

PRIORITY FLORA IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The Devon Gold Project is a brownfields open cut gold mining operation located approximately 115 km southeast of Leonora on the western edge of Lake Carey (a large salt playa) in the Eastern Goldfields Region of Western Australia (Attachment 1). The project tenements include: L39/222, L39/235, M39/387, M39/500, M39/1077, and M39/1078.

Matsa Gold Pty Ltd (Matsa, 100% subsidiary of Matsa Resources Limited) purchased the Devon Project in December 2018. In December 2022, Matsa entered into a joint venture (JV) agreement with Linden Gold Alliance Ltd (Linden). The appointed JV Manager, Devon Gold Project Pty Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Linden are planning to recommence open pit mining at Devon in 2023/24.

The proposed mining activities will involve a cutback of the two existing pits to form one open pit, construction of two waste rock landforms (WRLs), a ROM pad, turkey nest dam, workshop/fuel storage, explosives magazine, administration office, topsoil storage areas, abandonment bund, access roads, and haul roads.

The TOTAL area of clearing proposed is 120 ha within a 248.11 ha footprint (the Clearing Permit Area is shown in Attachment 2), which includes areas of existing disturbance (as shown in Attachment 3).

A Detailed flora and vegetation survey of the Devon Gold Project was conducted in September 2021 by Western Botanical [WB]. Two (2) Priority Flora species were encountered during the Devon field assessment; including ten populations of *Eremophila* sp. Lake Carey (P1) (approx. 2317+ plants), and one population of *Calandrinia quartzitica* (P1) (five plants). Locations of Priority Flora populations and numbers recorded by WB within the Devon Study Area are presented in Attachment 4.

Within the Devon Study Area, *Eremophila* sp. Lake Carey (P1) was observed to form its own Vegetation Association (ELSC), dominating as an open shrubland over *Tecticornia* spp. and Chenopods. It regularly occurred on stony scree slopes and flats adjacent to salt lakes. Associated species include *Tecticornia peltata*, *Frankenia setosa*, *Maireana glomerifolia*, *Maireana carnososa*, *Maireana georgei*, *Lawrencia squamata* and *Sclerolaena cuneata* (Western Botanical, 2022).

Of the estimated 2,317+ *Eremophila* sp. Lake Carey (P1) plants encountered during the field survey (WB, 2022), approximately 148 plants occur within the proposed clearing area (Attachment 5). Noting that the population of *Calandrinia quartzitica* (P1) (five plants) will not be impacted at all.

Site infrastructure was primarily located in areas which are already cleared/ disturbed due to previous mining and exploration activities within the Project area. And the Clearing Permit Area was modified to avoid populations of Priority Flora where possible¹.

¹ Avoidance and mitigation details are provided in Section 5.6 on the Clearing Permit Application Form.

A Priority Flora Impact Assessment is provided as Attachment 6 which outlines the total number of plants and location of the plant populations (as described by WB, 2022) and the estimated number of plants proposed to be impacted.

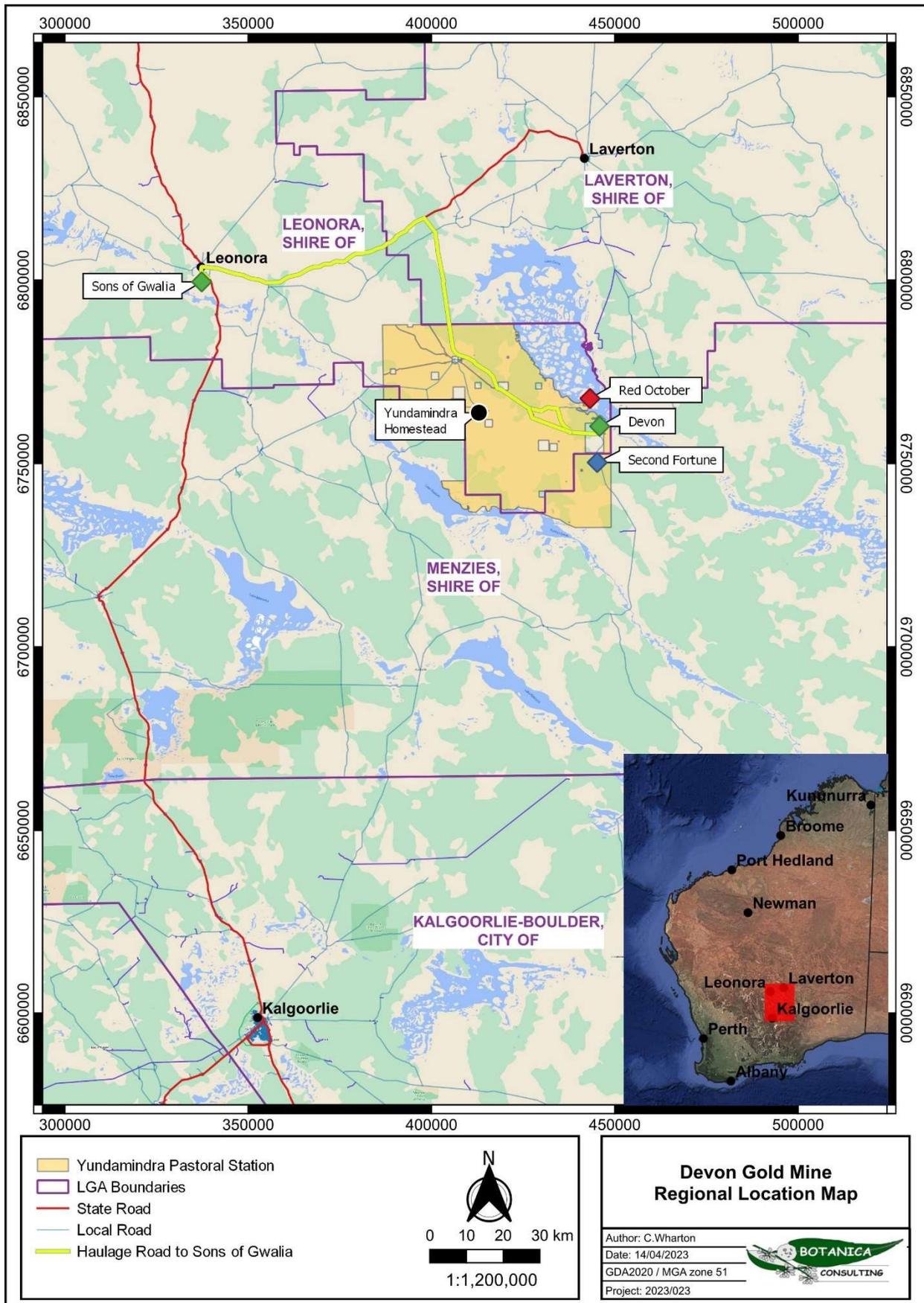
The impact assessment indicates that the proposed clearing will result in impacts to approximately 148 plants of *Eremophila* sp. Lake Carey (P1), which equates to a 6.4% impact on the local Devon population.

Further away from the Devon Study Area, and located south of the Butchers Well Gold Mine, a population of *Eremophila* sp. Lake Carey was observed, estimated to contain over 5,000 plants (WB, 2022). A desktop assessment was undertaken by WB using Google Earth imagery to ascertain other prospective habitats, highlighted a number of locations which appear to contain similar landscape characteristics and visual textures. Conservative estimates of *Eremophila* sp. Lake Carey (P1) population numbers are upwards of 20,000 (WB, 2022).

Additionally, correspondence with AngloGold Ashanti has verified that that numerous populations of *Eremophila* sp. Lake Carey (P1) have been recorded within the Butcher Well project area, located about 10 km west of Devon. Plants have been recorded along a 20 km north / south linear area commonly associated with rocky/stony ground including quartz, on flats and on the lower slopes of outcrops, often being the dominant mid storey species.

Thus the proposed clearing at Devon is unlikely to significantly impact this Priority Flora.

Attachment 1: Regional Location



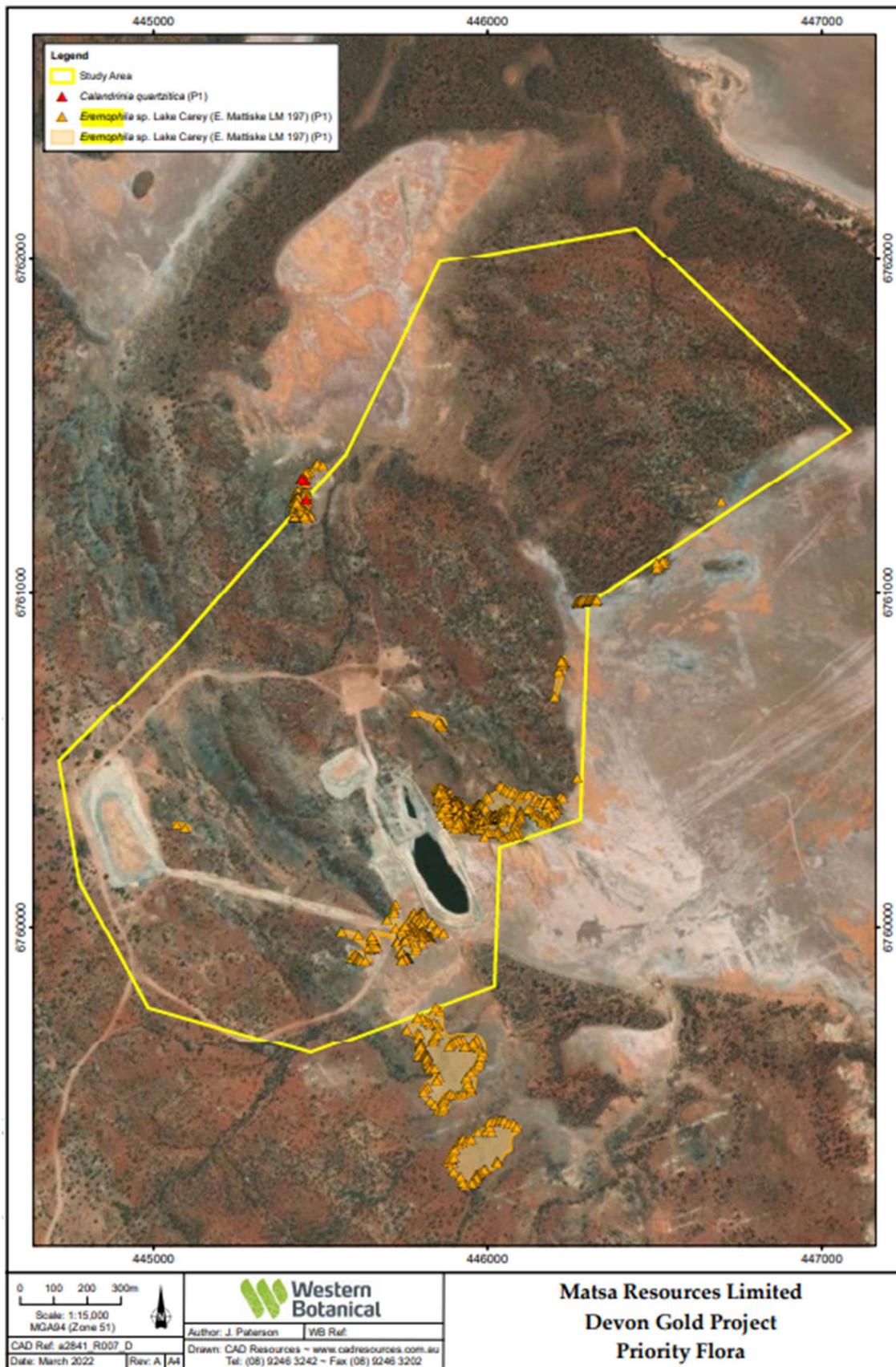
Attachment 2: Clearing Permit Area



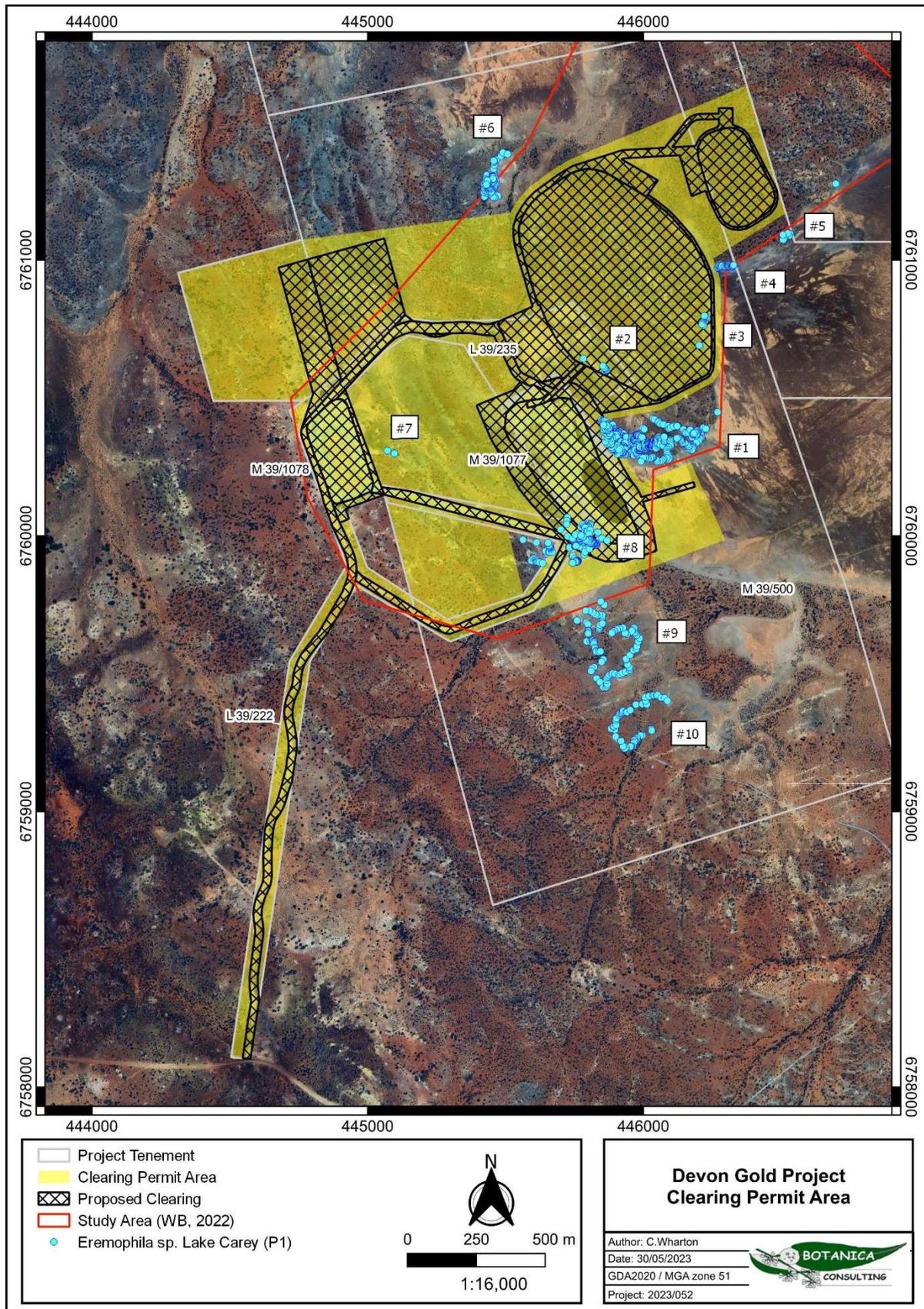
Attachment 3: Existing Disturbance within Clearing Permit Area



Attachment 4: Priority Flora within Study Area (WB, 2022)



Attachment 5: Priority Flora (*Eremophila* sp. Lake Carey) Locations within the Proposed Clearing Area



Attachment 6: Priority Flora (*Eremophila* sp. Lake Carey) Impact Assessment

Population (WB, 2022)	GPS Location (WB, 2022)	Location of plants pertaining to field survey area (Inside/ Outside of study area) (WB, 2022)	Location of plants pertaining to proposed clearing area (Inside/ Outside disturbance envelope)	Approx total no. of mature plants in population OR total area of community at that location (WB, 2022)	No. of plants and parts of plants likely to be taken OR area of community likely to be cleared (noting if this is buffer or actual community) ²	% of local population impacted
1	51J 446014 6760318	Inside	Mostly Outside	1500+	40	2.6%
2	51J 445853 6760614	Inside	Inside	9	9	100%
3	51J 446225 6760783	Inside	Inside	9	9	100%
4	51J 446294 6760976	Inside	Outside	38	0	0%
5	51J 446514 6761083	Inside	Outside	9	0	0%
6	51J 445440 6761245	Mostly Outside	Outside	100+	0	0%
7	51J 445096 6760297	Inside	Inside	2	0	0%
8	51J 445731 6759958	Inside	Mostly Inside ³	150+	90	60%
9	51J 445885 6759646	Outside	Outside	300+	0	0%
10	51J 445975 6759320	Outside	Outside	200+	0	0%
TOTAL				2317+	148	6.4%

² Number of plants determined via spatial data (ESRI shapefile) provided by Western Botanical.

³ Noting that the disturbance envelope contains an exclusion zone to protect ~30 plants within this population and ~24 plants are located outside the proposed disturbance area.