

Rehabilitation of Mining Lands Trust Fund

2025-26 Annual Report



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Acknowledgment of Country

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this island, Mineral Resources Tasmania acknowledges and pays respect to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people, as the continuing custodians of lutruwita/Tasmania.

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This Report

This annual report was developed by Mineral Resource Tasmania's Land & Tenements Branch, to detail the outcomes and progress of remediation efforts funded through the Rehabilitation of Mining Lands Trust Fund in the 2025-26 financial year.

Rehabilitation projects and general updates are also regularly highlighted in MRT's monthly newsletter – available via the MRT website at www.mrt.tas.gov.au/news/newsletters.

These reporting channels ensure transparency, performance tracking and continuous improvement across MRT's rehabilitation and management activities.

The Rehabilitation of Mining Lands Trust Fund

The Rehabilitation of Mining Lands Trust Fund (RTF) was established under the *Mineral Resources Development Act 1995*, to fund the rehabilitation of land affected by former mining and exploration activities.

The primary objective of the fund is to return abandoned mining lands to a safe, stable and non-polluting condition that presents no ongoing environmental or safety risks and is suitable for its intended future land use.

Abandoned mining lands to be considered for rehabilitation under the trust fund must be on Crown land, with the responsibility for rehabilitation resting with the Crown, and must have been worked by private enterprise and not by Government or Government Instrumentality.

The RTF is administered by Mineral Resources Tasmania (MRT) on behalf of the Tasmanian Government and is governed by a committee comprising representatives from the following industry and government agencies:

- Mineral Resources Tasmania (MRT)
- Environmental Protection Authority (EPA)
- Department of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) - Represented by Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS)
- Sustainable Timber Tasmania (STT)
- Concrete, Cement and Aggregates Australia
- Tasmanian Minerals and Energy Council

This Committee is responsible for the consideration and approval of all rehabilitation projects supported under the trust fund.

As previously agreed by the committee, abandoned mining lands are to be assessed and prioritised in accordance with their potential risk to:

1. Public health and safety
2. Environmental impacts
3. Mining heritage

Sites determined to have the highest risk to public health and safety, and the environment are prioritised for management and rehabilitation actions.

Mineral Resources Tasmania oversees the delivery of all rehabilitation projects, ensuring that public safety, environmental protection and community values are at the centre of rehabilitation efforts.

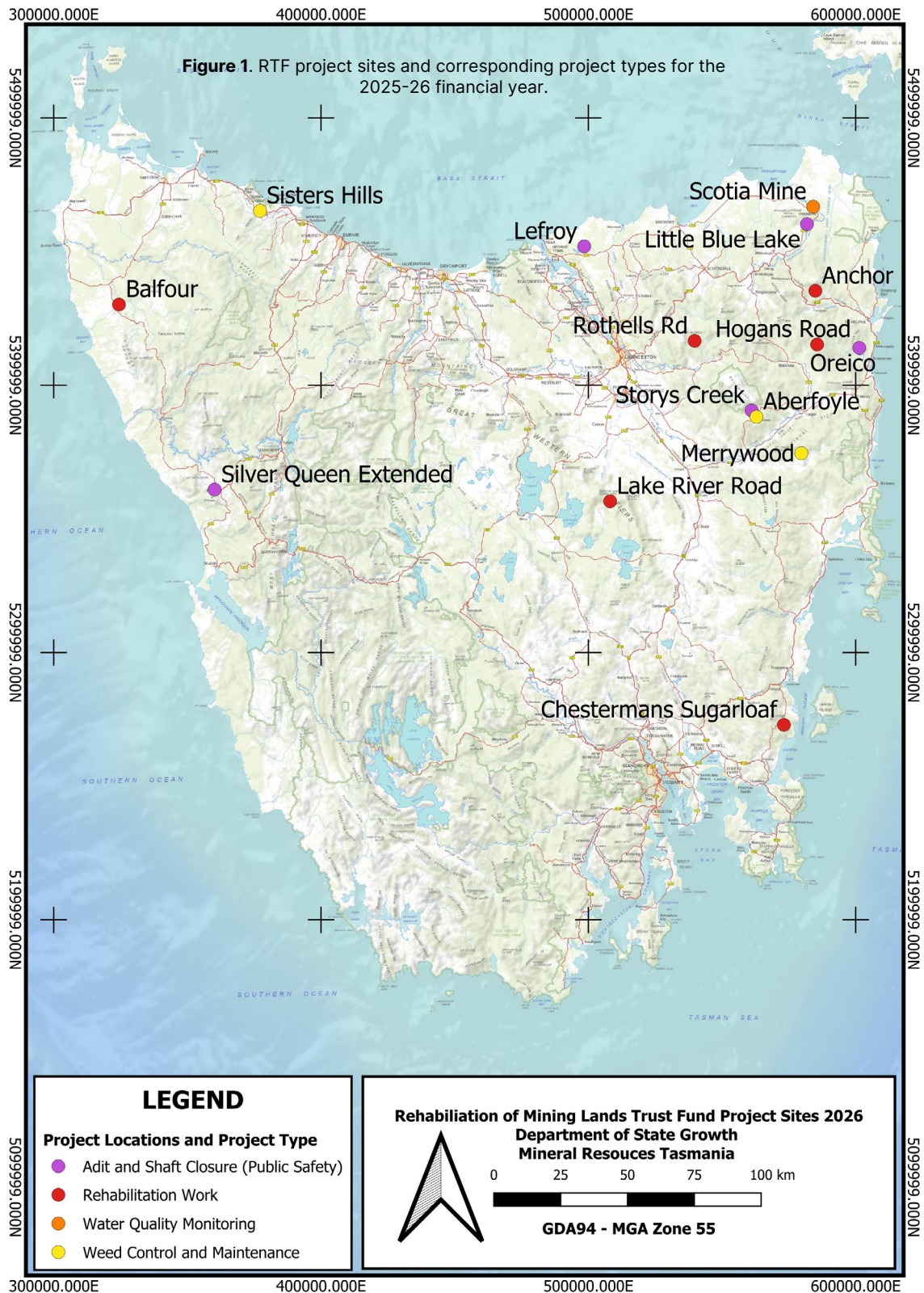
The fund is currently financed through an annual appropriation by the Tasmanian Parliament of \$150 000. In the 2025-26 financial year, an additional \$100 000 was allocated to the trust fund under the Tasmanian Government's Bolstering the RTF initiative.

This additional funding has allowed MRT to enhance its efforts and capacity in rehabilitating and managing legacy mining and exploration sites.

Project Overview

During the 2025–26 financial year, RTF projects were delivered across multiple sites (Figure 1). A summary of works undertaken at each site is provided in this report and categorised as follows:

- Rehabilitation works
- Rehabilitation monitoring
- Weed control and maintenance
- Adit and shaft closure / Safety works



Rehabilitation works

Anchor

In May 2026, Mineral Resources Tasmania (MRT) completed erosion control and surface stabilisation works at the historic Anchor Tin Mine, located approximately 1.2 km southwest of the Lottah township in northeast Tasmania.

MRT has been undertaking inspections, water quality monitoring and waste removal at the site since 2011 and began investigating the stability of the tailings dam embankment in 2021. In 2023, survey prisms were installed to track the potential movement of the tailings embankment, with routine analysis confirming the overall stability of the underlying structure of the embankment.

Subsequent inspections identified localised erosion along the embankment face, with sediment entering the surrounding forest and the Groom River, particularly following heavy rainfall events. Works commissioned in 2026 aimed to mitigate erosion on the embankment through water diversion, stabilisation via earthworks, installation of surface geotextile, placement of slash material and revegetation through native seeding and planting. These remediation actions were undertaken across an area of approximately 3000 m², with all works constrained to the existing footprint of historical disturbance (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Comparison of Anchor embankment pre- (left) and post-remediation work (right).

All works were completed in May 2026, outside the raptor breeding season and conducted in accordance with the *Tasmanian Wetlands and Waterways Works Manual*. Environmental considerations were made due to observations of raptor species, such as the grey goshawk and wedge-tailed eagle, as well as the identification of potential habitat for Hydrobiid snails.

MRT will continue to monitor the site to assess its rehabilitation outcomes. Ongoing evaluation will include drone-based photogrammetry and water quality monitoring, with additional weed management activities planned for the 2026–27 financial year.

Balfour

MRT has maintained a long-standing commitment to ecological restoration of the abandoned mining lands at Balfour, located on the West Coast of Tasmania.

The 2025-26 financial year saw the completion of a comprehensive revegetation program that commenced in 2004, aimed at addressing soil stabilisation, revegetation and drainage impacts across multiple sites (Figure 3).

Over the last five years, management has focused on the targeted removal of the non-locally endemic species *Kunzea ambigua* (White Kunzea) and *Acacia sophorae* (Coast Wattle). In December 2025, a comprehensive ground survey of the site's rehabilitated areas was undertaken in which no incidence of these species was observed. The absence of *Kunzea ambigua* and *Acacia sophorae* concludes MRT's requirement for ongoing vegetation management at this location.

While the vegetation recovery of the site has been a major achievement, MRT continues to undertake other rehabilitation initiatives at Balfour. Rehabilitation Officers are currently undertaking routine water quality monitoring and investigating potential remediation solutions for the Balfour Central Shaft (BCS) and the surrounding vicinity. These efforts highlight MRT's commitment through the RTF, to addressing long-term environmental impacts and ensuring the site's suitability for future land use.



Figure 3. Comparative images of revegetation over Balfour Site, 2004 – 2025.

GHD – Balfour Repository Dam Risk Reduction Works

Temporary repair work on the sludge dam embankment wall below the BCS were completed in 2022 to prevent failure and the subsequent release of metalliferous sludge into the downstream Frankland and Arthur catchments. It was recommended a Consequence Category Assessment and further structural improvements be made to meet ANCOLD (2019) standards.

In 2025, MRT commissioned a report including an embankment design basis, construction set, bill of quantities, and a detailed cost estimate. The report was submitted to the RTF in March 2026. The design was informed by ANCOLD guidelines, based on a 1:1000 year Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) of 1.58 m/S and a dam failure consequence category of “significant”, based on the potential impact on the surrounding natural environment.

Proposed modifications involve raising the dam crest and downstream buttressing of the embankment (Figure 4), as well as widening and lengthening the existing spillway beyond the modified buttress (Figure 5). Both the upstream and downstream batters of the embankment and the spillway channel would be lined with geofabric and rockfill.

The footprint of this proposed upgrade would see an overall increase in area from approximately 50 m² to 520 m² to meet ANCOLD standards, at an initial cost estimate of \$210 000. Mineral Resources Tasmania is working closely with the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania (NRE) on further scoping, management and the long-term implications of progressing with this design.



Figure 4. Current condition of Balfour Central Shaft Dam embankment (November 2025).

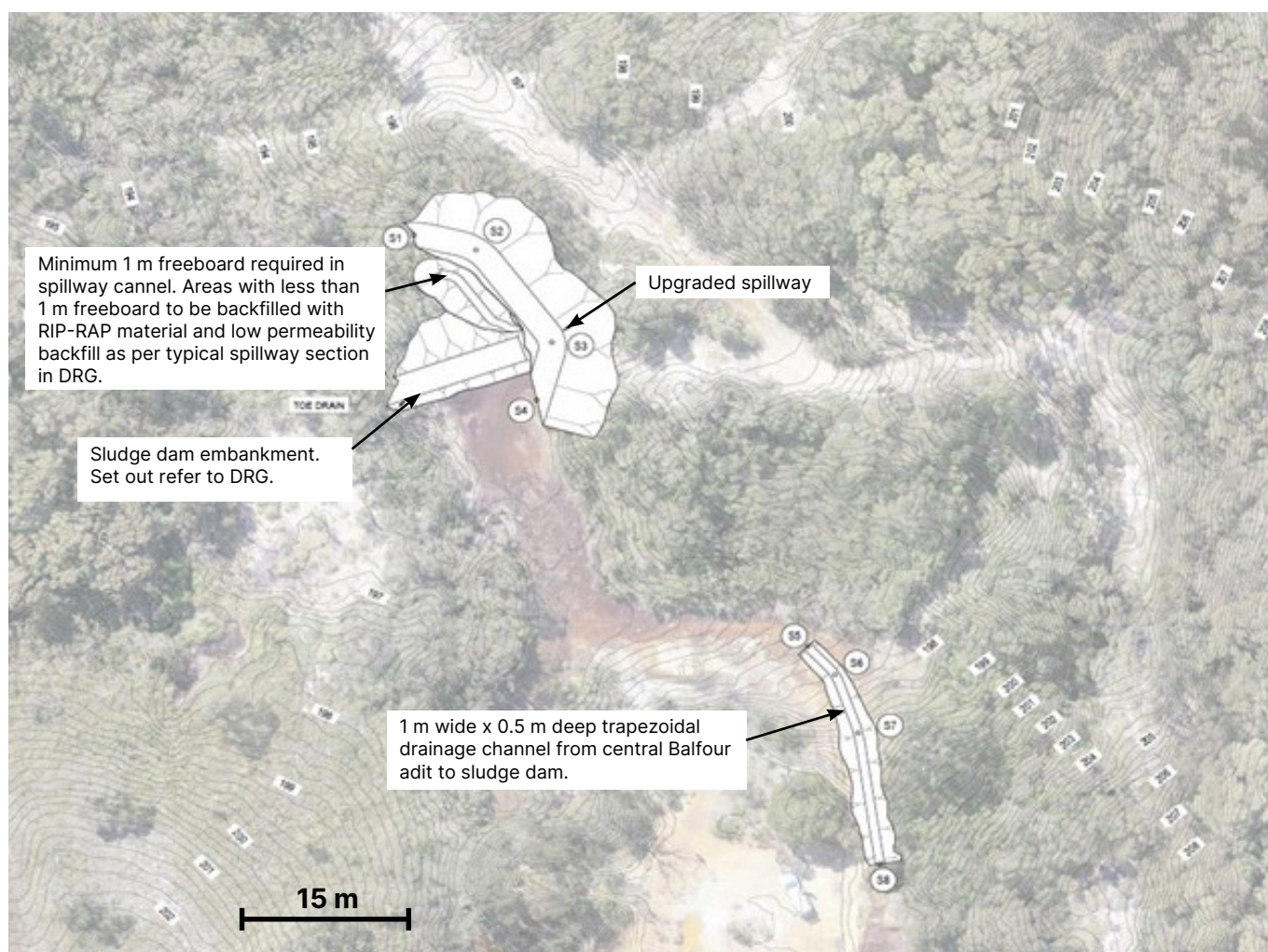


Figure 5. Proposed footprint for Balfour Dam embankment and spillway improvements.

Rehabilitation Monitoring

Rehabilitation work at the following sites was completed through the RTF and is detailed in previous Annual Reports. The following section provides an update on the rehabilitation status and future management requirements of each site.

Chesterman's Sugarloaf

The Chesterman's Sugarloaf site was inspected in May 2026, approximately 24 months after the completion of MRT's initial rehabilitation works.

Overall, the site appears safe, stable, and non-polluting, with no visible indicators of erosion or contamination (Figure 6). While native tree, shrub and ground cover vegetation remains visually sparse, successful establishment has been observed across the entirety of the site. The presence of sufficient topsoil cover is expected to support continued natural recruitment over the next 3 – 5 years.

Weed species *Cirsium valgare* (Spear thistle), *Verbascum thapsus* (Great Mullein) and *Rumex* sp. (Dock) were observed at the site. Given the risks associated with the establishment and spread of these weed species, the site will require ongoing management.



Figure 6. Comparison of site post remediation (2024) and recent inspection (2025).

Lake River Road

Lake River Road was inspected in November 2025 using both ground-based assessments and drone photogrammetry to evaluate the status of rehabilitation, five years after the completion of earthworks and revegetation in April 2021 (Figure 7).

Recruitment of native species has increased, with ground cover, mid-story, and overstory species now distributed across the site. Notably, concentrations of ground cover *Aceana novae-zelandiae* (Red bidibid) were observed on the eastern batter and canopy species *Eucalyptus tasmaniensis* (Gum-topped Stringybark), *Eucalyptus amygdalina* (black peppermint) and *Acacia dealbata* (silver wattle) were established along the rip lines (Figure 8). Only a small number of isolated *Cirsium valgare* (Spear Thistle) individuals were observed.

Rill erosion was evident on the southeastern slope, however the concentration of surface water entering the quarry continues to be effectively conveyed offsite via functional drains and culverts. All remaining batter faces appear stable.

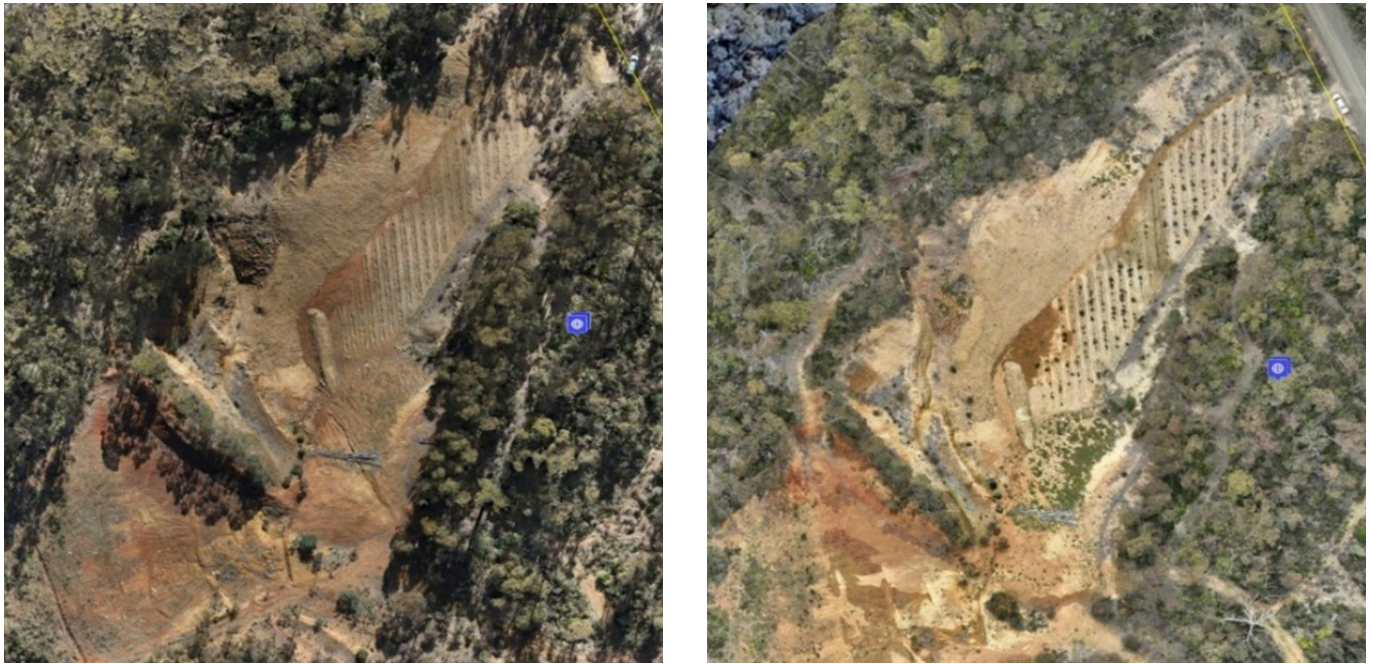


Figure 7. Comparative Drone imagery post remediation (2024) and recent inspection (2025).



Figure 8. Comparison of established vegetation 2024 (left) and 2025 (right).

Hogans Road

Hogans Road was inspected in August 2025 to assess its rehabilitation progress following works completed in May 2022. The quarry appears stable, with no visible erosion or evidence of unauthorised entry. Qualitative observations indicate continued improvement and an increase in vegetative recruitment since the previous inspection in October 2024, particularly across the site's upper bench (Figure 9).

Water quality monitoring also continued in August 2025, to evaluate the effectiveness of the alkaline shell grit installed to mitigate the acid mine drainage (AMD) leaving the site. The long-term sampling (conducted since 2017), shows significant improvements in key water quality indicators such as pH, conductivity and metal concentrations post earthworks (Figure 10).



Figure 9. Native vegetation recruitment at Hogans Rd quarry (August 2025).

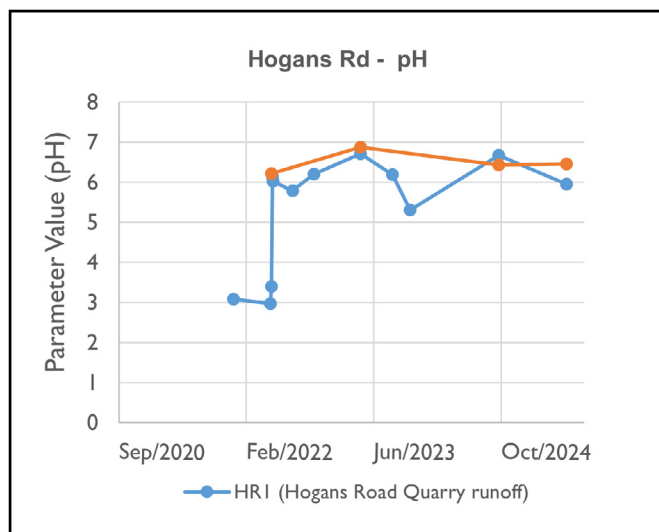
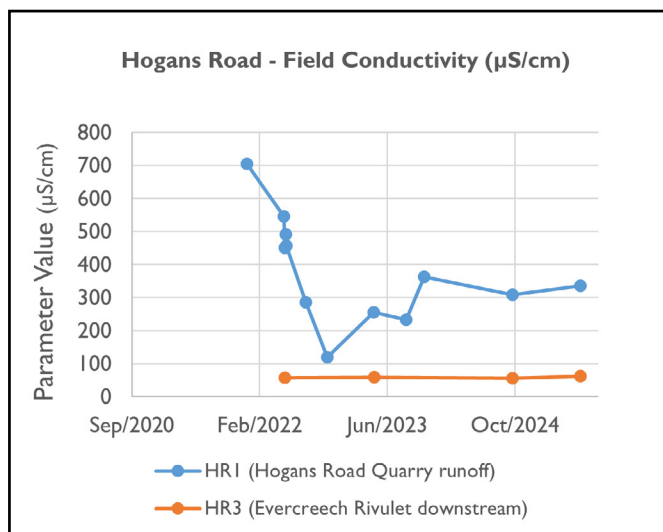


Figure 10. Hogans Rd pH and Electrical Conductivity Water Quality Data 2022 – 2025 indicating improvement post rehabilitation in May 2022.

Monitoring at the catchment level in 2025 shows that pH and metal concentrations fall within the ANZECC freshwater trigger values for 95% aquatic species protection. On-going water monitoring will continue at both the quarry outlet and downstream of the site to understand rehabilitation performance over time. The next water quality monitoring program is scheduled to take place in August 2026.

Rothalls Road

Rothalls Road was inspected in March 2026, following the completion of earthworks in April 2025 and native seeding in September 2025. This site appears stable and non-polluting, with no visible signs of uncontrolled public access.

Recruitment of native species such as *Acacia dealbata* (Silver wattle), *Cassinia aculeata* (Dolly bush), *Poa labillardierei* (common tussock-grass) and *Eucalyptus* sp. were observed across the site (Figure 11).

The recently declared weed species *Digitalis* sp. (Foxglove) was identified recruiting over the quarry floor, benches and surrounding area. Given the species capacity to rapidly spread, targeted weed control will be the primary management focus at Rothalls Road in the coming financial year.



Figure 11. Recruiting native vegetation and Foxglove evident at Rothalls Road quarry (March 2026).

Scotia mine

Surveillance, monitoring and maintenance of the Scotia mine site has been managed by MRT since 2014 (Figure 12). Over this period, MRT has developed a substantial dataset, providing valuable insights into the geological, geochemical, and mineralogical factors influencing water quality at the site. This information will be used to guide strategies for restoring the site to pre-mining environmental conditions.

In the 2025-26 financial year care and maintenance of the Scotia mine continued, involving water sampling, telemetry maintenance, bore surveys and an Aerial Electromagnetic (AEM) Survey.

Ground and Surface Water Monitoring

Quarterly water quality monitoring undertaken across the Scotia main pit and tailings dams indicated no significant change in trend, with testing parameters remaining stable over time.

MRT currently operates on the site under an Environmental Protection Notice (EPN), which permits controlled dewatering of the main pit. This dewatering aims to manage the risks associated with embankment instability and potential wall failure. When required, dewatering is undertaken through the regulated release of water into the adjacent Ringarooma River. Recent water quality results confirm that conditions remain consistent with the EPN requirements, and no amendments to the permit are currently necessary.

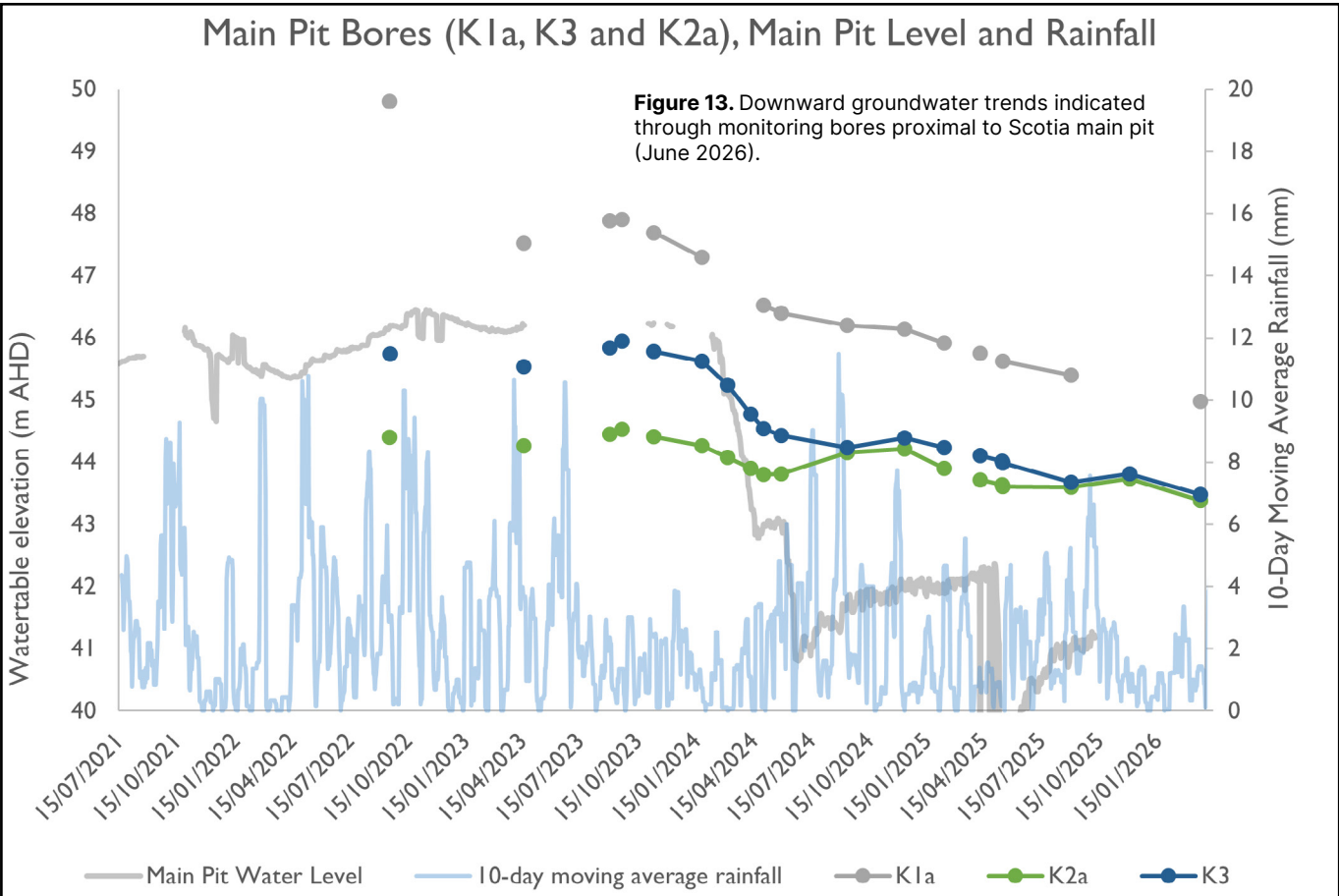
An onsite gauge board has been installed, and telemetry systems are under maintenance in accordance with permit conditions. No dewatering was required during the 2025–26 financial year, however, water levels in the main pit are expected to reach the trigger threshold during winter 2026, at which point dewatering may recommence.

In April 2026, a survey of water bores and ground control points (GCPs) was undertaken. This built on previous survey work completed in 2023, which focused on bores in the vicinity of the main pit and tailings dams. The 2026 program extended coverage to bores within the northern extent of the paleochannel and established additional GCPs to improve the accuracy of Real-Time Kinematic (RTK) elevation models derived from drone monitoring.

Integration of the bore survey data into water level analysis enables groundwater levels to be reported relative to elevation (m AHD), allowing for meaningful interpretation of groundwater movement and flow. Analysis indicates that groundwater within the vicinity of the main pit impoundment has maintained a downward trend of approximately 2.5 m since the first dewatering campaign in 2024 (Figure 13).



Figure 12. Monitoring the Scotia mine site.



Aerial Electromagnetic (AEM) Survey

Geoscience Australia and MRT (Geological Survey Division) collaborated to undertake an extensive statewide AEM survey, set to be completed in 2026. Leveraging off this program, the RTF co-funded a high-resolution survey over the Scotia mine site, incorporating concentrated east/west fly-over intervals of 125 m.

Preliminary observations indicate a clear demarcation between basement geology (Mathinna Supergroup) and the overlying generally more conductive clastic cover, albeit a number of moderate basement conductors associated with particular beds within the otherwise resistive Mathinna Supergroup (Figure 14).

A paleochannel defined from historical drilling data coincides closely with a distinctly resistive surface feature (centre – Figure 14). Additionally, there are laterally continuous, layered conductive zones in the vicinity of the paleochannel that may control and constrain fluid flow pathways (Figure 15).

In combination the groundwater and AEM data will support the development of a detailed 3D geological and hydrogeological model of the Scotia region, improving understanding of the groundwater architecture, including paleochannels, and groundwater flow pathways. This model will directly inform pit backfilling, drainage alignment and long-term water management strategies, reduce uncertainty and improve confidence that rehabilitation outcomes will effectively protect downstream water quality and support long-term ecosystem recovery.

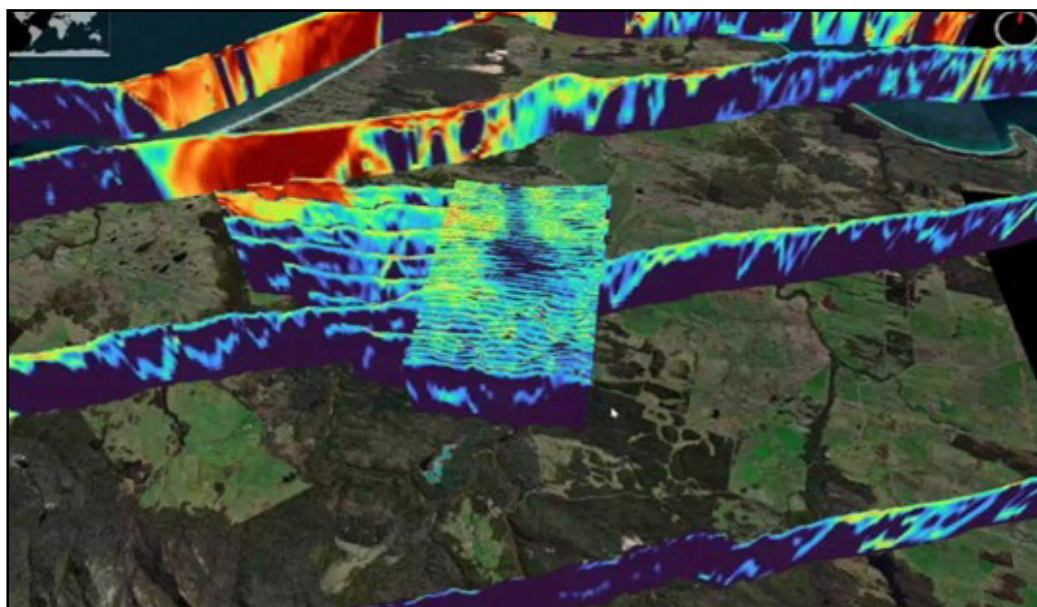


Figure 14. AEM output (looking north) indicating high resistivity units including basement geology and paleochannel (blue) and conductive zones (yellow).

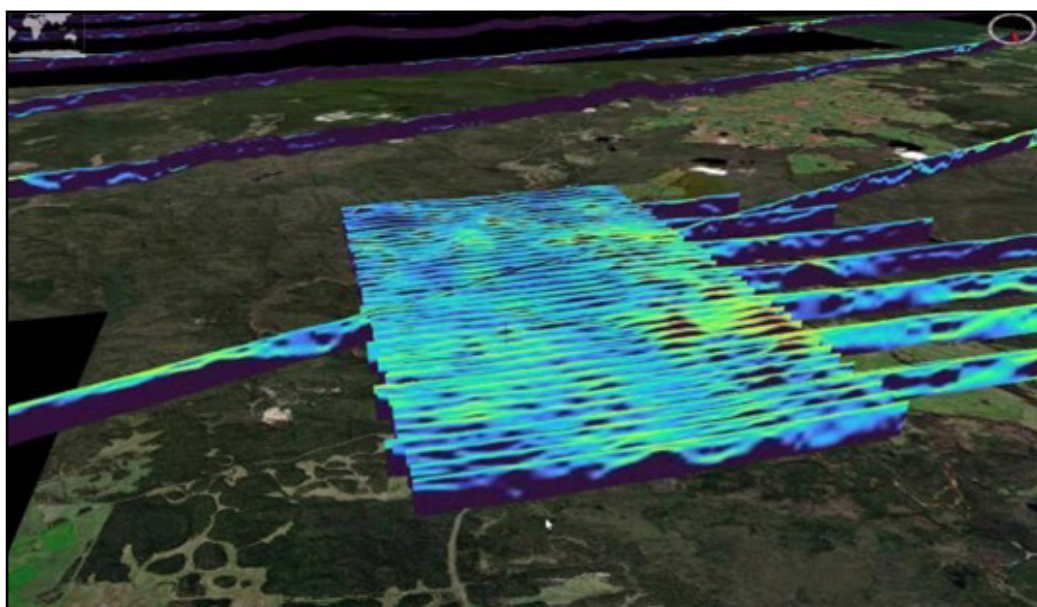


Figure 15. AEM output (looking south) indicating laterally continuous, layered conductive zones surrounding paleochannel.

Weed Control and Maintenance

Weed management continued across a number of abandoned mine and quarry sites, that had previously undergone rehabilitation works. All weed observations are recorded in the Tasmanian Government's Natural Values Atlas (NVA).

The requirement for ongoing weed control and site maintenance will be prioritised by the RTF Committee, based on available resources and broader project priorities. Weed control and management activities completed in the 2025-2026 financial year are detailed below.

Aberfoyle

Weed mapping across the Aberfoyle mine site was undertaken in November 2025 following observations of declared species *Cystis scoparius* (English Broom), *Genista monspessulana* (Montipellier Broom), *Ulex europaeus* (Gorse) and *Senecio jacobaea* (Ragwort).

This mapping established a baseline understanding of the distribution of woody weeds in the immediate Aberfoyle area, in which all information was lodged into the Tasmanian NVA. MRT will continue to work with the relevant land management authorities to support long-term control and maintenance of woody weeds at this site.

An isolated population of Ragwort identified on the Aberfoyle mine tailings during this survey was treated as part of MRT's ongoing regional Ragwort management program, completed in February 2025 (Figure 16). Further details of this program are provided in the Storys Creek section below.



Figure 16. Ragwort pre- (left) and post-treatment (right), Aberfoyle tailings dump.

Merrywood

Weed mapping undertaken in November 2025 identified a small population of *Ulex europaeus* (Gorse) within the former Merrywood Coal Mine footprint (Figure 17). Gorse is a declared weed species in Tasmania under the *Biosecurity Act 2019* and is subject to a statutory management plan that specifies "containment" as the management objective within Zone B municipalities, which includes the Merrywood area.

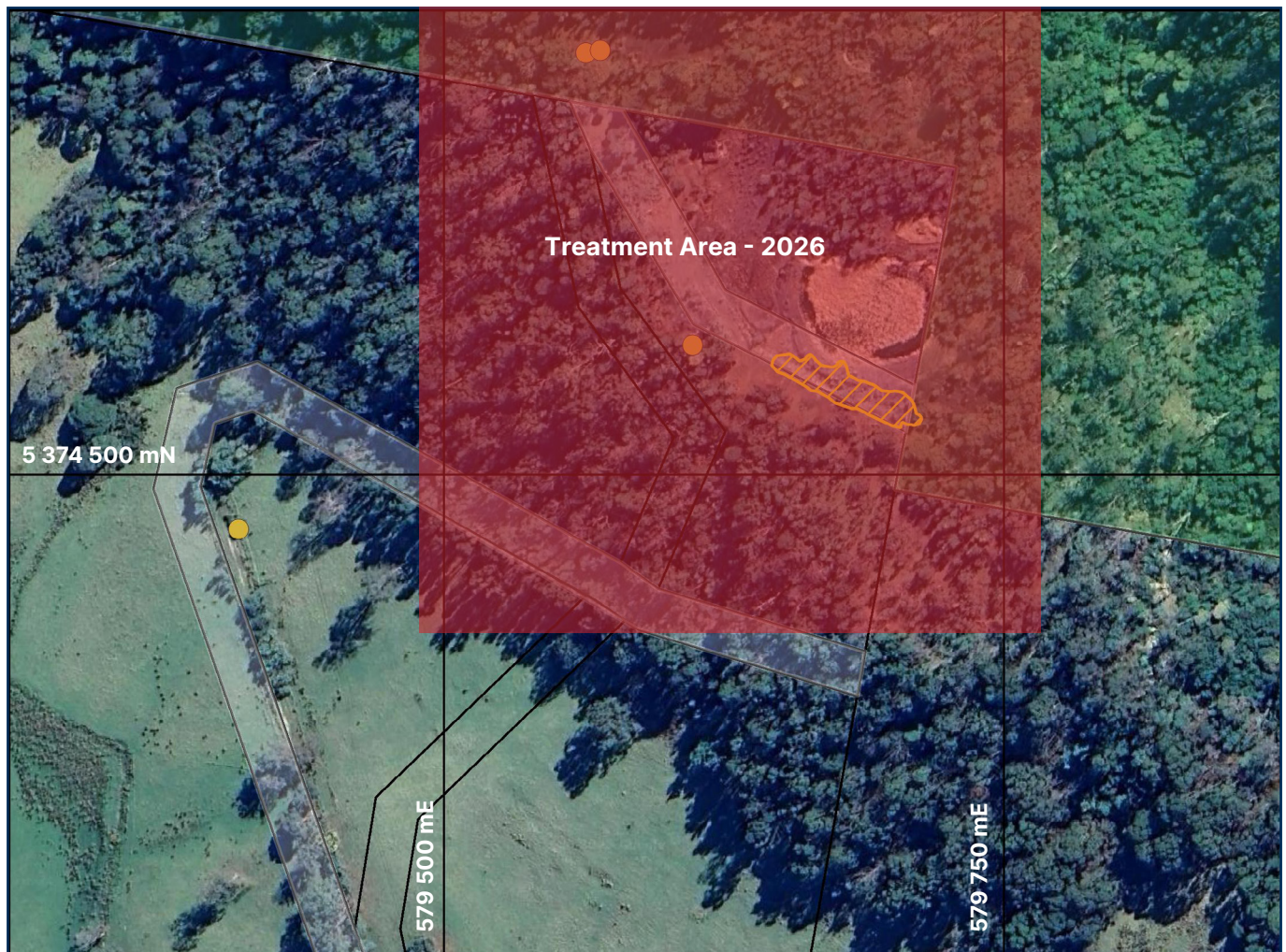


Figure 17. Distribution of Gorse (yellow) and 2026 treatment area (red) at the Merrywood Mine.

Treatment targeting gorse within the former Merrywood Mine footprint on Crown land was completed in February 2026. However, gorse remains prevalent on surrounding private land. Accordingly, routine inspection will be required to assess the effectiveness of the treatment program within the Crown land area, and to minimise the risk of reinfestation from adjacent properties.

Sisters Hills

Rehabilitation of the abandoned Sisters Hills Quarry commenced in 2010, involving revegetation and targeted weed control. The Sisters Hills Weed Management Plan was implemented in 2018 and has run annually since.

Weed management continued in October 2025, with associated monitoring indicating significant success in revegetation and weed reduction (Figure 18).

Species such as *Rubus fruticosus* (Blackberry), *Buddleia* sp. (Blue Butterfly Bush), *Cirsium vulgare* (Spear Thistle), and *Crocasmia* sp. (Montbretia) have been eradicated from the site.

However, *Pinus radiata* (Radiata Pine) and *Cortaderia selloana* (Pampas Grass) continue to recruit and will require further ongoing management. The greatest long-term threat remains *Erica lusitanica* (Spanish Heath), which is encroaching from infestations along the Bass Highway verge.

MRT will continue to manage the site to support further reductions in weed occurrences and maintain the positive trajectory of rehabilitation outcomes.



Figure 18. Comparative aerial imagery of Sisters Hills Quarry Site MA1, 2009 (right) and 2024 (left).

Storys Creek

Follow-up weed control was completed at Storys Creek, targeting *Senecio jacobaea* (Ragwort). This program was originally initiated in response to public notification received in November 2024. Ragwort is a declared weed species in Tasmania and is subject to a statutory management plan requiring eradication in Zone A municipalities, which includes the Storys Creek area.

Successive weed mapping and control actions were completed at this site during 2025 and 2026, addressing both previously identified infestations, and the new weeds identified at the Aberfoyle and Merrywood mine sites (Figure 19). These additional sites were incorporated into the existing regional weed control program, as it created operational efficiencies across the broader Fingall Valley area.

Surveillance and follow-up weed control will be prioritised for the 2026-2027 financial year to maintain treatment effectiveness and reduce the risk of reinfestation.

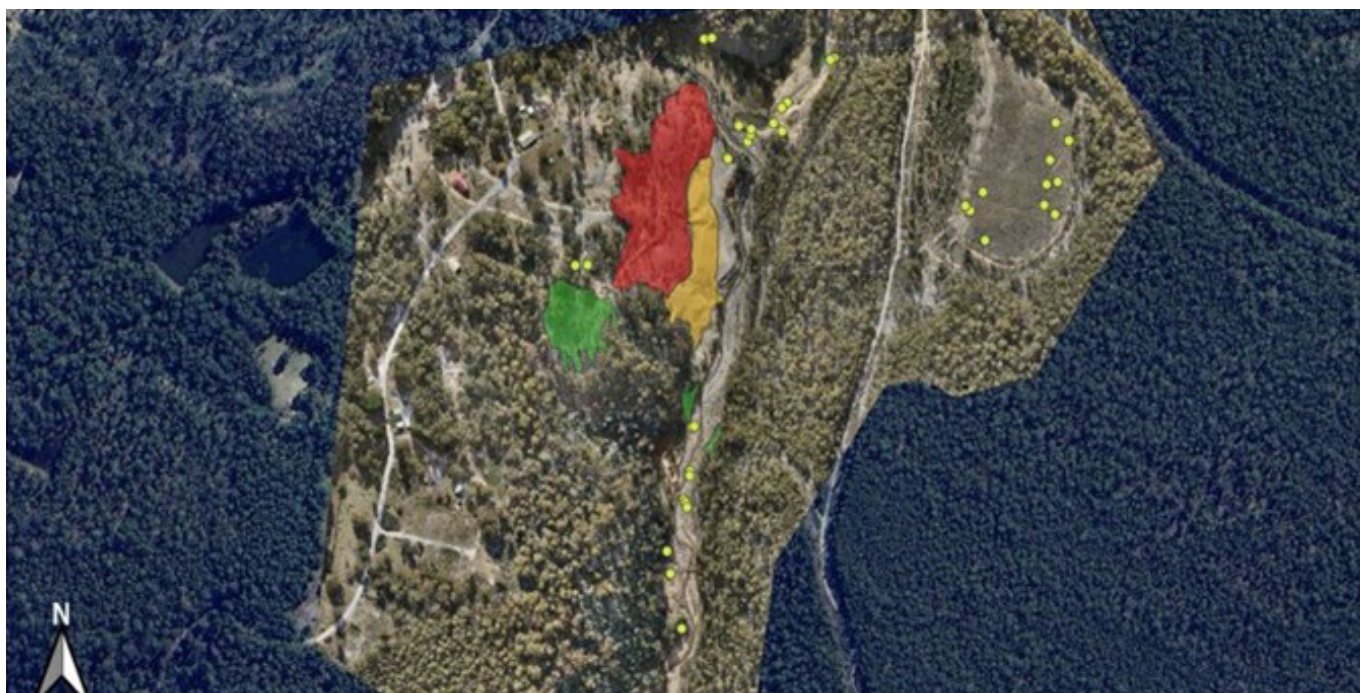


Figure 19. Treatment footprint for the control of Ragwort at Storys Creek.

Adits and Shaft Closure/Safety Works

MRT undertakes an annual abandoned shaft and adit closure program, funded by the RTF, targeting sites considered high risk to public safety and the environment. MRT also completes other safety works associated with abandoned mining lands.

Lefroy (Equilla)

In April 2026, MRT completed backfilling and capping works on six historical mine shafts at the Equilla legacy site, located in Lefroy in northeast Tasmania.

The works completed were the culmination of ongoing liaison and joint investigations undertaken in consultation with the Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) since 2015. These investigations identified a significant public safety risk, with evidence of regular public access in the area, including firewood collection and illegal rubbish dumping in close proximity to the multiple deep mine shaft openings (Figures 20 and 21).

Specific works at this site involved the infill of five historical shafts using existing mullock piles, and the fabrication and installation of a heavy-duty cover over the sixth and largest opening.

One individual occurrence of the threatened species *Pultenaea mollis* (Soft Bush-pea/Guinea Flower Bush-pea) was identified within the area prior to commencement of works. MRT complied with



Figure 20. Site comparison of infilled shaft site pre- (2024) and post-remediation (2026) work.



Figure 21. Fabricated cap installed at Equilla Site (April 2026).

the *Threatened Species Protection Regulations 2016*, removing the individual plant under permit and providing it to the Tasmanian Herbarium for use as a specimen.

MRT will continue to monitor the disturbance footprint associated with the Equilla remediation works, with particular focus on potential weed establishment.

Numerous legacy sites remain in the broader Lefroy area, and further remediation work in this region will be prioritised according to risk, operational capacity and available budget.

Little Blue Lake

MRT has been collaborating with NRE for the installation of new hazard and interpretation signage at the Little Blue Lake, in an effort to improve public safety and enhance visitor awareness.

The Little Blue Lake is a popular, heavily-visited destination. MRT staff, on numerous occasions, have observed visitors standing on unstable cliff edges to take photographs, highlighting a significant safety risk.

To address the need for appropriate signage, a new interpretation sign was installed at the main viewing area, providing accurate information about the site's history, environmental conditions and key safety considerations (Figure 22).

MRT is also facilitating the installation of updated hazard signage at key access points, warning visitors of the safety risks of being near the exposed and eroding cliff edges. This additional signage aims to enhance visitor safety and guide public behaviour around the hazardous area.



Figure 22. New interpretation signage installed at Little Blue Lake.

Storys Creek

In 2024, MRT commissioned HydroEarth to prepare a comprehensive report and 3D model illustrating how the historical mining features at Storys Creek act as pathways for surface water infiltration into mineralised veins and the broader underground mining system. This work was supported by an extensive feature survey across the Storys Creek mining footprint, which identified approximately 52 legacy features, including 13 adits and 5 shafts.

Recognising the need for ongoing care and maintenance, MRT rehabilitation officers undertook further assessment of access and fall risks associated with the identified adits and shafts. This assessment identified one deep, inconspicuous shaft within the weed maintenance zone that required closure. This feature was prioritised, as all other shafts were either infilled or adequately closed, and adits were conspicuous, stable, and presented no immediate fall risk (Figure 23).

Closure of the identified shaft was completed in February 2026. MRT acknowledges the need for further shaft and adit closure works at the site and will prioritise these activities in line with statewide requirements through its Legacy Site Risk Assessment process (refer to following section).

Zeehan (Silver Queen Extended)

MRT investigated the Silver Queen Extended site following an emergency services incident involving the retrieval of a lost dog from the legacy mine shaft. A desktop review identified the 20 m vertical opening as part of the Silver Queen Extended Mine, later incorporated into the No. 2 Argent mine workings that were active during the 1800s (Figure 24).

Due to the recorded incident, proximity to public amenities and its location adjacent to an active roadway presenting a public safety risk, the shaft was prioritised for closure. In June 2026, a galvanised steel-framed, expanded mesh cap was installed over the opening to prevent access by both people and wildlife (Figure 25).

MRT will continue to collaborate with the West Coast Council and other relevant land management authorities to address risks associated with historical mining features in the Zeehan area.



Figure 23. Shaft Closure completed pre (left) and post (right) work at Storys Creek (March 2026).



Figure 24. Historical mine mapping relating to Silver Queen Extended site.



Figure 25. Silver Queen Extended closure cap (June 2026).

Upper Scamander (Oreico)

Upper Scamander has a long history of mineral exploration and mining operations, with a number of legacy sites existing in the region. In May 2026, repair work was completed on an existing exclusion gate at the abandoned Oreico site.

MRT received notification in January 2026, that the bars of the exclusion gate had been cut and bent, enabling unauthorised entry into the adit. Given the site's proximity to a regularly used road and the significant safety risks associated with entering historical underground workings, MRT completed maintenance works in May 2026. These works involved the installation of a galvanised expanded mesh panel to the entryway preventing future access (Figure 26).



Figure 26. Orieco adit site pre (January 2026) and post repair (April 2026).

MRT will continue to monitor this site and will undertake further risk assessment of legacy sites within the Upper Scamander mineral field as part of its broader feature cataloguing of Tasmania's Abandoned Mines (refer to the following section).

Development and Review of Strategic Documents

During 2025-2026 MRT's Land and Tenements branch commenced the review and development of several strategic documents, designed to guide the decision-making processes under the Rehabilitation of Mining Lands Trust Fund.

These documents aim to provide a contemporary, transparent and consistent approach for the identification, prioritisation and rehabilitation of abandoned mining lands across Tasmania. MRT anticipates that the revised and newly-developed documents will be finalised and publicly available in the next financial year.

Strategy for the Rehabilitation of Abandoned Mining Lands

MRT oversees the delivery of all abandoned mining rehabilitation projects in accordance with the existing Strategy for the Rehabilitation of Abandoned Mining Lands. In 2026 MRT initiated a comprehensive review of the strategy to ensure its alignment with current legislation, regulatory requirements and internal operational procedures. The updated strategy will strengthen governance arrangements, clarify rehabilitation objectives and ensure rehabilitation activities reflect contemporary best practice.

Tasmania's Risk and Prioritisation Framework for the Rehabilitation of Abandoned Mining Lands

MRT is developing Tasmania's first formal Risk and Prioritisation Framework for the Rehabilitation of Abandoned Mining Lands. The framework will bring Tasmania in line with the rest of Australia regarding contemporary best practice and nationally consistent abandoned mines management. Once implemented, the framework will ensure sites on Crown land requiring rehabilitation are consistently identified, evaluated, compared, and prioritised.

Tasmania's Abandoned Mines Database

In 2025-26, MRT transitioned from a systems development phase, to the operational deployment of Tasmania's Abandoned Mines Database for the systematic capture and management of legacy mine risk data.

Building on the establishment of the Abandoned Mine Features Database within the TIGER platform in 2023, MRT successfully completed its testing phase and now utilises new mobile applications enabling real-time integration of field data directly into the central MRT database. This has standardised field assessment methodologies and will improve the efficiency and timeliness of data capture, management and transfer.

The enhanced system supports collection of detailed, feature-level information across abandoned mine sites, including underground, surface excavations, waste dumps, infrastructure, and rehabilitation status.

Integrated photographic records and quantifiable, attribute-based risk metrics derived from key morphological and site characteristics provide a robust and evidence-based framework for assessing public safety, environmental and heritage risks. This capability has strengthened MRT's ability to monitor site conditions, establish baseline datasets, and prioritise rehabilitation activities based on clearly defined and comparable risk profiles.

The database will support RTF planning, prioritisation, and long-term strategic program delivery, while enabling improved data sharing across government, industry, and the community. This positions MRT to report on survey coverage and demonstrate measurable growth in Tasmania's legacy mine dataset, including quantifiable metrics on legacy mine features and the ongoing expansion of risk-informed site records across Tasmania.



Budget

Summary of expenditure for rehabilitation initiatives under the RTF for the 2025/26 financial year:

Table 1. RTF Income for 2025/2026 financial year.

Description	Value (\$)	Notes
Annual Government Appropriation	\$150 000.00	
"Bolstering RTF" Appropriation	\$100 000.00	Two-year additional commitment funded until end of FY26/27
Total	\$250 000.00	

Table 2. Project Related Expenditure for 2025/2026 financial year.

Project	Task	Expenditure
Site Rehabilitation Work	Balfour Risk Mitigation Design Project	\$70 140.00
	Anchor Embankment Stabilisation	\$27 740.00
Weed Management and Maintenance	Weed Management (5 Sites)	\$15 610.00
Adit and Shaft Closure	Fabrication and Installation (5 Sites)	\$21 397.00
	Scotia Care and Maintenance	\$20 234.00
Water Quality Monitoring	Routine Water Sampling and Analysis (4 Sites)	\$14 064.00
	Scotia AEM survey	\$17 500.00
Data Management and Service provision	Drone Monitoring Software	\$52 492.00
	Telemetry, data management and software licenses.	\$11 158.60
	Total \$	\$250 335.60

Further Information

For more information about the Rehabilitation of Mining Lands Trust Fund:

Website: www.mrt.tas.gov.au

Email: info@mrt.tas.gov.au

Ph: (03) 6165 4800



Tasmanian
Government

Mineral Resources Tasmania

PO Box 56 Rosny Park

Tasmania Australia 7018

Phone: +61 3 6165 4800

Email: info@mrt.tas.gov.au

Web: www.mrt.tas.gov.au