of licenses issued in 2017. Around 5.5% of total statewide sales of these were in Clermont, via our partner The Outback Prospector.

Local authority Isaac Regional Council is actively working towards a declaration of Clermont as QLDs premier recreational prospecting destination and is focused on increasing visitation to the Central QLD Goldfields through opening of GPAs on Council managed land.

Minelab believes that the opening of new GPA's will result in higher volumes of recreational prospectors to the Clermont region. In areas where greater access has been successfully achieved, this brings direct economic benefit to a wide range of local businesses and enhances the social benefits for both the 'grey nomads' and the community in general. Through negotiating positive relationships between the relevant stakeholders to increase access to prospective areas within State Forests, local and State authorities have the opportunity to improve Clermont's appeal as a recreational prospecting destination and develop its economic potential as the heart of Queensland's Goldfields.

Our belief is that regional areas can celebrate the historical and cultural association they have with mineral resources such as Gold, in a way that encourages local tourism and drives economic growth while simultaneously being environmentally sound.

Regards

Fraser Kendall
General Manager, ANZ and East Asia

Minelab is a global company headquartered in Adelaide, South Australia. Minelab is a wholly owned entity of Codan Ltd listed on the ASX as CDA.

Brothers strike gold in CQ with six nuggets worth \$16K



Brothers Luke and Blake (pictured) Want found six good sized gold nuggets in six days of prospecting at Clermont in October.



[KRISTEN BOOTH](#)

28th Oct 2020 2:45 PM

Subscriber only

TWO young prospectors have struck gold, stumbling across about \$16,000 worth of gold at one of Clermont's well-known fossicking areas.

Brothers Blake Want, 26 and Luke Want, 29, unearthed six "good sized" nuggets over six days, equalling 6.2 ounces.

"It was amazing being able to find big gold in a well known place, we didn't expect a nearly 4 ounce nugget," Blake said.

"We found a 2.5 ounce nugget in the same location three years ago but this is the biggest we have found."

The two men, who live in Woolgoolga, have been prospecting for about 10 years and search for unearthed treasures whenever they get a chance.

Working for a mineral exploration company in Queensland, the brothers used their work break to head to Clermont for the fifth time.



Luke Want with a gold nugget found while prospecting at Clermont.

"We have been to Clermont five times now and every time we go we get gold," Blake said.

They found the six nuggets at McMasters Fossicking Area between October 16 and 21, and are confident they will head back to the Central Queensland town again.

"It's a challenging hobby but the more time you put in the better your chance will be on walking over a nugget or few," Blake said.

"We love Clermont as it's a great town with lots of friendly prospectors."

Although with prospecting experience in both states, Mr Want said it was a shame prospecting and fossicking in State Forests was so restricted in Queensland compared to New South Wales.

"Even though there's so much potential up here, we are locked out of so many old goldfields because of unfair and complex public land access laws.

"Our lucky finds shows how much opportunity there is here in Queensland but it's frustrating because we know the gold is out there, we just can't get at it."



Brothers Luke and Blake Want found six good sized gold nuggets in six days of prospecting at Clermont in October. This included their biggest ever find of a nearly four ounce nugget.

Owner of Clermont's The Outback Prospector, Frieda Berry-Porter, said the area where the brothers found their nuggets could close down at any time.

"This area could actually be closed down at any time because it relies on the permission of a grazing lease holder over the state forest," she said.

"Unfortunately, there's a lot of other areas that could be accessible to prospectors but because we don't have the permission from the grazing lease holder, we are not able to access that area as prospectors, despite the fact I could access it as a mountain bike rider."

Mrs Berry-Porter and her husband Jonathan have been pushing very hard for local Burdekin candidates to commit to increase available land for prospecting to support tourism across the region.



Blake Want with the nearly four ounce nugget of gold, his biggest find yet.

"For an example on the level of interest, in the 2019/20 financial year, there were over 9100 Queensland fossicking licences sold, an increase of 45 per cent over five years," she said.

"There's definitely a growing interest in the activity.

"The need for our area is to make (the land) available as public prospecting areas rather than just having them there as grazing lots."

Despite the current laws, she said it was great to see prospectors making great finds around Clermont.

"It's been great to see (the brother's) progress, they certainly are quick learners.

"We put a lot of effort into making sure customers fully understand how to use the machines so they can get the most out of it and have the most success.

"The best sign for us is we've done our jobs is that customers are successful and finding the nuggets.

"That's what it's all about is finding a piece of gold."

Rural

Pro-coal Clermont still fights to save its forest from proposed Moorlands open-cut mine

QLD Country Hour By [Melanie Groves](#)

Updated about 3 hours ago

First posted about 3 hours ago



[Gold fossickers and koalas both use the Blair Athol State Park near Clermont.](#) (Supplied: Dan Kelly)

The Queensland town of Clermont was at the centre of the coal debate last year [when anti-Adani protesters visited the region](#), but a new debate has inflamed the community. This time questioning the environmental impact of a new proposed thermal coal mine.

The Moorlands Coal Project, owned by Chinese company Huaxin Energy, is a proposed open-cut, export-grade thermal coal development project planned 25 kilometres north-west of Clermont.

But the staunchly pro-coal community is concerned about the proposed location of a haul road, arguing the development through the Blair Athol State Forest will have a negative impact on koala populations and the tourism economy.

Koala data collection questioned

Before any development can begin, a potential mine requires an Environmental Authority (EA) issued by the Department of Environment and Science (DES).

The self-assessed application judges the level of potential risk, through mapping and data collection.

But the assessment in Huaxin's application, that koalas native to the region would be minimally impacted, has raised some questions with ecological researcher Bill Ellis.

Key points:

- An open-cut, export-grade thermal coal project has been proposed 25km north-west of the Queensland town of Clermont
 - The pro-coal community have objected to development through the Blair Athol State Forest
 - One researcher has questioned the veracity of Huaxin Energy's self-assessed environmental impact report, with concerns for the region's koala population
-



[University of Queensland researcher Bill Ellis has over 20 years experience tracking koalas in Queensland.](#) (ABC News: Nic MacBean)

Dr Ellis has more than 20 years' experience monitoring koalas and working with coal mines in the Central Highlands and Coalfields, and said the data they used did not match with his experiences.

"I don't think you could be working in that area and not know that there are koalas living there and that it's a significant population that's had a long history of research."

Dr Ellis was concerned the methods used to measure the data were not appropriate for the region, and did not draw on readily available data from nearby mines.

"The koalas are quite sparsely distributed, so it's not surprising you don't find a lot of evidence of them. But that's how they inhabit our drier, sub-humid woodland areas," he said.

The effects of a new coal mine can be direct or indirect on wildlife, and include increased traffic, displaced populations, and destroyed habitat as well as fragmented territory.

Clermont local Frieda Berry-Porter was also concerned about the wider implications on Queensland's protection of the species.

"We all know with the recent bushfires and the prolonged drought that they're already suffering. So for us it's a last sanctuary for them."

In a joint statement with the Department of Natural Resources Mines and Energy (DNRME), the DES said the mine had proposed a realignment of the mining lease, which was currently being assessed.

"A subsequent ecological survey has been conducted at the new areas, which considered the potential impacts to flora and fauna proposed by the alternate access road location, and was considered by the applicant to be unlikely to result in a significant impact for any of the identified species.

"DES is currently reviewing the findings of the ecological survey."

Striking gold?

It is not just koalas that could be affected by the proposed construction.

Tourism is Clermont's other main economic driver.

The town was born after the discovery of gold in 1861 sparked an influx of miners, and one of Queensland's major gold rushes.

Now fossickers travel from around the country to use metal detectors and scour the ground in designated areas, looking for gold buried in the soil.



[Fossicking for gold in Blair Athol State Forest is a big part of Clermont's tourism industry.](#) (ABC Rural: Melanie Groves)

The proposed haul road could prevent prospectors from accessing the McMasters General Permission Area (GPA) in the state forest.

Ms Berry-Porter owns a prospecting shop in Clermont, where many of her clients are coal miners who fossick as a hobby.

She said she was concerned about what shutting off the GPA from the state forest would mean for the economy.

"[Clermont] has the most accessible goldfields in Queensland, [and] a very important part of the wider Queensland economy as well.

"We believe it is the role of the government and the ministers to act with a duty of care to protect the inherent values of the state forest."



[Owner of a gold prospecting shop Frieda Berry-Porter is concerned what closing GPAs will mean for the economy.](#)
(ABC Rural: Melanie Groves)

Ms Berry-Porter, her husband, and others have attended formal mediation, as required by the Land Court, with Huaxin Energy.

A DNRME spokesperson said nine objections had been referred to the Land Court for consideration.

"In conjunction with any recommendations made by the Land Court, DNRME considers a range of factors and potential impacts when assessing mining lease applications.

"Objections are currently being considered by the Land Court regarding the Moorlands Coal Mining Lease. Subsequently we are unable to make any comments regarding the mining lease alignments at this time."

Last month, Huaxin Energy published a classified notice in the Herald Sun stating future community consultation will occur.

"Huaxin Energy will work with relevant stakeholders, wildlife and other experts, native title parties, and the local community to ensure the project is developed in an environmentally sustainable manner and with regards to existing cultural heritage," the notice said.

Political scoreboard

Clermont made headlines last year, when former Greens leader Bob Brown [led an anti-Adani convoy to the Central Highlands town.](#)

The [frosty reception from locals](#) was seen as indicative of a wider view of the so-called [quiet Australians](#), who are credited with swaying the federal election in the Government's favour on issues such as the resource sector.

Queensland was key to the election victory, with two Labor seats being lost.



[Clermont hit headlines last year when pro-coal locals responded to visiting anti-Adani protestors.](#) (ABC News: Rachel McGhee)

In April 2019, Queensland Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk raised Labor's support for the resource sector, and concerns about the Moorlands coal project during Question Time in Parliament.

"In fact, it [a letter raising concerns] expresses concerns about threats to native wildlife ... It talks about the adverse effects on Clermont's tourism industry, the potential impact on the Blair Athol State Forest, and the impact of an access road to the mine.

"Where do we think this letter could have come from? Perhaps it was the member for Maiwar [Greens party's Michael Berk]. Perhaps it was someone from the Greens. Perhaps it is from Bob Brown."

The comments did not go unnoticed by Frieda Berry-Porter.

"That's just ridiculous," Ms Berry-Porter said.

"The vision of Clermont at last year's Bob Brown convoy would surely reassure the Premier of our support for the coal industry.

The ABC contacted Huaxin Energy, but did not receive a response.

Topics

[Business, Economics and Finance](#) [Industry](#) [Mining Industry](#) [Mining Environmental Issues](#) [Mining \(Rural\)](#) [Environment](#) [Rural Gold](#) [Community and Society](#) [Environmental Impact](#) [Environmental Policy](#) [Clermont](#) [Brisbane](#)

Gold to be found but travel bans restrict prospectors



[KRISTEN BOOTH](#)

6th May 2020 7:00 AM

Subscriber only



Clermont prospector Steven Fry was back out searching for gold within hours of the fossicking restrictions being eased.

GENERAL permission fossicking areas have reopened with the ease of restrictions but the 50km travel ban is stopping most Central Queenslanders from accessing them.

Fifth-generation Clermont man Steven Fry was back out searching for gold within hours of the reopening.

“I was pretty excited when I got the word that they were open again,” Mr Fry said.

“I went out at sunrise Saturday morning as they opened for a couple of hours and found a few small ones totalling about 11 grams and I was home by 10am to spend time with the kids.”

The 37-year-old father of four is an avid prospector and is out in the general areas when he can, generally for a few hours more than five times a week.

While he had “done really well” in the Clermont general permission areas, his biggest find was a 173g piece of gold in the McMasters GPA a few months before the restrictions kicked in.



Clermont prospector Steven Fry has found many nuggets over the years.

“I was a little shocked when they were closed as we are normally very isolated from others while we detect, but oh well, rules are rules,” he said.

Shadow Minister Natural Resources and Mines Dale Last said he welcomed the eased restrictions, although thought more changes were needed to support the local economy.

“Like many people I am glad to see the restrictions on fossicking being relaxed but the real thanks needs to go to the people who put the pressure on Minister Lynham to act,” Mr Last said.

“While the reopening of fossicking will assist some small businesses, we need to see wider support for our small businesses, just as we have seen in other states.”

Like many regional towns in Central Queensland, Clermont heavily relies on winter travellers who bring an abundance of business.

Clermont Caravan Park’s Mort Gott said what was usually a jam-packed park, was completely empty.

“This is when we have the most people, all through the colder months,” Mr Gott said.

“We’re normally full this time of year and now we don’t have anyone.”

Mr Gott said the only thing that would make a difference was the lifting of the 50km travel restrictions.

“We can’t go to Mackay to go fishing because it’s their water and we need to stay here, they can’t come here for the same reasons,” he said.



Clermont prospector Steven Fry was back out searching for gold within hours of the fossicking restrictions being eased.

The Outback Prospector owner Frieda Berry-Porter said like the caravan park, her business also relied on people visiting the area.

Although the travel bans had prevented mass movement through regional towns, it had also prevented grey nomads and usual visitors from across Central Queensland.

Mrs Berry-Porter was thrilled to hear fossicking was re-allowed, because it was a typical recreation activity for many.

“When you look at what we do for recreation, some people enjoy fishing and they can go to Theresa Ck, but this is like dirt fishing for the people that really enjoy it,” she said.

Mrs Berry-Porter said it had become popular with miners who used it to improve mental and physical health after a 12-hour shift.

“Our hard-working coal miners have been there through this and the least we can do for them is let them go for a bit of R&R,” she said.

“The activity itself is underrated.”

She said many prospectors from Moranbah, Mackay, Rockhampton and Gladstone usually travelled to Clermont during the holidays and long weekends and could not wait for the travel restrictions to ease.

“A lot of locals have still been supporting us in the absence of the grey nomad which we are so thankful for,” she said.



Office of the Hon Dr Anthony Lynham MP

Minister for State Development and
Minister for Natural Resources and Mines

Ref MO/17/3953
CTS 18226/17

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14 AUG 2017

Mr Jonathan and Ms Frieda Berry-Porter
JR & FK Berry-Porter T/A
The Outback Prospector
PO Box 553
CLERMONT QLD 4721

info@theoutbackprospector.com.au

Dear Mr and Ms Berry-Porter

I refer to your email dated 27 June 2017 addressed to the Honourable Dr Anthony Lynham MP, Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines concerning general permission areas (GPAs) for fossicking in Queensland State Forests. The Minister has asked me to respond on his behalf.

The Queensland Government appreciates the popularity of fossicking as a recreational activity and the value that fossickers place on gaining access to suitable fossicking lands in Queensland. The Queensland Government also recognises the importance of maximising economic opportunities and growing tourism in Queensland to create jobs and economic growth for regional Queensland communities.

The Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM) works in conjunction with the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing (NPSR) to identify and release new fossicking areas within State Forests and make them available for recreational fossickers where appropriate. I understand that NPSR and DNRM are currently investigating potential additional GPAs within state forests in the Clermont area.

I have been advised that these GPAs may only be released after the completion of due diligence studies to determine if there are any potential impediments. A number of matters in respect of the State Forest area including land leases, grazing (fences, gates and mustering activities), apiary and beekeeping activities, telecommunication or electricity towers and corridors, compatibility with neighbouring properties, plantation activities and other commercial visitor activities (tourist groups) will be investigated.

Once all considerations have been identified and assessed, a recommendation can be made to support the proposed fossicking area and NPSR may give permission to fossick under a GPA. However, under section 27 of the *Fossicking Act 1994*, NPSR must also ensure that they have consent from any landholders on state forest land. This includes any person who pays to hold land from the state for example, a leasehold or other right to occupy, as they are 'owners' of the land under the fossicking and mineral resources legislation.

I have been advised that as a part of their investigation NPSR is working with the landholders on state forest land in Clermont to address any concerns they may have about fossicking activities. I encourage you and the Clermont fossicking community to work with landholders and NPSR to strengthen relationships between fossickers and landholders to help address any challenges to the growth of GPAs.

In addition, with the exception of National Parks, some state forests and timber reserves, or where there has been a determination of Native Title, recreational fossicking can be undertaken anywhere in Queensland. A Queensland fossicking licence enables fossicking to be undertaken on any occupied land as long as the written consent of the landholder is obtained. Fossickers are not limited to general permission areas or designated fossicking land and they may approach owners individually and seek permission to fossick on their land.

No permission, consent or designation is required to fossick on unoccupied state land and in Queensland the legislation does not require you to obtain any additional special permit to fossick in State Forest areas, or limit the amount of gold and gem specimens a fossicker can collect over a single period of time.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr Jason Turner, Principal Mining Registrar, Small Scale Mining Hub, Department of Natural Resources and Mines who will be pleased to assist you and can be contacted on telephone number 4987 9372.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. Woodland', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Paul Woodland
Chief of Staff



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Dale Last MP
Member for Burdekin
Shadow Minister for Natural Resources and Mines
Shadow Minister for Northern Queensland

Tuesday, 16th July, 2019

Hon. Anthony Lynham
Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy
GPO Box 15216
CITY EAST QLD 4002

Dear Minister Lynham,

I write with reference to the ongoing issue of General Permission Areas (GPA's) in the Clermont area.

As you would be aware, the Bottom Aspley GPA closed in March 2018 following the withdrawal of permission by the leaseholder. I have been informed that this was not due to the actions of prospectors. Since the closure of this particular GPA, I have received numerous complaints from both business owners and prospective prospectors, many of whom travel to the area each year for the express purpose of prospecting.

Many "grey nomads" and other travelers have visited the Clermont area regularly over many years to take part in prospecting for alluvial gold. They inject much-needed funds into the local economy, especially when this area is drought-declared as it currently is.

Given this is the Year of Outback Tourism, it would seem logical to not only support existing visitors to this area for the purpose of prospecting, but to encourage new visitors and encourage return visits. This could be achieved by ensuring adequate areas are available for prospecting.

While State Forests play an important environmental role, it seems counter intuitive that these areas are available for stock grazing (with the relevant permit) and other recreational activities, such as trail bike riding in some areas, but are not fully available to prospectors. I am aware that the rights of leaseholders must be respected, however I believe more could be done in this instance to reach a sensible compromise.

The Special Conditions that apply to General Permission Areas in the Clermont region provide restrictions on activities and advice to ensure that both leaseholder and environmental concerns are respected. I am confident that relevant issues can be addressed whilst ensuring the current economic benefits from prospecting are protected and, preferably, increased into the future.

I am writing to request your assistance in convening a meeting of relevant departmental staff and stakeholders to discuss the allocation of suitable and adequate areas for prospecting in the Clermont area. My preference is that this meeting be convened in Clermont to ensure relevant local stakeholders can participate. Subject to scheduling, I would like to attend this meeting to represent my constituents.

I look forward to your response at your earliest convenience.

Yours Sincerely,

Dale Last, MP
Member for Burdekin



November 26th, 2019

MEDIA RELEASE

No prospect for transparency

The details of a land swap deal and the government's methods for ensuring a new haul road won't decimate the fossicking industry around Clermont will remain under wraps after the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy failed to provide details to Member for Burdekin, Dale Last MP.

Acting on concerns raised by locals, Mr Last asked the Minister about both issues but, instead of a response, he says he received "a handball and a sidestep."

"Minister Lynham referred the detail of the land swap to the Minister for the Environment and, on the subject of the haul road, didn't even answer the question," Mr Last said.

"I have raised the issue of the haul road several times based on the concerns of residents and, every time, Minister Lynham has either accused me and locals of not supporting the resources industry or has refused to answer."

"For a Minister in a government that delayed the Adani project to accuse people in Clermont of not supporting the resources industry just illustrates that Minister Lynham and the current government don't understand the Clermont area."

Mr Last said Clermont residents were right to demand answers when an industry and, therefore, jobs were at stake.

"Minister Lynham is happy to talk about a new prospecting area opening but won't be upfront about the potential for an existing site to be down-sized or closed completely."

"The government probably has a dirty taste in its mouth because the people of Clermont were so vocal in their support for Adani and we all know the current Queensland government was against that project."

"The issue isn't about opposing a resources project. It's about ensuring we plan properly to maximise the opportunities."

ENDS - Media Contact: David Cooper (07) 4764 0500 or 0427 834 844

Source: <https://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/documents/tableOffice/questionsAnswers/2019/1801-2019.pdf>

TREASURE MAP

DISCOVER THE AMAZING SAPPHIRE GEMFIELDS

Treasure Hidden in Volcano Country

The volcano is a rumbling beast and from the depths of its belly spews hot molten rock. Ash falls like ebony snow and the smell of gases chokes the air. The glow of lava sprawls across the landscape devouring everything in its path, while acid rain collects in vicious grey clouds above...

This was the Sapphire Gemfields 50 million years ago and these volcanoes have left behind plenty of buried treasure just waiting for you to discover! The largest sapphire gemfields in the Southern Hemisphere lie in Queensland's Central Highlands: Anakie, Rubyvale, Sapphire and Willows Gemfields. Discover the Sapphire Gemfields through a guided mine tour, fossicking and gem galleries or check out the other great attractions listed here...



Places of Interest

- 1** **2** **Policeman's Knob & Mt Bullock Lookouts** - see the Geological Origins of Mining: From the lookouts on Policeman's Knob in Rubyvale and Mt Bullock in Sapphire to the beds of Policeman's Knob and Retreat Creeks, one can begin to understand the geological origins of sapphires. Borne from volcanic eruptions, gem-bearing gravels or wash travelled in ancient river systems. Dried up riverbeds, over millions of years, have been pushed and shoved into ridges and spurs with seams and cavities rich with corundum (sapphire). Sapphires come in every colour of the rainbow. Traces of Aluminium Oxide, Titanium Oxide and Iron Oxide make the blue and yellow colours.
Policeman's Knob: GPS 568534.3323, 7409885.8009
Mt Bullock: GPS 560865.8170, 7404332.6000
- 3** **Little Queen of Sheba Mine:** Darkie Garnet was quite a character who arrived at the gemfields around 1907. Darkie arrived on foot, pushing all his earthly possessions in a wheelbarrow! Mining the "Little Queen of Sheba" in Scrub Lead he amassed and lost at least two sizeable fortunes and left - once again pushing his wheelbarrow containing all his earthly possessions. Darkie's story was the inspiration for the "Ironman Derby of the Gemfields," an event that ran for over twenty years and featured the iconic "Wheelbarrow Race" in his honour.
GPS 572695.8739, 7408782.5071

- 4** **Piano Tuner's Grave:** FW Schlieffen was a piano tuner who on 13 March 1906 arrived in wet weather at Anakie by train. Ignoring advice to the contrary, he set off towards work in Sapphire only to drown in the swollen May Creek. Floodwater made for a difficult burial. Holes had to be drilled in the coffin so it would sink into the grave and allow FW Schlieffen to rest in peace. Rest he did without a plaque for 94 years until the year 2000, when an ironic twist of fate, placed two plaques on his headstone! But that's another story... visit the site to learn more.
GPS 574095.4760, 7401142.6315
- 5** **Yellow Sapphires at Glenalva:** Well known for its yellow sapphires, that range from lemon to golden orange, Glenalva lies just 19km east of Willows Gemfields. A rich field of shallow wash, some of the largest and most famous yellows have originated here - making this just one of the great spots to try your hand at fossicking. Please note that Glenalva has no amenities.

Gemfest "Festival of Gems"

Established in 1988, the Festival of Gems is a brilliant 4 days of fun and gems, celebrating our magnificent sapphires and our unique and colourful region. Gemfest is held annually on the 2nd weekend in August and is considered one of Australia's premier gem festivals. Visit www.gemfest.com.au for more details

Driving Tip - Miners Common:

Don't be surprised to have to give way to cattle, horses and camels on visits to the Sapphire Gemfields. Officially proclaimed in November of 1914 and known as the Heart and Soul of the Gemfields, the Rubyvale, Sapphire and Scrub Lead Miners Common covering 4,500 hectares is integral to the unique character of the "fields". Here, on the last remaining miner's common in Australia, residents have the right to graze a few head of livestock on all unfenced areas including the town centres of Sapphire and Rubyvale.



Fossicking Permits:

When the Sapphire Gemfields region there are nine major designated fossicking areas over thousands of hectares of sapphire-bearing ground. Fossicking Permits are a legal requirement. They are inexpensive, come with a set of maps and rules, and can be purchased online or at various local businesses. Hand tools and mining gear are also available for sale or hire. Information on staking a mining claim is freely given by friendly miners or can be found at the Department of Natural Resources and Mines in Emerald. For more information stop at the Visitor Information Centre in Emerald or log onto www.dnrm.qld.gov.au/mining/fossicking

Outback Ingenuity

Pioneers of the Sapphire Gemfields built their homes or "humpies" out of a wide range of unique materials. From billy boulders to bush timber, corrugated iron and even glass bottles, our "anything goes" building code is something worth preserving. Code is something worth preserving. Driving around the mining areas it's not unusual to see both remnant and modern mining machinery built from "bibs and bobs": From up-and-over rigs on trucks to hand-built wash plants to sort the sapphires from the "wash", the ingenuity of miners past and present is obvious everywhere you look.



Famous Sapphires

The "Stonebridge Green", found on Norman's Hill in 1938, is one of the most famous and often seen sapphires of recent time. Mick Stonebridge carried the uncut 202 carat stone in a pouch until his death in 1978. Mick mined on the Fields for more than fifty years yet never sold a sapphire.

The "Centenary Stone", so named to mark the Centenary of the Anakie Sapphire Fields in 1979, was found by thirteen year old Sarli "Smiley" Nelson. At thirteen ounces it was the largest exceptional quality crystal ever found. Purchased by the Richardson brothers, lost in a jewel heist, and eventually recovered, the Centenary Stone sold for a reputed \$5,000,000.

Did you know:

Local sapphires and zircons were first discovered in 1875, and in 1902 the Anakie Mineral Fields were officially proclaimed a mining area.

The Sapphire Gemfields, as it's now known, is rich with history, both famous and infamous, full of folklore, mystique, found and unfound fortunes...

TREASURE MAP

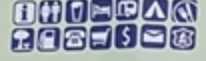
DISCOVER THE TOWNS OF THE SAPPHIRE GEMFIELDS

SEE OVER FOR FULL REGION MAP

SAPPHIRE



RUBYVALE



TOWN LEGEND

- Place of Interest
- Information
- Public Toilets
- Outback Pub
- Motel
- Caravan Park
- Camping (including water, shade, power and/or shelter for off-landers)
- Caravan/Motorhome
- Waste Dump Point
- Transfer Station
- Food/Meals
- Picnic Area
- Fuel Stop (over 20 litres or 100 litres capacity)
- Public Telephone
- Basic Grocery Items
- ATM Facility
- Post Office
- Police Station
- Fire Brigade
- Ambulance or Medical Centre



Rubyvale

6 Buddies Movie Site: Released in 1983, starring Colin Friels, Harold Hopkins, Kris McQuade and many of the locals as extras, the movie "Buddies" depicts life on the Sapphire Gemfields during the machinery boom of the 1970s, and highlighted the real-life conflict between machinery and hand miners. The pub, purpose built for the movie, served many years as Buddies Restaurant and Social Club, but has since been auctioned and relocated. **GPS 571367.80, 7409915.522**

Sapphire

7 The Well, the Mill and the Wash Plant: By 1902, the only secure water supply available to, and maintained by local miners was from "The Miners' Well" on the bank of Retreat Creek. Water was collected via a windlass and bucket until 1912 when the Government erected the windmill and pump. Local miners built "sand troughs" in the creek for washing their dirt and often flash floods would flush the wash dirt down the creek. Visitors still find remnant sapphires in Retreat Creek today. **GPS 573563.9031, 7404631.0084**

Willows Gemfields

8 Stress Less: Willows Gemfields, gazetted 1979 and 40km west of Anakie, is the most relaxing of the mining areas. Tourists used to the bare essentials will love this stress-free environment well known for its yellow sapphires. From lemon to golden orange, the largest and most famous yellow sapphires have originated here.

Anakie

9 Anakie Railway Station: The original, classic Anakie Railway Station opened on March 15, 1884, three years prior to Anakie being proclaimed a township. A dam, six metres deep, dug by pick and shovel supplied water for the trains' steam engines. Today the dam, on a Landcare Reserve, is used recreationally. **GPS 567213.7080, 7395089.4600**

10 Anakie Bottle Tree: A significant bottle tree still grows alongside the track at the Anakie Railway Station. During World War I, a number of local mining and farming lads carved their initials into this tree while waiting for the train to take them off to war. Sadly some never returned. Cared for by generations of local residents, the Anakie Bottle Tree is a living commemoration of the sacrifice of war. **GPS 576330.9552, 7395061.8850**

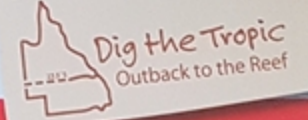


Other ways to Experience the Gemfields...

Mine Tour: Go into an underground mine and see how it's done. Explore the twists and turns of the tunnels and hear tales of toil and treasure from the professionals.

Gem Cutting: Have your own piece of sapphire cut and faceted by a master gem cutter and then set into a piece of jewellery.

Want more information!
The Sapphire Gemfields are part of the Dig the Tropic geo journey. For further details go to www.digthetropic.com.au or contact: Central Highlands Visitor Information Centre 3 Clermont Street, Emerald Email: emerald@chdc.com.au Tel: 07 4982 4142





**LEADERS IN THE ART
OF FINDING GOLD**

J R & F K Berry-Porter
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07 4983 3856 – 0409 394 651

Clermont...a town of pioneers, prosperity and perseverance

For nearly 160 years, the lure of gold has drawn eager prospectors to the central Queensland town of Clermont, 290km south-west of Mackay, nestled in the resource-rich plains of the Isaac region.

With a diverse history of gold, copper and coal discoveries and blessed with bountiful pastoral and cropping country, Clermont is one of the oldest inland CQ towns. Tales of tragedy, triumph and treasure intrigue visitors from all walks of life and corners of Australia.

The allure of this rich resource heritage continues today, with regular trains of grey nomads making their annual expedition during the cooler months of April – September, hoping to strike it rich in Queensland's most accessible goldfields!

A metal detector, a pick, a Fossicking Licence, maps of the local General Permission Areas, basic bush safety gear and an adventurous spirit are the essentials for this modern-day goldrush to the recreational prospecting capital of Queensland. It's best to do some groundwork before arrival to make the most of your prospecting trip with GPA maps, topographic and navigational data available online. Search 'Clermont GPAs' for more information and find your way using Google Maps searching 'general permission areas'.

Many prospectors are return visitors and have over many years made Clermont their winter home, enjoying rodeos, races, Queensland's longest running country show and the Gold and Coal Festival, held in August just after the Gemfest in the nearby CQ Gemfields.

Clermont is more than just a mining town, more than just a farming centre or tourist destination...it's a town of vitality and resilience, of bountiful natural resource and community spirit.

There's plenty of reasons to turn in at the roundabout. We're the 'Town that Moved' but we're still here. Come discover why we stayed.

#IsaacsHiddenTreasures #digalittledeeperinthelsaac #clermontgold #dirtfishing
#CelebrateourResourceHeritage



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NEWS

New Gympie gold rush held back by state forest 'impediments'



A man pans for gold near Gympie. Photo Travel Queensland.



[SHELLEY STRACHAN](#)

12th Jan 2021 12:00 AM

Subscriber only

THE 40 per cent rise in demand for gold fossicking permits near Gympie could be even higher and the activity an even bigger drawcard for tourists if more state land was made accessible to the public, the Queensland State Forest Users Alliance says.

Alliance campaign manager Rhys Bosley said yesterday a recent statement from Gympie Mayor Glen Hartwig that the demand for gold fossicking permits in the Gympie region had leapt by 40 per cent during the pandemic put the issue in the spotlight.

If access to state forests in the region was improved for outdoor recreation, the potential for gold fossicking to become an even bigger activity, drawing more visitors and creating more jobs was greater, he said.

"The Queensland State Forest User Alliance welcomes the boost in recreational gold prospecting activity in Gympie and the encouragement offered by Gympie Mayor Glen Hartwig," Mr Bosely said.

"Encouragement from the Queensland Minister for Resources, Scott Stewart, for fossicking and recreational prospecting has also been positive.

"However, the Alliance emphasizes the need for Minister Stewart to work to remove impediments that limit the amount of land available for fossicking and recreational prospecting in Queensland state forests and other types of suitable public land.

"In particular legislative provisions in the Fossicking Act, 1994, which give graziers the authority to deny access for those activities on state forest grazing leases, is a discriminatory arrangement that is not applied to any other pastime.



Mary Valley Rattler Deep creek bridge in Gympie.

"The Queensland State Forest User Alliance calls on the Queensland Government to repeal the right of state forest grazing leaseholders to withhold access to fossickers and recreational prospectors to state forest leases, and work to provide the same sort of broad recreational access to Queensland state forests, as is available in other states", Mr Bosley said.

About a million hectares of Queensland state forests are leased to about 200 grazing families, with those leases providing the right to graze cattle, but not for exclusive use of the forest. However, Alliance stakeholders report resistance to public access to leased forest areas by graziers.

"Ways state forest grazing leaseholders appear to have acted to unfairly deny access include misrepresentation of leases as for exclusive use and the misrepresentation of their right to deny access under biosecurity obligations," Mr Bosley said.

"The state forest graziers appear to have achieved this through elite connections and a concerted effort to influence state forest access policy in a manner that is disproportionate to their actual numbers," he said.

At stake are significant additional economic benefits to regional and rural Queensland, including in Gympie, from state forest-based tourism. Recent economic research by metal detector firm Minelab has highlighted that recreational prospecting alone is a \$54.3 million industry that supports 437 jobs in Queensland.

"Nobody denies the right of state forest graziers to be consulted about forest use and for reasonable arrangements to be made to allow them to run their businesses," Mr Bosley said.

"From interstate experience we know that this is entirely possible, with locations such as Snake Island in Victoria having a thriving grazing industry and outdoor recreation sectors operating side by side.

"We have a situation where a tiny proportion of the Queensland grazing industry effectively claim property rights that they are not entitled to. This is unfair on all other Queenslanders and bad for the leaseholder's own regional and rural communities who would benefit from increased forest-based tourism.

"The Queensland State Forest User Alliance encourages the Queensland Government to correct this unfair situation and to allow Queenslanders to make the most of our state forests."

Gympie MP Tony Perrett and Mr Hartwig were contacted for comment.

From: BAILEY Caleb <Caleb.Bailey@npsr.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 7 March 2017 9:48 AM
To: Frieda Aurum-OBP
Subject: RE: Four Mile GPA status? + road works

Good morning Frieda,
The following advice has been provided on the new GPA area for Clermont.

We are working through the following challenges regarding legislation:

- * Land Act lease holders are considered a landowner under the Fossicking Act;
- * Landowner consent must be provided for new GPAs;
- * The landowner can withdraw consent to the GPA at any time, which restricts access not only to the GPA but the State forest in general;
- * The landowner may be breaching their lease conditions if they do restrict access to a State forest ;
- * The Department of Resources and Mines (DNRM) issue leases under the Land Act; and manage the Fossicking Act;
- * We are therefore seeking further clarification from DNRM;

Our policy will then be amended to reflect the advice

So once these issues are sorted through there will be some developments.
I hope this helps.
Caleb

From: Frieda Aurum-OBP [mailto:frieda@aurumaustralis.com]
Sent: Thursday, 2 March 2017 11:06 AM
To: BAILEY Caleb
Cc: SMITH Carly; Emily Fry; JP@OBP; 'margaret buckley'; 'Marty'
Subject: RE: Four Mile GPA status? + road works

Morning Caleb/Carly

We've had a few prospectors make enquiries about Four Mile GPA & whether the timber harvesting activities have been completed yet? One customer has recently driven past the area & did not notice any recent vehicle activity nor heard any machinery operating.

Can you please advise if prospectors might soon be able to access this GPA again after 4 months of it being closed?

As we are leading into the prospecting season again later this month, can you also please give an update of the current roadworks maintenance program. Work was to continue at Bottom Apsley from 13th Feb but have not had any advice from QPWS since mid-January when Bathampton/part Apsley had works done?

And lastly, have you any recent advice from Mackay NPWS office for a discussion between the relevant stakeholders regarding the opening of any further State Forest areas to prospecting?

Regards...Frieda

JR & FK Berry-Porter T/A
The Outback Prospector
ABN: 769 227 395 89

P O Box 553 Clermont QLD 4721
Shop 07 4983 3856 | JP 0427 394 651 | Frieda 0409 394 651
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FW: Outback Prospector - Clermont GPA update request

1 message

MOORE Peter <Peter.Moore@des.qld.gov.au> Fri, Mar 8, 2019 at 1:37 PM
To: "Frieda@Aurum" <frieda@aurumaustralis.com>
Cc: BAILEY Caleb <Caleb.Bailey@des.qld.gov.au>, BEATSON Leesa <Leesa.Beatson@des.qld.gov.au>

Frieda

Thank you for your email below.

In response to your queries the following information is provided:

Response to letter of 17 Jan

I have recently provided a response to this letter.

Re-open Bottom Apsley GPA

We have approached the new lessee and they have declined to agree to the re-opening of the Bottom Apsley GPA.

Proposed 'Bathampton East' GPA

As previously advised we are not proposing to open any further GPA's on State Forest, at this stage.

There are currently seven GPA's on State Forest.

Two new GPA's were opened on State Forest in 2018.

I am aware that council are considering opening new GPA's on land tenures they manage.

Previously proposed 'Brigalow' GPA,

As you indicated this GPA was proposed about 2006.

This GPA was not able to be progressed at the time due to government policy preventing new activities with potential to impact on these areas of state forest.

This GPA is not able to be progressed at present as there is no support from the grazing lessee and there are mining tenures over parts of the area.

Public access to state forests for recreation

I advised in my last email I would follow up with further advice on public access to State Forests for recreation.

In relation to this I can confirm:

- Public access to leased state forests for recreation depends on the conditions in each lessees individual lease agreement
- The majority of the lease agreements in the Clermont State forests allow public access for recreation

We will be contacting lease holders to confirm the need to allow for public access for recreation in accordance with their lease conditions.

If you are aware of leases that may be restricting public access for recreation please advise Caleb or I with relevant details.



Peter Moore

Principal Ranger, Capricornia

Central Queensland Region | Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service

Department of Environment and Science

P 07 4936 0101

61 Yeppoon Rd, Nth Rockhampton

PO Box 3130, Nth Rockhampton 4701

I acknowledge the Traditional Owners on whose land I work and live. I pay my respects to all elders past, present and future.

From: Frieda@Aurum <frieda@aurumaustralis.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 27 February 2019 10:53 AM
To: MOORE Peter
Cc: HARRIS Leigh; BAILEY Caleb
Subject: Outback Prospector_Clermont GPA update request

Good morning

With the significant date of 1st March approaching (one year since closure of Bottom Apsley GPA on 01.03.18) and ahead of the peak prospecting season, we have been receiving numerous enquiries about the status of this former GPA, given the public awareness of change of lease ownership in November 2018, as well as other past and presently proposed GPAs in Clermont State Forest.

We therefore seek QPWS' advice on the following matters:

- response to our letter of 17th January 2019 to Clermont QPWS Base (cc'd to Leigh Harris)
- progress on approaching new lessee David Scott to re-open Bottom Apsley GPA
- review on consideration of proposed 'Bathampton East' GPA
- review of previously proposed 'Brigalow' GPA, commenced circa 2006, with infrastructure improvements (fencing/gates/installation of signage posts) undertaken during the years to 2010 and noted in stakeholder meeting minute and emails as making intermittent progress during these years through until as recently as mid 2016. See attached map for location. Meeting/email notes indicate Leesa Beatson, Senior Project Officer from QPWS, Mackay would have advice on this.

Please advise the reason no further progress on this proposed 'Brigalow' GPA has taken place since this time?

Thank you for your attention to these matters and we await your reply.

Regards, Frieda

JR & FK Berry-Porter T/A

_____The Outback Prospector

ABN: 769 227 395 89

P O Box 553 Clermont Q 4721

Shop 07 4983 3856 | JP 0427 394 651 | Frieda 0409 394 651

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image001.png
36K

**Queensland
Government**



Department of Local Government,
Racing and Multicultural Affairs

Our ref: MC18/5444

4 October 2018

Mr Jonathan and Ms Frieda Berry-Porter
Partners/Proprietors
The Outback Prospector
frieda@theoutbackprospector.com.au

Dear Mr and Ms Berry-Porter

Thank you for your email of 3 September 2018 to the Honourable Stirling Hinchliffe MP, Minister for Local Government, Minister for Racing and Minister for Multicultural Affairs about fossicking in the Isaac Region, particularly matters concerning the issuing of Fossicking Kits by the Isaac Regional Council. The Minister has asked that I respond on his behalf.

I recognise the complexity of the matters you raise and the impact that they may have on the tourism market and broader economy of the Isaac Region. I can advise that information about the Council's decision to discontinue the sale of Fossicking Kits can be found on its website at isaac.qld.gov.au and by entering the search term 'Cessation of sale, Fossicking Kits Clermont' in the website's Search function. The Council ceased the sale of these Kits as the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service had provided the Council with advice that Permits to Traverse are no longer required by fossickers.

If you require further information, I encourage you to contact Mr Jim Evans, Manager, Local Government and Regional Services (North) in the Department of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs on 4758 3425 or by email at jim.evans@dlgrma.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

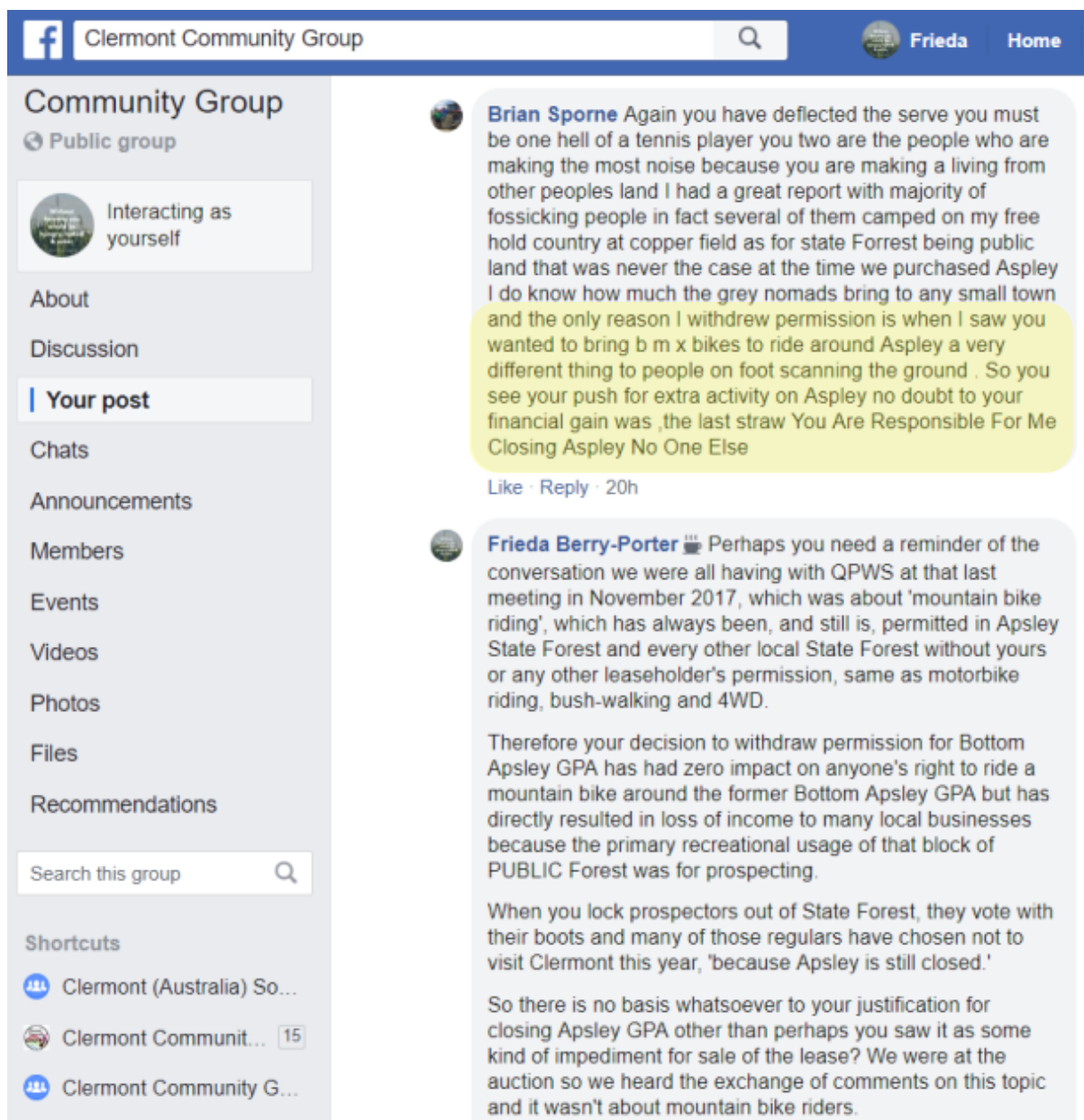
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Natalie Wilde".

Natalie Wilde
Deputy Director-General
Local Government and Regional Services

1 William Street Brisbane
PO Box 15009 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +617 3452 7009
ABN 251 66 523 889

Case study: Bottom Apsley GPA, Blair Athol State Forest - closed 1st March 2018

- Declared in 1998 with permission from former RTL TL 0/230044 (grazing purposes) lessee Brian Sporne and the then DPI and DME
- Closed on 1st March 2018 without warning, reason or chance to discuss issues
- See below excerpt from Clermont Community Facebook page 16.05.19
- New lessee David Scott has 'declined to agree' to re-open the GPA – restricting access to the public which is inconsistent with both lease conditions 26 & 27 (Public Access) and the Forestry Act S35 (5)



Clermont Community Group Frieda Home

Community Group
Public group

Interacting as yourself

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Clermont (Australia) So...
Clermont Communit... 15
Clermont Community G...

Brian Sporne Again you have deflected the serve you must be one hell of a tennis player you two are the people who are making the most noise because you are making a living from other peoples land I had a great report with majority of fossicking people in fact several of them camped on my free hold country at copper field as for state Forrest being public land that was never the case at the time we purchased Apsley I do know how much the grey nomads bring to any small town and the only reason I withdrew permission is when I saw you wanted to bring b m x bikes to ride around Apsley a very different thing to people on foot scanning the ground . So you see your push for extra activity on Apsley no doubt to your financial gain was ,the last straw You Are Responsible For Me Closing Apsley No One Else

Like · Reply · 20h

Frieda Berry-Porter Perhaps you need a reminder of the conversation we were all having with QPWS at that last meeting in November 2017, which was about 'mountain bike riding', which has always been, and still is, permitted in Apsley State Forest and every other local State Forest without yours or any other leaseholder's permission, same as motorbike riding, bush-walking and 4WD.

Therefore your decision to withdraw permission for Bottom Apsley GPA has had zero impact on anyone's right to ride a mountain bike around the former Bottom Apsley GPA but has directly resulted in loss of income to many local businesses because the primary recreational usage of that block of PUBLIC Forest was for prospecting.

When you lock prospectors out of State Forest, they vote with their boots and many of those regulars have chosen not to visit Clermont this year, 'because Apsley is still closed.'

So there is no basis whatsoever to your justification for closing Apsley GPA other than perhaps you saw it as some kind of impediment for sale of the lease? We were at the auction so we heard the exchange of comments on this topic and it wasn't about mountain bike riders.

This action on the part of the former lessee Mr Sporne is a **GROSS ABUSE** of the inferred authority a State Forest lessee has over the access rights of the general public into State Forest. There was no justifiable reason for the withdrawal of permission for this GPA as related to 'fossicking' activities and the perception that by closing it, it would somehow prevent access by 'BMX' or mountain bike riders onto this lease is completely irrelevant, without any legal grounds under both the conditions of lease or the Forestry Act and must be acknowledged as the **fundamental flaw** in the whole GPA structure...*that through denial of lessee permission for GPA, it selectively discriminates against just one bush user group from accessing QLD State Forest...recreational prospectors.*

We ask, **under which other Acts is a State Forest lessee (Rolling Term Lease) considered to be an 'owner'?**

Where else do they have authority to grant or deny land usage or access in State Forest?

eg. over timber harvesting or mining activities? – no authority.

eg. if a culturally or environmentally sensitive site was identified and set aside for preservation, would this lessee have any authority to restrict that land usage?



UNLOCK QLD STATE FOREST

Without secured access to QLD public Forestry areas
for recreational prospecting activities, there is
NO FUTURE for tourism in Clermont

The general public have right of access
to State Forest for 'permitted recreational activities'
so **WHY** are recreational prospectors
the only group **LOCKED OUT?**

Our QLD Govt Ministers need to
CHANGE unfair laws that

LOCK OUT

recreational prospectors & fossickers
from QLD State Forest

“UNLOCK THE GATE”

- Recreational prospectors can only access 20% of the **local State Forest** under current regulations
- Bushwalkers, 4WD-ers, motorbike and mountain bike riders can access 100% of **local State Forest**



Meet Ron & Bev...ABC 730 interview stars...Senior Prospectors...love Clermont

LOCKED OUT OF BOTTOM APSLEY GPA

George & Roma – 92 and still keen!

Our most senior recreational prospector, George, also arrived in Clermont for his usual prospecting trip in 2018, only to be greeted by a 'No Fossicking' sign on his favourite patch of Clermont goldfields in Apsley State Forest.

When George came to ask what's happened to Bottom Apsley GPA, I could give him no reason, except that after 20 years of being a GPA, the grazing lessee had apparently changed his mind.

At his age and with limited mobility, George was pretty disappointed, saying, "Well that's a bugger, where am I going to detect now? At my age, I haven't got much time left, have I?"

George was ready to set off on his prospecting trip last year but COVID ruined his plans and sadly now we hear with Roma's poor health, his detecting days are over.



15 years of walking and enjoying this area of State Forest, cut short without reason, because cows have more rights than prospectors.

Meet **Marty**...

he loved detecting
with his mate Chris in
Bottom Apsley GPA.
Good gold, good memories.
Sadly Chris died from cancer
but his last wishes were
“scatter some
of my ashes in Apsley,
so you can remember the
good times, out detecting
with your mate.”



So in October 2017, Marty made a little memorial in Apsley for Chris and looked forward to chasing a few nuggets with his mate. But the next year when he arrived in Clermont, as he's done every year for over ten years, Marty the prospector found himself 'locked out' of Bottom Apsley GPA by a “No Fossicking” sign.

No reason - No warning - No chance to discuss.

Unfair,

Un-Australian,

Unlock the Gate to Bottom Apsley GPA

“CERTAINTY FOR ALL STAKEHOLDERS”

- Conflicting laws regulating activities and land management in QLD State Forest frustrate and alienate all stakeholders
- QLD Ministers need to **LISTEN** to **ALL** users of the Forest – cultural, recreational, pastoral and commercial
- With considered policies, proper funding and resource allocation, we can preserve the status of QLD State Forest as a place of cultural respect, recreation and enterprise
....the People’s Forest...a working Forest

RESOLVE the inconsistencies between QLD
Fossilising and Forestry Acts

REMOVE uncertainty for future management

RESTORE goodwill between stakeholders

CURRENT STATE TENURE SEARCH

NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND ENERGY, QUEENSLAND

Request No: 30417284

Search Date: 21/01/2019 08:44

Title Reference: 40050262

Date Created: 28/10/2005

Previous Title: 17562172

DESCRIPTION OF LAND

Tenure Reference: TL 0/230044

Lease Type: ROLLING TERM LEASE

LOT 15 CROWN PLAN 860075
Local Government: ISAAC

For exclusions / reservations for public purposes refer to
Plan CP 860075

Area: 2600.000000 Ha. (ABOUT)

No Land Description

No Forestry Entitlement Area

Purpose for which granted:
GRAZING - STATE FOREST

TERM OF LEASE

Term and day of beginning of lease

Term: 15 years commencing on 01/10/2005

Expiring on 30/09/2020

Extended to 30/09/2035

REGISTERED LESSEE

Dealing No: 719180448 21/12/2018

DAVID ALBERT SCOTT

CONDITIONS

CURRENT STATE TENURE SEARCH

NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND ENERGY, QUEENSLAND

Request No: 30417284

Search Date: 21/01/2019 08:44

Title Reference: 40050262

Date Created: 28/10/2005

CONDITIONS

A183 SPECIFIED CONDITIONS FOR: Term Lease
PURPOSE: Rolling term lease - Grazing State Forest

STATUTORY CONDITIONS:

Statutory conditions are the general mandatory conditions of a lease and binds the lessee in accordance with Part 2 Division 1 of the Land Act.

1. Permitted Use: The lessee must use the land only for the purpose for which the tenure was issued under the Land Act 1994.
2. Duty of Care: The lessee has the responsibility for a duty of care, for the land under the Land Act 1994.
3. Rent/Instalment: The lessee must pay the annual rent/instalment in accordance with the Land Act 1994 and the Land Regulation. For further information on how annual rent is determined, refer to the department's website at www.dnrm.qld.gov.au.
4. Noxious plants: The lessee must keep noxious plants on the land under control. If the lessee does not comply with this condition, the Minister may bring the noxious plants under control, the cost of which will be recovered from the lessee.
5. Information to Minister: The lessee must give the Minister administering the Land Act 1994, information the Minister asks for about the tenure.
6. Improvements: The lessee must not make improvements or carry out development work on the land within 2 years of the expiry of the tenancy without the Minister's written approval.
7. Monies for Improvements: No money for improvements is payable by the State on the forfeiture, surrender or expiry of this lease but money may be payable if the State receives payment from an incoming lessee or buyer for the improvements on the land. However, the previous lessee may apply to the Minister to remove the improvements that belong to the lessee, within a period of 3 months from the date of the forfeiture, surrender, or expiry of this lease. The lessee may only undertake the removal of the improvements in the presence of an authorised representative of the department, if required by the Minister. The lessee may only remove those improvements if all monies due from the lessee to the department under this lease have been paid.

REGULATORY-CONDITIONS:-----

A regulatory condition relates to a lease, in accordance with the Land Regulation.

8. Indemnity: The lessee indemnifies and agrees to keep indemnified the Minister, and the State of Queensland and its Representatives, (the "Indemnified parties") against all liability, costs, loss and expenses including claims in negligence (including any claims, proceedings or demands brought by any third party, and any legal fees, costs and disbursements on a solicitor and client basis) ("Claim") arising from or

CURRENT STATE TENURE SEARCH

NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND ENERGY, QUEENSLAND

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CONDITIONS

incurred in connection with:

- a. the granting of this lease to the lessee;
- b. the lessee 's use and occupation of the land; or
- c. personal injury (including sickness and death) or property damage or loss in connection with the performance (or attempted purported performance or non-performance) of the lease or a breach of the lease by the lessee .

The lessee hereby releases and discharges to the full extent permitted by law, the Indemnified parties from all actions, claims, proceedings or demands and in respect of any loss, death, injury, illness or damage (whether personal or property and whether special, direct, indirect or consequential financial loss) arising out of the use and occupation of the lease.

To the full extent permitted by law, the Minister, the State of Queensland and their Representatives will not be liable to the lessee for any special, indirect or consequential damages, including consequential financial loss arising out of the use and occupation of the lease.

9. Public Liability: The lessee must effect a public liability insurance policy with an insurer authorised under the Insurance Act 1973 (Commonwealth) or, if not so authorised then only with the Minister's approval, which can be given or withheld in the Minister's sole discretion, naming the lessee as the insured covering legal liability for any loss of, or damage to any property and for the injury (including death) to any person arising out of anything done or omitted on or about the land or any improvements thereon and against all claims, demands, proceedings, costs, charges, and expenses whatsoever (including claims in negligence) Such policy must:
 - a. be for an amount of not less than \$20 million and have no per event sublimit or such higher amounts as the Minister may reasonably require.
 - b. be effected on a "claims occurring" basis; and
 - c. be maintained at all times during the currency of the lease, and upon receipt of any notice of cancellation, the lessee must immediately effect another public insurance policy in accordance with the terms of the lease .

The lessee must, as soon as practicable, inform the Minister, in writing, of the occurrence of any event that the lessee considers is likely to give rise to a claim under the policy of insurance effected and must ensure that the Minister is kept fully informed of subsequent actions and developments concerning the claim.

The lessee must renew such policy, at the lessee's expense, each year during the currency of this lease.

The condition will be satisfied if the lessee is the State of Queensland or a statutory authority eligible for cover under the Queensland Government Insurance Fund and is insured and continues to be insured by the Queensland Government Insurance Fund.

This condition will be satisfied if the lessee is the

CURRENT STATE TENURE SEARCH

NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND ENERGY, QUEENSLAND

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Commonwealth of Australia or a statutory authority eligible for cover under the Comcover Insurance Fund and is insured and continues to be insured by Comcover.

10. Access: The provision of access, further access or services to the land will not be the responsibility of the State.
11. Survey Costs: If the land needs to be surveyed or re-surveyed the lessee must do this at their own cost under the Survey and Mapping Infrastructure Act 2003. This survey plan must be lodged in the land registry within the specified time.
12. Extension: The lease is subject to the extensions of rolling term leases provision of the Land Act 1994 and the Minister must grant an extension of the term of a rolling term lease if the lessee makes an application in the approved form. The extension will be for the original term of the lease and may be given subject to condition changes.
13. Jurisdiction: The lessee is subject to the Land Act 1994 and all other relevant Queensland and Commonwealth legislation.
14. Compliance with Laws: the lessee must comply with all lawful requirements of the -
 - a. Local Government; and
 - b. any department within the Queensland or Commonwealth governments (including the department administering the Land Act 1994), local authority or statutory instrumentality having jurisdiction over the land, or the development, use and occupation of the land, in regard to its use, occupation and development of the land.

STATE-FOREST-CONDITIONS:-----

These conditions relate to this lease over State forest or timber reserve administered under the Forestry Act 1959.

The following definitions apply to these conditions:

"land degradation" has the meaning as stated in the Land Act 1994.

"local agency staff" in this document means the local officers of the Department administering the Nature Conservation Act 1992 for management of that part of the State forest.

This lease is subject to the Forestry Act 1959. The lessee must give the Chief Executive administering this Act, information the Chief Executive asks for about the tenure.

Termination

15. The lease may be forfeited/cancelled if not used for the purpose for which it was issued or any subsequent additional purpose or by breach of a condition of the tenure.

Conversion of the lease

16. The lessee of this lease is not allowed to make an application for conversion of this lease in terms of the Land Act 1994.

Improvements or development on or to the land

17. The lessee must ensure that the development and use of the land meets with the Planning Scheme, Local Laws and any other relevant

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requirements, binding the lessee.

18. The lessee must not affect any structural or further structural (including alterations or improvements to address land degradation) or excavation improvements on the land, without the approval of the department administering the Forestry Act 1959 and any other relevant authority, having been first obtained.
19. The lessee must remove any improvements to the land associated with this lease that are contaminated or poisonous or have the potential to contaminate the environment or impact on human health (for example asbestos) and rehabilitate the land to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive of the Forestry Act 1959 and any other relevant authority, within one year from the date of termination of the lease. Any other improvements such as fences and yards that are not removed within one year from the date of termination of the lease will be forfeited to the Chief Executive of the Forestry Act 1959.
20. If the lessee fails to remove any improvements to the land that are contaminated or poisonous or have the potential to contaminate the environment or impact on human health and rehabilitate the land as above, the Chief Executive administering the Forestry Act 1959 and any other relevant authority, can remove the improvements and is hereby authorised to do whatever is necessary to effect the said removal. The Department may recover from the lessee the total cost incurred in the said removal.

Quarry material and forest products

21. The lessee must allow any person authorised under the Forestry Act 1959 access to the land for the purpose of the authorised activity.
22. The lessee must not interfere with any forest products or remove any quarry material (including any stone, gravel, sand, earth, soil, rock, guano or clay which is not a mineral within the meaning of the Mineral Resources Act 1989) or other material upon the land without the permission of the Chief Executive of the Forestry Act 1959 except under the authority of and in compliance in every respect with the requirements of a permit, licence, agreement or contract granted or made under the Forestry Act 1959.

Rights of access

23. Any person authorised by the Chief Executive administering the Forestry Act 1959 shall at all times during the term of the lease have the free right and privilege of access into and out of the lease area for any purposes whatsoever.
24. The lessee must, at all times during the term of the lease, allow any person authorised by the Chief Executive administering the Forestry Act 1959 and other relevant Acts free and unrestricted access to, from and across the land at all reasonable times for purpose of monitoring and auditing activities and any purpose whatsoever in connection with the management of other activities

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authorised on State forests and timber reserves.

25. The lessee will be given opportunity to accompany the Department's officer/s on any monitoring/audit activities that relate to the grazing operation for which the tenure was issued. Monitoring and audit reports will be made available to the lessee on request. Audits will be carried out according to lease conditions, including all subsequently approved purposes and management plans, and any of the Department's applicable "best practice" indicators.

Public access

26. The land will be available for the natural enjoyment of the public consistent with the Forestry Act 1959.
27. The lessee must manage the land in a manner that will not interfere with or restrict the rights of the public in the use of the land for the purpose of State forest or timber reserve for which it was dedicated or declared.

Fire Management

28. The lessee must not light a fire, nor cause a fire to be lit or carry out burning operations, on the land either in whole or in part, other than:
in accordance with the QPWS Fire Management System and as part of a planned burn proposal by the QPWS Fire Referral Group; or
in the case of a wildfire, with the approval or instruction of the incident controller; or
with a permit to burn from the local fire warden having first gained the consent of the Chief Executive administering the Forestry Act 1959.
29. Except for QPWS managed firebreaks, the lessee shall only construct or maintain firebreaks on the land as approved by, and to the satisfaction of, the Chief Executive administering the Forestry Act 1959 and other relevant Acts.
30. The lessee shall advise the local agency staff when the burning operations are to be commenced.
31. The lessee will take all reasonable precautions to identify and reduce fire hazards and safety hazards on the land.
32. In the event of an outbreak of fire on the land or that may threaten the land, the lessee must act promptly and take all reasonable action to prevent, combat and extinguish the fire, including an unauthorised fire on or threatening the land, and shall, if called upon, render reasonable assistance for such purpose to any delegate of the Chief Executive of a relevant Act or Fire Officer. In this condition, the term "lessee" includes all servants, agents or contractors of the lessee.
33. The lessee must inform as soon as possible, local agency staff by telephone or in person, of any wildfire on or threatening the land and the measures taken by the lessee to extinguish the fire.
34. The right is reserved to the Department administering the Forestry Act 1959 as a fire protection or silvicultural measure to carry out burning on the land either in part or whole. Where

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CONDITIONS

this is necessary for other than emergency firefighting purposes the lessee or their agent will be given as much notice as is practicable but not less than fourteen (14) business days.

Pest Management

35. The lessee shall obtain permission from the Chief Executive administering the Forestry Act 1959 at least seven (7) business days prior to carrying out any declared animal control by poison bait method and shall give all landholders adjoining the land at least three (3) business days' notice of the intention to undertake declared animal control by poison bait method.
36. The lessee must keep declared pests as per the Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002 under control and comply with the requirements of this Act and any by-laws of the local government with respect to the control or eradication of non-native plants and animals. The lessee must also take any necessary action to manage species that are introduced as a result of the grazing operation as may be directed by the Chief Executive administering the Forestry Act 1959.
37. The lessee shall not introduce any birds, animals, reptiles, or plants (including pasture grasses) to the land, other than cattle, without the consent of the Chief Executive administering the Forestry Act 1959.
38. The lessee must advise the Chief Executive administering the Forestry Act 1959 and any other relevant Act of pest animal control activities undertaken.

Water Management

39. Watering points are generally to be established in flat areas and/or designed in a manner to prevent erosion. Regular inspections by the lessee shall be conducted and where necessary relocation of watering points, erosion control works and/or exclusion areas shall be implemented.
40. Any persons authorised by the Chief Executive administering the Forestry Act 1959 shall at all times during the term of the lease have the use of all water on the land for any purpose whatsoever, provided such usage does not unreasonably affect the grazing operations.

Stock Management and Fencing

41. The lessee shall only graze cattle on the land. The grazing of any other stock, as defined under the Stock Act 1915 and the other relevant Acts, requires the specific consent of the Chief Executive of the Forestry Act 1959.
42. The lessee must not take stock on agistment on the land without the approval of the Chief Executive administering the Forestry Act 1959 having been first obtained.
43. Within the context of the grazing enterprise, any animals (horses and dogs) and any vehicles or appliances (sedans, quad bikes, utility vehicles, trucks, tractors, motorbikes (all types) and mechanised tools) should only be used for the purposes of operating the enterprise. At other times, horses and dogs are

CURRENT STATE TENURE SEARCH

NATURAL RESOURCES, MINES AND ENERGY, QUEENSLAND

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Title Reference: 40050262

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CONDITIONS

required to be appropriately constrained.

44. The lessee must, if required by the Chief Executive administering the Forestry Act 1959, increase or decrease the numbers of stock grazing on the leased area. To remove any doubt, this includes situations where, in the opinion of an authorised officer responsible for the area, damage or land degradation is being caused or likely to be caused to the leased area or to the vegetation growth on the leased area by the number of stock being grazed at any time.

45. The lessee will establish and maintain fencing to the entire boundary of the land at all times unless an exemption in writing is provided by the Chief Executive administering the Forestry Act 1959. Where new internal fencing is installed it will be four strands consisting of three strand barbed wire and a top strand of plain wire unless otherwise authorised by the Chief Executive administering the Forestry Act 1959.

Health and Safety

46. The lessee shall keep the land in a clean, orderly and sanitary condition. No household refuse, construction materials, car bodies or refuse of any other nature that results from the lessee's operations is to be deposited or accumulated on the land. All refuse that results from the lessee's operations is to be removed to an approved local government refuse facility or other location approved by the Chief Executive administering the Forestry Act 1959.

47. The lessee must report any accident or incident on the land which would result in a claim or is reportable under Work Health and Safety Act 2011 to the local agency staff on the next business day.

Condition of the Land and Protection of Timber and Catchment Values

48. The lessee shall occupy the land in a manner that will prevent, as far as is consistent with the proposed use of the land, land and water pollution, land degradation and reduction in the timber and catchment values.

49. The lessee shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that all activities undertaken on the land which has the potential to a) introduce non-native species of plants; b) transmit cattle related diseases and parasites; c) interfere with the habitat of species listed under the Nature Conservation Act 1992; or d) interfere with cultural heritage sites, is carried out in such a manner to prevent this from occurring.

50. The lessee shall not destroy, remove or cut down any timber on the land without prior approval of the Chief Executive administering the Forestry Act 1959.

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ENCUMBRANCES AND INTERESTS

1. Rights and interests reserved to the Crown by
Lease No. 40050262

2. EASEMENT No 602809198 (A2214) 01/03/1988
Burdening
THE LAND TO
THE COAL CLIFF COLLIERIES PTY LIMITED
ANACONDA AUSTRALIA INC
EPDC (AUSTRALIA) PTY LIMITED
J.C.D. AUSTRALIA PTY LTD
ACI RESOURCES LIMITED
BUNDABERG SUGAR COMPANY LIMITED
MILLAQUIN SUGAR COMPANY PTY LIMITED
GIBSON & HOWES PTY LIMITED
OVER
EASEMENT A ON CLM 590

3. EASEMENT No 702136367 05/08/1997 at 09:44
burdening the land to
LOT 33 ON PLAN CLM285 OVER
LOT P ON PLAN CLM693 AND LOT R ON PLAN CLM691

4. AMENDMENT OF LEASE CONDITIONS No 716302760 09/02/2015 at 05:00
THE CONDITIONS OF THE WITHIN TENURE ARE HEREBY AMENDED.

5. MORTGAGE No 719180449 21/12/2018 at 09:22
WESTPAC BANKING CORPORATION A.C.N. 007 457 141

ADMINISTRATIVE ADVICES - NIL

UNREGISTERED DEALINGS - NIL

Caution - Charges do not necessarily appear in order of priority

** End of Current State Tenure Search **

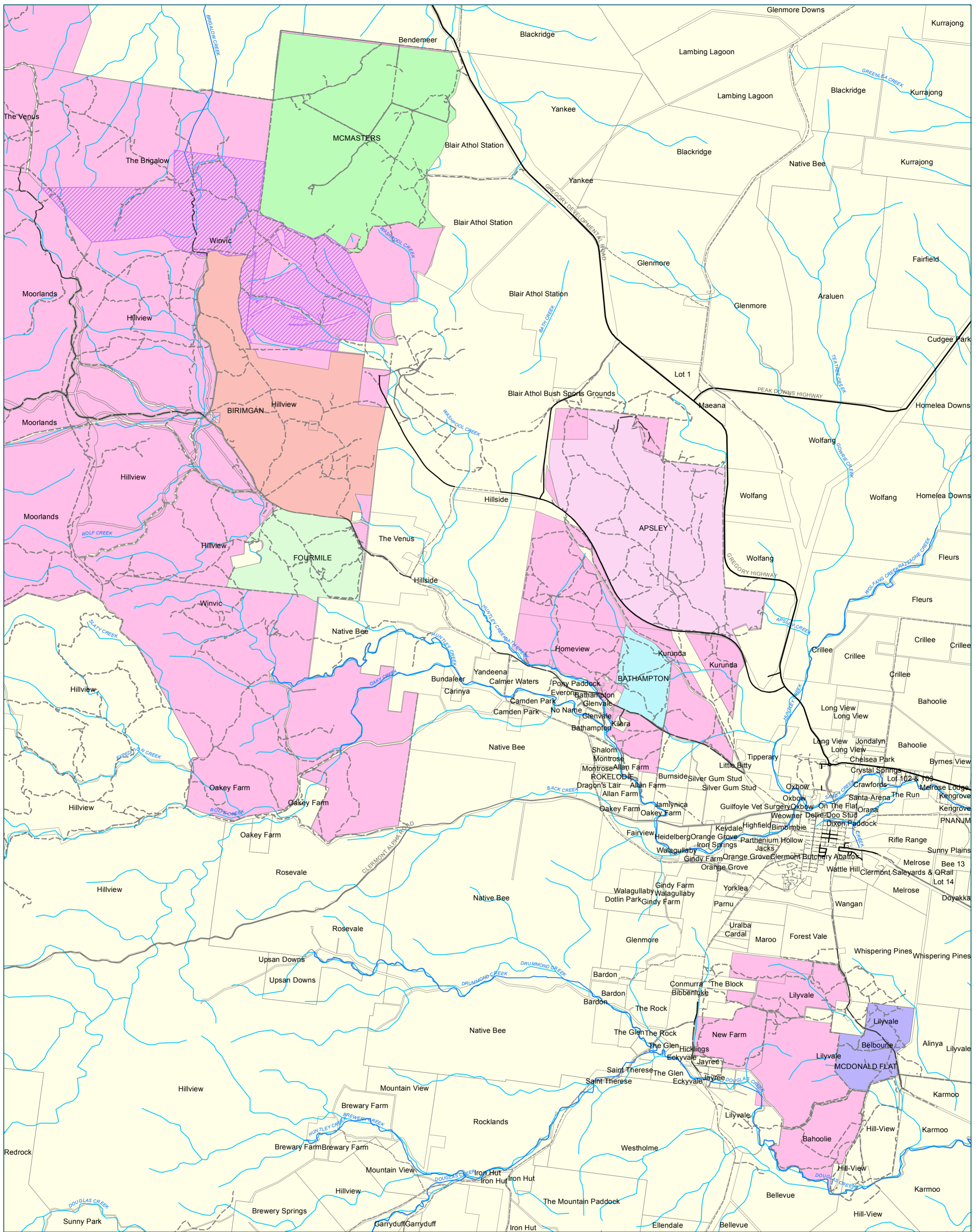
Information provided under section 34 Land Title Act(1994) or
section 281 Land Act(1994)

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Requested By: D-ENQ PROPERTY & TITLE SEARCH

610

VISITORS
PLEASE RESPECT
FARM BIOSECURITY
BRIGALOW - 07 4961 1000
Do not enter property without prior permission
from the Brigalow Bioscience Centre

 **NO ENTRY**
Brigalow



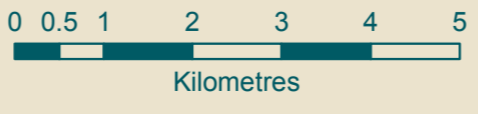
GPA_G94_ID

- McDonald's Flat
- Birimgan
- Four Mile
- Apsley
- McMasters
- Bathampton
- Proposed
- Rivers
(MapInfo Australia Pty Ltd, Date Unknown)
- Creeks
(Geoscience Australia, Date Unknown)
- DPI Agricultural Property System (APS)

Clermont GPs



1:85,000



NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

COORDINATE SYSTEM: GCS GDA 1994
HORIZONTAL DATUM: GDA 1994

ACCURACY STATEMENT
Due to varying sources of data, spatial locations may not coincide when overlaid.

DISCLAIMER
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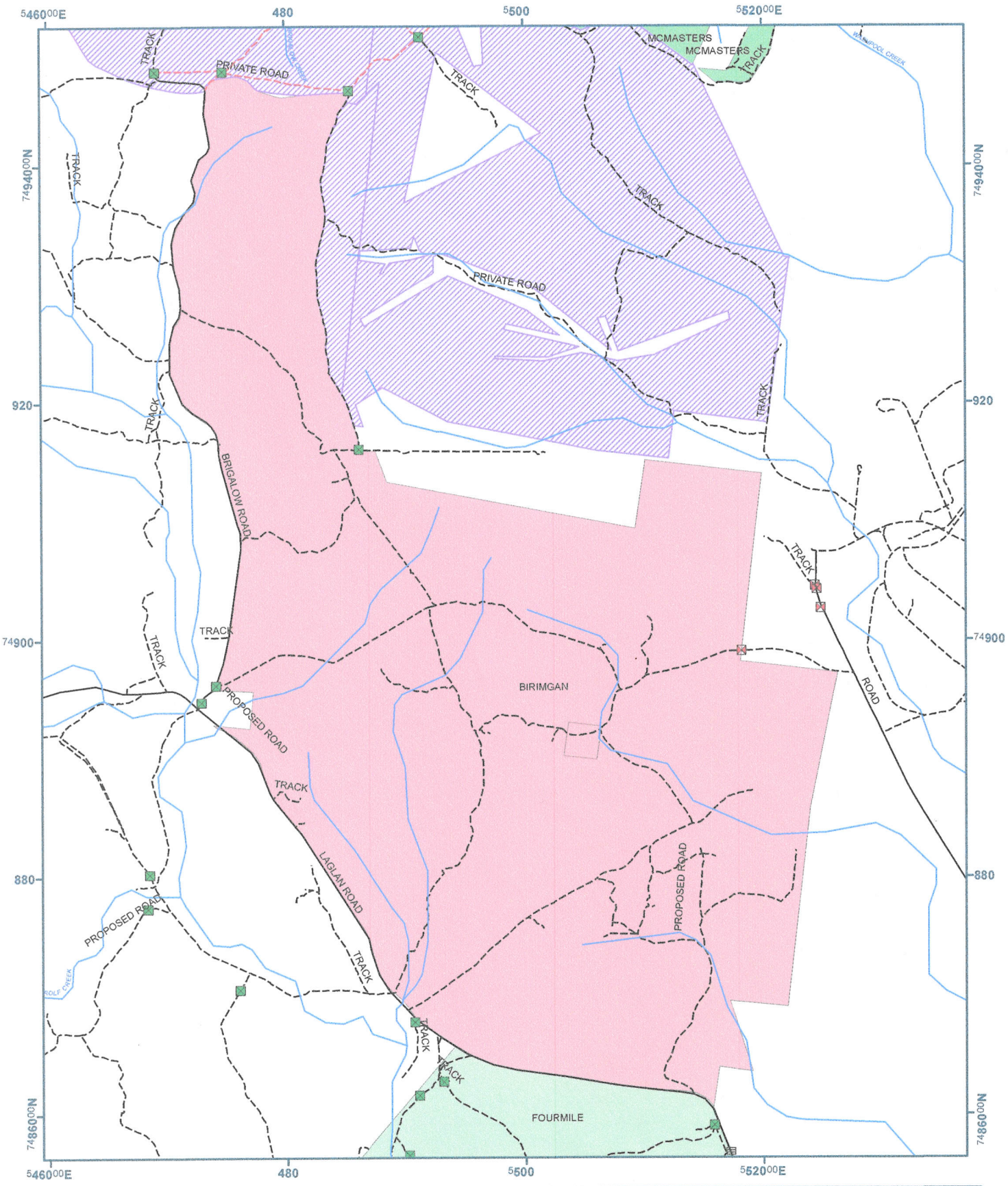
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Enquiries should be addressed to:
Director-General
Department of National Parks, Recreation,
Sport and Racing
PO Box 15187, CITY EAST, QLD 4002

MAP PRODUCTION
01 July 2015
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service,
Department of National Parks, Recreation,
Sport and Racing.

VERSION:
Clermont GPs_20150701 (WilsonJa)



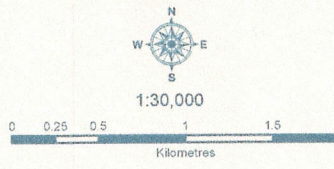


- Creeks
- Four Mile
- gate or slip rail, unlocked
- McMasters
- gate or slip rail, locked
- Proposed
- grid or livestock control
- Streets
- Private or restricted roads
- 4WD and tracks

General Permission Area

- Birimigan

Blair Athol State Forest Birimigan GPA



VHF 433 Phone 07 4983 1211
 COORDINATE SYSTEM, GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55
 PROJECTION Transverse Mercator
 HORIZONTAL DATUM, GDA 1994
ACCURACY STATEMENT
 Due to varying sources of data, spatial locations may not coincide when overlaid.
DISCLAIMER
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 07 July 2016
 Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service,
 Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing

VERSION:
 Birimigan_20160707 (ashtond)

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BRIGALOW GENERAL PERMISSION AREA

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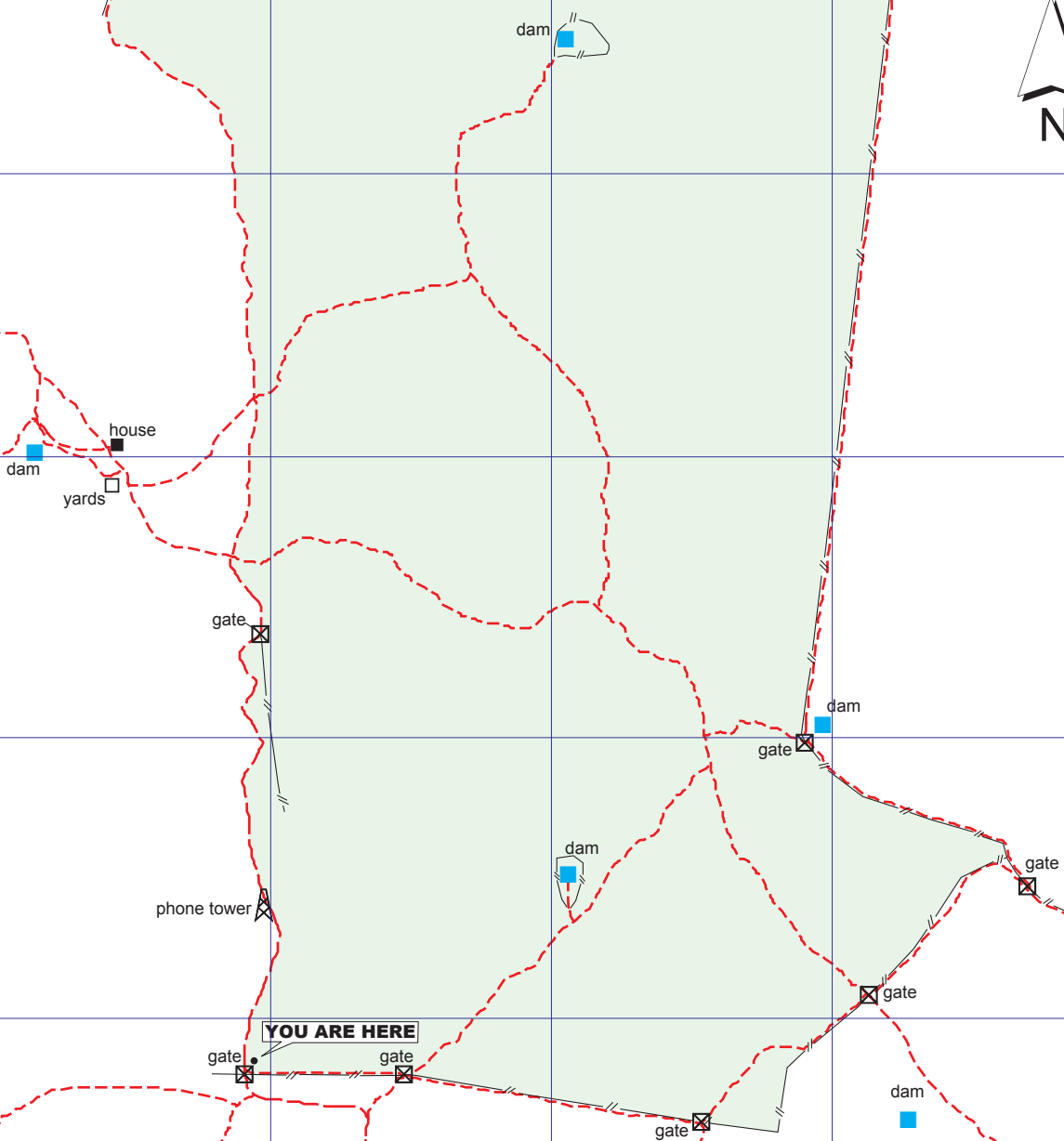
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Caution: The grid shown on this map is MGA zone 55 (GDA94 Datum).
For practical purposes the GDA94 datum is the same as WGS84.
If using this map in conjunction with GPS equipment, set the GPS datum to WGS84.

0 500 1000 metres

- Extent of General Permission Area
- 2wd access road
- 4wd roads
- fence

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Operational Policy

Visitor Management

Fossicking on QPWS managed areas

Operational policies provide a framework for consistent application and interpretation of legislation and for the management of non-legislative matters by the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing. Operational policies are not intended to be applied inflexibly in all circumstances. Individual circumstances may require a modified application of policy.

Subject

This policy addresses the administration and management of recreational or tourist fossicking for minerals, gemstones and ornamental stones on Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) managed areas.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to guide QPWS staff in the assessment, approval and maintenance of general permission areas (GPA) for the purpose of fossicking on QPWS managed areas. This policy (and related procedural guide) relates only to the hobby activity of fossicking, all other mineral collecting activities are not covered under this policy.

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the QPWS *Procedural guide: Fossicking on QPWS managed areas*.

Background

What is fossicking?

Fossicking is defined as either the systematic or unsystematic search for gemstones, ornamental stones, mineral specimens, alluvial gold or non-vertebrate fossils on the ground's surface or by digging with hand tools. **Fossicking as an activity is classed as recreational** and the sale of the occasional 'lucky find' of a gemstone is allowed. However, repeated removal of fossicking materials for sale through shops or businesses, or as part of making a living, is considered commercial, and requires different approvals under *the Mineral Resources Act 1989*. Royalties are payable on fossicking materials that are the property of the Crown, but threshold exemptions of \$100,000 mean that generally most fossickers are not liable.

Fossicking licences

Fossicking licences are issued and administered by the Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM) and are required prior to fossicking within QPWS managed areas.

Fossicking can occur on QPWS managed areas (namely regional park and State forests) where written permission of the landowner is granted. Due to the volume of requests to fossick, and the need to assess each area for suitability prior to giving written approval, fossicking can occur only where these areas have been approved as a General Permission Area (GPA).

A GPA is an area where the landowner has given general permission for fossicking to occur. Once a GPA has been approved, fossickers do not require the landowner's written permission to fossick within these areas, but they must abide by any conditions of access and may under some situations be required to pay a fee.

Prior to a GPA being approved on any QPWS managed area, a thorough site assessment is conducted by the relevant QPWS regional office. Existing lessees' and permit holders are notified and given the opportunity to object to the proposal to declare a GPA. Other impediments to fossicking are identified and investigated including safety aspects. Some of these impediments may cross departmental responsibilities and could include apiary sites, stock grazing, mining claims, cultural heritage and native title interests.

Once all stakeholders agree, then written permission is given by the Director-General of National Parks, Sport and Racing (NPSR) to the relevant Mining Registrar within the DNRM to have the area made available for fossicking as a GPA. If problems arise or the situation changes within the QPWS managed areas, the NPSR Director-General can withdraw the general permission in writing to the relevant Mining Registrar and revoke the existing GPA.

The NPSR website provides a current list of approved GPAs on QPWS managed areas where fossicking can occur.

Policy statement

Fossicking can only occur on QPWS managed areas where these areas have been approved as a General Permission Area (GPA).

The tenures in which a GPA may be approved within QPWS managed areas are limited to State forests under the *Forestry Act 1959* and regional park (resource use area) under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.

QPWS supports fossicking as a recreational activity within approved GPAs on QPWS managed areas, providing that the activity is consistent with management intent for that area. Camping will not be permitted on any GPAs.

While fossicking has the potential to be destructive or detrimental, QPWS will undertake careful management and appropriate monitoring to ensure that the areas do not become degraded. All fossickers in QPWS managed areas are required to adhere to the specific QPWS conditions in addition to the standard conditions for fossicking (refer to *QPWS Procedural guide: Fossicking on QPWS managed areas*).

A fossicking licence must be obtained prior to fossicking on GPAs within QPWS managed areas.

Legislative framework

Fossicking as an activity within QPWS managed areas is governed by various pieces of legislation. The information provided below introduces some of the key points from the legislation. Further advice regarding legislative matters and interpretation of policies can be obtained from emailing: ParksPolicy@npsr.qld.gov.au.

Fossicking Act 1994

The *Fossicking Act 1994* (the Fossicking Act) is administered by DNRM who is responsible for the issuing of fossicking licenses.

Part 3, Division 1 of the Fossicking Act and the Fossicking Regulation 2009 contain the rules and requirements for fossicking activities in Queensland. For State forests, Section 10 of the Fossicking Act states that the Act applies to a State forest only if the chief executive of the Department administering the *Forestry Act 1959* has given general permission for fossicking to occur in the forest, reserve or area.

Under the fossicking legislation, fossicking cannot occur in protected areas, except for regional park (resource use area).

Fossicking is regarded as a hobby and section 36 of the Fossicking Act states clearly the restrictions and penalties with regard to trading and selling fossicking material collected under licence.

Mineral Resources Act 1989

Should a fossicker want to expand their recreational pursuits and regularly trade or sell their fossicking finds they will need to apply for an authorisation under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* (Mineral Resources Act) administered by DNRM. Authorisations could be via a prospecting permit, mining claim, exploration permit, mineral development licence or mining lease. The most common way to determine if an area is suitable for a commercial venture is via a prospecting permit. Section 6B of the Mineral Resources Act defines prospecting as the sampling and searching for mineral material, using only handheld implements. The removal of minerals for sale is not permitted, however other authorities can be used for this purpose.

Forestry Act 1959

Under Part 4, section 33 of the *Forestry Act 1959*, the cardinal principle to be observed in the management of State forests is the permanent reservation of such areas for the purpose of producing timber and associated products in perpetuity and of protecting the watershed. In providing general permission for fossicking to occur in a State forest, the chief executive must ensure the cardinal principle is not adversely impacted.

Section 46A of the *Forestry Act* describes the process for the sale of fossils and quarry materials to fossickers. If a person fossicking on a State forest, timber reserve or forest entitlement area where fossicking is permitted under the Forestry Act collects not more than 1m³ of fossils or quarry materials in a year, the State is taken to have sold this material to that person at no cost, and no royalty is payable for the fossils or quarry materials.

Nature Conservation Act 1992

Fossicking can only occur on regional park (resource use area) dedicated under Section 42C of the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*. A regional park (resource use area) has been declared to allow mining or exploration activities to occur with the intention of the area eventually being converted to a tenure with a higher level of protection. Activities on regional park (resource use area), including fossicking, are permitted if they are consistent with the management principles of the tenure, which are to:

- recognise and, if appropriate, protect the area's cultural and nature resources;
- provide for the controlled use of the area's cultural and natural resources; and
- ensure that the area is maintained predominately in its natural condition.

Reference materials

- *Fossicking safety guidelines* (Department of Natural Resources and Mines publication).
- *Procedural guide: Fossicking on QPWS managed areas* further details the decision making and assessment process required to select, approve and maintain new GPAs for fossicking on QPWS managed areas.

Further Information

Information on the current fossicking sites within QPWS managed areas, including information sheets and conditions can be found on NPSR web page: <<http://www.npsr.qld.gov.au/>>

Fossicking licences are issued by the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, and list of fossicking areas within Queensland (excluding some private fossicking area) can be found on the web page <<http://www.dnrm.qld.gov.au/mining/fossicking>>

Disclaimer

While this document has been prepared with care it contains general information and does not profess to offer legal, professional or commercial advice. The Queensland Government accepts no liability for any external decisions or actions taken on the basis of this document. Persons external to the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing should satisfy themselves independently and by consulting their own professional advisors before embarking on any proposed course of action.

Approved By

Ben Klaassen

Signature

23 June 2014

Date

Deputy Director General
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service

Enquiries:
Major Projects and Estate Management Unit
ParksPolicy@npsr.qld.gov.au

Media release

JOINT STATEMENT

Minister for Natural Resources and Mines

The Honourable Andrew Cripps

Minister for National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing

The Honourable Steve Dickson



Monday, October 07, 2013

Fossicking to be fuss free

The Newman Government is catering for a surge in interest in recreational fossicking by making fossicking licences available online and by opening up two new State forests to fossicking.

Mines Minister Andrew Cripps and National Parks Minister Steve Dickson made the announcement today while fossicking for Thunder Eggs at Tamborine Mountain's Thunderbird Park.

"The Department of Natural Resources and Mines has worked hard to simplify licensing for fossickers searching for alluvial gold, gems and ornamental stones," Mr Cripps said.

"From today, Queenslanders can simply enter their details online in a few minutes to complete their application and they will be emailed their fossicking licence.

"Until now, fossickers had to submit a paper form to authorised licensing agents or district offices of the Department of Natural Resources and Mines.

"My department has issued more than 8,000 recreational fossicking licences since 1 January 2012, compared to 5,108 during 2011 and 3,194 during 2006."

Mr Cripps said there were various types of fossicking licences available to suit everyone's needs.

"Licences can be issued for a one, six, or 12 month period, with fees ranging from \$7.05 to \$44.75 for an individual, or \$10.10 to \$59.60 for a family," he said.

Mr Dickson said fossickers would now be able to access land in the Durikai and Talgai State forests west of Warwick, taking Queensland's designated fossicking areas to more than 20, including 12 in Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service-managed state forests and reserves.

"Queensland is a fossicker's paradise, with its gold and diversity of gem deposits known worldwide," Mr Dickson said.

"Fossickers can try their luck finding agate, garnet, opal, sapphire, thunder eggs, topaz and zircon, amongst others, at various locations throughout Queensland.

"Following a thorough assessment, we have released three fossicking areas on Durikai and one on Talgai comprising a combined area of almost 5,500 hectares."

Mr Dickson reminded Queenslanders that fossicking could only involve the use of hand tools such as picks, shovels, hammers, sieves, shakers or electronic detectors, with no machinery permitted.

"QPWS has installed information signage at entry points to Durikai and Talgai State forests about the obligations of fossickers under their licence," he said.

Durikai is on the Cunningham Highway 27km west of Warwick, and Talgai is 35km north-west of Warwick near the town of Pratten.

DNRM and DNP will continue to work closely to identify State forests with high fossicking potential where increased access will not compromise forest harvesting activities, the rights of existing users or areas of habitat value.

More information is at www.nprsr.qld.gov.au (<http://www.nprsr.qld.gov.au/>) and www.dnrm.qld.gov.au (<http://www.dnrm.qld.gov.au/>).

[ENDS] 7 October 2013

Media contact: Eleisha Rogers (Minister Cripps) 0413 375 088
Anna Hilton (Minister Dickson) 0408 191 192

Background:

Other QPWS sites include:

- Aspley State Forest with two GPAs;
- Blair Athol State Forest with three GPA;
- Copperfield State Forest with one GPA;
- Passchendaele State Forest near Stanthorpe with one GPA; and
- The Moonstone Hill Resources Reserve surrounded by Blackbraes National Park near Hughenden



ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF RECREATIONAL PROSPECTING

MINELAB ELECTRONICS

5 JULY, 2021

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL





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5 JULY 2021

Dear Peter,

BDO Services Pty Ltd ('BDO') has been engaged by Minelab Electronics ('Minelab') to prepare a report ('this Report') regarding the economic and social contribution of the recreational prospecting industry in Australia.

Our work has been undertaken in accordance with our engagement letter dated 28 January 2021. The responsibility for determining the adequacy of the scope of works performed by us to meet your requirements is that of Minelab. We have summarised the agreed scope of work in Section 2.

This Report is addressed to and intended for the information of the addressee only in relation to establishing the economic value of the recreational prospecting industry in Australia. Minelab has consent from BDO to disclose the content of our analysis and deliverables to other parties for uses that align with the objectives of the study.

Unless otherwise stated, this report is based on the latest information that was made available to us as at the completion of our work in June 2021 and we accept no responsibility to update it for events that take place after the date of its issue.

We thank you for the opportunity to provide our services to Minelab. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about this Report or if we may be of any further assistance.

Yours faithfully

BDO Services Pty Ltd
Reece Edwards
Partner

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BDO would like to acknowledge the support and assistance from the following organisations and individuals for sharing their information, providing feedback and facilitating the distribution of the survey, including:

- ▶ Minelab
- ▶ Presidents and committee members of recreational prospecting associations and clubs:
 - NSW and ACT Prospectors and Fossickers Association
 - Prospectors and Miners Association Victoria
 - Amalgamated Prospectors and Leaseholders Association
 - Prospectors and Miners Association of Tasmania
 - Townsville Metal Detecting Club
- ▶ The Outback Prospector.

We are also grateful to the 2,933 anonymous individuals who responded to the first survey and 4,522 anonymous individuals who responded to the second survey, who provided usable survey responses via telephone and online.

DEFINITIONS, ABBREVIATIONS AND GLOSSARY OF TERMS

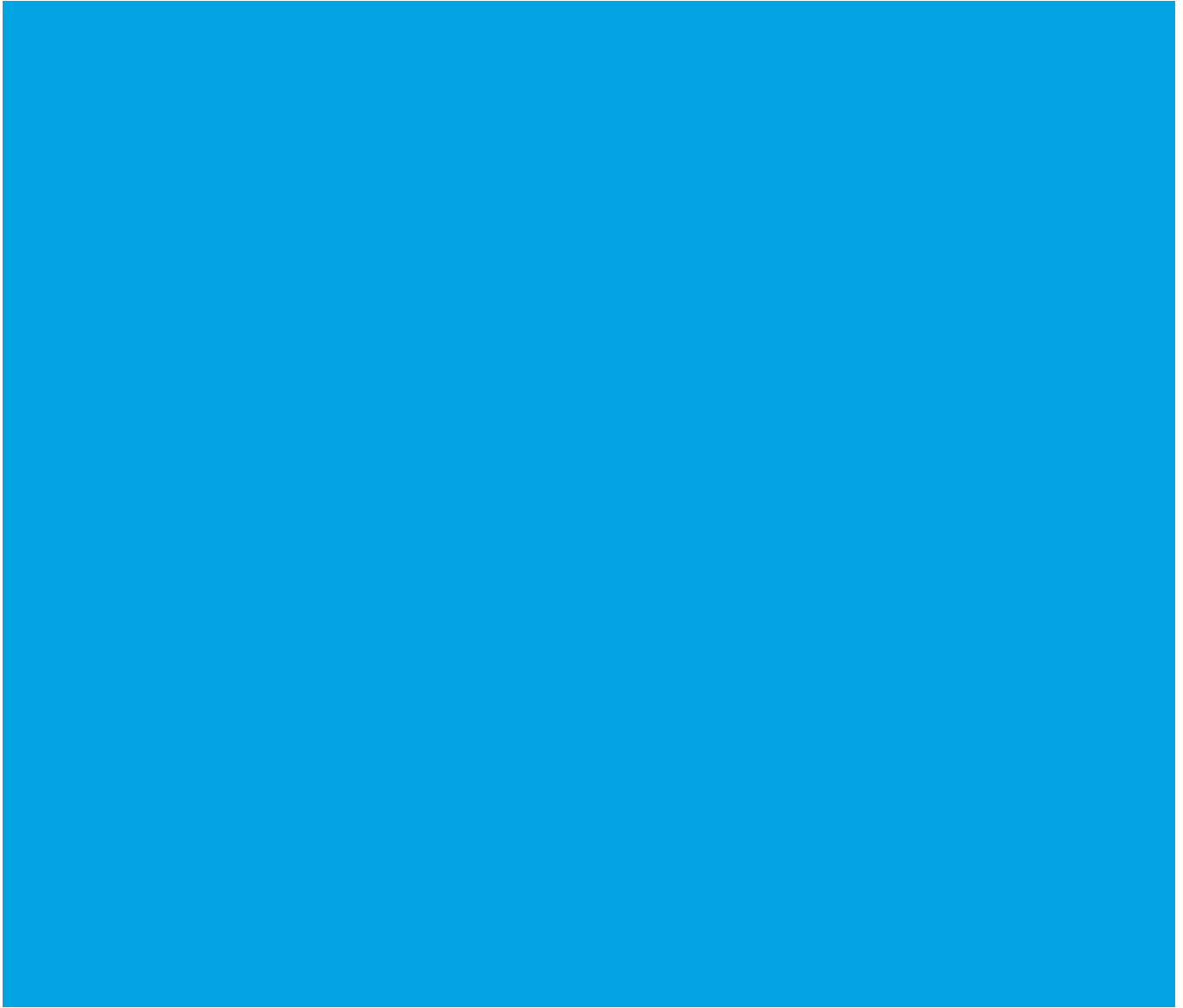
Term	Definition
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
AMR	Action Market Research
APLA	Amalgamated Prospectors and Leaseholders Association
CATI	Computer-assisted telephone interview
DFA	Designating fossicking area
FTE	Full-time equivalent
GDP	Gross domestic product
GPA	General permission area
GSP	Gross state product
NAPFA	NSW and ACT Prospectors and Fossickers Association
NSW	New South Wales
NT	Northern Territory
PMAT	Prospectors and Miners Association of Tasmania
PMAV	Prospectors and Miners Association of Victoria
QLD	Queensland
RISE model	Regional Industry Structure and Employment
SA	South Australia
TAS	Tasmania
VIC	Victoria
WA	Western Australia

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Section 1

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Recreational Prospecting in this study is defined as the act of searching for gold and other metals (e.g. coin and relics) for non-commercial reasons, such as recreational, tourism or educational purposes, as well as activities undertaken by small-scale professionals to make a living.

For the purposes of this study, prospecting only considered activity that at minimum involved the use of a metal detector.

The discovery of gold in Australia in 1850s greatly changed the course of Australian history. The gold rush and the economic activities it brought expanded Australia's population, boosted its economy, and led to the emergence of a new national identity.

While the remaining larger deposits continue to be mined and explored by corporate mining companies, recreational prospecting among hobbyists and small-scale professionals has grown in popularity over the past few years.

The resurgence in interest has not only stemmed from a decade long rise in gold price, but also the advancement in detecting technology which has made it easier for users to pinpoint the locations of the find. Apart from gold, treasure hunting (e.g. coin, relics) has also been on the rise off the back of the improvement in detecting technology.

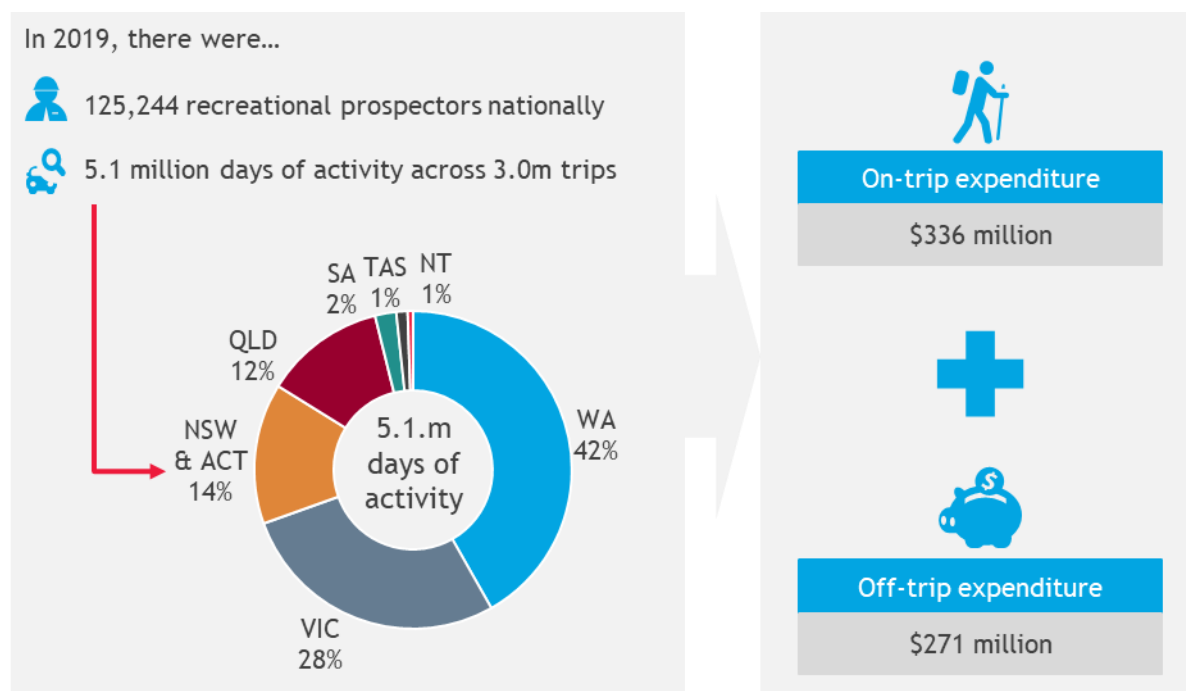
The "modern gold rush", as dubbed by media, has not gone unnoticed. There is frequent media reporting on ordinary prospectors striking gold in all corners of Australia. Reality television shows like the Discovery Channel's Aussie Gold Hunters, which is broadcast in 122 countries around the world, have also put prospecting in the spotlight, creating excitement among recreational prospectors and professionals alike.

Establishing the national footprint of recreational prospecting in Australia

Despite the regular coverage of recreational prospecting activities in the media, there is no official or consistent national statistics on recreational prospecting.

For the first time, through a national survey of recreational prospectors' activity, expenditure, income and social information, this study has established first-hand information on the activity footprint of recreational prospectors in Australia.

Figure 1. Activity and expenditure profile of recreational prospectors, 2019



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (CONT'D)

The survey and analysis of survey results established that there were an estimated 125,244 recreational prospectors in Australia in 2019, with around 85% of them undertaking at least one day of prospecting. Together, this adds up to approximately 5.1m days of recreational prospecting activity carried out over 3m trips. Prospectors are estimated to have spent \$336m while on the trip and \$271m off-trip.

These recreational prospecting activities make important contributions to the economy of Australia.

Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to Australia

Recreational prospectors' expenditures (both on trip and off trip) contribute directly to both GDP and employment of the locations where these expenditures occur. These locations tend to be once-prosperous towns in regional Australia and where renewed economic activity is greatly needed in present times.

Prospectors' income earned through recreational prospecting (not including professionals), where they are spent, also directly contributes to both GDP and employment in the regions where the spending occurs.

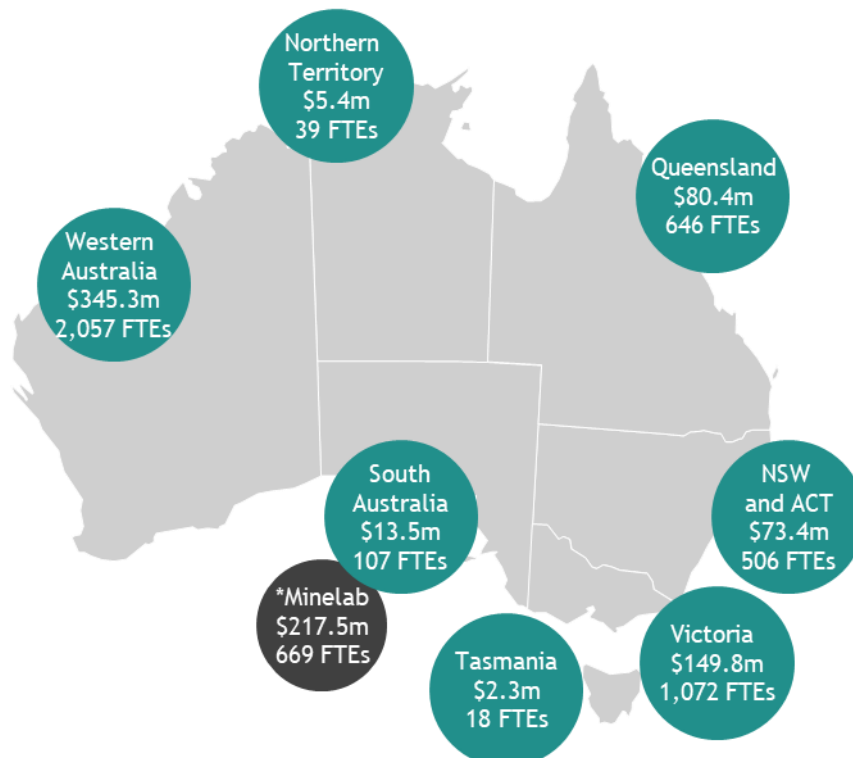
In 2019, the expenditure and income together directly contributed a total of \$338m to the national GDP and employed 1,956 FTEs.

An additional \$549m in GDP and 3,597 FTEs were generated indirectly from flow-on activities in supporting sectors, such as in retail, manufacturing and logistical services.

The economic contribution of recreational prospecting nationally and by each state and territory is illustrated in Figure 2.

Figure 2. Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to Australian states and territories

In 2019, recreational prospecting contributed \$887m in GDP and 5,553 FTE jobs to the Australian economy. In addition, Minelab Electronics (Minelab) contributed \$218m in GSP and 669 FTE jobs to the South Australian economy.



Note: The values reported for Australia are larger than the sum of the states as interstate spending is excluded from the individual state analyses but is included in the Australia analysis.

*In addition to recreational prospectors' contribution to South Australia's GDP, Minelab's business expenditures also contributed to the economic activity in South Australia (2019/20).

Source: BDO analysis

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (CONT'D)

Economic contribution of Minelab to South Australia

Minelab's global operations are primarily based in South Australia. The business employs highly skilled staff in research and manufacturing, with the lower valued manufacturing tasks occurring offshore. Highly skilled employment is associated with high wages and these support a significant amount of economic activity in South Australia through consumption expenditure. Business expenditures by Minelab also support economic activity in South Australia.

In 2019/20, Minelab contributed an estimated \$217.5 million (in terms of GSP) and 669 FTE jobs to South Australia's economy (as shown in Figure 2):

- ▶ \$148.2 million and 100 FTE jobs were directly contributed through business expenditure.
- ▶ \$69.3 million and 569 FTE jobs were indirectly contributed through flow-on effects.

Conclusion

The recreational prospecting sector builds on the legacy of a rich history of Australian pioneers and prospectors that dates back to the gold rush.

This study examined the role of recreational prospecting in facilitating business and economic activities.

The recreational prospecting sector is diverse, with different types of prospectors (hobbyists and professionals) and a wide range of prospecting targets (gold and varieties of treasure targets).

The activity pattern of the sector is mainly driven by prospectors' intrastate and interstate trips to prospecting destinations. Their expenditures on-trip and off-trip make important economic contributions to the national and regional economy.

The continuation of this economic contribution, however, is underpinned by a number of forces of influences, including the sustainability of the target reserves, and ongoing accessibility to the areas for prospecting which is subject to different regulations in different state and territories and various licencing approvals.

INTRODUCTION



INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE OF ENGAGEMENT

2.1 Introduction

Prospecting has played a significant role in Australia's history. The advancement in detecting technology, rise in the price of gold and recurrent media exposure in recent years has led to a rise in the popularity of recreational prospecting among hobbyists and small-scale professionals.

There is no universal definition for recreational prospecting. The activity is referred to as either prospecting or fossicking, or even interchangeably, across different Australian states and territories.

In this report, recreational prospecting is defined as the act of searching for gold and other metals (e.g. coin and relics) for non-commercial reasons, such as recreational, tourism or educational purposes, as well as small-scale professional reasons such as to make a living. In addition, this study only considered prospecting activity that at minimum involved the use of a metal detector.

2.2 Scope of engagement

Minelab Electronics ('Minelab') has engaged BDO to undertake an economic contribution study of the recreational prospecting industry (this study).

The objective of the study is to provide a source of truth for key economic statistics concerning the recreational prospecting industry in Australia as a whole and to establish the economic contribution that the recreational prospecting industry makes to the Australian economy and community.

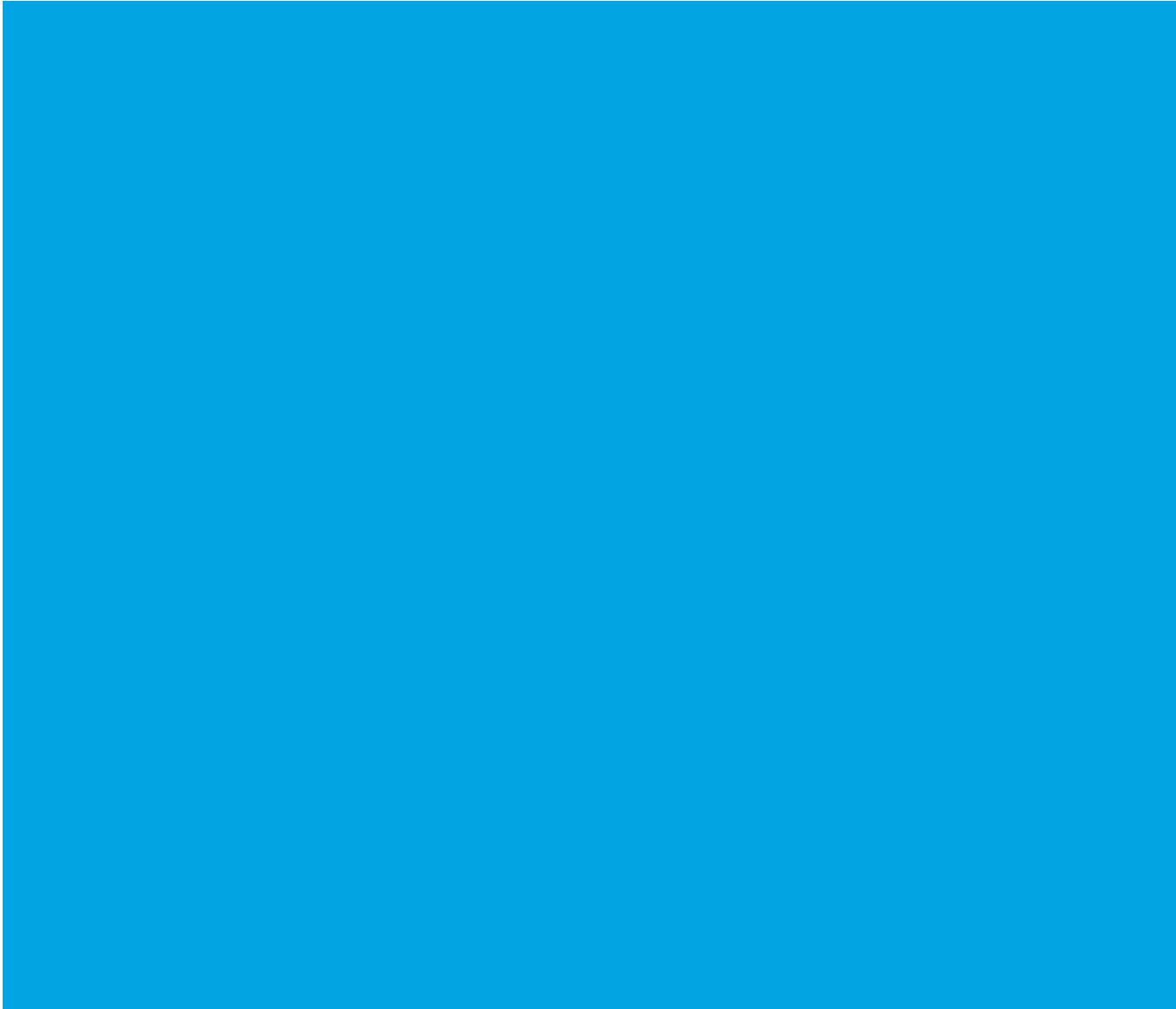
The scope of this study included:

- ▶ Establishing the activity 'footprint' of recreational prospecting in Australia, including:
 - Number of participants
 - Locations of prospecting activities
 - Estimates of expenditure.
- ▶ Estimating the economic contribution (i.e. the economic 'footprint') of recreational prospecting in Australia, in terms of value added and employment at the state and national level.
- ▶ Estimating the economic contribution of Minelab's operation in Adelaide to the South Australian economy.

The recreational prospecting sector is diverse and complex. In consultation with Minelab, the following study parameters were determined for inclusion in the study scope to best align with the sector components of the most interest to Minelab:

- ▶ Sector participants would consider both hobbyists and professionals who prospect on a small scale; corporate prospectors and miners would not be included.
- ▶ Prospecting targets would include both gold and treasure (e.g. coin and relics); gemstones/fossils/minerals would not be included.
- ▶ Prospecting methods must include the use of a metal detector.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY



SURVEY METHODOLOGY

3.1 Survey methodology

In Australia, there are no official or consistent sources of information for the recreational prospecting industry. To address this gap and for the purposes of this study, two national surveys of recreational prospectors were undertaken to collect primary data for the recreational prospecting industry - an expenditure survey and a population survey:

- ▶ The purposes of the expenditure survey, conducted between 14 July and 26 August 2020, were to:
 - Estimate the **expenditure pattern** of recreational prospectors in Australia and its states and territories.
 - Gather relevant data to use as the basis for estimating the **economic and social contribution** of recreational prospecting activity in Australia and its states and territories.
- ▶ The purpose of the second survey, conducted between 25 March and 23 April 2021, was to supplement the information gathered in the first survey and specifically, to estimate the population size of recreational prospectors in Australia, and its states and territories.

This section details the methods used to conduct the surveys and analysis undertaken to estimate the population size and activity pattern of recreational prospectors using the survey responses.

3.1.1 Survey design

The two survey questionnaires were developed in collaboration with Minelab and the state-based prospecting associations, in particular, Prospectors and Miners Association of Victoria (PMAV), NSW and ACT Prospectors and Fossickers Association (NAPFA), and Amalgamated Prospectors and Leaseholders Association (APLA).

The questions in the expenditure survey covered the following themes:

- ▶ **Activities:** Who goes prospecting? Where do they go? How many days and trips do they go a year? What are their prospecting targets? Are they purely recreational or seeking to earn an income?
- ▶ **Expenditures:** What do they spend money on while on trips and while not on trips? How much do they spend? Where are the businesses they purchase from located? Are the expenditures fully attributable to the recreational prospecting activities or only partially?
- ▶ **Income:** What did they find and how much was it worth? How much did they convert to income by selling?
- ▶ **Social aspects:** What motivates them to go prospecting? Who do they go with? How do they perceive their general and psychological health and wellbeing?

The questions in the population survey focused on prospectors' licencing status and included questions such as:

- ▶ Which states did they go prospecting? Which licences are held and for which state? When did they obtain which licence? When did they most recently go prospecting? Did they prospect with or without a licence?

3.1.2 Survey fieldwork

The survey fieldwork for both the expenditure and population surveys was administered by market research company Action Market Research (AMR). Online surveys were administered by AMR and were supplemented by computer-assisted telephone interviews (CATI) for both surveys. The data collection period for the expenditure survey commenced on 14 July 2020 and closed on 26 August 2020, while the data collection period for the population survey commenced on 25 March 2021 and closed on 23 April 2021. Key steps involved in the fieldwork were:

- ▶ Obtain survey samples. The initial samples for both surveys were provided from the Minelab customer database.

The sample for the expenditure survey comprised of:

- Full sample = 81,725 records
- Useable sample = 29,299 records (email listed and duplicates removed).

The sample for the population survey comprised of:

- Full sample = 85,634 records
- Useable sample = 33,138 records (email listed and duplicates removed).

SURVEY METHODOLOGY (CONT'D)

The difference in sample size across the expenditure and population surveys is due to the size of the Minelab customer database increasing between the dates the two surveys began.

These samples were supplemented by opt-in survey participants who were not captured by the Minelab customer database but may have been members of the relevant associations and clubs, or other unaffiliated prospectors, who were all openly invited to participate in the survey via invitations from associations and/or their posts to social media. To boost participation prize draw incentives were used. The prize offered was the choice of a Minelab Equinox-800 or Gold Monster 1000 metal detector. Two separate prize draws were completed - one following the close of each survey.

- ▶ Pilot interviews. Initial interviews were conducted as part of the pilot interviews to trial the survey questions for both surveys. For the expenditure survey, 16 pilot interviews were conducted, with 8 pilot interviews conducted for the population survey. Participants were sourced from multiple states including Victoria, New South Wales, Western Australia, Queensland and South Australia. Among those included in the pilot tests were representatives from the following organisations:
 - PMAV
 - NAPFA
 - APLA
 - Townsville Metal Detecting Club
 - The Outback Prospector.
- ▶ Online survey. The online survey for the expenditure survey was administered between 30 July and 21 August 2020, with the online survey for the population survey being administered between 31 March and 21 April 2021.
- ▶ Lastly, CATIs were conducted to supplement the online responses received in order to improve sample representativeness in certain geographic areas. 111 CATIs were conducted to supplement the expenditure survey, with 30 CATIs conducted to supplement the population survey. The distribution of CATIs across states and territories for both surveys are indicated in Table 1 and Table 2, respectively.

Table 1. CATI participant summary - Expenditure Survey

Location	Metro	Regional	Total
WA	15	4	19
VIC	-	-	0
NSW and ACT	3	28	31
QLD	14	31	45
SA	9	2	11
NT	2	3	5
TAS	-	-	0
Not in Australia	-	-	0
Total	43	68	111

Source: BDO expenditure survey of recreational prospectors 2020

Note: Regional/metropolitan categorisations classified as: NSW Metro (ACT, Sydney, Wollongong or Newcastle area), NSW Regional (NSW - elsewhere), NT Metro (Darwin area), NT Regional (NT - elsewhere), QLD Metro (Brisbane area), QLD Regional (QLD - elsewhere), SA Metro (Adelaide area), SA Regional (SA - elsewhere), TAS Metro (Hobart area), TAS Regional (TAS - elsewhere), VIC Metro (Melbourne area), VIC Regional (VIC - elsewhere), WA Metro (Perth area), WA Regional (WA - elsewhere).

SURVEY METHODOLOGY (CONT'D)

Table 2. CATI participant summary - Population Survey

Location	Metro	Regional	Total
WA	4	1	5
VIC	5	19	24
NSW and ACT	-	-	0
QLD	-	1	1
SA	-	-	0
NT	-	-	0
TAS	-	-	0
Not in Australia	-	-	0
Total	9	21	30

Source: BDO population survey of recreational prospectors 2021

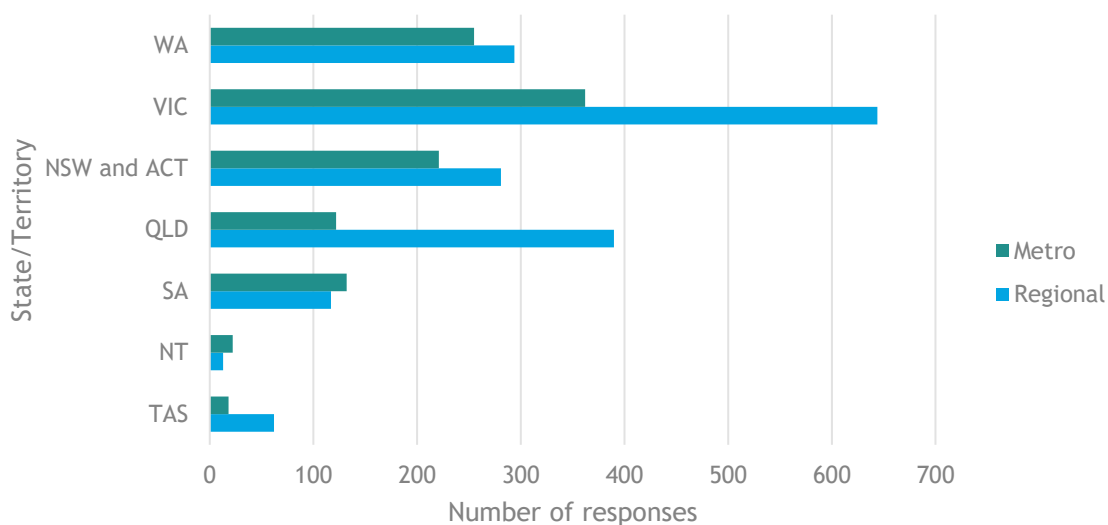
Note: Regional/metropolitan categorisations classified as: NSW Metro (ACT, Sydney, Wollongong or Newcastle area), NSW Regional (NSW - elsewhere), NT Metro (Darwin area), NT Regional (NT - elsewhere), QLD Metro (Brisbane area), QLD Regional (QLD - elsewhere), SA Metro (Adelaide area), SA Regional (SA - elsewhere), TAS Metro (Hobart area), TAS Regional (TAS - elsewhere), VIC Metro (Melbourne area), VIC Regional (VIC - elsewhere), WA Metro (Perth area), WA Regional (WA - elsewhere).

3.1.3 Completed survey responses

Across both expenditure and population surveys, a total of 7,527 responses were received. The responses received for each survey is as follows:

- ▶ Expenditure Survey: A total of 2,991 responses were received, with 52 responses removed due to either poor responses or speed of completion and 6 removed as they were from overseas residents. In total, 2,933 responses were included for further analysis. The geographical distribution of the completed expenditure survey responses is provided in Figure 3.

Figure 3. Geographical distribution of expenditure survey responses

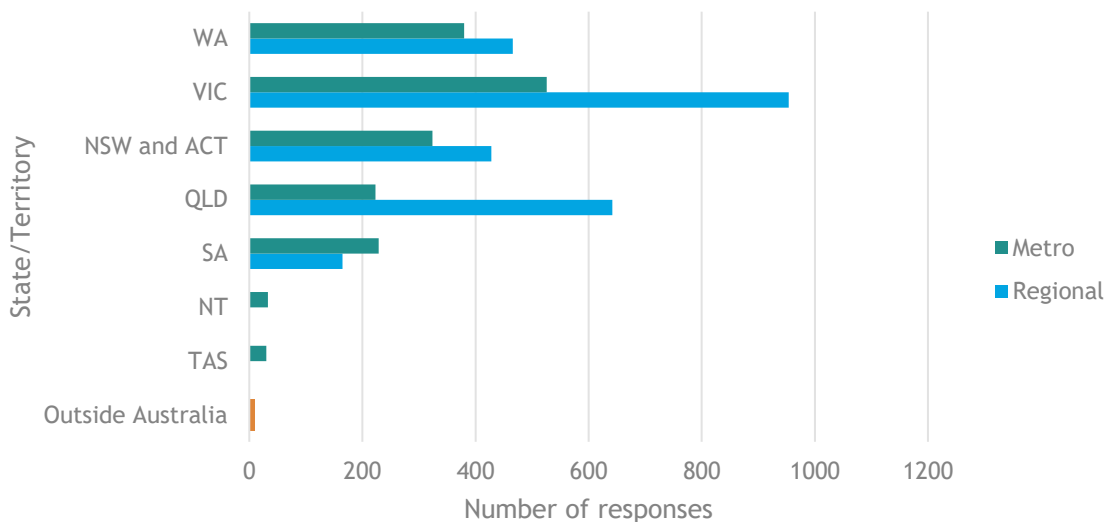


Source: BDO expenditure survey of recreational prospectors 2020

SURVEY METHODOLOGY (CONT'D)

- ▶ Population survey: A total of 4,536 responses were received, with 13 duplicate responses removed (i.e. responses coming from same email address). For the purposes of the population survey, responses from overseas residents were not required to be removed. Thus, 4,523 responses were included for further analysis. The geographical distribution of the completed population survey responses is provided in Figure 4.

Figure 4. Geographical Distribution of population survey responses



Source: BDO population survey of recreational prospectors 2021

3.1.4 Analysis of survey results

The survey results collected were used to estimate the population size of recreational prospectors as well as to establish their expenditure pattern. The following three key steps were involved to analyse the survey responses:

- 1 Estimate recreational prospecting population size
- 2 Weighting of the survey sample from each state and territory to be representative of the estimated population of each state and territory.
- 3 Partition weighted prospecting activity into the states and territories they occurred in.

While step 1 used only the results of the population survey, steps 2 and 3 used the results of the expenditure survey in conjunction with the population estimates obtained in step 1.

Step 1: Estimate recreational prospecting population size

The method used to estimate the recreational prospecting population size differs for each state and territory, as the available information to derive such estimates differs across states and territories:

- ▶ The states of Victoria, Western Australia and Queensland adopt Miner's Rights/licencing/permit systems, where licences are required for undertaking recreational prospecting activities. There are, however, noticeable differences in the licencing specifications across each of the states, including types of licences (i.e. Miner's Rights versus fossicking licences), the validity periods of the respective licence (i.e. ranging from one month to a lifetime), number of prospectors each licence can cover and the length of the available data series for licence issuance numbers.¹
- ▶ Miner's Rights/licencing/permits in other states and territories are not universally required.

¹ These licences typically cover opal and gemstone prospecting in addition to those activities which require a metal detector, however, the gemstone population that may be covered by the licences have not been separately identified for the following reasons:

1. Anecdotal evidence suggests that these activities comprise a very small proportion of overall recreational prospecting activity
2. The survey sample comprised metal detector users, this meant that the opal and gemstone prospector population is not sufficiently represented by the survey responses (therefore, survey responses cannot be used to determine the opal and gemstone prospector population).

SURVEY METHODOLOGY (CONT'D)

It was therefore necessary to adopt different methods for determining the number of prospectors in each state and territory based on the different types of information available for each state and territory. In total, three methods were utilised to estimate the number of active recreational prospectors in Australian states and territories who undertook at least one day of prospecting in 2019:

- ▶ Method 1 was used to estimate the number of active recreational prospectors in Western Australia and Victoria
- ▶ Method 2 was used to estimate the number of active recreational prospectors in Queensland
- ▶ Method 3 was used to estimate the number of active recreational prospectors in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, the Northern Territory, and South Australia.

Method 1 - Western Australia and Victoria:

In Victoria and Western Australia, the activities of recreational prospectors are mostly governed by Miner's Rights:

- ▶ In Victoria, they are generally valid for 10 years²
- ▶ In Western Australia, they are valid for life.

Information on the number of Miners' Rights issued per year was provided by the Victorian and Western Australian state governments for the purpose of supporting the study:

- ▶ In Victoria, Miner's Rights issued annually between 2011 and 2019 was provided
- ▶ In Western Australia, Miner's Rights issued annually between 2010 and 2020 was provided.

As a Miner's Right is valid for multiple years, the method used to determine the active prospector population in Western Australia and Victoria was based on the derivation of a 'retention rate' which represented the proportion of Miner's Right holders who are still active for a given number of years after they last obtained their Miner's Rights. The 'retention rate' for each state is then applied to the number of Miner's Rights issued in each relevant year for each state.

Retention rate estimate

The population survey responses provided information on the year a respondent most recently obtained a Miner's Right along with the year they most recently went prospecting in Victoria and Western Australia. This information was used to develop a 'retention rate' for prospectors in Victoria and Western Australia respectively, which represents the proportion of Miner's Rights holders who are likely to remain active for a given number of years after their Miner's Rights were issued.

To estimate these retention rates, for each Miner's Rights issue year, the number of survey respondents who remained active for a certain number of years after obtaining their Miner's Rights in that year were calculated as a proportion of Miner's Rights holders who obtained their Miner's Rights in that year (e.g. the 13 respondents who received their Western Australian Miner's Rights in 2017 and remained active until 2019 represented 14% of the 91 respondents who obtained their Miner's Rights in 2017). Additionally, it was assumed that if a prospector was active in a given year, they also would have been active in the years between acquiring their Miner's Rights and their last active year.

A retention rate profile (see Box 1) was then established by calculating the average proportion of respondents who remained active for a given number of years after obtaining their Miner's Rights.

² 2-year licences were previously granted in VIC, but were last issued in 2014 and were thus last valid in 2016.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY (CONT'D)

Box 1. Retention rate profiles - Western Australia and Victoria

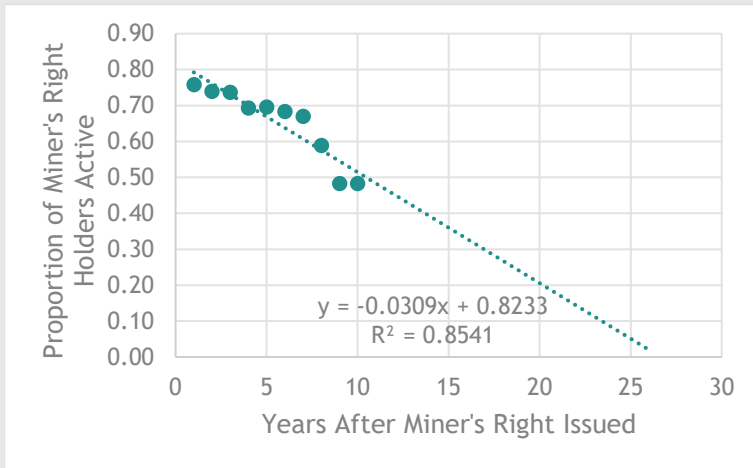
Western Australia Retention Rate Profile:		Victoria Retention Rate Profile:	
Years since issue	Average Proportion still active	Years since issue	Average Proportion still active
10	0.48	10	0.17
9	0.48	9	0.29
8	0.59	8	0.42
7	0.67	7	0.43
6	0.68	6	0.47
5	0.70	5	0.51
4	0.69	4	0.54
3	0.74	3	0.60
2	0.74	2	0.60
1	0.76	1	0.62
0	0.99	0	1.00

A linear equation was then fitted to the retention rate profile, in order to model the relationship between years since issue and the proportion of Miner's Right holders that were still active (see Box 2). The modelled retention rates were then used in conjunction with annual Miner's Right issuance data to determine the number of active prospectors in a given year.

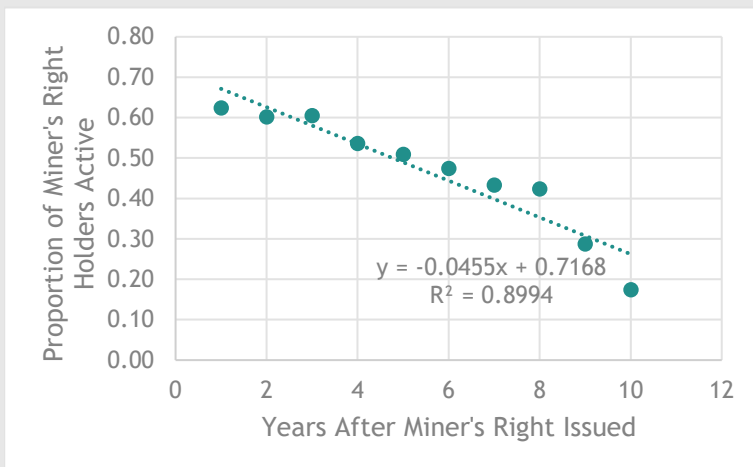
SURVEY METHODOLOGY (CONT'D)

Box 2. Modelled relationship between years since issues and the proportion of Miner's Right holders still active - Western Australia and Victoria

Modelled relationship for Western Australia:



Modelled relationship for Victoria:



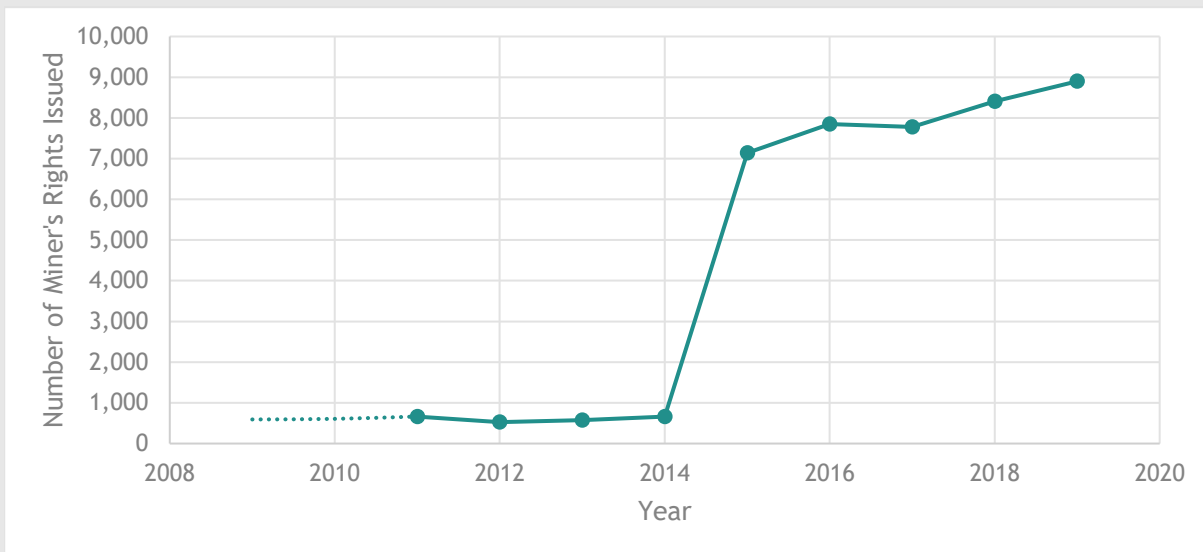
Number of Miner's Rights estimate

The number of Miner's Rights issued were extrapolated back in time to fill in the gaps of the available time series on annual issuance volume for Victoria and Western Australia respectively (i.e. data is available between 2011 and 2019 for Victoria and between 2010 and 2020 for Western Australia). The extrapolation period is determined by the validity period of the Miner's Rights respectively and is between 2009 and 2010 for Victoria and between 1995 and 2009 for Western Australia (see Box 3).

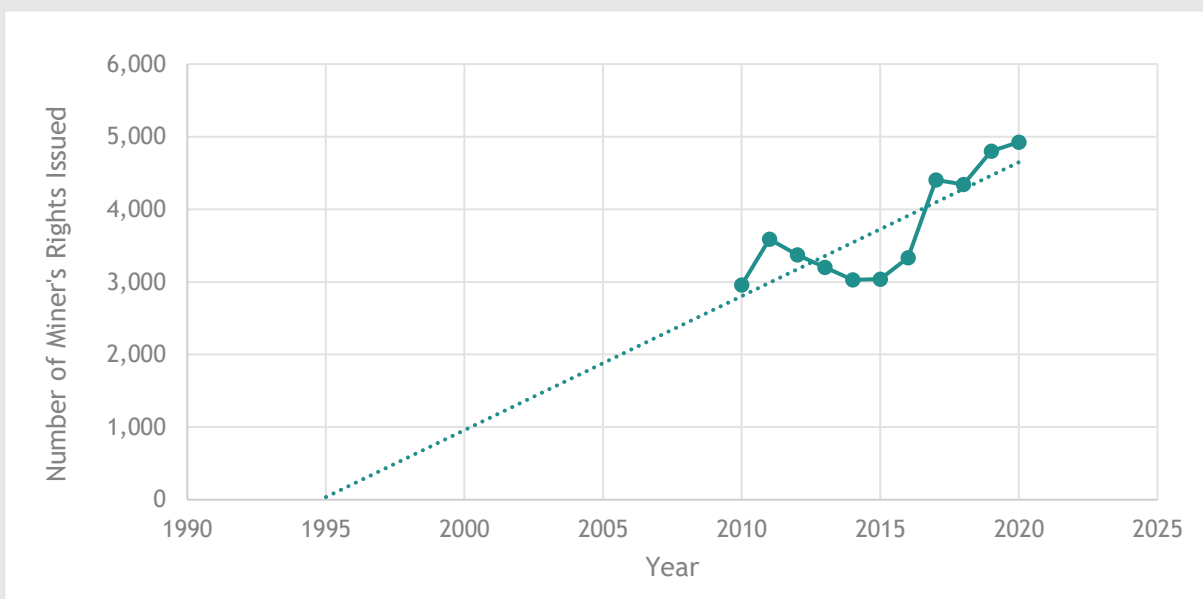
SURVEY METHODOLOGY (CONT'D)

Box 3. Extrapolation of Miner's Rights issued - Western Australia and Victoria

In Victoria, the historic number of Miner's Rights issued has been affected by policy changes - as of 2014, 2-year Miner's Rights were abolished, and 10-year Miner's Rights became the only Victorian Miner's Right available (resulting in the uptake in 10-year Miner's Rights from 2014 onwards). Determined by the 10-year validity period of the Miner's Rights, extrapolation was undertaken for 2009 and 2010 and calculated as the average of the number of 10-year Miner's Rights issued between 2011 and 2014 (see below figure).



Extrapolation for Western Australian Miner's Rights was undertaken for a longer period of time, as Miner's Rights in Western Australia are valid for life. As the number of Western Australian Miner's Rights issued followed an upward trend from 2010 (see below figure), extrapolation for Miner's Rights issued prior to 2010 were established based on them following this observed trend. However, as the backward extrapolation for the number of Miner's Rights indicated that the number issued was less than zero prior to the year 1995, the earliest extrapolated year was set at 1995.



SURVEY METHODOLOGY (CONT'D)

Lastly, to account for prospectors who prospect on licences/permits other than Miner's Rights, the proportion of respondents who indicated that they prospected without a Miner's Right was then added to the number of Miner's Right holders. This proportion is 8.12% and 8.30% for Victoria and Western Australia, respectively. Of those who indicated they did not hold a Miner's Right:

- ▶ 40.0% of those who went prospecting in Western Australia in the past 10 years did so with alternative licences/permissions/permits, while 60.0% did so without any relevant licences/permits/permissions.
- ▶ 37.0% of those who went prospecting in Victoria in the past 10 years did so with alternative licences/permissions/permits, while 63.0% did so without any relevant licences/permits/permissions.

Method 2 - Queensland:

In Queensland, the activities of recreational prospectors are governed by fossicking licences, which have the following characteristics:

- ▶ Issued licences vary in length. Queensland fossicking licences may be issued for a term of 1 month, 6 months, or 1 year, and may be obtained at any point throughout the year.
- ▶ Licences may cover more than one adult, depending on whether an 'individual' or 'family' licence is purchased.³

Information on the total number of fossicking licences issued per year, between FY16 and FY20 was provided by the Queensland government for the purpose of supporting the study.

The following adjustments were made to convert the number of licences issued into the number of unique, individual prospectors:

- ▶ As a single prospector is likely to correspond with multiple licences issued (i.e. a licence is only valid for a maximum of one year), it was assumed that 50% of all issued licences uniquely correspond with an individual licence holder.
- ▶ As both 'individual' and 'family' fossicking licences are available, a single licence may cover up to 2 adults. As there is no publicly available information regarding the ratio of 'individual' to 'family' fossicking licences issued, survey data was used to obtain this ratio. It was found that approximately 55.3% of licence-holders held a licence which covered two adults, rather than one.
- ▶ In addition to those prospectors who are covered by a fossicking licence, there is a proportion of prospectors who undertake prospecting activities in Queensland with licences/permits/permissions alternative to a fossicking licence, or who prospect without any relevant permissions. Through analysis of the survey responses, the proportion of these individuals was determined to be 18.5%. This sample statistic was then applied to the population estimate of prospectors with a fossicking licence, to determine the population estimate of prospectors in Queensland overall, including those who do so without a fossicking licence. Of those who indicated they did not hold a Queensland fossicking licence:
 - 42.4% of those who went prospecting in Queensland in the past 10 years did so with alternative licences/permissions/permits, while 57.59% did so without any relevant licences/permits/permissions.

Method 3 - Remaining states and territories:

In the absence of any publicly available prospecting licence data, the method used to calculate the population estimates for New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, the Northern Territory and South Australia utilises Minelab sales data and the previously calculated estimates of the number of active prospectors in Victoria, Western Australia, and Queensland.

Using Minelab sales data, and an estimation of the company's market share of metal detector sales in Australian states and territories, the total detector unit sales for each state and territory in 2019 were able to be calculated.

From detector unit sales and previously estimated active prospector population for Victoria, Western Australia, and Queensland, the number of prospectors per metal detector sold was calculated for each state. The average value for 'active prospectors per detector sale' across the three states were then calculated. Given that the detector unit sales were available in all states and territories, the average value for 'active prospectors per detector sale' was used to determine the number of active prospectors in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, the Northern Territory and South Australia.

³ Fossicking licences are also available for an 'educational organisation' or 'commercial tour operator' for terms of 1-year, but it has been assumed that those covered by these licences do not meet the definition of a recreational prospector unless they obtain a licence at a later point, in which case they will be captured as an 'individual' or 'family' licence holder.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY (CONT'D)

Population Size

Active prospector numbers in each state and territory in 2019 were estimated using the three methods above. To determine the total number of prospectors, it was assumed that 85% of prospectors were active, while the remainder were inactive.⁴ This assumption was based on the outcome of a literature review of studies on similar outdoor recreational activities in Australia, the details of which are outlined in Box 4.

⁴ While active prospectors are defined as those who undertook at least one day of prospecting in 2019, inactive prospectors are defined as those did not undertake any prospecting activities in 2019 but intended to in the future.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY (CONT'D)

Box 4. Summary of literature review on avidity rates of similar outdoor activities

The literature review indicated that activities with high avidity tend to be those where a large investment and/or recurring expense is required to maintain access (see Table 2). The population in these studies also tends to be a known sub-set of residents. For example, a current game hunting licence and specialised equipment is required to hunt duck or deer in Victoria and a fishing boat and licence is required to be a boat-based recreational fisher in Western Australia.

In contrast, in low avidity activities, only a small investment and no or very little recurring cost is required to maintain access; and since the population is all residents, much of the population has never invested in accessing the activity. If those who have never invested in accessing the activity were removed from the population then the participation rate would be higher. Conversely as an example, if the residents of Victoria who do not have current access to duck hunting were included in the population then the avidity rate would be much lower.

- ▶ In order to use these studies to estimate the avidity rate of recreational prospecting, the following factors were considered:
- ▶ Investment in recreational prospecting equipment is substantial with the average metal detector costing over \$1,000 and expenditure on other equipment and vehicles being much higher.
- ▶ Purchasing a permit is necessary for recreational prospecting in some states and territories.
- ▶ The population to be estimated is all people who go recreational prospecting from time to time.

Table 3 Summary of avidity from studies on similar outdoor recreation activities

Range	Active (%)	Activity	Population	Region	Year	Source
High avidity activities	87%	Duck hunting	Game hunters licenced for duck	VIC	2020	RMCG 2020
	85%	Recreational fishing	Recreational Fishing Boat Licence holders	WA	2015	Ryan et. al. 2017
	76%	Deer hunting	Game hunters licenced for deer	VIC	2013	RMCG 2014
	44%	Deer hunting	Game hunters licenced for deer	VIC	2020	RMCG 2020
Low avidity activities	29%	Recreational fishing	All residents	TAS	2000	Henry and Lyle 2003
	29%	Recreational fishing	All residents	WA	2000	Henry and Lyle 2003
	26%	Duck hunting (poor season)	Game hunters licenced for duck	VIC	2013	RMCG 2020
	25%	Recreational fishing	All residents	NZ	2014	Wynne-Jones et. al. 2014
	13%-25%	Recreational fishing	All residents	Various states and territories across Australia	2000	Henry and Lyle 2003

Since recreational prospecting requires investment in equipment and permits, and the population is a sub-set of residents (not everyone in the region), the proportion of the population that is active can be expected to be similar to that of licence duck or deer hunters or licenced recreational fishing boat owners, at around 85%. We therefore adopt the assumption that 85% of the population of recreational prospectors are active in a given year.

A summary of the total number of active and inactive prospectors in each state and territory in 2019, is provided in Table 4 below.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY (CONT'D)

Table 4. Population of recreational prospectors in Australia in 2019, by State and Territory

State/Territory	Active	Inactive	Total
WA	36,485	6,439	42,924
VIC	31,535	5,565	37,100
NSW and ACT	18,914	3,338	22,251
QLD	13,598	2,400	15,998
SA	4,466	788	5,254
NT	836	148	984
TAS	623	110	733
AUSTRALIA	106,457	18,787	125,244

Step 2: Weighting of the survey sample from each state to be representative of the estimated population of each state

The survey sample of active prospectors from each state and territory was sufficient to weight individual responses to match the population gender and age distributions for each state. Assuming these characteristics are correlated with recreational prospecting behaviour, this provides a better estimate of population level activity than simply weighting each response by the ratio of population size to sample size.

The generalised regression method, described by Bethlehem and Keller (1987), was used to weight responses. Weighting was carried out using the GREGWT package in R, initially developed by the ABS to weight household surveys (ABS 2000), that has since been applied by the ABS to other industry and household surveys (ABS 2016, 2017a, 2017b). The average of the resulting weights applied to the sample of active prospectors was 18.4 as the survey captured over 5% of the estimated total population.

Since the sample of inactive prospectors was small for individual states, as expected with a voluntary survey, the relative differences between expenditure patterns of active and inactive participants were calculated at a national level to avoid extreme values from smaller sample size states and territories. The national relative differences were then applied to the expenditure by the active population of each state and territory to estimate the expenditure by the inactive population in each state and territory.

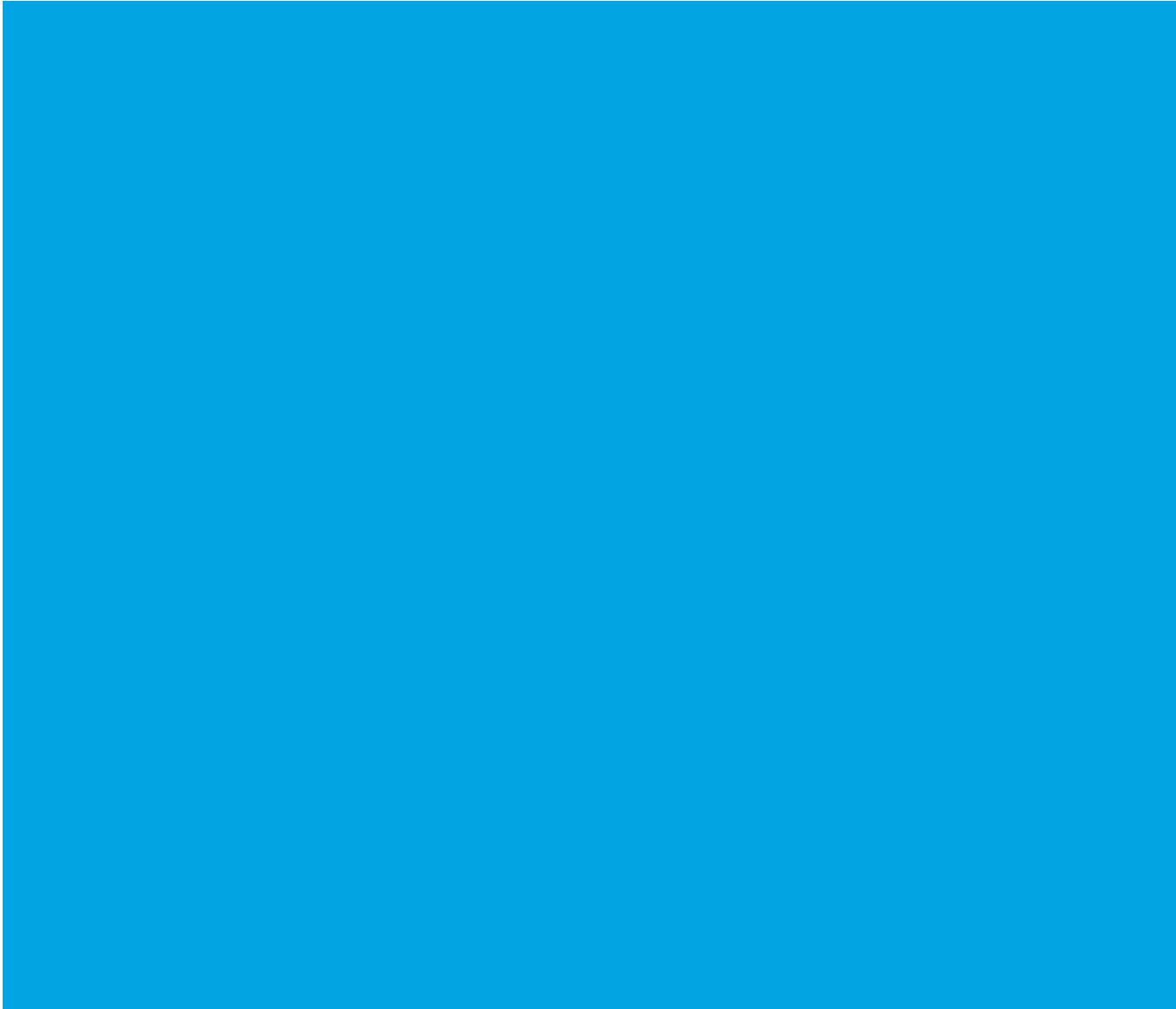
Step 3: Partition weighted prospecting activity into the states they occurred in

The activities of recreational prospectors tend not to be limited to their state and territory of residence. As an example, a recreational prospector who lives in Victoria may purchase a metal detector and other tools from an online store based in New South Wales, go prospecting in Victoria and South Australia spending money in both states along the way, find gold in either state, then travel home to Victoria to sell the gold and spend the revenue.

This analysis partitions this activity into the state and territory that the transactions occurred in as this is where economic contributions are realised. The state and territory results can therefore be interpreted as the economic contribution to a given state and territory of recreational prospecting in Australia and includes:

- ▶ On-trip expenditures associated with recreational prospecting in the state or territory, regardless of the state and territory of residence of the prospector.
- ▶ Off-trip expenditures associated with recreational prospecting in the state or territory, regardless of the state and territory of residence of the prospector and where they tend to prospect.
- ▶ Expenditure of income earned through recreational prospecting by residents of that state or territory, regardless of which state or territory the finds or income were made. Income is only included if it is realised (for example, by selling gold) as unrealised income from finds that are not sold cannot be spent in the economy. Further, it is only included for prospectors who indicated that they prospect for recreational purposes, rather than to earn an income, as the expenditure of income by those who prospect to earn a living is already counted in their on-trip and off-trip expenditures (above) while those who prospect for recreation are assumed to make their on-trip and off-trip expenditures regardless of whether they earn any income from prospecting.

RECREATIONAL PROSPECTING IN AUSTRALIA



RECREATIONAL PROSPECTING IN AUSTRALIA

4.1 Segmentation of the recreational prospecting industry

The recreational prospecting industry within the scope of this study can be segmented in a few different ways, i.e. by types of prospectors, prospecting targets and prospecting methods.

4.1.1 Types of prospectors

People are drawn to recreational prospecting for a variety of different reasons, the excitement and optimism of finding gold, spending time in nature and outdoors, seeking a sense of adventure and challenge and making an income to earn a living.

Depending on the main motivations of the prospectors, they can be classified into two categories:

- ▶ **Recreational prospectors** - prospectors who participate in the activity primarily for non-commercial reasons, such as recreational (e.g. hobby), tourism, educational or social reasons.
- ▶ **Small-scale professional prospectors** - prospectors who prospect full time and primarily to earn a living. These prospectors are different from corporate miners and prospectors in that they operate at a small scale and are mostly self-employed.

4.1.2 Prospecting targets

The most commonly sought-after target for recreational prospectors is gold.

There is also increasing interest in the community in treasure hunting, for example, coins and relics, with the majority of hobbyists said to begin their hobby in treasure hunting by first delving into coin hunting.

4.1.3 Prospecting methods

There are numerous methods employed in recreational prospecting and typically more than one method is used at one time.

Almost all prospecting at a recreational level (including small-scale professionals) involve the use of a metal detector.

In general, people who engage in recreational prospecting activities are permitted to use hand-held, un-motorised tools (i.e. pans, hammers, picks and shovels, shakers, sieves, river sluices, etc.), with explosives and mechanised machinery strictly prohibited.

Small-scale professional prospectors may be able to use mechanised machinery depending on whether prospecting under a prospecting right/permit or lease/licence.

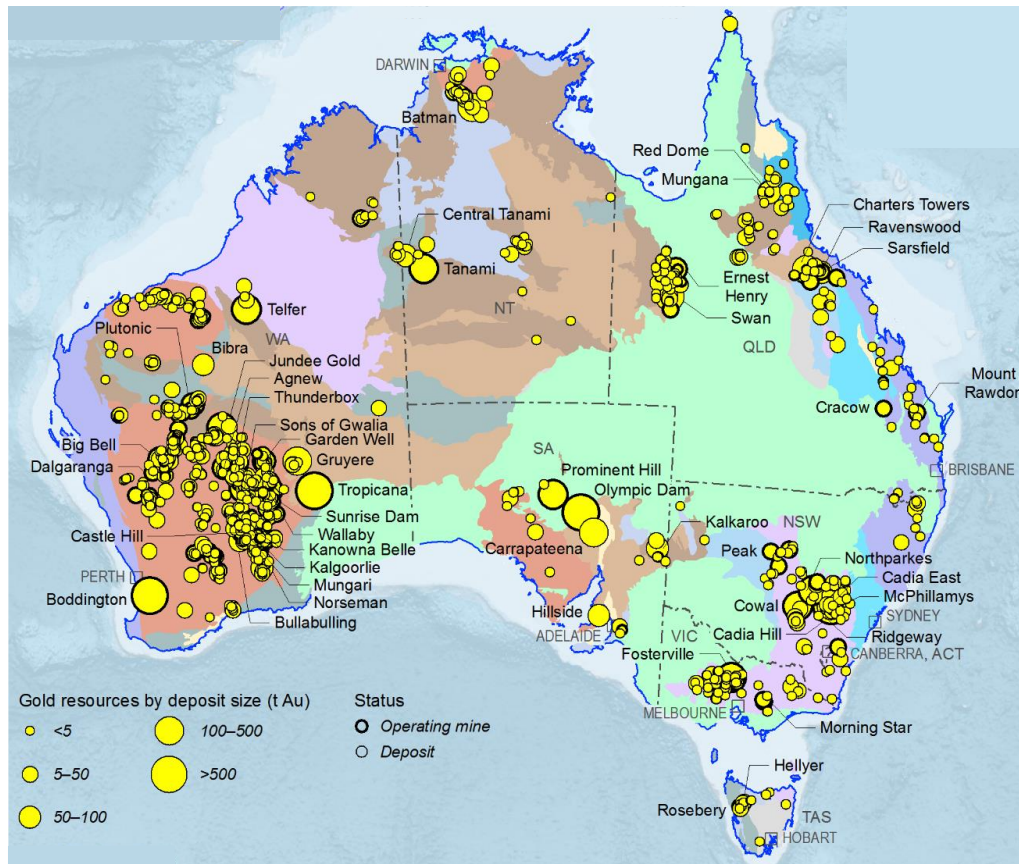
4.2 Locations of prospecting

Locations of prospecting activities are determined by both locations of deposits and accessibility to the land areas where deposits are located.

For prospectors whose primary targets are gold, the distribution of gold deposits are highlighted in Figure 5.

RECREATIONAL PROSPECTING IN AUSTRALIA (CONT'D)

Figure 5. Gold resources and deposit size in Australia



Source: Australian Government Geoscience Australia

Not all of these areas are accessible to recreational prospectors. There are strict rules and regulations in each state and jurisdiction that stipulate permitted areas and prohibited areas for recreational prospecting activities (see Table 5).

RECREATIONAL PROSPECTING IN AUSTRALIA (CONT'D)

Table 5. Established permitted and prohibited prospecting areas in each state and territory

Jurisdiction	Permitted areas	Restricted areas
WA	A Miner's Right is required to prospect on unallocated / vacant Crown land, including pastoral leases (land used for grazing and timber). Miner's Right holders must notify pastoralists of their intention to prospect. Further, consent is required from mining tenement holders to prospect on mining tenements.	No prospecting is permitted in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Reserved Land ▶ National parks ▶ Nature Reserves ▶ Within Town Sites ▶ Classified Reserves (e.g. cemeteries).
VIC	A Miner's Right is required to prospect (referred to as 'fossick' in Victoria) on except for prospecting at tourist mines and similar sites which charge a fee for entry. Areas permitted for prospecting include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Crown land other than prohibited and land where consent is required. ▶ Permitted Areas in State and National Parks - Beechworth Historic Park, Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park, Chiltern-Mt Pilot National Park, Heathcote-Graytown National Park, Reef Hills State Park Enfield State Park, Warrandyte State Park, Kooyoora State Park, Kara National Park, Paddy's Ranges State Park, Greater Bendigo National Park, Steiglitz Historic Park. ▶ Private land - consent from the land owner or occupier is required. ▶ Mining, prospecting or retention licence areas but not exploration licence areas - consent must be sought from the licence holder. 	No prospecting is permitted in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Prohibited Crown land ▶ State Parks ▶ National Parks ▶ Select streams, creeks and rivers.
NSW and ACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Fossicking Districts ▶ Crown Land - requires consent from appropriate authority. ▶ Private land - consent must be sought from the landholder. ▶ Coal, Mineral and Petroleum Titles - consent must be sought from an authority, mineral claim or prospecting licence holder. ▶ Mineral Claims and Prospecting Licences - consent must be sought from the claim or licence holder. ▶ State Forests - permit required. 	No prospecting is permitted in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ National Parks - consent may be provided in certain circumstances. ▶ Native Title - unless consent is sought from the relevant registered native title body corporate.
QLD	A licence is required to prospect (referred to as 'fossick' in Queensland) on most land throughout Queensland, except for tourist mines and similar sites which charge a fee for entry. Area permitted for prospecting includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Occupied/private land (including both freehold and leasehold tenures) which requires written consent from the landholder. ▶ Unoccupied land - unless there has been a determination of native title. ▶ Road reserves - collection only, digging not permitted. ▶ Public gold prospecting areas comprising General Permission Area (GPA) and Designated Fossicking Areas (DFA), across <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clermont: 11 GPAs including 7 state forests areas and 4 council managed land areas - Warwick: 2 GPAs (Talgai, Durakai) and 1 DFA (Thames Creek) - Charters Towers: 1 GAP (Youngs Block) - Gympie: 1 DFA (Deep Creek). 	No prospecting is permitted in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ National Parks ▶ Conservation Parks ▶ High preservation areas ▶ Nominated waterways of wild river areas ▶ State forests and timber reserves ▶ Other areas declared by regulation which are signposted.
SA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Unalienated Crown land - consent must be sought from the Department of Environment and Water ▶ Established fossicking areas which have been established on part of the Echunga goldfields and Gumeracha goldfields. 	No prospecting is permitted in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ National Parks ▶ Conservation Parks ▶ Forest Reserves

RECREATIONAL PROSPECTING IN AUSTRALIA (CONT'D)

Jurisdiction	Permitted areas	Restricted areas
NT	<p>Prospecting is allowable on any land providing the correct notifications and consents are gained. This include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Vacant Crown land ▶ Declared prospecting areas. ▶ Application area of an exploration licence or extractive mineral exploration licence ▶ Granted area of an extractive mineral exploration licence. ▶ Private/occupied land - consent must be sought from the landholder. 	<p>No prospecting is permitted in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Aboriginal sacred sites ▶ Commonwealth land, including defence facilities and national parks such as Uluru and Kakadu.
TAS	<p>Prospecting is allowed in 10 declared fossicking areas in Tasmania. Outside of these areas, a licence is required to prospect in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Private property - consent must be sought from the property owner. ▶ Existing mining leases, retention licences or exploration licences - consent must be sought from the mineral tenement holder. ▶ Unallocated or vacant Crown land - except pastoral leases (land used for grazing and timber) which requires a Miner's Right and prior written consent from land occupiers ▶ Land subject to an application for an exploration licence or mining lease only if consent is sought from both the applicant and Director of Mines ▶ Permanent Timber Production Zone Land, Future Potential Production forest, Regional Reserves and in some Conservation Areas. 	<p>No prospecting is permitted in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ National parks ▶ Nature Reserves ▶ Nature Recreation Areas ▶ Historic Sites ▶ Conservation Covenanted Areas ▶ Public and municipal reserves (e.g. tips, cemeteries).

Source: Western Australia Government; Victoria State Government; Queensland Government; NSW Government; South Australia Government; Tasmanian Government; Northern Territory Government

4.3 Recreational prospecting associations

There are four main recreational prospecting associations in Australia:

▶ APLA

APLA's origins first began in 1889 when prospectors and miners on the Yilgarn goldfield formed the first union for prospectors and miners in Western Australia. The formation of APLA was in response to the State passing regulations which enabled mining companies to gain exceptions enabling increased accessibility to mining. However, these exceptions were not available to individual or non-incorporated prospecting groups which disadvantage prospectors. Since the formation of APLA, it has protected and progressed the interests of prospectors and leaseholders for over 100 years.

In 2019, APLA was estimated to represent between 15,000 and 20,000 members engaged in recreational prospecting in Western Australia.

▶ PMAV

PMAV was established in 1980 with the goal to protect the rights and opportunities of those wishing to partake in recreational prospecting activities in Victoria. PMAV has since established strong connections with Government and other associations and clubs which share similar interests and goals. PMAV consists of eight branches throughout Victoria, and these branches organise field trip days on private and crown land, social events and guest speakers for its members.

▶ NAFPA

NAFPA was formed in 2012 with the goal to gain fairer access to public land for prospecting and fossicking activities, on behalf of all fossickers and prospectors in NSW and ACT. In addition, NAFPA aims to promote prospecting and fossicking for minerals, particularly for gold, and continues to educate the public on the importance that gold prospecting has had to building the Australian economy.

In 2014, NAFPA reported approximately 1,000 members and continues to grow.

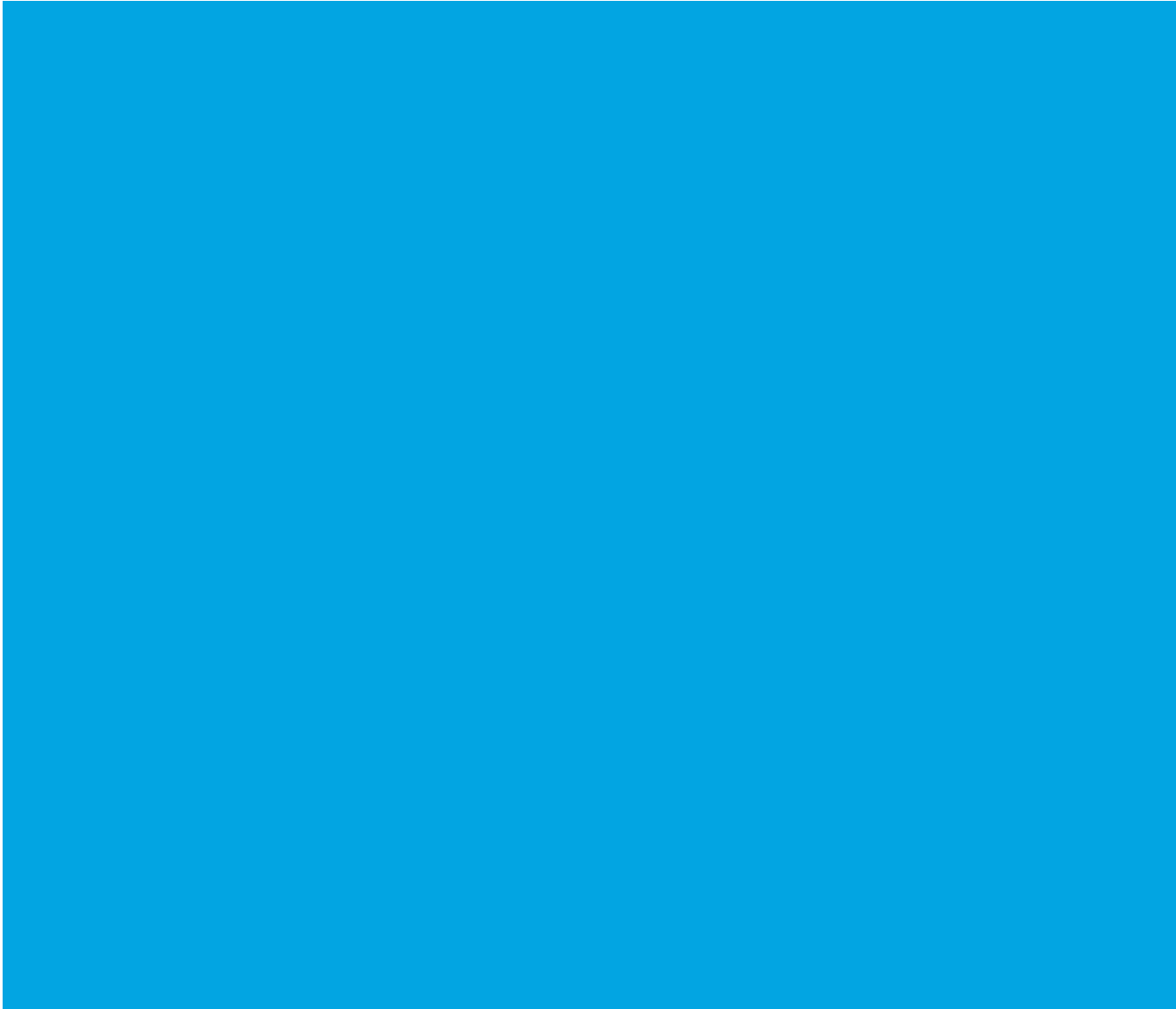
RECREATIONAL PROSPECTING IN AUSTRALIA (CONT'D)

► **PMAT**

In 2015, PMAT was incorporated and has since represented and lobbied on behalf of people in the recreational prospecting industry in Tasmania. Currently, PMAT has an estimated 100 members.

In addition to its role representing recreational prospectors, PMAT also runs approximately four field trips per year, with one of these often including a raffle with varied prizes such as gold nuggets, gift vouchers, firewood or the exclusive right to prospect on 'a freshly laid bed of wash at a gold mine'.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS



ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF RECREATIONAL PROSPECTING IN AUSTRALIA

This section details the methodology used to undertake the economic contribution assessment of recreational prospecting and details the results of the economic contribution modelling related to recreational prospecting (detailed tables are included in Appendix C).

5.1 Economic contribution of recreational prospecting methodology

Economic contribution modelling examines the contribution to economic outputs (in terms of both value add to gross state product (GSP)/gross domestic product (GDP) and employment (full-time equivalents (FTEs)) from the economic activities generated:

- ▶ Directly from expenditure associated with prospecting activities by individuals in the recreational prospecting industry; and
- ▶ Indirectly from flow-on activities, such as in retail, manufacturing and logistical services.

The Regional Industry Structure and Employment (RISE) model, constructed by BDO EconSearch, has been used to estimate the economic contribution of recreational prospecting in Australia.

The RISE models use an extension of the conventional input-output method to provide a comprehensive economic framework that is applied widely in the resource planning process, particularly for regional economic contribution applications.

To estimate regional economic contribution, the RISE model requires information on the magnitude of various expenditures and where they occur, in this case, gathered from the survey. Also needed is information on how the sectors receiving this expenditure share their expenditures among the various sectors from whom they buy, and so on, for the further expenditure rounds.

Survey data were used to determine the direct expenditures only. For expenditure in subsequent rounds (expenditure by businesses and households that received money from recreational prospectors) a set of assumptions based on average inter-sector expenditure were used. For example, if households in the regional economy spent 13% of their income on food on average, it was assumed that, for instance, those working in accommodation establishments that serve recreational prospectors did likewise.

Transform expenditures occurring in each state from 'purchasers' prices' to 'basic prices'

In economic modelling terms, expenditure by recreational prospectors is referred to as final demand. When the expenditure is disaggregated by industry sector (retail, restaurants, accommodation, etc.) and converted from 'purchasers' prices', into 'basic prices' it is referred to as a final demand profile.

The conversion of expenditure estimates from purchasers (i.e. what recreational prospectors pay) to basic prices (i.e. what producers, service providers and other businesses receive) was as follows.

Net taxes (taxes minus subsidies) and retail and transport margins were reallocated to make the data consistent with accounting conventions used in the Regional Industry Structure and Employment (RISE) model. Purchasers to basic price ratios were derived from ABS data (ABS 2013, Table 9). This process ensured that margins, such as retail and transport margins, were allocated to the appropriate sectors, taxes were properly identified and that regional imports were not included as part of the regional economic contribution estimation process.

The final adjustment to the base data was allocation of expenditure data in basic prices to the relevant input-output sectors (78 intermediate sectors, other value added or imports) in which the expenditure occurred, thus compiling a profile of sales to final demand. This process was undertaken for each state taking account of the size of each relevant industry in each state and territory.

5.2 Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to Australia

Prospecting activity

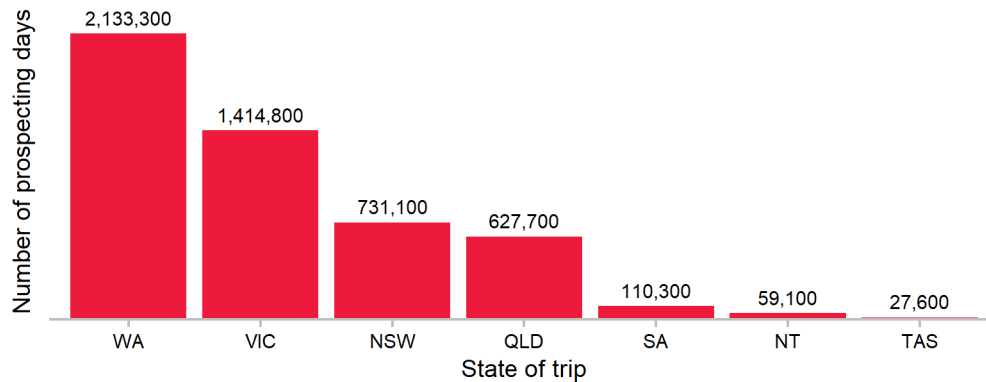
In 2019, it was estimated that there were 125,244 recreational prospectors across Australia, of which 85%, or 106,457, undertook at least one day of prospecting during the year.

Approximately 5,103,900 days of prospecting activity were undertaken in Australia in 2019, across 3,042,500 trips.

The majority of recreational prospectors and small-scale professional prospectors reported being active for less than 50 days in the past year, where semi-professional prospectors tended to go on trips more often and for longer trips on average compared to those who prospected for purely non-commercial reasons ('hobby prospectors'). The number of days of activity by prospectors in each state and territory is illustrated in Figure 6.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF RECREATIONAL PROSPECTING IN AUSTRALIA (CONT'D)

Figure 6. Location of prospecting days in Australia by state of trip in 2019



Source: BDO survey of recreational prospectors 2020

Note: NSW includes the number of prospecting days for both NSW and ACT

Expenditure

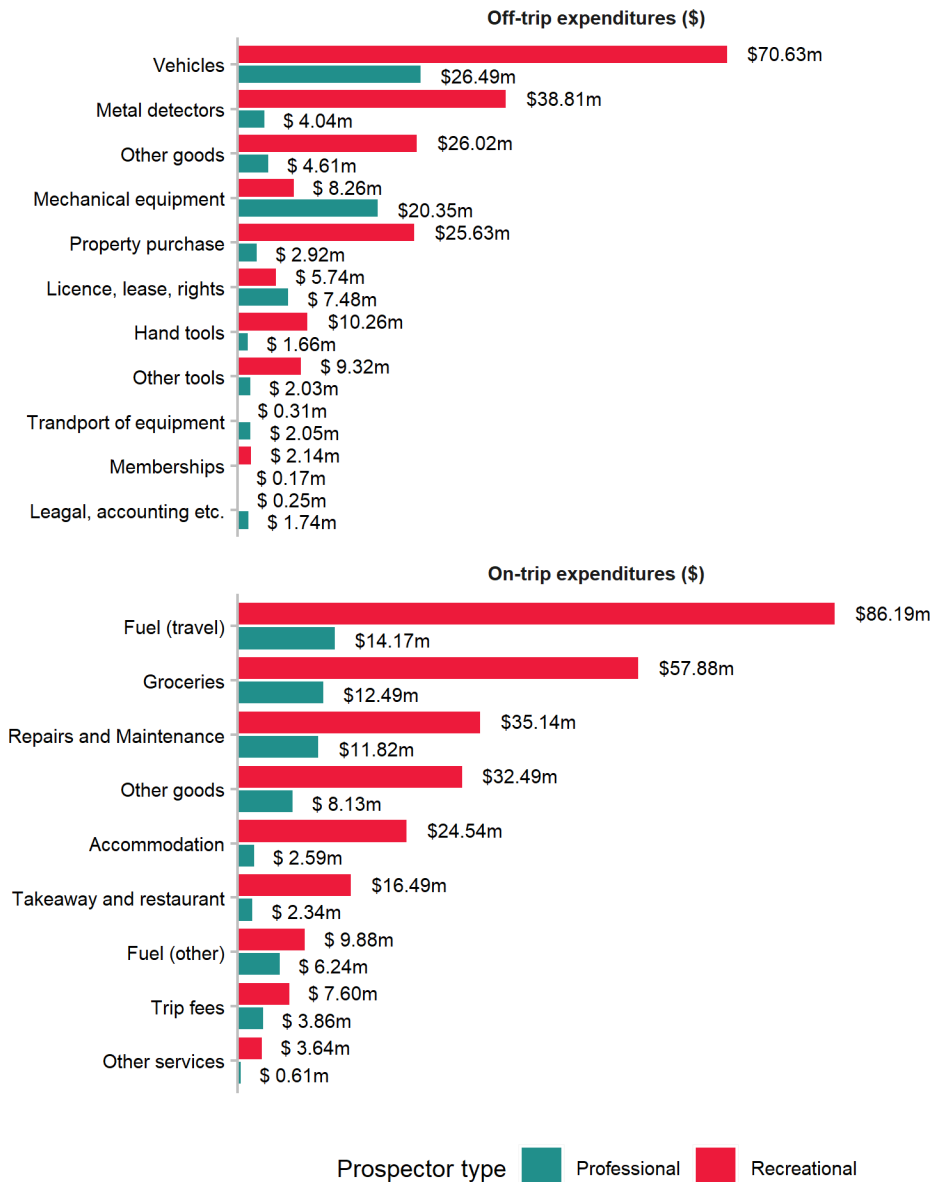
Across all prospecting days and trips, approximately \$607.0m was spent by all recreational prospectors:

- ▶ \$270.9m was spent on off-trip expenditure items where the most significant expenditure items were on vehicles for both hobby and semi-professional prospectors.
- ▶ \$336.1m was spent on on-trip expenditure items where the most significant expenditure items were fuel and groceries.

The distribution of expenditure across various items is presented in Figure 7.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF RECREATIONAL PROSPECTING IN AUSTRALIA (CONT'D)

Figure 7. Expenditures in Australia in 2019 associated with recreational prospecting



Note: The value of vehicle purchases attributable to recreational prospecting was calculated by including only vehicles purchased with recreational prospecting in mind then adjusting the value down by the proportion of use that the respondent attributes to their prospecting activities.

Source: BDO survey of recreational prospectors 2020

Economic Contribution

The economic activities generated by recreational prospectors contributed around \$887.1m (in terms of GDP) and 5,553 FTEs to the Australian Economy:

- ▶ \$338.0m was directly contributed from expenditure associated with prospecting activities and from income earned through recreational prospecting
- ▶ \$549.1m was indirectly contributed from the flow-on activities associated with recreational prospecting

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF RECREATIONAL PROSPECTING IN AUSTRALIA (CONT'D)

- ▶ 1,956 FTE direct jobs were contributed through recreational prospecting
- ▶ 3,597 FTE flow-on jobs were contributed through indirect association with recreational prospecting.

Out of the top five sectors, the largest contribution was made in the retail trade sector, with the contribution to the top five sectors representing around 32% of the total (see Table 6).

Table 6. Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to Australia by sector, top 5 sectors by GDP (2019)

Rank	Top 5 Sectors	GDP (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
1	Retail Trade	86.6	1,165
2	Wholesale Trade	52.6	316
3	Finance	50.3	91
4	Personal & Other Serv	46.5	666
5	Prof Scientific Tech Serv	44.5	403
	Other sectors	606.6	2,913
	Total	887.1	5,553

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

5.3 Economic contribution of recreational prospecting by states and territory

Recreational prospecting activities vary across states and territories, and the tendency for participants to travel means a significant amount of activity in many states and territories is undertaken by residents of other states and territories.

The economic contributions of recreational prospecting activity in each given state and territory in Australia is presented in this section.

In 2019, the most economic activity in terms of prospecting days undertaken was found to have occurred in Western Australia, followed by Victoria and Queensland. Similarly, the economic contribution associated with recreational prospecting in terms of GSP and employment was largest in Western Australia, followed by Victoria and Queensland (see Table 7 and Table 8).

Table 7. Economic Contribution to GSP across states and territories

State/ territory	Contribution to GSP (\$m)		
	Direct	Indirect	Total
WA	191.5	153.8	345.3
VIC	70.1	79.7	149.8
NSW and ACT	33.2	40.3	73.4
QLD	37.5	42.9	80.4
SA	6.4	7.0	13.5
NT	3.2	2.2	5.4
TAS	1.1	1.2	2.3
Total	338.0	549.1	887.1

Note: The values reported for Australia are larger than the sum of the states as interstate spending is excluded from the individual state analyses but is included in the Australia analysis.

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF RECREATIONAL PROSPECTING IN AUSTRALIA (CONT'D)

Table 8. Economic contribution to employment (FTEs) across Australian states and territories in 2019

State/ territory	Contribution to employment (FTEs)		
	Direct	Indirect	Total
WA	1,038	1,019	2,057
VIC	455	617	1,072
NSW and ACT	229	277	506
QLD	302	345	646
SA	50	57	107
NT	24	15	39
TAS	8	10	18
Total	1,956	3,597	5,553

Note: The values reported for Australia are larger than the sum of the states as interstate spending is excluded from the individual state analyses but is included in the Australia analysis.

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

The remainder of this section repeats the national economic contribution results reporting structure for each respective state and territory, to provide a more detailed overview of activity and economic ‘footprint’ for each state and territory of interest.

5.3.1 Western Australia

Prospecting Activity

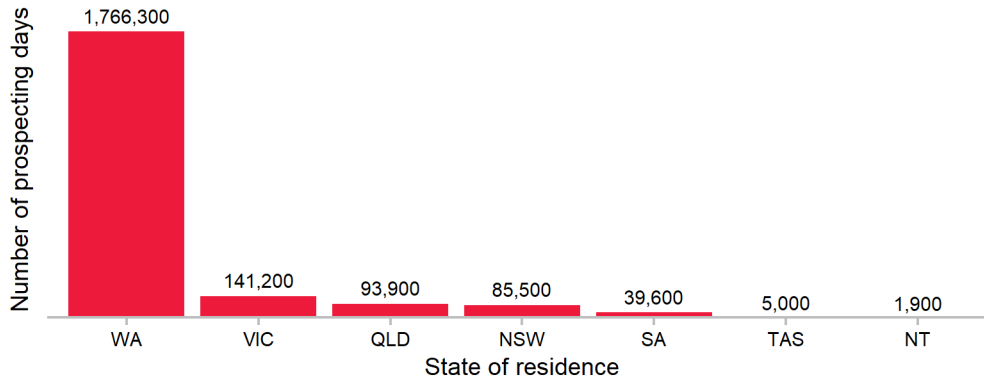
In 2019, it was estimated that there were 42,924 total recreational prospectors in Western Australia, of which 85%, or 36,485, undertook at least one day of prospecting during the year.

Approximately 2,133,300 days of recreational prospecting activity were undertaken in Western Australia in 2019, across 967,100 trips.

The majority of activity (approximately 83%) in terms of prospecting days was undertaken by Western Australian residents, with the remaining 17% undertaken by approximately 5,900 interstate visitors. The most significant sources of interstate visitation were from residents of Victoria and Queensland. The number of days of prospecting activity by state and territory of residence is illustrated in Figure 8.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF RECREATIONAL PROSPECTING IN AUSTRALIA (CONT'D)

Figure 8. Source of prospecting days in Western Australia by state/territory of residence in 2019



Source: BDO Analysis 2021

Note: NSW includes the number of prospecting days for both NSW and ACT

Expenditure

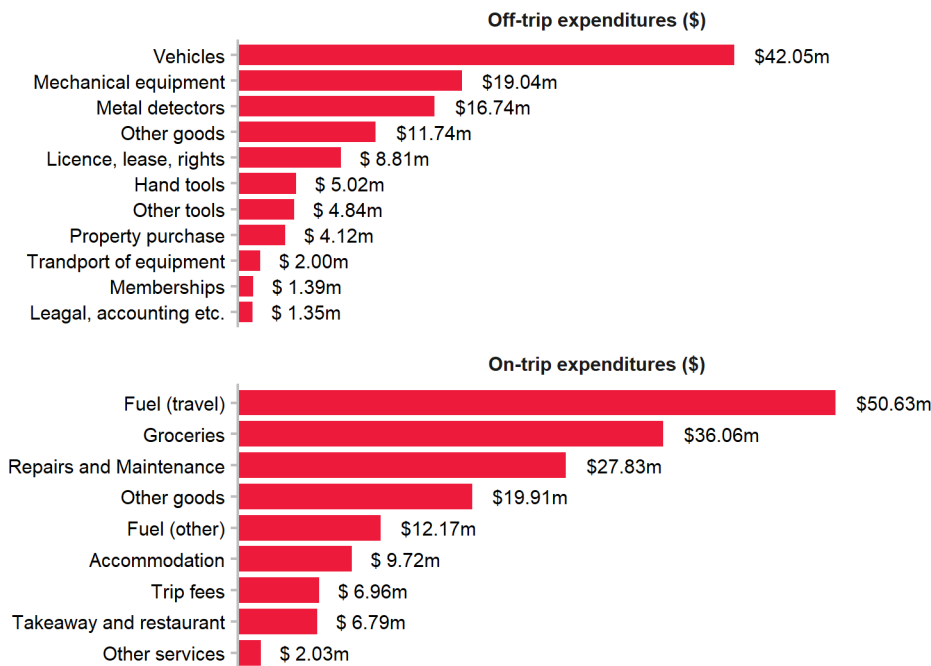
Across all prospecting days and trips, approximately \$289.2m was spent by recreational prospectors in Western Australia in 2019:

- ▶ \$117.1m was spent on off-trip expenditure items where the most significant expenditure items were vehicles and mechanical equipment.
- ▶ \$172.1m was spent on on-trip expenditure items where the most significant expenditure items were fuel and groceries.

The distribution of expenditure in Western Australia associated with recreational prospecting across various items is presented in Figure 9.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF RECREATIONAL PROSPECTING IN AUSTRALIA (CONT'D)

Figure 9. Expenditures in Western Australia in 2019 associated with recreational prospecting



Source: BDO Analysis 2021

Note: The value of vehicle purchases attributable to recreational prospecting was calculated by including only vehicles purchased with recreational prospecting in mind then adjusting the value down by the proportion of use that the respondent attributes to their prospecting activities.

Economic Contribution

The economic activities generated by recreational prospectors contributed around \$345.3m (in terms of GSP) and 2,057 FTEs to the Western Australian Economy:

- ▶ \$191.5m was directly contributed from expenditure associated with prospecting activities and from income earned through recreational prospecting
- ▶ \$153.8m was indirectly contributed from the flow-on activities associated with recreational prospecting
- ▶ 1,038 FTE direct jobs were contributed through recreational prospecting
- ▶ 1,019 FTE flow-on jobs were contributed through indirect association with recreational prospecting.

Out of the top five sectors, the largest contribution was made in the retail trade sector, with the contribution to the top five sectors representing around 31% of the total (see Table 9).

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS BY STATES AND TERRITORIES (CONT'D)

Table 9. Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to Western Australia by sector, top 5 sectors by GSP (2019)

Rank	Top 5 Sectors	GSP (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
1	Retail Trade	37.4	533
2	Wholesale Trade	23.7	166
3	Personal & Other Serv	22.8	279
4	Road Transport	11.7	115
5	Oil & Gas Extraction	11.2	10
	Other sectors	238.6	954
	Total	345.3	2,057

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

5.3.2 Victoria

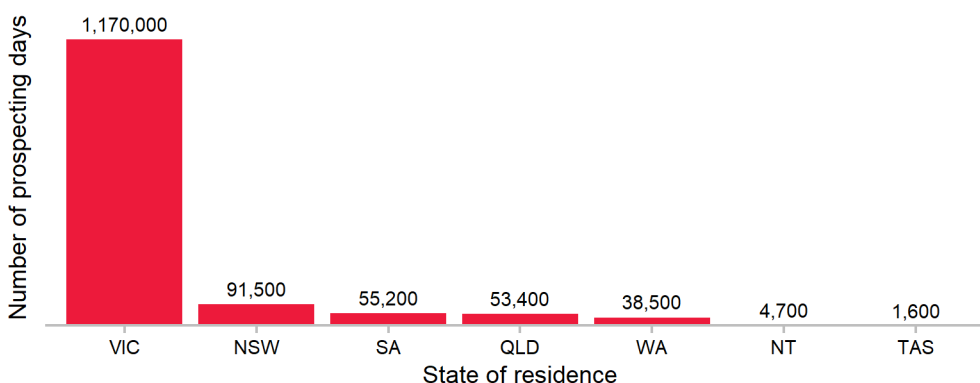
Prospecting Activity

In 2019, it was estimated that there were 37,100 total recreational prospectors in Victoria, of which 85%, or 31,535, undertook at least one day of prospecting during the year.

Approximately 1,414,800 days of recreational prospecting activity were undertaken in Victoria in 2019, across 1,018,100 trips.

The majority of activity (approximately 83%) in terms of prospecting days was undertaken by Queensland residents, with the remaining 17% undertaken by approximately 8,900 interstate visitors. The most significant sources of interstate visitation were from residents of NSW and ACT, and South Australia. The number of days of prospecting activity by state and territory of residence is illustrated in Figure 10.

Figure 10. Source of prospecting days in Victoria by state/territory of residence in 2019



Source: BDO Analysis 2021

Note: NSW includes the number of prospecting days for both NSW and ACT

Expenditure

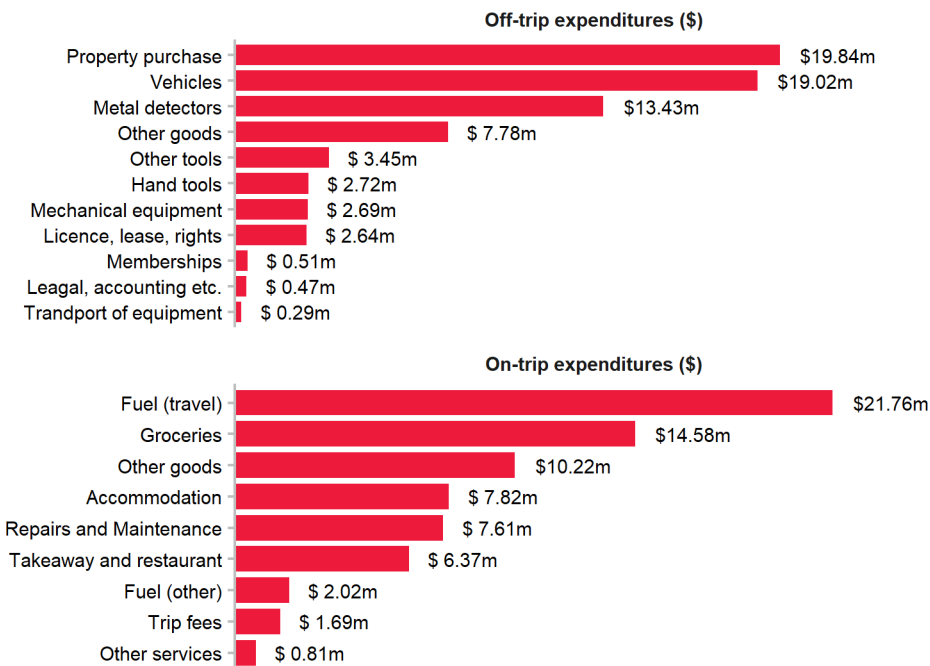
Across all prospecting days and trips, approximately \$145.7m was spent by recreational prospectors in Victoria in 2019:

- ▶ \$72.8m was spent on off-trip expenditure items where the most significant expenditure items were property purchases and vehicles.
- ▶ \$72.9m was spent on on-trip expenditure items where the most significant expenditure items were fuel and groceries.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF RECREATIONAL PROSPECTING IN AUSTRALIA (CONT'D)

The distribution of expenditure in Queensland associated with recreational prospecting across various items is presented in Figure 11.

Figure 11. Expenditures in Victoria in 2019 associated with recreational prospecting



Source: BDO Analysis 2021

Note: The value of vehicle purchases attributable to recreational prospecting was calculated by including only vehicles purchased with recreational prospecting in mind then adjusting the value down by the proportion of use that the respondent attributes to their prospecting activities.

Economic Contribution

The economic activities generated by recreational prospectors contributed around \$149.8m (in terms of GSP) and 1,072 FTEs to the Victorian Economy:

- ▶ \$70.1m was directly contributed from expenditure associated with prospecting activities and from income earned through recreational prospecting
- ▶ \$79.7m was indirectly contributed from the flow-on activities associated with recreational prospecting
- ▶ 455 FTE direct jobs were contributed through recreational prospecting
- ▶ 617 FTE flow-on jobs were contributed through indirect association with recreational prospecting.

Out of the top five sectors, the largest contribution was made in the retail trade sector, with the contribution to the top five sectors representing around 32% of the total (see Table 10).

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF RECREATIONAL PROSPECTING IN AUSTRALIA (CONT'D)

Table 10. Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to Victoria by sector, top 5 sectors by GSP (2019)

Rank	Top 5 Sectors	GSP (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
1	Retail Trade	17.6	251
2	Wholesale Trade	8.6	85
3	Finance	7.6	17
4	Personal & Other Serv	7.4	104
5	Prof Scientific Tech Serv	6.6	65
	Other sectors	102.1	550
	Total	149.8	1,072

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

5.3.3 Queensland

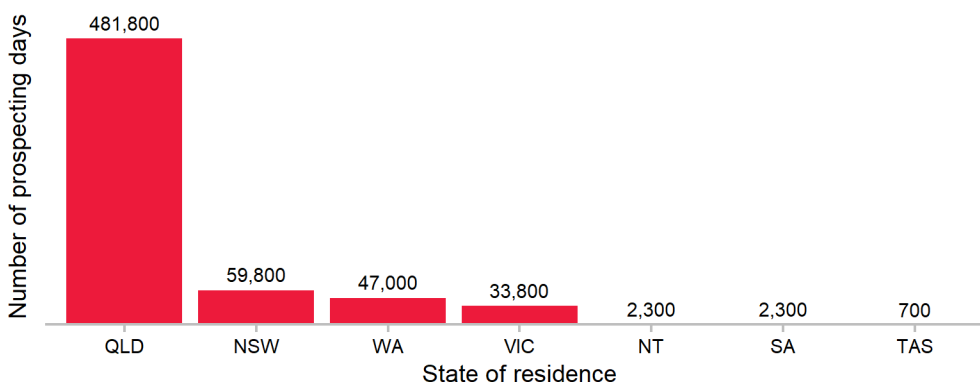
Prospecting Activity

In 2019, it was estimated that there were 15,998 total recreational prospectors in Queensland, of which 85%, or 13,598, undertook at least one day of prospecting during the year.

Approximately 627,700 days of recreational prospecting activity were undertaken in Queensland in 2019, across 398,700 trips.

The majority of activity (approximately 77%) in terms of prospecting days was undertaken by Queensland residents, with the remaining 23% undertaken by approximately 4,600 interstate visitors. The most significant sources of interstate visitation were from residents of NSW and ACT, and Western Australia. The number of days of prospecting activity by state and territory of residence is illustrated in Figure 12.

Figure 12. Source of prospecting days in Queensland by state/territory of residence in 2019



Source: BDO Analysis 2021

Note: NSW includes the number of prospecting days for both NSW and ACT

Expenditure

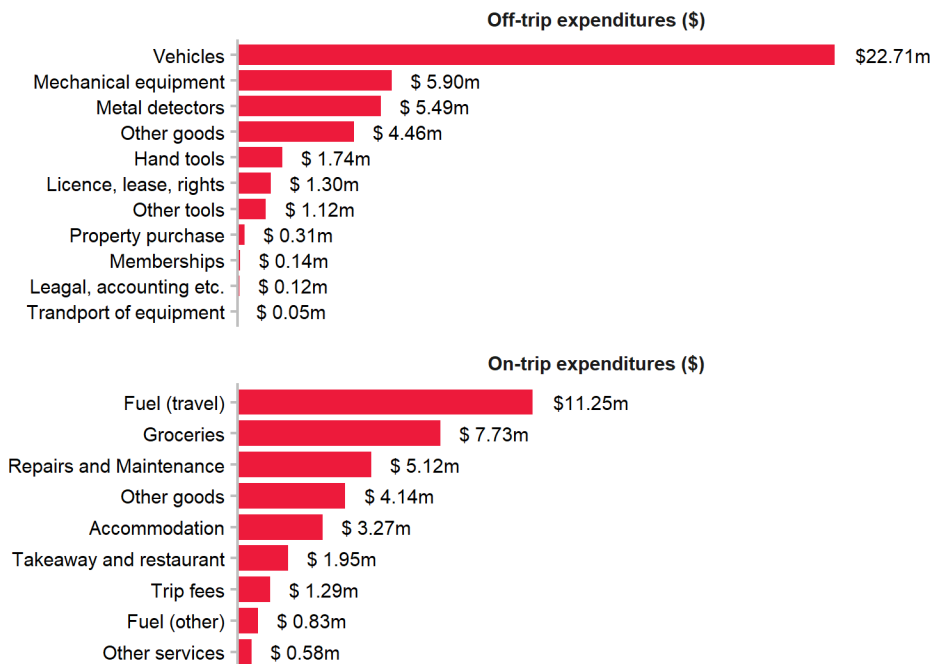
Across all prospecting days and trips, approximately \$79.5m was spent by recreational prospectors in Queensland in 2019:

- ▶ \$43.3m was spent on off-trip expenditure items where the most significant expenditure items were vehicles and mechanical equipment.
- ▶ \$36.2m was spent on on-trip expenditure items where the most significant expenditure items were fuel and groceries.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF RECREATIONAL PROSPECTING IN AUSTRALIA (CONT'D)

The distribution of expenditure in Queensland associated with recreational prospecting across various items is presented in Figure 13.

Figure 13. Expenditures in Queensland in 2019 associated with recreational prospecting



Source: BDO Analysis 2021

Note: The value of vehicle purchases attributable to recreational prospecting was calculated by including only vehicles purchased with recreational prospecting in mind then adjusting the value down by the proportion of use that the respondent attributes to their prospecting activities.

Economic Contribution

The economic activities generated by recreational prospectors contributed around \$80.4m (in terms of GSP) and 646 FTEs to the Queensland Economy:

- ▶ \$37.5m was directly contributed from expenditure associated with prospecting activities and from income earned through recreational prospecting
- ▶ \$42.9m was indirectly contributed from the flow-on activities associated with recreational prospecting
- ▶ 302 FTE direct jobs were contributed through recreational prospecting
- ▶ 345 FTE flow-on jobs were contributed through indirect association with recreational prospecting.

Out of the top five sectors, the largest contribution was made in the retail trade sector, with the contribution to the top five sectors representing around 37% of the total (see Table 11).

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS BY STATES AND TERRITORIES (CONT'D)

Table 11. Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to Queensland by sector, top 5 sectors by GSP (2019)

Rank	Top 5 Sectors	GSP (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
1	Retail Trade	11.4	174
2	Wholesale Trade	6.6	64
3	Personal & Other Serv	5.0	71
4	Road Transport	3.8	32
5	Prof Scientific Tech Serv	2.7	28
	Other sectors	50.9	278
	Total	80.4	646

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

5.3.4 NSW and ACT

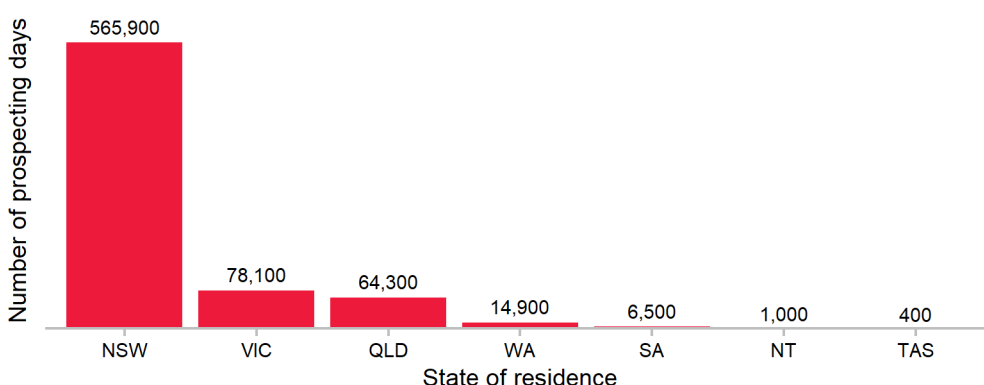
Prospecting Activity

In 2019, it was estimated that there were 22,251 total recreational prospectors in NSW and ACT, of which 85%, or 18,914, undertook at least one day of prospecting during the year.

Approximately 731,100 days of recreational prospecting activity were undertaken in NSW and ACT in 2019, across 520,000 trips.

The majority of activity (approximately 77%) in terms of prospecting days was undertaken by NSW and ACT residents, with the remaining 23% undertaken by approximately 6,100 interstate visitors. The most significant sources of interstate visitation were from residents of Victoria and Queensland. The number of days of prospecting activity by state and territory of residence is illustrated in Figure 14.

Figure 14. Source of prospecting days in NSW and ACT by state/territory of residence in 2019



Source: BDO Analysis 2021

Note: NSW includes the number of prospecting days for both NSW and ACT

Expenditure

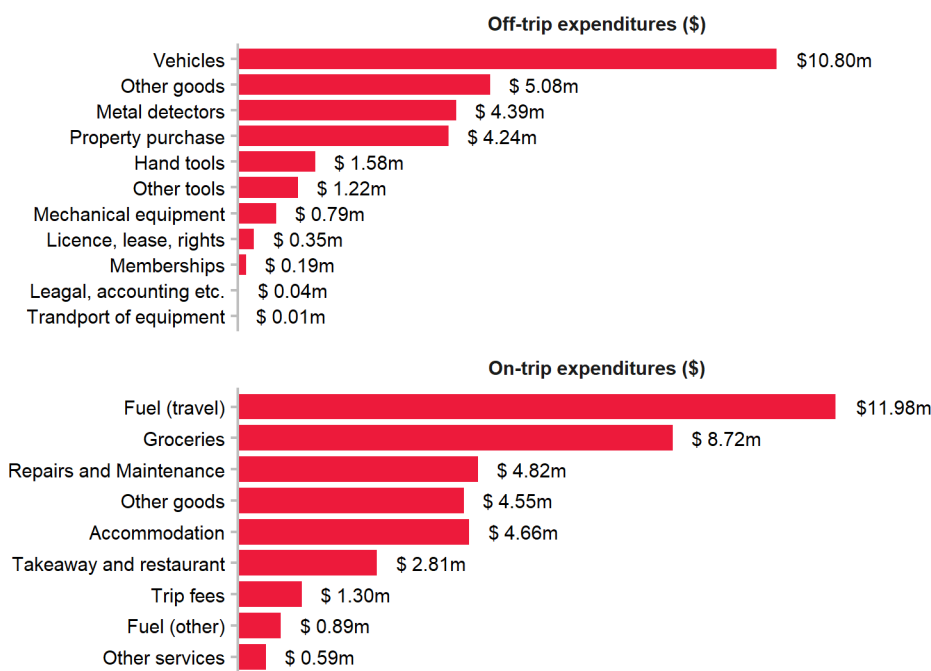
Across all prospecting days and trips, approximately \$69.0m was spent by recreational prospectors in NSW and ACT in 2019:

- ▶ \$28.7m was spent on off-trip expenditure items where the most significant expenditure items were vehicles and mechanical equipment.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS BY STATES AND TERRITORIES (CONT'D)

► \$40.3m was spent on on-trip expenditure items where the most significant expenditure items were fuel and groceries. The distribution of expenditure in Queensland associated with recreational prospecting across various items is presented in Figure 15. Error! Reference source not found..

Figure 15. Expenditures in NSW and ACT in 2019 associated with recreational prospecting



Source: BDO Analysis 2021

Note: The value of vehicle purchases attributable to recreational prospecting was calculated by including only vehicles purchased with recreational prospecting in mind then adjusting the value down by the proportion of use that the respondent attributes to their prospecting activities.

Economic Contribution

The economic activities generated by recreational prospectors contributed around \$73.4m (in terms of GSP) and 506 FTEs to the NSW and ACT Economy:

- \$33.2m was directly contributed from expenditure associated with prospecting activities and from income earned through recreational prospecting
- \$40.3m was indirectly contributed from the flow-on activities associated with recreational prospecting
- 229 FTE direct jobs were contributed through recreational prospecting
- 277 FTE flow-on jobs were contributed through indirect association with recreational prospecting.

Out of the top five sectors, the largest contribution was made in the retail trade sector, with the contribution to the top five sectors representing around 34% of the total (see Table 12).

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS BY STATES AND TERRITORIES (CONT'D)

Table 12. Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to NSW and ACT by sector, top 5 sectors by GSP (2019)

Rank	Top 5 Sectors	GSP (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
1	Retail Trade	8.6	120
2	Finance	4.9	11
3	Personal & Other Serv	4.3	57
4	Wholesale Trade	4.0	38
5	Prof Scientific Tech Serv	3.4	31
	Other sectors	48.3	249
	Total	73.4	506

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

5.3.5 South Australia

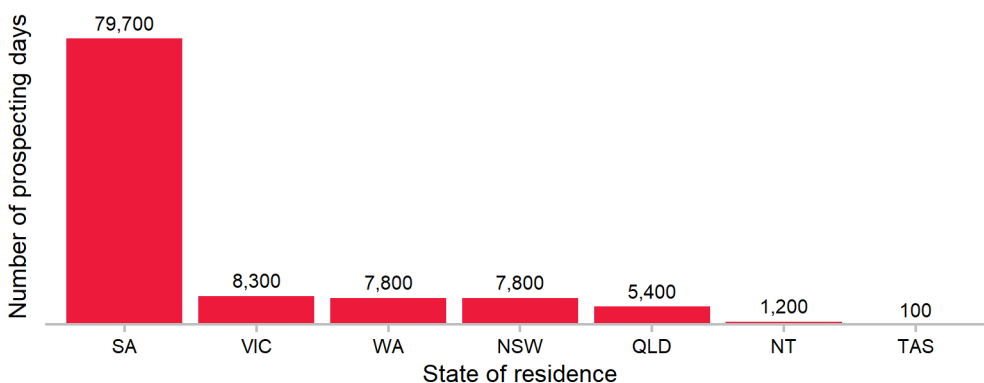
Prospecting Activity

In 2019, it was estimated that there were 5,254 total recreational prospectors in South Australia, of which 85%, or 4,466, undertook at least one day of prospecting during the year.

Approximately 110,300 days of recreational prospecting activity were undertaken in South Australia in 2019, across 87,600 trips.

The majority of activity (approximately 72%) in terms of prospecting days was undertaken by South Australian residents, with the remaining 28% undertaken by approximately 1,800 interstate visitors. The most significant sources of interstate visitation were from residents of Victoria and Western Australia. The number of days of prospecting activity by state and territory of residence is illustrated in Figure 16.

Figure 16. Source of prospecting days in South Australia by state/territory of residence in 2019



Source: BDO Analysis 2021

Note: NSW includes the number of prospecting days for both NSW and ACT

Expenditure

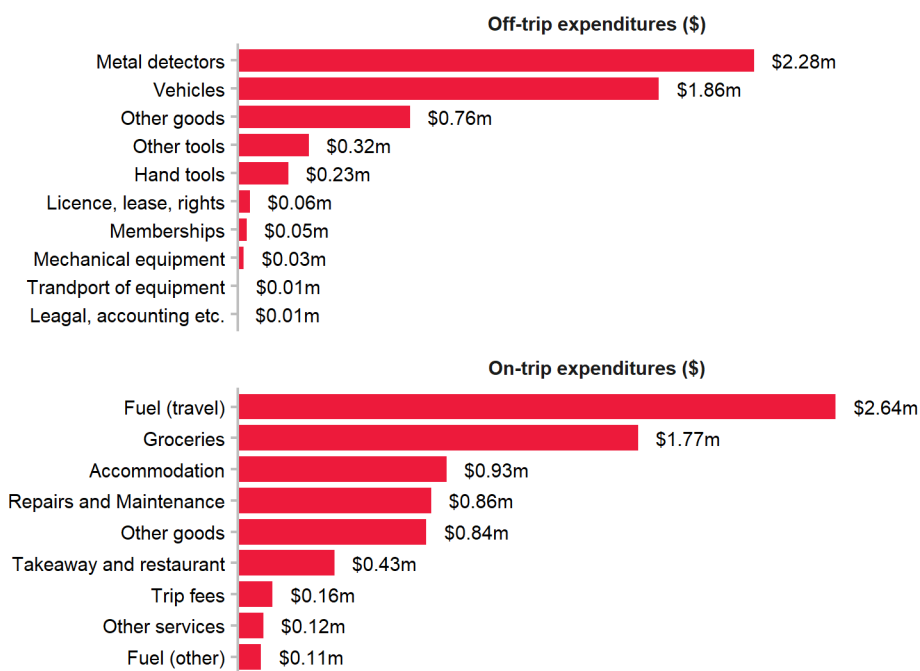
Across all prospecting days and trips, approximately \$13.5m was spent by recreational prospectors in Queensland in 2019:

- ▶ \$5.6m was spent on off-trip expenditure items where the most significant expenditure items were vehicles and mechanical equipment.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS BY STATES AND TERRITORIES (CONT'D)

► \$7.9m was spent on on-trip expenditure items where the most significant expenditure items were fuel and groceries. The distribution of expenditure in Queensland associated with recreational prospecting across various items is presented in Figure 17.

Figure 17. Expenditures in South Australia in 2019 associated with recreational prospecting



Source: BDO Analysis 2021

Note: The value of vehicle purchases attributable to recreational prospecting was calculated by including only vehicles purchased with recreational prospecting in mind then adjusting the value down by the proportion of use that the respondent attributes to their prospecting activities.

Economic Contribution

The economic activities generated by recreational prospectors contributed around \$13.5m (in terms of GSP) and 107 FTEs to the Queensland Economy:

- \$6.4m was directly contributed from expenditure associated with prospecting activities and from income earned through recreational prospecting
- \$7.0m was indirectly contributed from the flow-on activities associated with recreational prospecting
- 50 FTE direct jobs were contributed through recreational prospecting
- 57 FTE flow-on jobs were contributed through indirect association with recreational prospecting.

Out of the top five sectors, the largest contribution was made in the retail trade sector, with the contribution to the top five sectors representing around 35% of the total (see Table 13).

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS BY STATES AND TERRITORIES (CONT'D)

Table 13. Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to South Australia by sector, top 5 sectors by GSP (2019)

Rank	Top 5 Sectors	GSP (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
1	Retail Trade	1.8	28
2	Wholesale Trade	1.0	8
3	Personal & Other Serv	0.9	12
4	Accommodation	0.5	7
5	Road Transport	0.5	6
	Other sectors	8.7	47
	Total	13.5	107

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

5.3.6 Tasmania

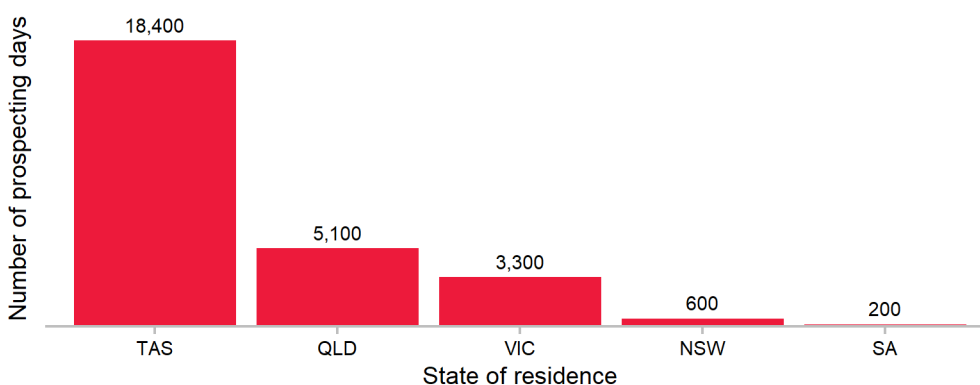
Prospecting Activity

In 2019, it was estimated that there were 733 total recreational prospectors in Tasmania, of which 85%, or 623, undertook at least one day of prospecting during the year.

Approximately 27,600 days of recreational prospecting activity were undertaken in Tasmania in 2019, across 18,100 trips.

The majority of activity (approximately 67%) in terms of prospecting days was undertaken by Tasmanian residents, with the remaining 33% undertaken by approximately 400 interstate visitors. The most significant sources of interstate visitation were from residents of Queensland and Victoria. The number of days of prospecting activity by state and territory of residence is illustrated in Figure 18.

Figure 18. Source of prospecting days in Tasmania by state/territory of residence in 2019



Source: BDO Analysis 2021

Note: NSW includes the number of prospecting days for both NSW and ACT

Expenditure

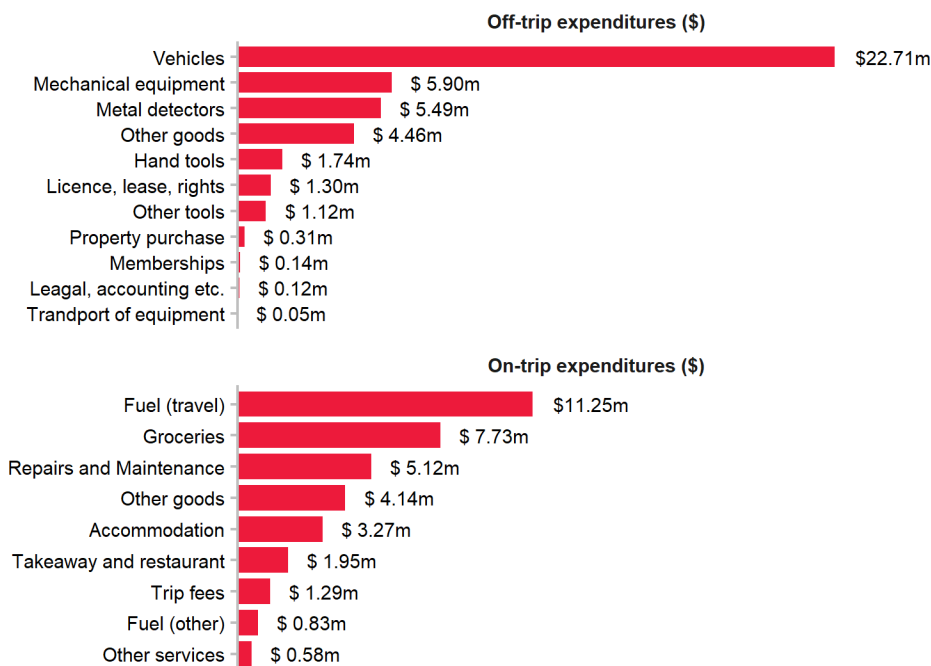
Across all prospecting days and trips, approximately \$1.8m was spent by recreational prospectors in Tasmania in 2019:

- ▶ \$0.5m was spent on off-trip expenditure items where the most significant expenditure items were vehicles and mechanical equipment.
- ▶ \$1.3m was spent on on-trip expenditure items where the most significant expenditure items were fuel and groceries.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS BY STATES AND TERRITORIES (CONT'D)

The distribution of expenditure in Tasmania associated with recreational prospecting across various items is presented in Figure 19.

Figure 19. Expenditures in Tasmania in 2019 associated with recreational prospecting



Source: BDO Analysis 2021

Note: The value of vehicle purchases attributable to recreational prospecting was calculated by including only vehicles purchased with recreational prospecting in mind then adjusting the value down by the proportion of use that the respondent attributes to their prospecting activities.

Economic Contribution

The economic activities generated by recreational prospectors contributed around \$2.3m (in terms of GSP) and 18 FTEs to the Tasmanian Economy:

- ▶ \$1.2m was directly contributed from expenditure associated with prospecting activities and from income earned through recreational prospecting
- ▶ \$1.1m was indirectly contributed from the flow-on activities associated with recreational prospecting
- ▶ 8 FTE direct jobs were contributed through recreational prospecting
- ▶ 10 FTE flow-on jobs were contributed through indirect association with recreational prospecting.

Out of the top five sectors, the largest contribution was made in the retail trade sector, with the contribution to the top five sectors representing around 31% of the total (see Table 14).

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS BY STATES AND TERRITORIES (CONT'D)

Table 14. Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to Tasmania by sector, top 5 sectors by GSP (2019)

Rank	Top 5 Sectors	GSP (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
1	Retail Trade	0.2	3
2	Personal & Other Serv	0.1	3
3	Wholesale Trade	0.1	1
4	Accommodation	0.1	2
5	Health & Community Serv	0.1	1
	Other sectors	1.6	8
	Total	2.3	18

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

5.3.7 Northern Territory

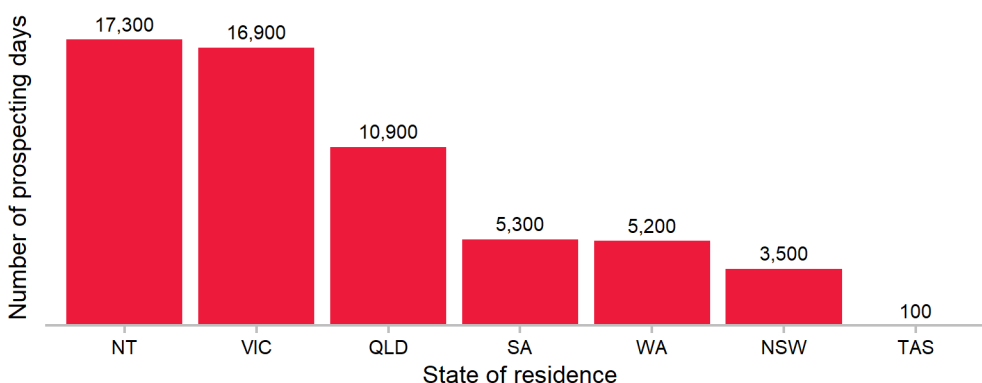
Prospecting Activity

In 2019, it was estimated that there were 984 total recreational prospectors in the Northern Territory, of which 85%, or 836, undertook at least one day of prospecting during the year.

Approximately 59,100 days of recreational prospecting activity were undertaken in Queensland in 2019, across 32,900 trips.

The majority of activity (approximately 71%) in terms of prospecting days was undertaken by approximately 1,800 interstate visitors, with the remaining 29% undertaken by Northern Territory residents. The most significant sources of interstate visitation were from residents of Victoria and Queensland. The number of days of prospecting activity by state and territory of residence is illustrated in Figure 20.

Figure 20. Source of prospecting days in Northern Territory by state/territory of residence in 2019



Source: BDO Analysis 2021

Note: NSW includes the number of prospecting days for both NSW and ACT

Expenditure

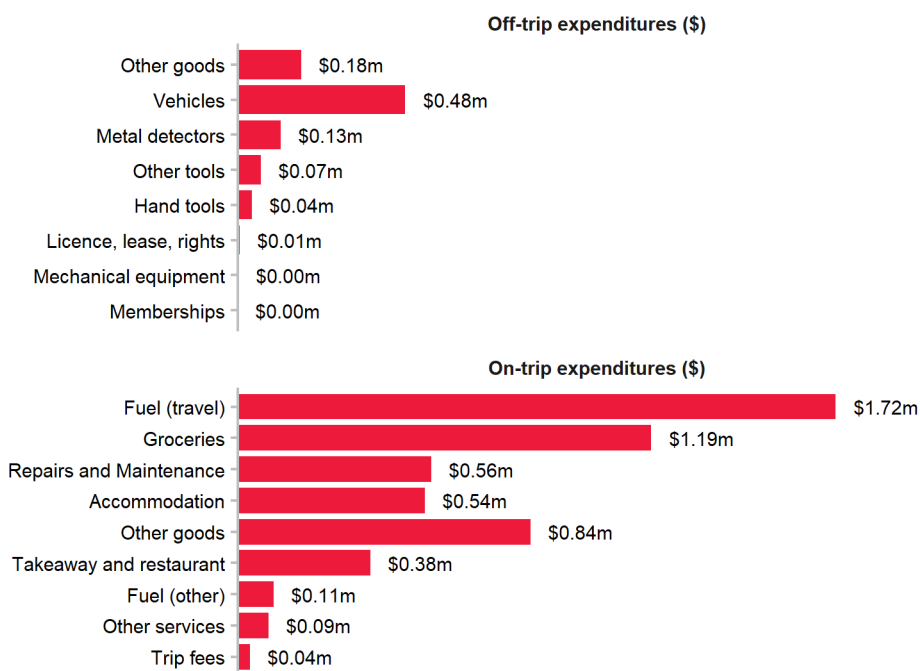
Across all prospecting days and trips, approximately \$6.4m was spent by recreational prospectors in the Northern Territory in 2019:

- ▶ \$0.9m was spent on off-trip expenditure items where the most significant expenditure items were vehicles and mechanical equipment.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS BY STATES AND TERRITORIES (CONT'D)

► \$5.5m was spent on on-trip expenditure items where the most significant expenditure items were fuel and groceries. The distribution of expenditure in the Northern Territory associated with recreational prospecting across various items is presented in Figure 21.

Figure 21. Expenditures in Northern Territory in 2019 associated with recreational prospecting



Source: BDO Analysis 2021

Note: The value of vehicle purchases attributable to recreational prospecting was calculated by including only vehicles purchased with recreational prospecting in mind then adjusting the value down by the proportion of use that the respondent attributes to their prospecting activities.

Economic Contribution

The economic activities generated by recreational prospectors contributed around \$5.4m (in terms of GSP) and 39 FTEs to the Northern Territory Economy:

- \$3.2m was directly contributed from expenditure associated with prospecting activities and from income earned through recreational prospecting
- \$2.2m was indirectly contributed from the flow-on activities associated with recreational prospecting
- 25 FTE direct jobs were contributed through recreational prospecting
- 15 FTE flow-on jobs were contributed through indirect association with recreational prospecting.

Out of the top five sectors, the largest contribution was made in the retail trade sector, with the contribution to the top five sectors representing around 39% of the total (see Table 15).

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS BY STATES AND TERRITORIES (CONT'D)

Table 15. Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to Northern Territory by sector, top 5 sectors by GSP (2019)

Rank	Top 5 Sectors	GSP (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
1	Retail Trade	0.7	10
2	Personal & Other Serv	0.5	8
3	Wholesale Trade	0.4	3
4	Accommodation	0.3	3
5	Road Transport	0.2	2
	Other sectors	3.3	13
	Total	5.4	39

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

5.4 Economic contribution of Minelab to South Australia methodology

The economic contribution of Minelab's research and development, manufacturing and marketing operations in South Australia are not captured by the economic contribution results for recreational prospecting as they are not directly attributable to individuals' prospecting activity as described in the survey.

Rather, Minelab's operations in South Australia service a global market for which Australia is the largest single market. The overall size of the Australian market supports Minelab's operations in South Australia. The economic contribution of Minelab's business operations in South Australia were modelled and reported separately with the following steps:

- 1 Collect Minelab's financial and employment data from Codan, including its annual reports.
- 2 Attribute the appropriate proportion of Codan activities to South Australia based on the data from the step before.
- 3 Transform the business expenditures from Minelab financial data to basic prices (as described in the box above).
- 4 Run the RISE economic model for South Australia using the Minelab financial data at basic prices.
- 5 Report results in terms of direct and flow-on gross state product and full-time equivalent employment.

5.5 Economic contribution of Minelab to South Australia results

Minelab's global operations are primarily based in South Australia. The business employs high skilled staff in research and manufacturing with the lower valued manufacturing tasks occurring offshore.

High-skilled employment is associated with high wages and these support a significant amount of economic activity in South Australia through consumption expenditure. Business expenditures by Minelab also support economic activity in South Australia.

In 2019/20, Minelab contributed around \$218m (in terms of GSP) and 669 FTE to the South Australian economy:

- ▶ \$148m and 100 FTEs were directly contributed from business expenditure.
- ▶ \$69.3m and 569 FTEs were indirectly contributed through flow-on effects.

The particularly high ratio of indirect employment to direct employment is due to the high skill nature of Minelab's employment. That is, business expenditures are relatively high per employee and wages (which support consumption expenditure) are also relatively high, each contributes to the relatively high flow-on employment in the rest of the state compared to the average business.

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APPENDICES



APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

7.1 Expenditure Survey

Ask this section of all

INTRO1	<p>We are undertaking a survey to better understand the experiences of people who prospect in Australia. The purpose is to inform an independent review of the economic and social contributions of recreational prospecting to Australia. Activities relevant to this survey include recreational prospecting or fossicking for gold and small-scale professional prospecting for gold.</p> <p><u>Your response is confidential.</u></p> <p>We respect your privacy and the sensitivity of information about your recreational and prospecting activities. This research is funded by Minelab. However, your response will only be seen by the researchers at BDO and interviewers at Action Market Research. We will only publish summary results from the survey and your individual responses will not be distributed outside of the research team and will not be provided to Minelab.</p> <p>Your response will help us to understand the role of recreational prospecting and to describe this role to the wider community. Variation between different prospectors and their activities is important to this research so we ask you to please be open and honest about your own situation. Thank you very much for your valuable time and assistance.</p> <p>To avoid the effect of COVID-19 please provide your answers in relation to the 2019 calendar year.</p>	Next button
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INTRO1	First, a few questions about your prospecting activities.
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Q1	<p>Did you go prospecting in Australia recreationally or at a small-scale during 2019?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yes 2. No 	<p>Compulsory Single response</p>
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Ask only if Q1 = 'No'

Q2	<p>Do you plan to go prospecting in Australia recreationally or at a small-scale in the next 12 months?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yes 2. No [TERMINATE] 	<p>Compulsory Single response</p>
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APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Q3	<p>Which of the following best describes your prospecting status?</p> <p><i>Please only consider your personal activities i.e. if you prospect casually in your own time and are an employee at a large-scale mine then select 'Recreational (casual prospector)'.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Large-scale/corporate [TERMINATE] 2. Small-scale/professional (to earn a living) 3. Recreational (casual prospector) 	<p>Compulsory Single response</p>
Q4a	<p>Do you use a metal detector for your prospecting activities?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yes 1. No [TERMINATE] 	<p>Compulsory Single response</p>
Q4b	<p>In addition to metal detecting, what other prospecting methods do you use?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Panning 3. River sluicing (not including highbanking) 4. Highbanking 5. Dry blowing 6. Push and scrape 7. Picks, shovels, hammers, sieves, shakers 8. Other (specify): _____ 9. None of the above 	<p>Compulsory Select multiple</p>
Q5a...	<p>What is your main target when prospecting via [ask once for each method selected at Q4]</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gold 2. Treasure/coins/relics 3. Gemstones/fossils/minerals 4. Other (specify): _____ 	<p>Compulsory Select multiple</p>
Q6	<p>What types of permit do you hold?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Miner's Right or permit, please specify: 2. Prospecting lease or license that provides exclusive access to land, please specify: 3. Exploration leaseholder, please specify: 4. Mining leaseholder, please specify: 5. Other (specify): _____ 6. None 	<p>Compulsory Select multiple</p>

APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Q7	<p>Are you a member of the following prospecting or detecting associations?</p> <p><i>We will ask about activities with local clubs later.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NSW and ACT Prospectors and Fossickers Association (NAPFA) 2. Prospectors and Miners Association Victoria (PMAV) 3. Amalgamated Prospectors and Leaseholders Association (APLA) 4. Other (specify): _____ 5. None 	<p>Compulsory</p> <p>Select multiple</p>
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Q8	<p>How long have you been prospecting?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1 year 2. 2 - 5 years 3. 6 - 10 years 4. 11 - 20 years 5. Over 20 years 6. Prefer not to answer 	<p>Compulsory</p> <p>Single response</p>
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Ask this section of all

INTRO3	<p>Next, a few questions about you...</p>
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Q9	<p>Are you...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Male 2. Female 3. Other 4. Do not wish to answer 	<p>Compulsory</p> <p>Single response</p>
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APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Q10	<p>What is your age category?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Under 18 [TERMINATE] 2. 18-24 3. 25-29 4. 30-34 5. 35-39 6. 40-44 7. 45-49 8. 50-54 9. 55-59 10. 60-64 11. 65-74 12. 75 and over 13. Do not wish to answer 	<p>Compulsory Single response</p>
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Q11	<p>Where do you live?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ACT 2. NSW – Sydney, Wollongong or Newcastle area 3. NSW – elsewhere 4. QLD – Brisbane area 5. QLD – elsewhere 6. SA – Adelaide area 7. SA – elsewhere 8. TAS – Hobart area 9. TAS - elsewhere 10. VIC – Melbourne area 11. VIC – elsewhere 12. WA – Perth area 13. WA – elsewhere 14. NT – Darwin area 15. NT - elsewhere 16. Not in Australia 	<p>Compulsory Single response</p>
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Ask this section only if they have been prospecting in 2019 (Q1)

INTRO4	<p>Now we would like to find out about the prospecting trips you went on in Australia <u>during 2019</u>, including close to home and interstate.</p>
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APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Q12a: Firstly, how many prospecting day-trips did you go on in 2019? Please also consider each day of prospecting on your own land as a day trip.

Trips: _____ (integer)

Q12b: How many overnight or extended trips did you go on in 2019 and how many days did you spend on those trips in total?

Trips: _____ (integer)

Total days: _____ (integer)

Q13	Did you prospect outside of your home state in 2019? 1. No, prospected within my home state only [SKIP TO Q17 expenditure items] 2. Yes, prospected outside my home state	Compulsory Single response
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Q14	Which states or territories did you prospect in during 2019? 1. New South Wales 2. Queensland 3. Victoria 4. South Australia 5. Tasmania 6. Western Australia 7. Northern Territory 8. Australian Capital Territory 9. Outside Australia	Compulsory Select multiple
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APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Q15	In 2019, how many <u>trips</u> did you take in each state? [Populate states with responses from Q14]							Radio button Grid Compulsory
			1-3 trips	4-10 trips	11-20 trips	21-30 trips	31-50 trips	Over 50 trips
a.	State							
b.	State							
c.	State							
d.	Etc (including outside Australia if selected).							

Ask only if did short or extended trips (see Q12)

Q16	And in 2019, how many <u>days</u> did you spend prospecting in each state? [Populate states with responses from Q14]							Radio button Grid Compulsory
			1-10 days	11-20 days	21 - 50 days	51- 100 days	101- 200 days	Over 201 days
a.	State							
b.	State							
c.	State							
d.	Etc (including outside Australia if selected).							

APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

<p>Q17</p>	<p>In 2019, what did you spend money on while on prospecting trips?</p> <p>Please include anything <u>you</u> paid for, whether by cash, EFTPOS, cheque, credit card or any other means. If you paid for other people at any stage (for example, if you paid for someone else's dinner) then do include that amount. But if someone else who was on a trip with you paid for you, then exclude that amount.</p> <p>We will ask later about your spending while not on trips (i.e. metal detectors, other tools, vehicles, etc.).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fuel for travel 2. Fuel for all other purposes (e.g. operation of equipment) 3. Groceries, drinks and alcohol for self-catering/consumption at your accommodation 4. Takeaway and restaurant meals 5. Accommodation [HIDE IF ONLY DID DAY TRIPS, see Q12] 6. Vehicle/motorbike/equipment repairs and maintenance 7. Prospecting trip fees (e.g. for club trips, guides or land access) 8. Other services used on trips (e.g. medical, parking or laundry) 9. Other prospecting related items purchased on your trips 10. Not applicable – I did not spend any money while on prospecting trips 	<p>Check box</p> <p>Compulsory</p> <p>Multiple response except Not applicable</p>
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APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Hide if Q17 = 'Not applicable'

Q18	<p>And while on your prospecting trips in 2019, how much did you spend in total on each of these items?</p> <p>Please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anything <u>you</u> paid for, whether by cash, EFTPOS, cheque, credit card or any other means. Any money you paid for other people and you were not reimbursed (e.g. if paid for someone else's meal) Any money paid for you by someone who didn't go on the prospecting trips (e.g. employer or parents) <p>Please exclude:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any money paid on your behalf by someone else who travelled with you on the prospecting trips. 									Radio button Grid Compulsory Single response per row
		\$1- \$100	\$101 - \$200	\$201 - \$500	\$501 - \$1,000	\$1,001 - \$2,000	\$2,001 - \$5,000	\$5,001 - \$10,000	\$10,001 or more	
a.	[Populate with responses from Q17]									

Hide if Q17 = 'not applicable'

Hide if Q13 = 'No, prospected within my home state only'

Q19	<p>What was the location of the business/es from which you bought these items? For example, were the items bought in your home state, at the main prospecting destination or at another location?</p> <p>If you bought items from more than one location, please select the location where the most money was spent.</p>				Radio button Grid Compulsory Single response per row
		Closer to home	Closer to the destination	Unknown	
a.	[Populate with responses from Q17 but exclude 'Accommodation']				

APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Ask this section of all

INTRO5	<p>Now we'd like you to consider what you've spent when you've NOT been on prospecting trips, to support your prospecting activities.</p> <p>[Display this second sentence only if they have been on prospecting trips(i.e. if Q1 = 'Yes'): "Please exclude the expenses made during prospecting trips that you have already told us about above."]</p>
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Q20	<p>During the last 5 years, which of the items from the following list have you spent money on to support your prospecting activities?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Metal detectors 2. All other hand operated and non-mechanical equipment (gold pan, sieve, cradle or rocker, hand operated sluice box, hand operated dry blower etc). 3. Mechanical equipment and machinery 4. Any other prospecting tools 5. Licenses and land leasing costs 6. Purchase of a property for prospecting 7. Vehicles/motorbikes (purchased with prospecting in mind) 8. Transportation of equipment by a commercial company 9. Professional services (e.g. legal costs, accounting, etc) 10. Prospecting memberships (e.g. clubs and associations) 11. Other equipment to support your prospecting activities (eg. vehicle equipment/accessories, safety and first-aid equipment, camping equipment, clothing and shoes, GPS and other devices, mapping software, magazine subscriptions, attending events, etc.) 12. Not applicable – I did not spend any money to support prospecting activities over the last 5 years 	<p>Check box</p> <p>Compulsory</p> <p>Multiple response</p> <p>Except Not applicable</p>
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Hide if Q20 = 'Not applicable'

Q21	<p>And during the last 5 years, approximately how much have you spent on these items?</p>	<p>Radio button</p> <p>Grid</p> <p>Compulsory</p> <p>Single response per row</p>									
			\$1-	\$501-	\$1,001-	\$2,001 -	\$5,001 -	\$10,001 -	\$20,001-	\$50,001 -	\$100,001
			\$500	\$1000	\$2,000	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$50,000	\$100,000	or more
e.	[Populate with responses from Q20]										

APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Q21a	You indicated that you spent more than \$100,000 on some items. Please enter the actual total value spent on each over the last 5 years.		Multiple numerical input Compulsory Single response per row
		Capture \$ amount	
f.	[Populate with responses from Q20 if Q21 = "\$100,001 or more"]		

Ask if Q20 = 3, 7 or 8 (see text below) and only show the relevant rows.

Q22	And approximately what percentage of the use of these items has been on <u>prospecting activities</u> versus non prospecting activities?					Radio button Grid Compulsory Single response per row
	Percentage accounted for by prospecting...	1% - 20%	21% - 40%	41% - 60%	61% - 80%	81% - 100%
a.	Mechanical equipment and machinery					
b.	Vehicles/motorbikes (purchased with prospecting in mind)					
c.	Other items to support your prospecting activities (e.g. vehicle equipment/accessories, safety and first-aid equipment, camping equipment, clothing and shoes, GPS and other devices, mapping software , magazine subscriptions, attending events, etc.)					

APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Hide if Q20 = 'Not applicable'

Q23	What is the <u>main</u> location of the business/es from which you bought these items over the last 5 years? For example, for online purchases, please consider where the vendor is located (if known).										Radio button Compulsory Single response per row
	ACT	NSW	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	NT	Overseas	Unsure	
[Populate with responses from Q20]											

Ask this section of all

INTRO6	Now we would like to know a little more about you, to help us better understand who goes prospecting.
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Q24	Which of the following is the <u>highest level</u> of formal education that you have completed?	Radio Button Compulsory Single response
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Postgraduate Degree Level 2. Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate Level 3. Bachelor Degree Level 4. Advanced Diploma and Diploma Level 5. Certificate III & IV Level 6. Secondary Education - Years 10 and above 7. Certificate I & II Level 8. Secondary Education - Years 9 and below 9. Do not wish to answer 	

Q25	How would you describe your employment status?	Radio button Compulsory Single response
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Employed - full-time 2. Employed - part-time/casual 3. Unemployed and looking for paid work 4. Not employed and not looking for paid work 5. Do not wish to answer 	

APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Q26	<p>Are you currently a student studying full-time or part-time?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No 2. Yes - full-time 3. Yes - part-time 4. Do not wish to answer 	<p>Radio button Compulsory Single response</p>
Q27	<p><i>We appreciate that financial information is sensitive and this question has a 'Prefer not to say' option as we respect your privacy. We ask about household income to see how different groups of people benefit from prospecting in different ways so your answer is valuable and appreciated, should you choose to provide it.</i></p> <p>What is your gross or pre-tax <u>weekly household income</u>?</p> <p><i>Please include the income earned by all working people in your household. Include income received from government pensions investments/dividends, and salaried employment.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Less than \$499 (less than \$25,999 per year) 2. \$500-\$999 (\$26,000-\$51,999 per year) 3. \$1,000-\$1,749 (\$52,000-\$90,999 per year) 4. \$1,750-\$2,499 (\$91,000-\$129,999 per year) 5. \$2,500 or more (\$130,000 or more per year) 6. Don't know 7. Prefer not to say 	<p>Radio button Compulsory Single response</p>

APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

<p>Q28</p>	<p><i>Another sensitive but important question is the income you have earned from prospecting. This question also has an 'Unsure' and 'Prefer not to say' option but your response will provide us with a better understanding of how much economic activity is stimulated by the income earned from prospecting activities'.</i></p> <p>What is your estimate of the total <u>ounces of gold</u> you found over the last 5 years (2014-2019)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unsure • Prefer not to say • Please enter estimated ounces: _____ <p>Of the <u>ounces of gold</u> that you found over the last 5 years (2014-2019), how much have you sold?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unsure • Prefer not to say • Please enter estimated ounces: _____ <p>How much <u>other income</u> did you earn from prospecting activities over the last 5 years (2014-2019) (excluding sales of gold)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unsure • Prefer not to say • Please enter estimated value: \$ _____ 	<p>Single selection radio button</p> <p>Compulsory</p>
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APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Ask this section of all

INTRO7	This last section asks some questions about the main reasons you prospect and the types of social, health and wellbeing benefits you get from prospecting.	
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Q29	<p>What are the top 5 reasons you like to go prospecting? (If the most important reason/s you prospect aren't given, please type them in the space provided).</p> <p><i>[Please select up to 5 of the following]</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ...to relax and unwind 2. ...to spend time in the outdoors 3. ...to spend time with family 4. ...to spend time with friends 5. ...to meet new people 6. ...to get away from my day-to-day life 7. ...to experience and learn about Australian cultural heritage 8. ...to get away from other people 9. ...because it is challenging 10. ...because it is exciting 11. ...to make money 12. ...to get exercise 13. ...to spend time in places that are special to me 14. ...for therapy or coping mechanism 15. ...to spend time in nature 16. ...other (please describe) 	<p>Non-Compulsory Select multiple (1 to 5)</p> <p>Randomise order of items for each respondent</p>
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APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

For each of questions Q28, Q29 and Q30 please include the following text on the page:

“If any of the questions make you feel uncomfortable, you do not have to answer them. If you are feeling distressed or need assistance, you can contact the following services for assistance, 24 hours a day: **Beyond Blue - 1300 22 4636** **Lifeline - 13 11 14**”

Q30	Thinking about your own life and personal circumstances, how satisfied are you with the following? Unlike the earlier questions, please answer this in relation to your current circumstances. Please indicate how satisfied or dissatisfied you are with each of the following.	Radio button Non-Compulsory												
		Completely Dissatisfied						Completely Satisfied						Don't Know
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
a.	Your life as a whole													
b.	Your standard of living													
c.	Your health													
d.	What you are currently achieving in life													
e.	Your personal relationships													
f.	How safe you feel													
g.	Feeling part of your community													
h.	Your future security													

Q31	How would you rate your general health? Unlike the earlier questions, please answer this in relation to your current circumstances. 1. Excellent 2. Very good 3. Good 4. Fair 5. Poor	Radio button Non-Compulsory Single response
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APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

In the last four weeks, how often have you felt...							Radio button Non-Compulsory Single response
Q32		none of the time	a little of the time	some of the time	most of the time	all of the time	
		1	2	3	4	5	
a.	Nervous						
b.	Hopeless						
c.	Restless or fidgety						
d.	Depressed						
e.	That everything was an effort						
f.	Worthless						

Q32a	<p>You have just described how you feel and your current health and wellbeing. Do you think your responses would have been more positive or more negative if you had answered in 2019?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Much more positive 2. A little more positive 3. The same 4. A little more negative 5. Much more negative 6. Unsure 	Select one Non-compulsory
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Show on same page as Q32a and show only if Q32a = a, b, d or e.

Q32b	<p>You said that your answers would have been different in 2019 so we would like to understand whether the bushfire season or COVID-19 affected your responses at all. Please indicate which factors affected your responses:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bushfires (unable to go prospecting) 2. Bushfires (all other reasons) 3. COVID-19 (unable to go prospecting) 4. COVID-19 (all other reasons) 5. None of these reasons 	Select all that apply Non-compulsory
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Q33	<p>Who do you usually go prospecting with?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I prospect alone 2. I prospect with family 3. I prospect with a group of friends 4. I prospect with a club 	Rank between 1 to 4 responses
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APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Q34	How did you hear about this survey? <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Email invitation from BDO2. Prospecting association3. Prospecting club4. Other source (forums, facebook, word of mouth etc.)	Compulsary single response
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Q35 To say thank you for responding to the survey, Minelab has provided prizes to give away in a prize draw. Would you like to enter the prize draw?

- Yes
- No

Ask if Q35 = “Yes”

Q36 Please enter your name and preferred contact details so we can contact you if you win.

Name: _____

Contact details: _____

Last page

Thank you for your time and your valuable contribution to this important research. We will look to share the findings with you through Minelab and the prospecting associations soon.

APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

7.2 Population Survey

Ask this section of all

INTRO1	<p>We are undertaking a survey to establish the total population of people who participate in recreational prospecting in Australia. The ultimate purpose of the survey is to help describe the important role the recreational prospecting industry has in Australia.</p> <p>The results of this survey will inform an independent review of the economic and social contributions of recreational prospecting activities to Australia. Activities relevant to this survey include recreational prospecting or fossicking for gold and small-scale professional prospecting for gold.</p> <p><u>Your response is confidential.</u></p> <p>We respect your privacy and the sensitivity of information about your licencing status. This research is funded by Minelab. However, your response will only be seen by the researchers at BDO and interviewers at Action Market Research. We will only publish summary results from the survey and your individual responses will not be distributed outside of the research team and will not be provided to Minelab or government agencies.</p> <p>Your response on the possessions and uses of the prospecting licences and permits in various states will help us to understand the total number of recreational prospectors in each state. Variation between different prospectors and their licencing status is important to this research so we ask you to please be open and honest about your own situation. Thank you very much for your valuable time and assistance.</p>	Next button
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INTRO1	First, a few questions about you...
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APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Q1	<p>What is your age category?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Under 18 [TERMINATE] 2. 18-24 3. 25-29 4. 30-34 5. 35-39 6. 40-44 7. 45-49 8. 50-54 9. 55-59 10. 60-64 11. 65-74 12. 75 and over 13. Do not wish to answer 	<p>Compulsory Single response</p>
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Q2	<p>Are you...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Male 2. Female 3. Other 4. Do not wish to answer 	<p>Compulsory Single response</p>
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APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Q3	<p>Where do you live?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ACT 2. NSW – Sydney, Wollongong or Newcastle area 3. NSW – elsewhere 4. QLD – Brisbane area 5. QLD – elsewhere 6. SA – Adelaide area 7. SA – elsewhere 8. TAS – Hobart area 9. TAS - elsewhere 10. VIC – Melbourne area 11. VIC – elsewhere 12. WA – Perth area 13. WA – elsewhere 14. NT – Darwin area 15. NT - elsewhere 16. Not in Australia 	<p>Compulsory Single response</p>
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INTRO2	<p>Next, a few questions about your prospecting activities.</p>
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Q4	<p>Which of the following best describes your prospecting status? <i>Please only consider your personal activities i.e. if you prospect casually in your own time and are an employee at a large-scale mine then select 'Recreational (casual prospector)'.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Large-scale/corporate [TERMINATE] 3. Small-scale/professional (to earn a living) 4. Recreational (casual prospector) 	<p>Compulsory Single response</p>
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Q5	<p>Do you use a metal detector for your prospecting activities?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yes 2. No 	<p>Compulsory Single response</p>
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Q6	<p>What is your main target when prospecting? (select all that apply):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gold 2. Treasure/coins/relics 3. Gemstones/fossils/minerals 	<p>Compulsory Select multiple</p>
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APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Q7	<p>In which state(s) did you go prospecting in the past 10 years? (select all that apply)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10. NSW/ACT 11. QLD 12. VIC 13. TAS 14. WA 15. NT 16. SA 17. Outside Australia 18. I have not been prospecting in the past 10 years 	<p>Compulsory Select multiple</p>
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If answers to Q7 include 'NSW/ACT':

INTRO2a	<p>You indicated that you prospect in NSW/ACT, we will ask you a few questions on your licence status in NSW/ACT.</p>
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Q8a	<p>Which of the following permits/licences have you held to fossick for gold in NSW/ACT?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NSW State Forestry Fossicking Permit 2. Mining tenements (i.e. exploration and mining titles) 3. Permissions from landholders and/or lessees of Crown Land 4. Permissions from owners of mining tenements (i.e. exploration licence, mining lease, etc.) 5. Not applicable – I fossick without any relevant licences/permits/permissions 6. Other: (please specify) 	<p>Compulsory Select multiple</p>
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Ask Only if Answers to Q8a include the selection of Option '1. NSW State Forestry Fossicking Permit'.

Q9a	<p>You indicated that you have held NSW State Forestry Fossicking Permits. In which year did you acquire your most recent Permit? If you are unsure, please provide your best guess.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prior to 2010 2. 2010 3. 2011 4. 2012 5. 2013 6. 2014 7. 2015 8. 2016 9. 2017 10. 2018 11. 2019 12. 2020 13. 2021 	<p>Compulsory Single Response</p>
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APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Q10a	<p>How many adult persons are covered under your NSW State Forestry Fossicking Permit?</p> <p>14. Just myself</p> <p>15. Myself and one other adult</p>	Compulsory Single Response
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If answers to Q7 include 'VIC':

INTRO2b	You indicated that you prospect in VIC, we will ask you a few questions on your licence status in VIC.
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Q8b	<p>In which year did you acquire your VIC Miner's Rights? If you are unsure, please provide your best guess.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prior to 2010 2. 2010 3. 2011 4. 2012 5. 2013 6. 2014 7. 2015 8. 2016 9. 2017 10. 2018 11. 2019 12. 2020 13. 2021 14. Not applicable - I have held other licences instead or prospect with landholder/leaseholder permission 15. Not applicable – I prospect without Miner's Rights or any other relevant licences/permits/permissions 	Compulsory Single Response
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Q9b	<p>In which year did you most recently go prospecting in VIC? If you are unsure, please provide your best guess.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prior to 2010 2. 2010 3. 2011 4. 2012 5. 2013 6. 2014 7. 2015 8. 2016 9. 2017 10. 2018 11. 2019 12. 2020 13. 2021 	Compulsory Single Response
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APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Q10b	<p>Do you currently hold any other valid VIC licences or permits (other than Miner's Rights)? (select all that apply)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prospecting License 2. Exploration License 3. Mining License 4. None 5. Other: (please specify) 	<p>Compulsory Select multiple</p>
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If answers to Q7 include 'WA':

INTRO2c	<p>You indicated that you prospect in WA, we will ask you a few questions on your licence status in WA.</p>
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Q8c	<p>In which year did you acquire your WA Miner's Rights (? If you are unsure, please provide your best guess.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prior to 2010 2. 2010 3. 2011 4. 2012 5. 2013 6. 2014 7. 2015 8. 2016 9. 2017 10. 2018 11. 2019 12. 2020 13. 2021 14. Not applicable - I have held other licences instead or prospect with landholder/leaseholder permission 15. Not applicable – I prospect without Miner's Rights or any other relevant licences/permits/permissions 	<p>Compulsory Single Response</p>
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APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Q9c	<p>In which year did you most recently go prospecting in WA? If you are unsure, please provide your best guess.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prior to 2010 2. 2010 3. 2011 4. 2012 5. 2013 6. 2014 7. 2015 8. 2016 9. 2017 10. 2018 11. 2019 12. 2020 13. 2021 	Compulsory Single Response
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Q10c	<p>Do you currently hold any other valid WA tenements or permits (other than Miner's Rights)? (select all that apply)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Section 40E permit 2. Prospecting Lease 3. Special Prospecting Lease for Gold 4. Exploration Lease 5. Mining Lease 6. None 7. Other: (please specify) 	Compulsory Select multiple
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If answers to Q7 include 'QLD':

INTRO2d	You indicated that you fossick in QLD, we will ask you a few questions on your licence status in QLD.
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APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Q8d	<p>In which year did you acquire your QLD Fossicking Licence? If you are unsure, please provide your best guess.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prior to 2010 2. 2010 3. 2011 4. 2012 5. 2013 6. 2014 7. 2015 8. 2016 9. 2017 10. 2018 11. 2019 12. 2020 13. 2021 14. Not applicable - I have held other licences instead or fossick with landholder/leaseholder permission 15. Not applicable – I prospect without a fossicking licence or any other relevant licences/permits/permissions 	Compulsory Single Response
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Skip if Q8d = “Not applicable”

Q9d	<p>Please indicate the term of the licence you last acquired. If you are unsure, please provide your best guess.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1 month 2. 6 months 3. 1 year 	Compulsory Single Response
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Skip if Q8d = “Not applicable”

Q10d	<p>How many adult persons are covered under your QLD Fossicking Licence?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16. Just myself 17. Myself and one other adult 	Compulsory Single Response
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If answers to Q7 do not include either ‘NSW/ACT’, ‘QLD’, ‘VIC’, or ‘WA’:

INTRO2e	<p>The focus of this survey is prospectors’ licencing status in the states of NSW/ACT, QLD, VIC and WA. Given you have indicated that you prospect in [INSERT THE CHOICE USER SELECTED], no further licencing inputs are required from you.</p>
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APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Ask this section of all

Q11	Who do you usually go prospecting with? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I prospect alone 2. I prospect with family 3. I prospect with a group of friends 4. I prospect with a club 	Rank between 1 to 4 responses
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Q12	Are you a member of the following prospecting or detecting associations? <i>We will ask about activities with local clubs later.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NSW and ACT Prospectors and Fossickers Association (NAPFA) 2. Prospectors and Miners Association Victoria (PMAV) 3. Amalgamated Prospectors and Leaseholders Association (APLA) 4. Other (specify): _____ 5. None 	Compulsory Select multiple
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Q13	What format do you receive most of your information about Minelab and Minelab's products? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minelab Website 2. Dealer Website 3. Minelab/Dealer Facebook Pages 4. Facebook Groups 5. Instagram 6. Dealer Visits 7. Retailer Visits eg BCF or Anaconda 8. Brochures 9. Personal Contacts/Other Users 10. Other 	Compulsory Single response
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Q14 To say thank you for responding to the survey, Minelab has provided prizes to give away in a prize draw. Would you like to enter the prize draw?

- Yes
- No

Ask if Q14 = "Yes"

Q15 Please enter your name and preferred contact details so we can contact you if you win.

Name: _____

Contact details: _____

Last page

APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

Thank you for your time and your valuable contribution to this important research. We will look to share the findings with you through Minelab and the prospecting associations soon.

APPENDIX B - SURVEY RESPONDENT CHARACTERISTICS

7.3 Respondent Characteristics

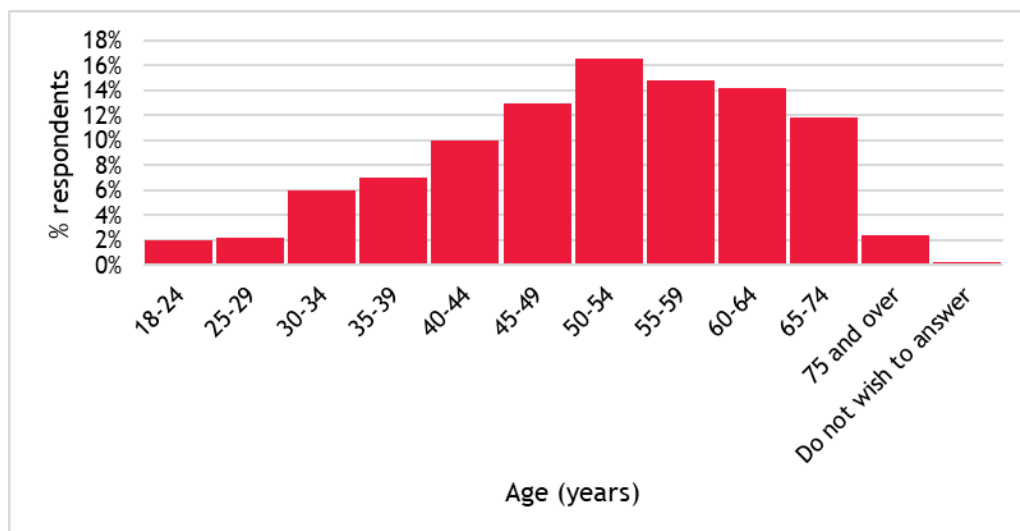
The demographic characteristics of recreational prospectors are detailed in this section. This analysis is informed by the 2,933 responses to the expenditure survey conducted between 14 July and 26 August 2020, which contained questions relating to expenditure and demographic data. In all cases the data are weighted, meaning that the results are representative of the recreational prospecting population.

The average recreational prospector is over 40 years of age, male, in full-time paid employment, has completed high school and earns between \$52,000 and \$90,999 per year. They also have better personal wellbeing, lower psychological distress and similar general health in comparison to the wider Australian population.

7.3.1 Age

The weighted age distribution of recreational prospectors is shown in Figure 22. It indicates that over 80% of prospectors are 40 years or above (n=2,933).

Figure 22 Age of survey respondents across Australia



7.3.2 Gender

Overall, the majority of survey respondents were men (2,599, 87%) while 328 (13%) were women and 6 respondents (0%) chose not to answer (n=2,933).

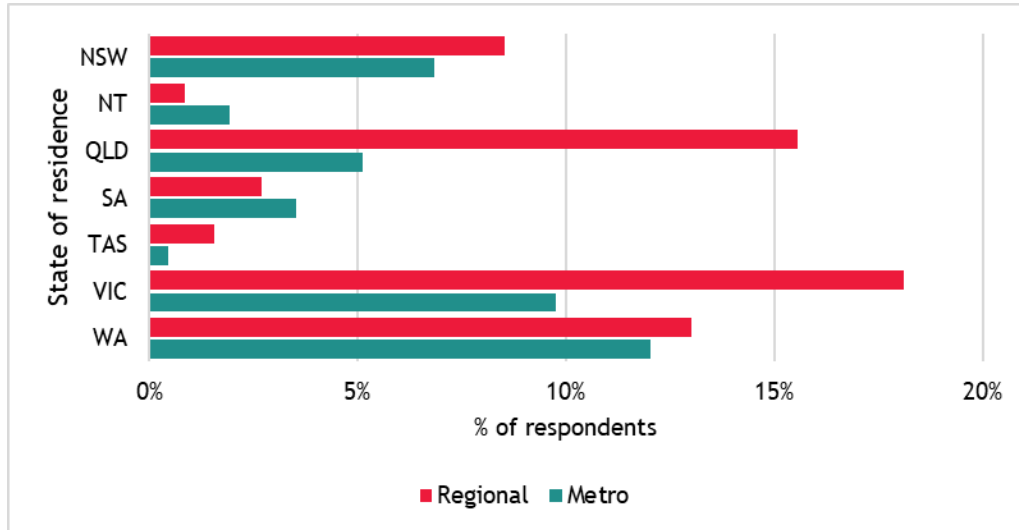
7.3.3 Regional or metropolitan

The proportion of recreational prospectors who live in regional or metropolitan areas is presented in Appendix b - Survey rESPONDENT cHARACTERISTICS (CONT'D)

Figure 23. Based on the responses, there was a slightly uneven balance between respondents reporting that they lived in regional (60%) or metropolitan (40%) areas. Respondents from South Australia and the Northern Territory were more likely to be from metropolitan areas, whereas respondents from New South Wales, Queensland, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia were more likely to be regional.

APPENDIX B - SURVEY RESPONDENT CHARACTERISTICS (CONT'D)

Figure 23 Percentage of survey respondents in Regional or Metropolitan Areas of each State and Territory



Note: Regional/metropolitan categorisations classified as: NSW Metro (ACT, Sydney, Wollongong or Newcastle area), NSW Regional (NSW - elsewhere), NT Metro (Darwin area), NT Regional (NT - elsewhere), QLD Metro (Brisbane area), QLD Regional (QLD - elsewhere), SA Metro (Adelaide area), SA Regional (SA - elsewhere), TAS Metro (Hobart area), TAS Regional (TAS - elsewhere), VIC Metro (Melbourne area), VIC Regional (VIC - elsewhere), WA Metro (Perth area), WA Regional (WA - elsewhere).

7.3.4 Employment

Figure 24 shows that slightly more than half of recreational prospectors are in full-time paid employment (53%), with the next largest group being not employed and not looking for paid work (21%). Given the age profile of prospectors in Figure 24, this second group is likely to be mostly retired. Part-time and casually employed made up 14% of respondents while just 4% indicated that they were unemployed and looking for paid work. A further 5% of respondents indicated that they were studying, either full-time (1%) or part-time (3%).

Figure 24 Employment status of survey respondents

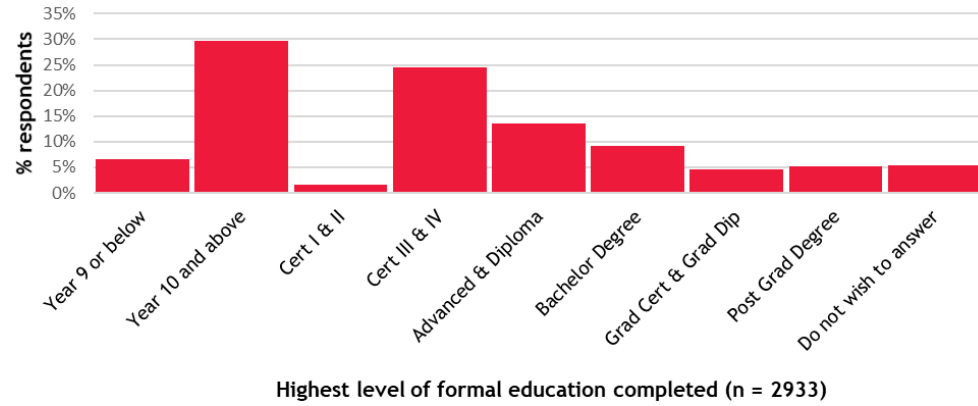


APPENDIX B - SURVEY RESPONDENT CHARACTERISTICS (CONT'D)

7.3.5 Educational attainment

Educational attainment varied across respondents with 58% indicating that they had completed a post-school qualification such as a certificate, diploma or university degree. However, 36% had not completed further education following high-school, as outlined in Figure 25.

Figure 25 Highest level of formal education completed by recreational prospectors



7.3.6 Household income

Respondents were asked to indicate what their household income was in the previous 12 months. Although 24% of respondents preferred not to answer the question, 76% of respondents did answer the question and the largest group of recreational prospectors had an income of between \$52,000 and \$90,999 per year (21%). The distribution of household income amongst recreational prospectors is shown in Figure 26.

Figure 26 Household income reported by prospectors



APPENDIX C - DETAILED ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS

Table 16. Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to Australia 2019

Activity	GSP (\$m)	Household income (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
Prospecting expenditure			
(1) Direct	224.3	128.3	1,956
(2) Flow-on	411.1	228.7	2,696
▶ Production	147.3	89.2	974
▶ Consumption	263.7	139.5	1,723
(1+2) Total	635.3	357.0	4,652
Expenditure of finds			
Direct	113.8	113.8	-
Flow-on	138.0	73.0	901
Total	251.8	186.8	901
Combined			
(1) Direct	338.0	242.1	1,956
(2) Flow-on	549.1	301.7	3,597
▶ Production	147.3	89.2	974
▶ Consumption	401.7	212.4	2,624
(1+2) Total	887.1	543.7	5,553

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

APPENDIX C - DETAILED ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS (CONT'D)

Table 17. Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to Western Australia 2019

Activity	GSP (\$m)	Household income (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
Prospecting expenditure			
(1) Direct	121.3	67.3	1,038
(2) Flow-on	101.5	49.6	662
▶ Production	37.5	18.7	224
▶ Consumption	63.9	30.9	438
(1+2) Total	222.8	116.9	1,700
Expenditure of finds			
Direct	70.3	70.3	-
Flow-on	52.3	25.3	358
Total	122.5	95.5	358
Combined			
(1) Direct	191.5	137.6	1,038
(2) Flow-on	153.8	74.8	1,019
▶ Production	37.5	18.7	224
▶ Consumption	116.2	56.2	795
(1+2) Total	345.3	212.4	2,057

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

APPENDIX C - DETAILED ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS (CONT'D)

Table 18. Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to Victoria 2019

Activity	GSP (\$m)	Household income (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
Prospecting expenditure			
(1) Direct	46.5	25.7	455
(2) Flow-on	57.4	32.6	450
▶ Production	20.6	13.5	174
▶ Consumption	36.8	19.1	276
(1+2) Total	104.0	58.3	905
Expenditure of finds			
Direct	23.6	23.6	-
Flow-on	22.2	11.5	167
Total	45.9	35.2	167
Combined			
(1) Direct	70.1	49.3	455
(2) Flow-on	79.7	44.1	617
▶ Production	20.6	13.5	174
▶ Consumption	59.0	30.6	443
(1+2) Total	149.8	93.4	1,072

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

APPENDIX C - DETAILED ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS (CONT'D)

Table 19. Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to Queensland 2019

Activity	GSP (\$m)	Household income (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
Prospecting expenditure			
(1) Direct	29.2	17.8	302
(2) Flow-on	35.9	19.4	289
▶ Production	13.8	8.0	114
▶ Consumption	22.1	11.5	175
(1+2) Total	65.1	37.2	591
Expenditure of finds			
Direct	8.2	8.2	-
Flow-on	7.0	3.7	56
Total	15.3	11.9	56
Combined			
(1) Direct	37.5	26.0	302
(2) Flow-on	42.9	23.1	345
▶ Production	13.8	8.0	114
▶ Consumption	29.1	15.1	231
(1+2) Total	80.4	49.1	646

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

APPENDIX C - DETAILED ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS (CONT'D)

Table 20. Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to NSW and ACT 2019

Activity	GSP (\$m)	Household income (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
Prospecting expenditure			
(1) Direct	24.1	14.7	229
(2) Flow-on	32.4	18.2	224
▶ Production	12.8	8.1	92
▶ Consumption	19.7	10.2	132
(1+2) Total	56.5	32.9	453
Expenditure of finds			
Direct	9.1	9.1	-
Flow-on	7.8	4.0	53
Total	16.9	13.1	53
Combined			
(1) Direct	33.2	23.8	229
(2) Flow-on	40.3	22.3	277
▶ Production	12.8	8.1	92
▶ Consumption	27.5	14.2	185
(1+2) Total	73.4	46.0	506

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

APPENDIX C - DETAILED ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS (CONT'D)

Table 21. Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to South Australia 2019

Activity	GSP (\$m)	Household income (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
Prospecting expenditure			
(1) Direct	4.9	2.9	50
(2) Flow-on	5.7	3.1	46
▶ Production	2.1	1.3	19
▶ Consumption	3.6	1.9	28
(1+2) Total	10.5	6.0	97
Expenditure of finds			
Direct	1.6	1.6	-
Flow-on	1.4	0.7	10
Total	2.9	2.3	10
Combined			
(1) Direct	6.4	4.5	50
(2) Flow-on	7.0	3.8	57
▶ Production	2.1	1.3	19
▶ Consumption	5.0	2.6	38
(1+2) Total	13.5	8.3	107

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

APPENDIX C - DETAILED ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS (CONT'D)

Table 22. Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to Tasmania 2019

Activity	GSP (\$m)	Household income (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
Prospecting expenditure			
(1) Direct	0.7	0.4	8
(2) Flow-on	0.8	0.4	7
▶ Production	0.3	0.2	3
▶ Consumption	0.5	0.2	4
(1+2) Total	1.5	0.8	15
Expenditure of finds			
Direct	0.4	0.4	-
Flow-on	0.3	0.2	3
Total	0.8	0.6	3
Combined			
(1) Direct	1.2	0.9	8
(2) Flow-on	1.1	0.6	9
▶ Production	0.3	0.2	3
▶ Consumption	0.8	0.4	7
(1+2) Total	2.3	1.5	18

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

APPENDIX C - DETAILED ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION RESULTS (CONT'D)

Table 23. Economic contribution of recreational prospecting to Northern Territory 2019

Activity	GSP (\$m)	Household income (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
Prospecting expenditure			
(1) Direct	2.6	1.2	25
(2) Flow-on	1.8	0.7	12
▶ Production	0.9	0.4	6
▶ Consumption	0.9	0.3	6
(1+2) Total	4.4	1.9	37
Expenditure of finds			
Direct	0.6	0.6	-
Flow-on	0.4	0.1	2
Total	1.0	0.7	2
Combined			
(1) Direct	3.2	1.8	25
(2) Flow-on	2.2	0.9	15
▶ Production	0.9	0.4	6
▶ Consumption	1.3	0.4	8
(1+2) Total	5.4	2.6	39

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

Table 24. Economic contribution of Minelab to South Australia 2019/20

Activity	GSP (\$m)	Employment (FTEs)
Prospecting expenditure		
(1) Direct	148.2	100
(2) Flow-on	69.3	248
▶ Production	36.1	569
▶ Consumption	33.2	321
(1+2) Total	217.5	669

Source: BDO Analysis 2021

