PURPOSE PERMIT CPS10692/1 AMENDMENT APPLICATION
CENTRAL DUKETON
DUKETON GOLD PROJECT

Addition of L38/391 and L38/392 (King John Project Area)

December 2024

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Regis Resources Limited (Regis) operates the Duketon Gold Project (DGP), approximately 50 to 115 km north of Laverton, comprising three processing plants (Moolart Well, Garden Well and Rosemont), which process ore from open pits and underground mines. Four approved native vegetation clearing permits cover the footprint of the DGP operations.

- CPS10140/1
- CPS10692/1
- CPS10693/1
- CPS10694/1

An amendment to CPS10692/1 is being sought in accordance with the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations, for the following:

- Inclusion of recently approved miscellaneous licences, L38/391 and L38/392, to facilitate haul road links between the King John satellite project and the processing facilities. Disturbance allowance has already been considered as part of the CPS10692/1 application. No incremental disturbance is required as part of this amendment. The clearing permit envelope will increase by an additional 156ha.

From recent studies, key environmental values present across the new application areas are:

- Two land systems – Nubev and Steer.
- Vegetation mapping is dominated by Acacia and Chenopod vegetation associations, typical of the East Murchison IBRA subregion and Austin Botanical District.
- No Threatened flora or Threatened Ecological Communities present.
- One Priority flora species recorded - Eremophila pungens (Priority 4) recorded at one location during a recent flora survey (Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd 2022
- The application area is within the Lake Carey catchment.
- Key fauna habitats present were mapped as Mulga woodlands.
- Conservation significant avian species Princess Parrot, Fork-tailed Swift and Peregrine Falcon may infrequently be seen in any of the application areas.

Environmental management of potential impacts are discussed in Section 4 based on existing site controls.

A review of the record-keeping for CPS10692/1 confirmed that no clearing activities have been carried out since the permit's commencement.

An assessment of the application areas against the ten Clearing Principles is presented in Table ES1. It is noted no incremental disturbance is being sought under this amendment.

Assessment of the Proposal Against the Ten Clearing Principles

	Clearing Principle	Assessment	Discussion
1	Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity	Proposal is not at variance to this principle	Comparison of aerial photography of the survey area and surrounding areas suggests the area under application is typical of the vegetation throughout the region. Cowan (2001) states that the Eastern Murchison subregion is rich and diverse in both flora and fauna however most species are wide ranging and usually occur in at least one, and often several, adjoining sub regions. Additionally, Beard states the Murchison is essentially the Mulga region of Western Australia and those conditions within the Murchison region favour Mulga more generally than in any other part of Western Australia. Although the proposed disturbance areas will clear vegetation rich in flora, from a regional context, the vegetation within the project area is well represented within the local and broader region. The extent of the disturbance footprint is adjacent to or between existing mine sites.
2	Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.	Proposal is not at variance to this principle	Although the proposed clearing areas will comprise habitat that may be suitable for fauna indigenous to Western Australia, from a regional context, the vegetation associations within the project area are well represented within the broader region. Terrestrial Ecosystems have identified the conservation significant fauna with the greatest likelihood occurring (on the basis of occasional, infrequent or potential presence) are avifauna including Peregrine Falcon, Southern Whiteface, Fork-tailed Swift and Princess Parrot.
3	Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, Threatened flora.	Proposal is not at variance to this principle	No Threatened flora species pursuant to section 19 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act* and as listed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, or pursuant to section 179 of the EPBC Act or listed by the Department of Climate Change, Water, Energy, the Environment and Water, were recorded near the project area by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd (2009 to 2023).
4	Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a Threatened Ecological Community.	Proposal is not at variance to this principle	No Threatened Ecological Communities have been recorded from any surveys across the Duketon Gold Project.
5	Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.	Proposal is not at variance to this principle	The area under application is not considered significant as extensive areas nearby and within the project area remain uncleared. Surveys conducted by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd determined that the application area is typical of the vegetation throughout the region. The area under application coincides with pastoral leases where grazing has already occurred to varying degrees. Some areas which form part of this application have past history of disturbance associated with mining or are adjacent to current mining operations.

	Clearing Principle	Assessment	Discussion
6	Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.	Proposal is unlikely to be at variance to this principle	Ephemeral drainage lines exist within the area under application but only flow following sustained heavy rainfall events, particularly after cyclonic rain and hence are unlikely to be at variance with this principle. These channels remain dry for most of the year. No wetlands exist within the area under application.
7	Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.	Proposal is not at variance to this principle	Apart from cleared areas previously disturbed by mining and their immediate surrounds, the application area ranges from Poor to Pristine condition (using the criteria of Keighery 1994). In the most part, vegetation in the application area is either Good or Very Good. The area under this application includes areas with past mining and where grazing of cattle has occurred at varying intensities. The surrounding vegetation, outside of the project area is generally in Very Good to Excellent condition and accurately reflects the vegetation on the outer boundaries of the project area. Therefore, clearing of the vegetation within the project area is unlikely to cause appreciable land degradation.
8	Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.	Proposal is not at variance to this principle	The De La Poer Range Nature Reserve (Reserve No. 41831) is the closest reserve in the area (approximately 40 km northwest of the northern boundary of the CPS10692/1 permit area). No impacts on the environmental values of the reserve will occur as a result of clearing in the area under application due to the distance from the proposed activities.
9	Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface and underground water.	Proposal is unlikely to be at variance to this principle	Vegetation associations that occur on minor ephemeral drainage lines within the application area receive surface water flows following large storms or cyclonic systems, which is itself often of poor quality due to high intensity. Impacts from proposed clearing activities should be minimised to minimise impacts to water quality.
10	Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.	Proposal is not at variance to this principle	The area under application occurs on flat, landscape where flooding occurs following heavy rainfall, typically from cyclonic systems. Borodale Creek is the main ephemeral drainage line in the area but its flooding is dictated by episodic heavy rainfall rather than landscape features.

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APPENDICES

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Regis Resources Limited (Regis) is an Australian mineral exploration and gold mining company with major land holdings in the Northeastern Goldfields of Western Australia. The Duketon Gold Project (DGP) occurs between 70 km and 125 km north of Laverton (Figure 1). The DGP comprises three processing facilities (Moolart Well, Garden Well and Rosemont), which process ore from several pits and underground mines across Regis' Duketon tenement package. Four approved native vegetation clearing permits currently cover the footprint of the DGP operations.

- CPS10140/1
- CPS10692/1
- CPS10693/1
- CPS10694/1

An amendment to CPS10692/1 is being sought for the following:

- Inclusion of recently approved miscellaneous licences L38/391 and L38/392, to facilitate haul road links between the King John satellite project and processing facilities. Disturbance allowance has already been considered as part of the CPS10692/1 application. No incremental disturbance is required as part of this amendment. The clearing permit envelope will increase by an additional 156ha.

Tenements covered by this purpose permit area are listed in Table 1. The new tenements that have not previously been covered by an NVCP application are indicated in bold.

Table 1: Tenements which form part of this Application

Tenement	Tenement Holder
L38/133	Regis Resources Limited
L38/156	Regis Resources Limited
L38/182	Regis Resources Limited
L38/201	Regis Resources Limited
L38/204	Regis Resources Limited
L38/216	Regis Resources Limited
L38/226	Regis Resources Limited
L38/239	Regis Resources Limited
L38/315	Regis Resources Limited
L38/316	Regis Resources Limited
L38/317	Regis Resources Limited
L38/318	Regis Resources Limited
L38/319	Regis Resources Limited
L38/348	Regis Resources Limited
L38/365	Regis Resources Limited
L38/383	Regis Resources Limited
L38/391	**Regis Resources Limited**
L38/392	**Regis Resources Limited**
M38/1091	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd
M38/1092	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/1247	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/1249	Regis Resources Limited
M38/1250	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/1251	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/1257	Regis Resources Limited
M38/1258	Regis Resources Limited
M38/1259	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd
M38/1260	Creasy, Mark Gareth; Duketon Resources Pty Ltd
M38/1261	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd
M38/1262	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/1263	Regis Resources Limited
M38/1264	Regis Resources Limited

M38/1265	Regis Resources Limited
M38/1269	Regis Resources Limited
M38/1270	Regis Resources Limited
M38/1277	Regis Resources Limited
M38/237	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/250	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/283	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/292	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/302	Regis Resources Limited
M38/303	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/316	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/317	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/319	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/343	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/344	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/352	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/354	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/407	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/498	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/499	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/500	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/589	Artane Minerals NL; Creasy, Mark Gareth; Legendre, Bruce Robert; Wasse, Bernfried Gunter Franz
M38/600	Mark Gareth Creasy, Duketon Resources Pty Ltd
M38/601	Mark Gareth Creasy, Duketon Resources Pty Ltd
M38/802	Regis Resources Limited
M38/837	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/939	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/940	Duketon Resources Pty Ltd; Regis Resources Limited
M38/943	Regis Resources Limited

1.2. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

This application does not trigger items listed under the Memorandum of Understanding between the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) and Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DEMIRS). Based on previously approved Mining Proposals and Native Vegetation Clearing Permits (NVCP) in the immediate region and considering the scope, location and environmental setting of the proposal, the proposed clearing and impacts can be adequately managed under the *Mining Act, Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations* and Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act*.

This document is to be read in conjunction with the completed Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) – DEMIRS application to amend a clearing permit form C4.

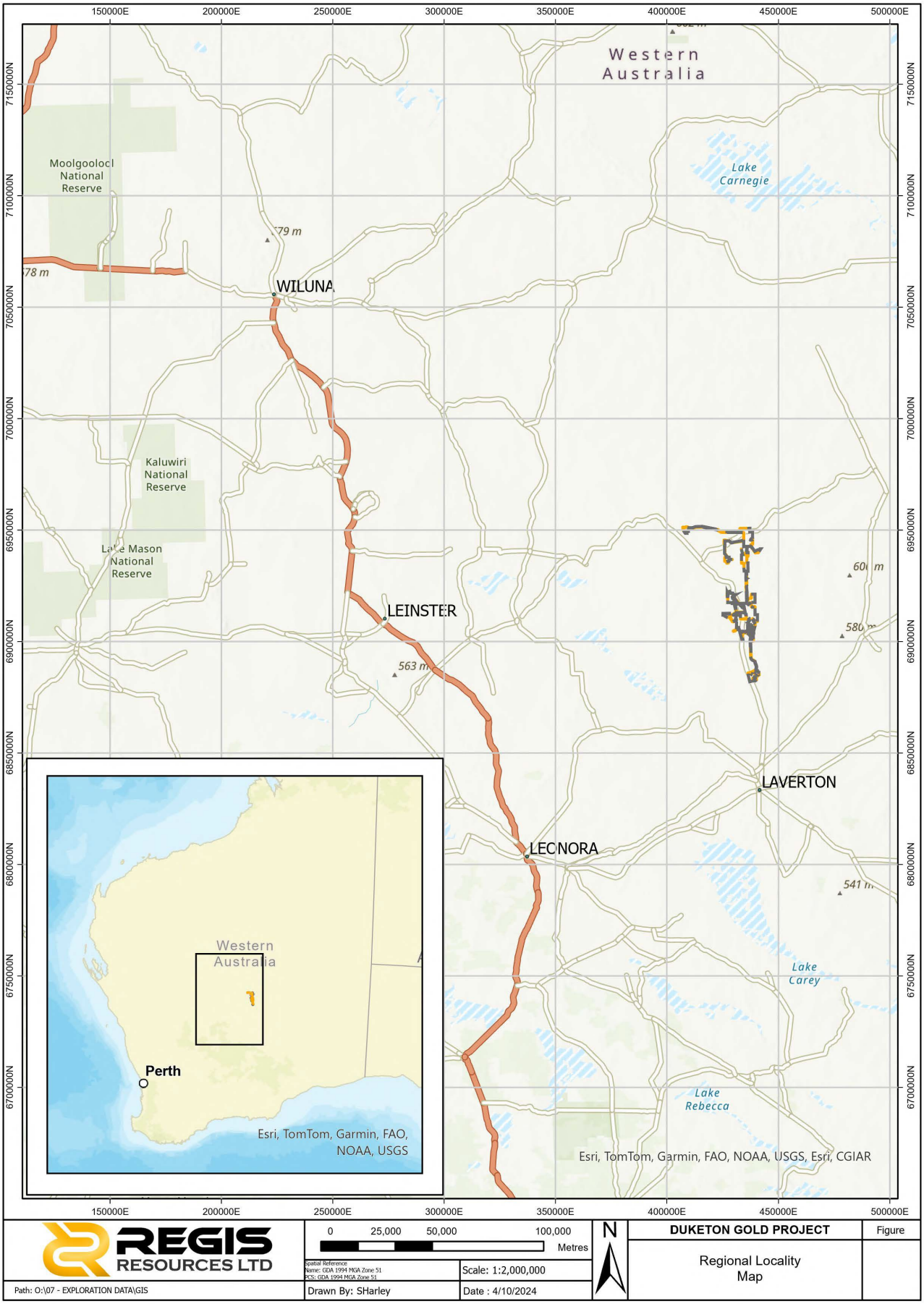

Figure 1: Duketon Gold Project Regional Location

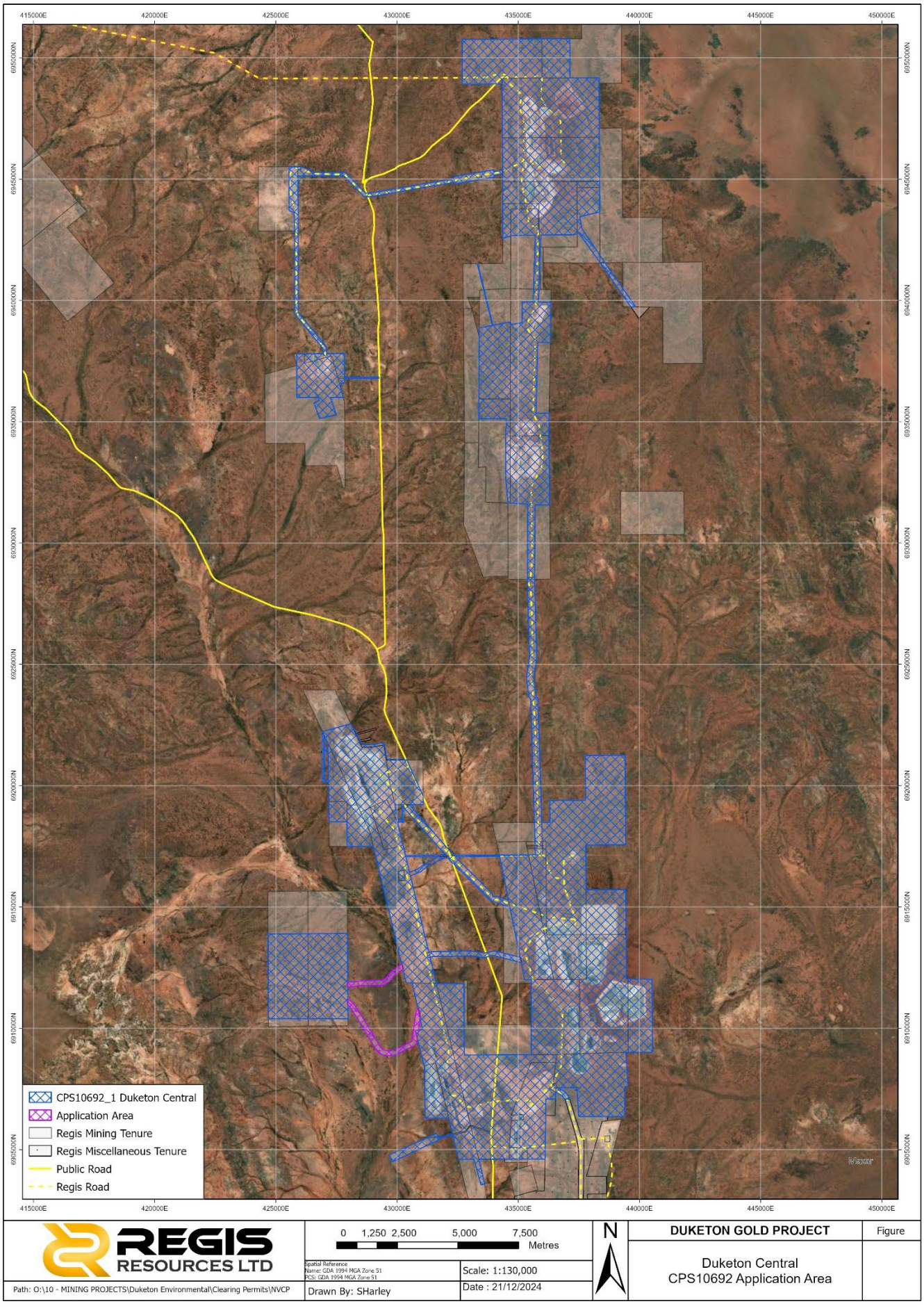

Figure 2: NVCP Application Area

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1. PREVIOUS ACTIVITIES

The Duketon Gold Project covers much of the greenstone belt north of Laverton, in the Yilgarn Craton. Mining activities have occurred in this landscape since the early 1900s, with operations as part of Regis' Duketon Gold Project commencing in 2010. The Duketon Gold Project mine sites/project areas that relate to this clearing permit application include Moolart Well, Anchor, Coopers/Dogbolter, Petra, Rosemont, Baneygo, Garden Well, Tooheys Well/Beamish, Erlistoun, King John, Pleco and Ventnor.

This amendment application is to allow for inclusion of two recently granted miscellaneous licences L38/391 and L38/392, which will enable for the Duketon haul road network to connect to the King John project area.
This amendment application aims to detail the current environmental setting, the proposed disturbance and project impacts and management methods that are relevant to these areas.

2.2. PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS FOR THE AMENDMENT APPLICATION

2.2.1. LOCATION

The Duketon Gold Project occurs between ~50 and 125 km north of Laverton. The extent of the existing permit area is between 75 and 125 km north of Laverton (Figure 1). The King John haulage route is approximately 90 km northwest of Laverton. The new areas within this amendment application are bounded to the west and the east by CPS10692/1 permit area.

2.2.2. DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES

King John Haulage Network (L38/391 + L38/392)

Development of a haulage links on L38/391 and/or L38/392 will assist in connecting the King John project area to Regis' processing facilities. Infrastructure will consist of a haul road, water pipeline (with allowance for bunding), turkey nests, and borrow pits. The clearing permit envelope will increase by 156 ha.

L38/391 and L38/392 have not been previously considered in a permit application. No additional allowance is required to provide for the proposed disturbance.

2.2.3. SITE PREPARATION AND CLEARING

Vegetation will be cleared for development of turkey nests, surface water infrastructure, and other general mine infrastructure. During clearing, topsoil will be stripped and stockpiled for use in future rehabilitation.

2.2.4. REHABILITATION

Regis has an active programme to rehabilitate areas once mining activities have been completed. Management procedures have been developed for rehabilitation of disturbed areas and are outlined in Section 4.

Regis submitted a Mine Closure Plan (MCP) for the Duketon Gold Project in November 2024, associated with Duketon Gold Project Mining Proposal Version 12. The most recently approved MCP was approved by DEMIRS in June 2024 associated with DGP Mining Proposal Version 11.

3. REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

3.1. NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

The Duketon Gold Project (DGP) is in the Murchison biogeographic region (bioregion) of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA). The Murchison bioregion is subdivided into the East Murchison (MUR 1) and West Murchison (MUR 2) subregions.

The DGP is in MUR 1 containing the northern parts of the Southern Cross and Eastern Goldfields' terrains of the Yilgarn Craton. The subregion is characterised by expansive elevated red desert sandplains with minimal dune development, internal drainage and salt lakes, which are associated with the occluded palaeodrainage system. Red-brown soils dominate

the terrain forming broad plains and breakaway complexes. Vegetation of this region typically consists of Mulga Woodlands rich in ephemeral grass and shrub communities, specifically, hummock grasslands, saltbush shrublands and *Halosarcia* shrublands (Cowan, 2001).

3.2. CLIMATE

The climatic region within which the DGP is located is classified as desert, being described as arid, with rainfall averaging less than 250 mm a year (Beard, 1990). Rainfall occurs over summer and winter months and is sporadic with no month being reliably wet or dry (Beard, 1990).

The nearest meteorological station is located at Laverton. The average monthly maximum and minimum temperatures and the average monthly rainfall recorded for Laverton are shown on Figure 3.

The mean maximum monthly temperature at Laverton ranges from 17.8 °C in July to 35.8 °C in January, with the median precipitation being 212 mm per year (Bureau of Meteorology, BoM, 2024). The mean number of rain days receiving >1 mm for Laverton is 29.6 per year.

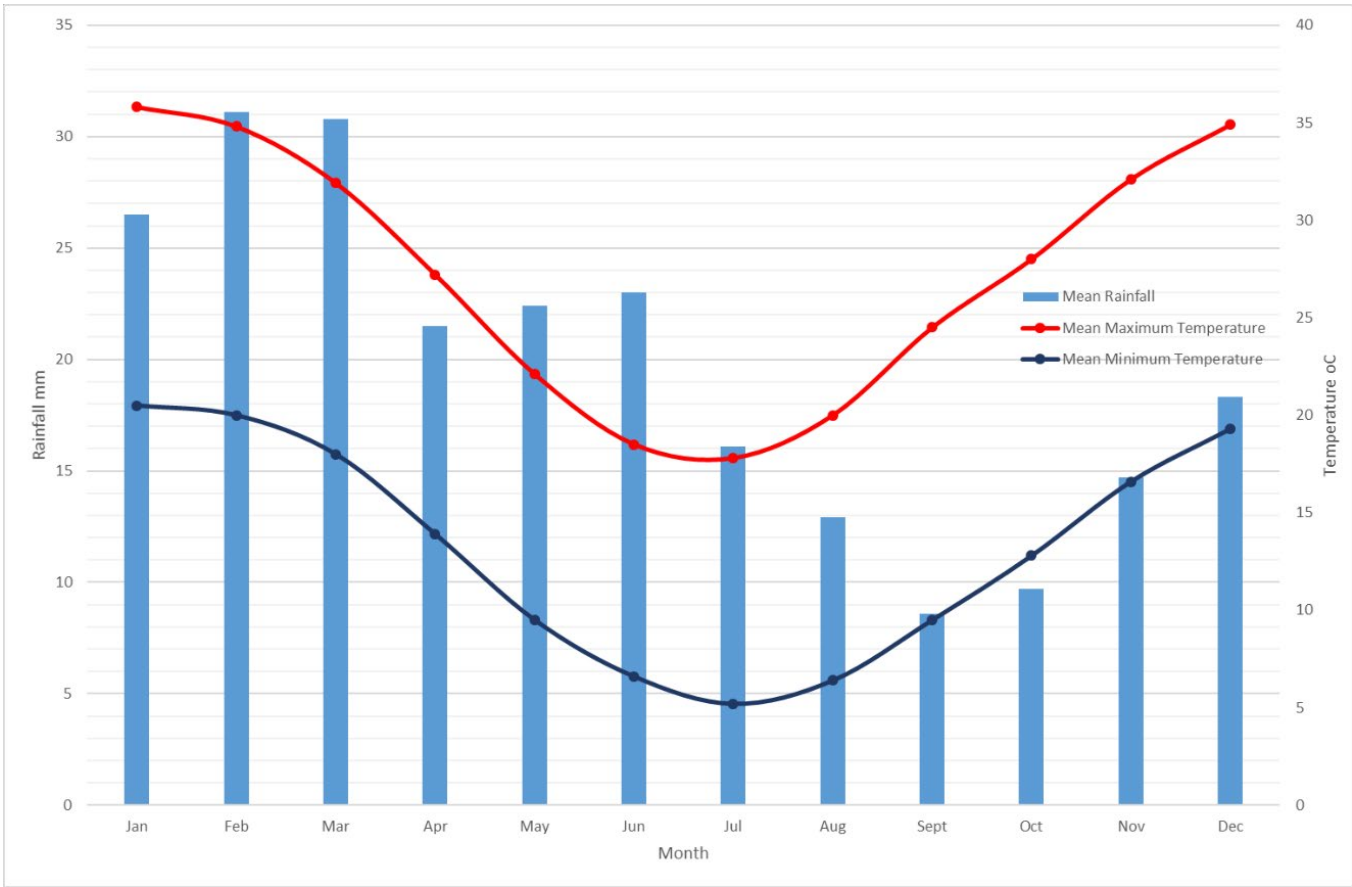

Figure 3: Mean Maximum and Minimum Temperatures and Precipitation at Laverton

3.3. GEOLOGY, SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY

The Eastern Goldfields region is underlain by rocks of the Yilgarn Craton which are mostly Archaean granitic rocks, often intruded by quartz veins and dolerite dykes. Areas of Archaean migmatite and gneiss are associated with Archaean greenstone belts, which contain a mix of metamorphosed mafic-ultramafic and felsic volcanics and metasediments. The Archaean bedrock has been extensively weathered and is often covered by Tertiary and Quaternary alluvial, colluvial and Aeolian deposits (Beard 1990; Tille 2006).

Topographically, it comprises undulating low hills and extensive sandplains in the eastern half. Soils are predominantly shallow earthy loam overlying red-brown hardpan; shallow stony loams on hills and red earthy sands on the plains (Beard, 1990).

In more recent times, mapping of soils and landscapes has become available at a greater level of detail. The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), in its "Soil-landscapes of Western Australia's Rangelands and Arid Interior" (Tille, 2006), describes a range of soil-landscape mapping units. The project falls within the Salinaland Plains Zone of the Murchison Province. The Salinaland Plains Zone is characterised by:

- Sandplains (with hardpan wash plains and some mesas, stony plains and salt lakes) on granitic rocks (and some greenstone) of the Yilgarn Craton.
- Red sandy earths, red deep sands, red shallow loams and red loamy earths with some red-brown hardpan shallow loams, salt lake soils and red shallow sandy duplexes.
- Mulga shrublands with spinifex grasslands (and some halophytic shrublands and eucalypt woodlands).

3.4. LAND SYSTEMS

The Austin Botanical District is the largest of the Eremaean regions and is essentially Mulga (*Acacia aneura*) woodlands associated with red loams over siliceous hardpans on the plains reducing to scrub on the rises and hills (Pringle *et al*., 1994). This botanical district is also comprised of Mulga and *Eremophila* (Chenopod) shrublands which dominate on stony plains and chenopod communities are more often associated with duplex soils (Pringle *et al*., 1994).

Land system mapping of the northeastern Goldfields, including the survey area has been prepared by DPIRD (Pringle *et al*., 1994). This mapping sought to define the topographic characteristics of the northeastern Goldfields. Land systems are grouped into land types according to a combination of landforms, soils, vegetation and drainage patterns. Pringle *et al*. (1994) found that boundaries between plant communities are often sharp and mostly associated with boundaries between landforms and their soils along the slope of the land. Greater diversity in plant communities is often found higher in the landscape where differential weathering and erosion occurs across slope.

Land systems within the extent of CPS10692 are shown in Table 2, with those relevant to areas added under this amendment application (L38/391 and L38/392) identified in bold type.

Table 2: Land Systems Associated with Application Area. Land Systems specifically relevant to the new additions to the application area are noted in bold type.

Land System	**Land System Description**	Moolart Well	Anchor	Coopers / Dogbolter	Petra	Rosemont	Baneygo	Garden Well	Tooheys Well / Beamish	Erlistoun	BRT Trend	King John	King John Haulage Network (L38/383)	**King John Haulage Network (L38/391 + L38/392)**
Ararak system	Broad plains with mantles of ironstone gravel supporting mulga shrublands with wanderrie grasses	■						■	■				■	
Bevon system	Irregular low ironstone hills with stony lower slopes supporting mulga shrublands	■	■	■			■							
Brooking system	Prominent ridges of banded iron formation supporting mulga shrublands and occasional minor halophytic communities							■	■					
Cunyu system	Calcrete platforms, intervening drainage floors and channels and minor alluvial plains, supporting acacia shrublands, occasional casuarina woodlands and minor halophytic shrublands							■						
Felix system	Gently undulating plains with quartz mantles, supporting acacia-eremophila shrublands locally with wanderrie grasses				■		■			■				
Hootanui system	Breakaways, hills and ridges with saline gravelly and stony lower plains supporting scattered halophytic low shrublands						■			■			■	
Jundee system	Hardpan plains with variable gravelly mantles and minor sandy banks supporting weakly groved mulga shrublands					■		■	■			■		
Nubev system	Gently undulating stony plains, minor limonitic low rises and drainage floors supporting mulga and halophytic shrublands					■								■
Steer system	Gravelly alluvial plains supporting chenopod shrublands							■	■	■	■	■		■
Teutonic system	Hills and stony plains on acid volcanic rocks supporting acacia shrublands				■	■								
Tiger system	Gravelly hardpan plains and sandy banks with mulga shrublands and wanderrie grasses				■									
Violet system	Gently undulating gravelly plains on greenstone, laterite and hardpan, with low stony rises and minor saline plains; supporting groved mulga and bowgada shrublands and occasionally chenopod shrublands	■	■	■				■	■					

3.5. SURFACE WATER

The Duketon Gold Project is located within the internally draining Salt Lake Basin (~441,000 km^2), which extends across much of central Western Australia. The Salt Lake Basin comprises several large and broad sub-parallel southeast trending salt lake drainage systems which extend from a regional divide to the west of Wiluna/Sandstone and drain to either Ponton Creek (Raeside and Rebecca system) or terminate at the edge of sand plains (Carey/Minigwal system).

Moolart Well occurs within the Lake Carnegie catchment area (approximately 68,675 km^2). Approximately 10-15 km south is the Lake Carey catchment area (113,780 km^2) which comprises the remainder of the DGP with Anchor, Ventnor and Dogbolter/Coopers occurring near/on the catchment divide.

No significant river systems or Ramsar sites in the vicinity of the DGP. A named creek (Borodale Creek) occurs through the application area. This is an ephemeral creek and only carries water following prolonged periods of heavy rainfall. Whilst part of the overall Lake Carey catchment, Borodale Creek itself terminates at the southern end of lake Irwin as a series of poorly defined soaks.

3.6. VEGETATION AND FLORA

Much of the application area relating to this permit application has previously been administered by other clearing permits. A summary of the vegetation and values throughout this area will be provided as a broad overview, with a detailed summary for the two new project areas that have not previously been considered for disturbance.

Key flora and vegetation studies of relevance include:

- Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd (2022) – *Detailed Flora and Vegetation Survey: King Jon, and Davies Bore Project Areas and Associated Haul Roads*
- Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd (2023) – *Detailed Flora and Vegetation Assessment Maverick and McKenzies Project Areas*

Work was completed by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd in 2023 to integrate historical data from past surveys to the flora and vegetation database. This work included utilising this dataset to merge previous vegetation mapping at a regional scale.

- Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd (2023) – *Memorandum on Database and Merged Mapping*

3.6.1. THREATENED AND PRIORITY FLORA

No Threatened flora species pursuant to section 19 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act* and as listed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), or pursuant to section 179 of the EPBC Act or listed by the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, have been recorded at the Duketon Gold Project.

The Priority Flora database was evaluated as part of 2023 Mattiske Consulting database review. The listed Priority flora species (Table 3) are as recorded across all surveys with the Mattiske review providing updated taxonomy and priority status.

Table 3: Priority Flora Species Recorded at Duketon Gold Project

Family	Species	Priority Status	No. of Locations
Chenopodiaceae	*Einadia nutans subsp. Nutans*	P3	2
Frankeniaceae	*Frankenia georgei*	P1	7
Myrtaceae	*Calytrix praecipua*	P3	2
Phyllanthaceae	*Lysiandra baeckeoides*	P3	6
Scrophulariaceae	*Eremophila pungens*	P4	165

<u>King John Haulage Network (L38/391 + L38/392)</u>

One record of *Eremophila pungens* (P4) was identified within the southern portion of the application area. In total, this one record accounts for 2 individuals of this taxon.

Eremophila pungens (P4) is known from 45 records distributed across the Gascoyne, Murchison, and Great Victoria Desert IBRA regions (Plate 1), an area approximately 450km x 300km (WAH 1998-). Records of this taxon exist within several

nature reserves, including both De La Poer Nature Reserve, and Wanjarri Nature Reserve. *Eremophila pungens* (P4) is widespread throughout the Duketon Gold Project, with this taxon being recorded on 165 occasions during flora surveys (Figure 4). Given the large distribution of *Eremophila pungens* (P4), prolific record across the Duketon Gold Project and its protection in two nature reserves, there are minimal risks to this taxon associated with the proposed development of the prospective haul road.

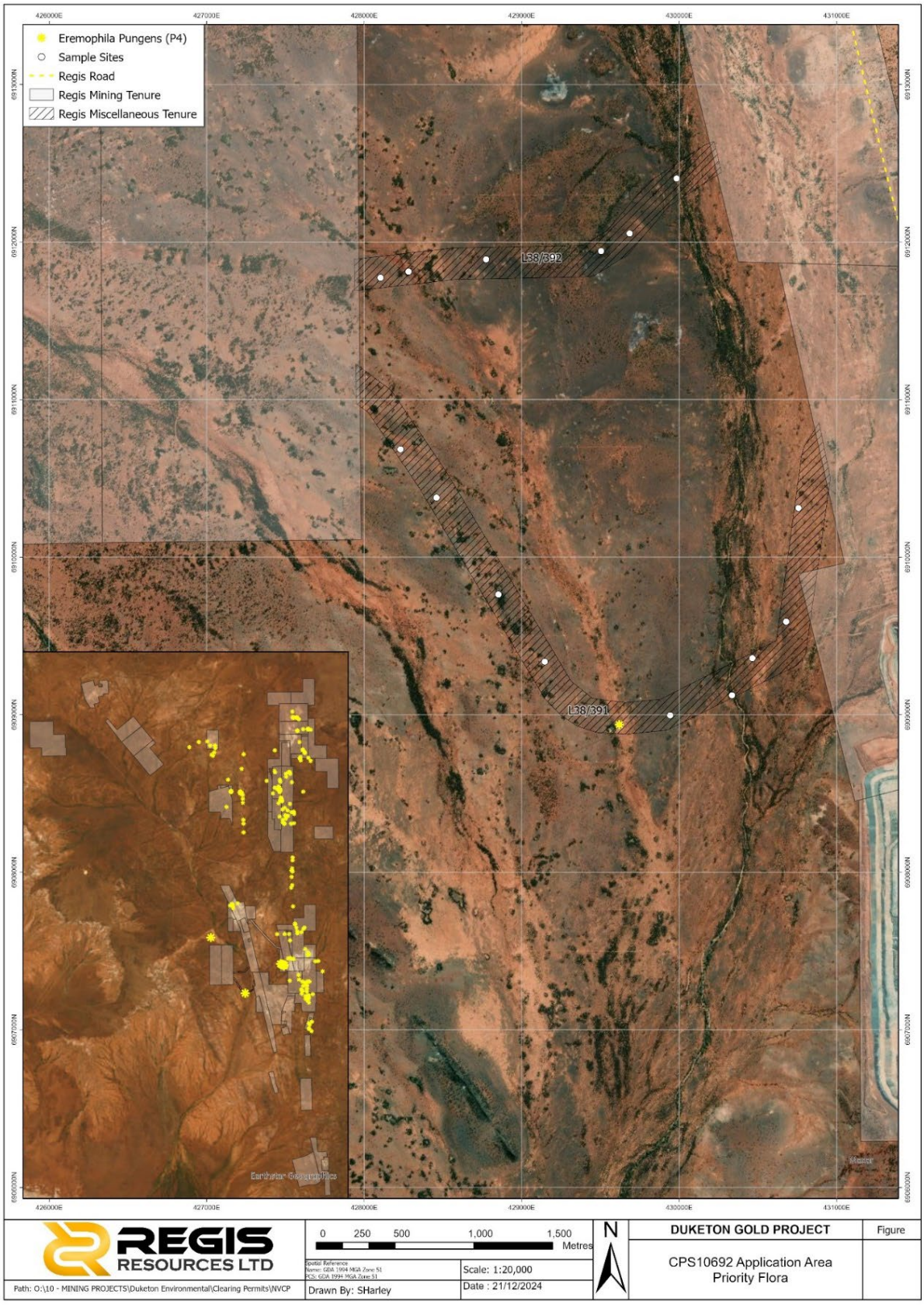

Figure 4: Distribution of Eremophila Pungens (P4) in the Application Area.

3.6.2. VEGETATION ASSOCIATIONS

In 2023, Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd conducted a database review to standardise vegetation recording and mapping across the Duketon Gold Project.

A total of 21 vegetation communities were delineated across Regis Resources' Duketon tenements using the updated flora and vegetation database. A regional approach was taken when delineating vegetation associations across Regis Resources' Duketon tenements, to account for the large geographic area. This regional approach enabled 21 vegetation associations to be delineated in an area which had previously been described using 100 differing vegetation associations.

Preliminary splits in the data were based on contextual information ascribed to each site. This resulted in four distinctive groups of quadrats based on landform or dominant vegetation present. These groups were:

- chenopod flats,
- undulating Mulga flats,
    - sparse (<20% vegetation coverage).
    - open shrublands (>20% vegetation coverage).
- ridgelines, and
- drainage lines.

No vegetation communities mapped within the Duketon tenements are spatially restricted. While some vegetation units occupy a small area within Regis Resources' Duketon tenements, similar vegetation assemblages are known to be regionally abundant (Beard 1990; Cowan 2001). All vegetation communities delineated are consistent with those previously mapped at a local level across Regis Resource's Duketon tenements (Mattiske Consulting 2009-2022b; OES 2007; MAIA 2013; HGM 1998), and at a regional level (Beard 1990; Cowan 2001).

Table 4: Vegetation communities of the previously approved application area

Group	Area %	Vegetation Description		Area %
Undulating Mulga Flats with >20% vegetation coverage	26.1%	A1	Tall open shrubland of Acacia section Juliflorae, over mid-sparse shrubland of Acacia tetragonophylla, Senna artemisioides, and Acacia burkittii, over low-sparse shrubland of Ptilotus obovatus, Sida ectogama, and Solanum lasiophyllum on undulating	1.4%
		A2	Tall open shrubland of Acacia section Juliflorae, over mid-sparse shrubland of Acacia tetragonophylla, Eremophila margarethae, and Psydrax suaveolens, over low sparse shrubland of Dianella revoluta, Solanum lasiophyllum, and Eragrostis setifolia on	2.6%
		A3	Tall open shrubland of Acacia section Juliflorae, over Acacia tetragonophylla, Psydrax suaveolens, and Eremophila latrobei, over Eragrostis eriopoda, Solanum lasiophyllum, and Eriachne mucronata undulating red clay flats	4.2%
		A4	Tall open shrubland of Acacia section Juliflorae and Grevillea berryana, over mid- sparse shrubland of Acacia ramulosa, Eremophila latrobei, and Psydrax suaveolens, over low-sparse shrubland of Eremophila forresii, Ptilotus obovatus, and Eragrostis	10.5%
		A5	Tall open shrubland of Acacia section Juliflorae, and Acacia quadrimarginea, over mid-sparse shrubland of Acacia tetragonophylla, Senna artemisioides, and Eremophila galeata, over low-sparse shrubland of Ptilotus obovatus, Solanum lasiophyllum, and	5.9%
		A6	Tall open shrubland of Acacia section Juliflorae over mid-sparse shrubland of Acacia tetragonophylla, Acacia burkittii, and Eremophila oldfieldii, over low- sparse shrubland of Aristida contorta, Solanum lasiophyllum, and Ptilotus obovatus on undula	1.4%
Undulating Mulga Flats with <20% vegetation coverage	21.6%	A7	Mid-sparse shrubland of Acacia section Juliflorae, over low-sparse tussock grassland of Eragrostis eriopoda, Eriachne mucronate, and Solanum lasiophyllum on undulating red clay flats	0.2%
		A8	Mid-sparse shrubland of Acacia section Juliflorae, Acacia tetragonophylla, and Senna artemisioides, over low-sparse shrubland of Ptilotus obovatus, Solanum lasiophyllum, and Aristida contorta on undulating red clay flats	3%
		A9	Mid-sparse shrubland of Acacia section Juliflorae, Acacia quadrimarginea, and Acacia tetragonophylla, over low-sparse shrubland of Ptilotus obovatus, Dianella revoluta, and Eragrostis setifolia on undulating red clay flats	4.1%
		A10	Mid-sparse shrubland of Acacia section Juliflorae, Acacia tetragonophylla, and Eremophila galeata, over Eremophila latrobei, Ptilotus obovatus, and Eragrostis eriopoda on red clay flats	14.4%
Chenopod Shrublands	11.4%	C1	Mid-isolated shrubland of Acacia tetragonophylla, over low-sparse chenopod shrubland of Maireana triptera, Tecticornia pergranulata, and Maireana villosa on orange-red sandy clay flats	0.8%
		C2	Mid-isolated shrubland of Hakea preissii, over low-sparse chenopod shrubland of Cratystylis subspinescens, Frankenia fecunda, and Maireana pyramidata on orange-red sandy clay flats	5.9%
		C3	Mid-sparse shrubland of Hakea preissii, Senna artemisioides, and Acacia tetragonophylla, over low-sparse shrubland of Cratystylis subspinescens, Sclerolaena cuneata, and Ptilotus obovatus on orange-red sandy clay flats	0.6%

		C4	Mid-sparse shrubland of Hakea preissii and Senna artemisioides, over low-sparse chenopod shrubland of Maireana carnosa, Maireana pyramidata, and Eragrostis dieslsii on orange-red sandy clay flats	2.2%
		C5	Mid-isolated shrubland of Acacia section Juliflorae, over low-sparse chenopod shrubland of Maireana pyramidata, Maireana triptera, and Ptilotus obovatus on orange-red sandy clay flats	1.8%
Drainage Lines	9.2%	D1	Tall-open shrubland of Acacia section Juliflorae, over mid-open shrubland of Acacia tetragonophylla, Acacia craspedocarpa, and Psydrax suaveolens, over low-open shrubland of Dianella revoluta, Ptilotus obovatus, and Cheilanthes sieberi on red clay	5.7%
		D2	Tall-open shrubland of Acacia section Juliflorae, over mid-open shrubland of Acacia tetragonophylla, Acacia craspedocarpa, and Senna artemisioides, over low-open shrubland of Ptilotus obovatus, Solanum lasiophyllum, and Cheilanthes sieberi on red c	1.3%
		D3	Tall-open shrubland of Pittosporum angustifolium and Acacia section Juliflorae, over mid-open shrubland of Acacia burkittii, Acacia tetragonophylla, and Senna artemisioides, over low-sparse chenopod shrubland of Frankenia fecunda, Scaevola spinesce	1.9%
		D4	Mid-open shrubland of Acacia burkittii, Acacia tetragonophylla, and Senna artemisioides, over low-sparse chenopod shrubland of Maireana pyramidata, Tecticornia pergranulata, and Solanum lasiophyllum on orange-red sandy clay soils in minor drainage l	0.1%
		D5	Tall-open shrubland of Acacia section Juliflorae, over mid-open shrubland of Acacia tetragonophylla, Senna artemisioides, and Acacia craspedocarpa, over low- sparse chenopod shrubland of Rhagodia Eremaea, Maireana villosa, and Ptilotus obovatus on	0.2%
Ridgelines	0.5%	R1	Tall-sparse shrubland of Acacia section Juliflorae, Acacia quadrimarginea, and Grevillea berryana, over mid-sparse shrubland of Eremophila punctata, Eremophila latrobei, and Senna artemisioides, over low-isolated tussock grassland on skeletal red c	0.5%
Cleared Land **Due to pastoral tracks, cattle grazing and mining activities (disturbed under approved clearing permits)**				31.2%

King John Haulage Network (L38/391 + L38/392)

The application area contains eight vegetation associations, out of the fourteen vegetation associations that were recorded in the 2022 King John/Davies Bore survey and 2023 Maverick/McKenzies survey.

Table 5: Vegetation Associations at King John Haulage Network (L38/391 + L38/392)

Vegetation Association Code	Description	Mapped Area
A24	Mid-open shrubland of Acacia tetragonophylla, and A. burkittii over low-open shrubland of Ptilotus obovatus, Rhagodia eremaea, and Maireana villosa on clay loams with quartz and ironstone pebbles in seasonal wet flats	7.6
A5	Acacia section Juliflorae (Acacia aneura and Acacia aptaneura) tall-open shrubland over mid- sparse shrubland of Acacia tetragonophylla, Hakea preissii, and Senna artemisioides over low sparse shrubland of Ptilotus obovatus, Sida ectogama, and Cheilanthes sieberi on undulating red clay flats with ironstone and quartz pebbling	6.5
C2	Hakea preissii and Eremophila platycalyx mid-sparse shrubland over low-sparse chenopod shrubland of Maireana triptera, Sclerolaena cuneata , and Cratystylis subspinescens on undulating red-orange, sandy-clay flats with quartz pebbling	30.6
C5	Acacia section Juliflorae (Acacia aptaneura), Eremophila youngii, and Hakea preissii mid-sparse shrubland over low-sparse chenopod shrubland of Maireana pyramidata, Sclerolaena cuneata, and Maireana triptera on undulating red-orange, sandy-clay flats with ironstone and quartz pebbling	2.4
CH2	Low-sparse chenopod shrubland of Sclerolaena cuneata, Maireana villosa, and Cratystylis subspinescens on clay flats with large quartz and ironstone pebbles	90.0
D1	Acacia section Juliflorae (Acacia aneura and Acacia aptaneura), and Acacia craspedocarpa tall- open shrubland over mid-open shrubland of Acacia tetragonophylla, Acacia burkittii, and Senna artemisioides over low-open shrubland of Ptilotus obovatus, Solanum lasiophyllum, and Cheilanthes sieberi on red clay soils in minor drainage lines	4.7
D3	Acacia section Juliflorae (Acacia aneura and Acacia aptaneura) tall-open shrubland over mid- sparse shrubland of Acacia burkittii, Eremophila youngii, and Senna artemisioides over low- sparse chenopod shrubland of Maireana pyramidata, Sclerolaena cuneata, and Frankenia fecunda on red-orange, sandy-clay soils in minor drainage lines	9.4
R1	Acacia section Juliflorae (Acacia aneura and Acacia aptaneura) and Acacia oswaldii tall-sparse shrubland over mid-sparse shrubland of Senna artemisioides and Acacia tetragonophylla over low sparse shrubland of Ptilotus obovatus on skeletal red clay soil on ironstone ridgelines	1.0

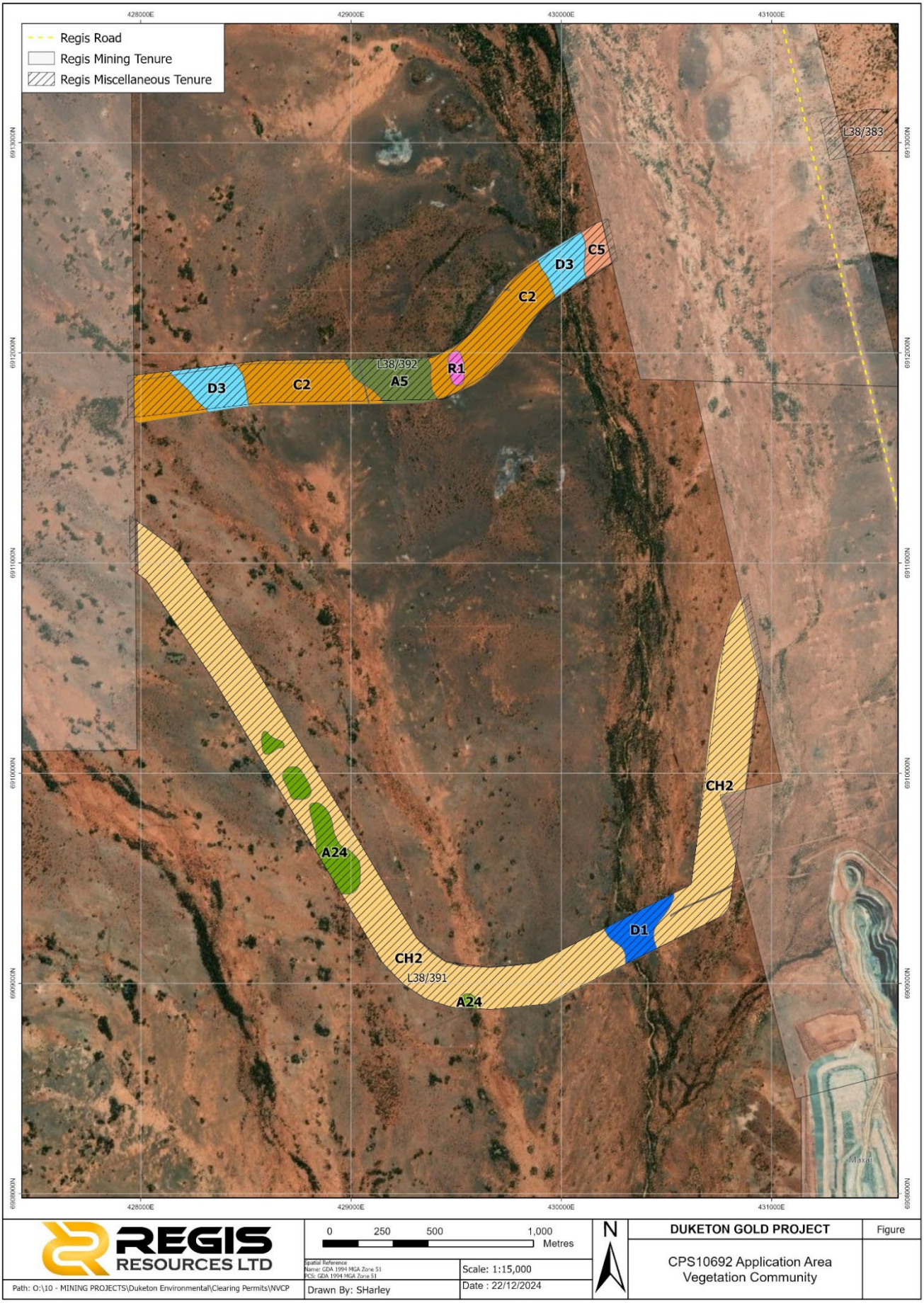

Figure 5: Vegetation Associations at King John Haulage Network (L38/391 + L38/392)

3.6.3. VEGETATION CONDITION

Regionally, vegetation condition across the DGP generally in very good to excellent condition. Localised examples of disturbance due to historic mining, pastoral station livestock grazing, or exploration do occur throughout Regis tenements, although these are relatively small areas.

Of the new areas considered in this application, a summary of vegetation condition is provided below:

- King John Haulage Network (L38/391 + L38/392) - Vegetation is either good or very good.

3.6.4. RIPARIAN VEGETATION

Ephemeral drainage lines occur across the DGP landscape, which typically only flow after sustained heavy rainfall such as remnants of ex-tropical cyclones. No wetlands exist within the area under application.

The closest vegetation associations to riparian vegetation are those associated with ephemeral drainage lines are D1 and D3. Both vegetation communities relate to drainage associated with Borodale Creek, an ephemeral creek that only flows during periods of heavy rainfall.

3.6.5. THREATENED ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITIES

No Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs), pursuant to Schedule 1 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* and as listed by the DBCA were recorded within any of the project survey areas. Similarly, no Priority Ecological Communities (PEC) have been recorded in the application areas. The most proximal PEC is the Laverton Downs Calcrete, which is over 30km to the south of the application area.

3.7. VERTEBRATE FAUNA

Regis has commissioned several fauna surveys and assessments which are applicable to this application, with the most relevant to the new application areas listed below:

- *Basic and detailed vertebrate fauna survey and risk assessment – Northern Project Areas. (Terrestrial Ecosystems 2023)*
- *Basic vertebrate fauna survey and risk assessment – Maverick and McKenzie Project Areas (Terrestrial Ecosystems 2023)*

These surveys partially cover and bound the western and eastern extents of the application area and are representative of both the fauna habitat present and for reviewing the potential for conservation significant species.

3.7.1. HABITATS PRESENT

Across the Duketon Gold Project, the landscape is dominated by Mulga/Acacia woodlands and Chenopod scrublands as the primary fauna habitat. Other habitat types across the Duketon Gold Project include:

- Disturbed areas around mine pits
- Rehabilitated waste dumps.
- Rocky outcrops.

King John Haulage Network (L38/391 + L38/392)

There is one broad fauna habitat in the project area - mulga woodland mostly over sparse shrubs and grasses. Interspersed in this habitat are numerous disturbed areas due to exploration drilling activity and previous mining.

3.7.2. CONSERVATION SIGNIFICANT SPECIES POTENTIALLY PRESENT

Table 8 identifies conservation significant species assessed to have some potential both across the DGP and in the new areas being considered under this application.

Table 6: Current Conservation Significant Species potentially present in the Application Areas.

Species	Conservation Significance	Duketon Gold Project surrounding area	Central Duketon Application Area	King John Haulage Network (L38/391 + L38/392) Application Area
Malleefowl	BC Act Vulnerable EPBC Act Vulnerable	Malleefowl tracks were recorded in the Terminator project area, the first record since surveys commenced (2008). Believed to be a vagrant from outside of the DGP. Abundance very low and no mounds have been recorded.	Very low probability. Tracks for a single individual located ~20 km to the west	Very low probability. Tracks for a single individual located ~50 km to the northwest.
Princess Parrot	BC Act Vulnerable EPBC Act Vulnerable	May infrequently be seen in the region.	May occasionally to infrequently be seen	May infrequently be seen.
Fork-tailed Swift	BC Act Migratory EPBC Migratory	May very infrequently be seen. Clearing vegetation is unlikely to impact on this aerial species.	May infrequently be seen flying	May very infrequently be seen flying.
Peregrine Falcon	BC Act Other Specially Protected	May infrequently be seen. Clearing vegetation is unlikely to impact on this species.	May infrequently be seen flying	May infrequently be seen.
Southern Whiteface	BC Act Vulnerable EPBC Act Vulnerable	Potentially present. Has been recorded further north of the DGP	Low probability. Recorded ~10 km to the north	Not commented on but likely to be potentially present in the project area but it will readily move.
Long-tailed Dunnart	DBCA – Priority 4	Single Long-tailed Dunnart was recorded in Thompson Bore. There is no 'recognised' suitable habitat in this project area, so it is likely to be a vagrant.	Low possibility of being present in rocky areas.	No recognised suitable habitat presents in the survey area. Tracks for a single individual located ~50 km to the northwest
Brush-tailed Mulgara	DBCA – Priority 4	Highly unlikely due to a lack of suitable habitat (mature spinifex dominated habitat).	Highly unlikely due to a lack of suitable habitat.	Highly unlikely to be present

3.7.3. HABITATS FOR CONSERVATION SIGNIFICANT FAUNA

From review of Table 8 in the context of the new areas under this application, Mulga woodlands are the dominant habitat in the application area. Conservation significant fauna to most likely use this habitat are avifauna listed in Table 8 such as the Southern Whiteface, whilst others make greater use of aerial habitat.

In terms of mammals of conservation significance, the presence of rocky outcrops is sporadic across the Duketon area. However, these are mostly too small to be sufficient to support existence of the Priority 4 Long-tailed Dunnart. Further to the South (between Garden Well and Laverton) are more extensive chains of rocky outcrop which provide greater habitat to support the Long-tailed Dunnart.

4. PROJECT IMPACTS AND MANAGEMENT

4.1. MANAGING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Regis is committed to fulfilling its social and regulatory environmental responsibility. The company plans its mining activities to avoid or minimise impacts to environmental values.

Areas have been reviewed and assessed for potential impacts on the surrounding environment and Aboriginal heritage values.

Development activities will result in the direct loss of native vegetation through clearing. There is also potential for indirect losses from dust, competition from weeds, inadequate topsoil stripping and management and poor machinery control during rehabilitation.

Clearing of native vegetation can also directly affect fauna, i.e. deaths caused during clearing operations, and through the loss of habitat.

Management controls addressing each of these aspects are identified in the following sections.

4.1.1. LAND CLEARING

No additional disturbance allowance has been requested as part of the amendment application. 950ha has been previously approved under CPS10692/1, which incorporates allowance for haulage networks between satellite projects. All management controls discussed in the CPS10692/1 permit application will be relevant to disturbance occurring on the proposed application area footprint.

4.1.1.1. OBJECTIVES

- Avoid clearing of native vegetation wherever possible.
- Limit clearing of native vegetation to approved areas.
- Undertake activities in a manner to minimise adverse impacts to vegetation.
- Strip and stockpile topsoil for use in rehabilitation.

4.1.1.2. MANAGEMENT CONTROLS

Management controls that relate specifically to land clearing are detailed below:

- Clearing is managed across the DGP via a clearing permit system. As part of the clearing permit system, proposed activities are checked against flora and fauna values, Priority flora locations, Aboriginal heritage, tenure and Mining Proposal footprints (for key mining activities).
- Inductions cover the importance of minimising vegetation clearing and disturbance.
- Areas to be cleared will be delineated on project drawings and defined in the field by survey using coloured flagging to indicate the extent of authorised clearing. The site representative, work area supervisor and equipment operator will walk the area to be cleared prior to the commencement of clearing. Conspicuous flagging will be used to identify clearing boundaries.
- Personnel involved in clearing activities will be informed about avoidance areas (flora, fauna, heritage areas and other features) and the conditions that apply to each area. All employees will be competent in managing potential risks to these sensitive areas.

The Survey Department undertake monthly reconciliations of:

- Area of land cleared in the past month.
- Progressive total area of land cleared.
- Locations of topsoil stockpiles.

4.1.2. FLORA

No Priority or Threatened flora has been identified in past surveys across the DGP, however the Priority 4 species *Eremophila pungens* has been recorded in the road corridor for King John (on L38/391). Planning of the haul road has been designed to minimise impacts to *Eremophila pungens* present even though some will likely be disturbed. The following measures are designed to minimise adverse impacts on flora and vegetation within the project area and surrounds.

4.1.2.1. OBJECTIVES

- Avoid impacts to native vegetation wherever possible.
- Limit disturbance of native vegetation to those areas necessary.
- Design infrastructure to minimise disturbance to Priority Flora species wherever possible.
- Mitigate impacts to native vegetation.
- Rehabilitate disturbance areas as soon as practicable.

4.1.2.2. MANAGEMENT CONTROLS

Management controls that relate specifically to flora are detailed below:

- Internal clearing permits are developed, assessed and approved before clearing can commence (as described in section 4.1.1).
- Vegetation clearing will be minimised, with preferential use of previously disturbed or degraded areas where possible.
- Progressive rehabilitation will be undertaken as soon as practicable.
- Dust suppression will be regularly undertaken on high traffic roads to minimise potential dust related impacts on adjacent vegetation.

4.1.3. INTRODUCED FLORA

4.1.3.1. OBJECTIVES

- Prevent and minimise the introduction and spread of weeds within the project area.

4.1.3.2. MANAGEMENT CONTROLS

Management controls that relate specifically to introduced flora are detailed below:

- All ground engaging, earthmoving and tracked equipment will be cleaned prior to arrival on site to remove all earth, stones or vegetative material, and prior to entering a weed free area to prevent the introduction of weeds, plants and plants and plant pathogens.
- All other general equipment, including light vehicles, will be presented to site in a clean state, free from soil or vegetative material.
- If substantial populations of weeds are identified, targeted weed spraying will be implemented.
- Work areas will be inspected for weeds on an ongoing basis.

4.1.4. TOPSOIL AND REHABILITATION

Disturbed areas that are not rehabilitated, or inadequately rehabilitated, may result in long-term changes to the landscape through soil erosion and associated sedimentation, introduction of weeds and use of tracks to gain access to restricted areas.

4.1.4.1. OBJECTIVES

- Meet legislative requirements with respect to the rehabilitation of relevant project sites and to liaise closely with Government bodies to ensure compliance.
- Maintain positive topsoil balances when planning topsoil stripping for new disturbance.
- Encourage re-establishment of self-sustaining ecosystems compatible with surrounding undisturbed areas.

4.1.4.2. MANAGEMENT CONTROLS

Management controls that relate specifically to topsoil management and rehabilitation are detailed below:

- Topsoil will be stripped and stockpiled as part of clearing works.
- Topsoil will be removed to a depth of 100 mm to 300 mm, depending on the nature of the material and existing materials balance.
- Topsoil will be directly transferred to areas being rehabilitated where possible. Where this is not possible, topsoil will be stored in stockpiles for later use.
- Stockpiles will be no higher than 3 m and identified on a site plan.
- No burning of vegetation spoil will occur.
- All disturbed areas no longer required will be landformed and have topsoil applied.
- Where practicable, disturbed areas will be progressively rehabilitated.
- Disused compacted surfaces will be scarified to a depth of approximately 500 mm, along contour lines, should ground conditions and hydrology allow.
- Topsoil and vegetation will be respread over disused areas.
- Large rocks and logs will be placed in rehabilitation areas to simulate fauna habitats.
- Where appropriate, natural drainage patterns will be reinstated.
- Where the establishment of supplementary vegetation cover is necessary, local seed and plants will be used in site rehabilitation.
- The Survey Department undertake monthly reconciliations of:
  - Area of land cleared in the past month.
  - Progressive total area of land cleared.
  - Locations of topsoil stockpiles.

4.1.5. SURFACE WATER

Regis undertakes project activities in a manner that minimises adverse impacts to ephemeral surface water quality and hydrology.

4.1.5.1. OBJECTIVES

- Avoid impacts to the quality of surface water wherever possible.
- Minimise unavoidable impacts on the quality of surface water.
- Avoid unnecessary disturbance to natural surface water drainage.

4.1.5.2. MANAGEMENT CONTROLS

Management controls that relate specifically to surface water are detailed below:

- Project design seeks to avoid interaction with drainage where possible. Where drainage interception is required, diversions, culverts, overflows and floodways will be designed to protect people and infrastructure from flooding risks and reintegrate drainage to the surrounding landscape.
- The establishment and construction of drainage structures will be monitored to ensure compliance with the design specifications.
- Diversions, culverts, overflows and floodways will be incorporated into road design to maintain close-to-natural drainage patterns.
- Pipelines will be buried or double hulled when crossing drainage features.

4.1.6. FAUNA

Most fauna is expected to move into adjacent areas during clearing activities. The consequence will be that whilst some sedentary fauna may be lost, most will shift into neighbouring areas. Migrants increase competition for resources, which may result in the subsequent loss of migrants or local individuals who have been displaced. Impacts associated with clearing vegetation in the project area in a landscape or bioregion context on the vertebrate fauna are likely to be low as there are vast tracts of similar habitat in adjacent areas.

Conservation significant fauna is unlikely to be affected as previous fauna assessments have found habitat is too open for terrestrial conservation significant fauna, or in the case of avian species, are either aerial specialists occasional visiting habitats or opportunistically exploiting conditions (such as after heavy rainfall events).

4.1.6.1. OBJECTIVES

- Minimise impacts to native fauna species during the works.
- Ensure conservation significant fauna are not adversely affected by the project.
- Minimise the spread of pest species.

4.1.6.2. MANAGEMENT CONTROLS

Management controls that relate specifically to fauna are detailed below:

- Habitats with greater conservation value will be planned for avoidance where possible.
- Road kills, including those resulting from travel to and from project areas, will be removed from the road and reported as an environmental incident.
- All fauna deaths and feral animal sightings will be reported to the site environmental representative.
- No pets or other animals will be brought onto the site.
- Water storages will be fenced to prevent access by terrestrial fauna.
- Firearms will be prohibited on site.
- All trenches will be fitted with ramps (as appropriate), and will be filled/closed when no longer required, to avoid entrapment of fauna.
- An employee induction program outlining fauna and habitat of conservation significance will be implemented.

5. COMPLIANCE

CPS10692/1 was issued on October 10, 2024, with a commencement date of November 2, 2024. Part III of the clearing permit outlines the record-keeping and reporting obligations associated with this approval. The required records include:

- 1(a): The location of the clearing, recorded using a GPS device set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), with coordinates expressed in Eastings and Northings.
- 1(b): The date the clearing occurred.
- 1(c): The size of the cleared area (in hectares).
- 1(d): Actions undertaken in compliance with Condition 4.
- 1(e): Measures implemented to avoid, minimize, and reduce the impacts and extent of clearing, as per Condition 5.
- 1(f): Steps taken to mitigate the risk of weed introduction and spread, in accordance with Condition 6.
- 1(g): Actions taken in line with Condition 7.

As of December 22, 2024, no clearing activities have been conducted under CPS10692/1. In line with the reporting requirements of Part III, a report will be submitted by July 31, 2025, covering clearing activities undertaken between December 23, 2024, and June 30, 2025.

6. CLEARING PRINCIPLES

An assessment of the disturbance identified in this application has been made against the ten Principles for Native Vegetation Clearing (Table 9).

Table 7: Assessment of the Proposal Against the Ten Clearing Principles

	Clearing Principle	Assessment	Discussion
1	Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity	Proposal is not at variance to this principle	Comparison of aerial photography of the survey area and surrounding areas suggests the area under application is typical of the vegetation throughout the region. Cowan (2001) states that the Eastern Murchison subregion is rich and diverse in both flora and fauna however most species are wide ranging and usually occur in at least one, and often several, adjoining sub regions. Additionally, Beard states the Murchison is essentially the Mulga region of Western Australia and those conditions within the Murchison region favour Mulga more generally than in any other part of Western Australia. Although the proposed disturbance areas will clear vegetation rich in flora, from a regional context, the vegetation within the project area is well represented within the local and broader region. The extent of the disturbance footprint is adjacent to or between existing mine sites.
2	Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.	Proposal is not at variance to this principle	Although the proposed clearing areas will comprise habitat that may be suitable for fauna indigenous to Western Australia, from a regional context, the vegetation associations within the project area are well represented within the broader region. Terrestrial Ecosystems have identified the conservation significant fauna with the greatest likelihood occurring (on the basis of occasional, infrequent or potential presence) are avifauna including Peregrine Falcon, Southern Whiteface, Fork-tailed Swift and Princess Parrot.
3	Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, Threatened flora.	Proposal is not at variance to this principle	No Threatened flora species pursuant to section 19 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act* and as listed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, or pursuant to section 179 of the EPBC Act or listed by the Department of Climate Change, Water, Energy, the Environment and Water, were recorded near the project area by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd (2009 to 2023).
4	Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of a Threatened Ecological Community.	Proposal is not at variance to this principle	No Threatened Ecological Communities have been recorded from any surveys across the Duketon Gold Project.
5	Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.	Proposal is not at variance to this principle	The area under application is not considered significant as extensive areas nearby and within the project area remain uncleared. Surveys conducted by Mattiske Consulting Pty Ltd determined that the application area is typical of the vegetation throughout the region. The area under application coincides with pastoral leases where grazing has already occurred to varying degrees. Some areas which form part of this application have past history of disturbance associated with mining or are adjacent to current mining operations.

	Clearing Principle	Assessment	Discussion
6	Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.	Proposal is unlikely to be at variance to this principle	Ephemeral drainage lines exist within the area under application but only flow following sustained heavy rainfall events, particularly after cyclonic rain and hence are unlikely to be at variance with this principle. These channels remain dry for most of the year. No wetlands exist within the area under application.
7	Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.	Proposal is not at variance to this principle	Apart from cleared areas previously disturbed by mining and their immediate surrounds, the application area ranges from Poor to Pristine condition (using the criteria of Keighery 1994). In the most part, vegetation in the application area is either Good or Very Good. The area under this application includes areas with past mining and where grazing of cattle has occurred at varying intensities. The surrounding vegetation, outside of the project area is generally in Very Good to Excellent condition and accurately reflects the vegetation on the outer boundaries of the project area. Therefore, clearing of the vegetation within the project area is unlikely to cause appreciable land degradation.
8	Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.	Proposal is not at variance to this principle	The De La Poer Range Nature Reserve (Reserve No. 41831) is the closest reserve in the area (approximately 40 km northwest of the northern boundary of the CPS10692/1 permit area). No impacts on the environmental values of the reserve will occur as a result of clearing in the area under application due to the distance from the proposed activities.
9	Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface and underground water.	Proposal is unlikely to be at variance to this principle	Vegetation associations that occur on minor ephemeral drainage lines within the application area receive surface water flows following large storms or cyclonic systems, which is itself often of poor quality due to high intensity. Impacts from proposed clearing activities should be minimised to minimise impacts to water quality.
10	Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding.	Proposal is not at variance to this principle	The area under application occurs on flat, landscape where flooding occurs following heavy rainfall, typically from cyclonic systems. Borodale Creek is the main ephemeral drainage line in the area but its flooding is dictated by episodic heavy rainfall rather than landscape features.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: TENEMENT SUMMARY REPORTS FOR L38/391 AND L38/392

Department of **Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety**

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

eMiTS MINERAL TITLES ONLINE

MINING TENEMENT SUMMARY REPORT

MISCELLANEOUS LICENCE 38/391

Status: Live

TENEMENT SUMMARY

Area: 105.42673 HA
Mark Out : N/A
Received : 01/07/2024 15:27:31
Term Granted : 21 Years
Death Reason :
Death Date :
Commence : 08/11/2024
Expiry : 07/11/2045

CURRENT HOLDER DETAILS

Name and Address
REGIS RESOURCES LIMITED
HETHERINGTON EXPLORATION & MINING TITLE SERVICES, C/- HETHERINGTON EXPLORATION & MINING TITLE SERVICES, SUITE 404, GROUND FLOOR, 50 ST GEORGES TERRACE, PERTH, WA, 6000, xxxxx@hemts.com.au, xxxxx977

DESCRIPTION

Locality: King John
Datum: All Coordinates are GDA 94 in Zone 51 Datum
6911226.00 mN 427946.82 mE
Boundary: From datum Thence 6911067.43 mN 428160.73 mE Thence 6911043.82 mN 428183.01 mE Thence 6910544.12 mN 428520.21 mE Thence 6909214.07 mN 429313.10 mE Thence 6909102.73 mN 429450.49 mE Thence 6909100.76 mN 429466.44 mE Thence 6909076.78 mN 429659.71 mE Thence 6909097.95 mN 429881.57 mE Thence 6909471.38 mN 430617.20 mE Thence 6910646.20 mN 430777.19 mE Thence 6910705.36 mN 430794.20 mE Thence 6910853.24 mN 430888.41 mE Thence 6910499.61 mN 430959.91 mE Thence 6909381.01 mN 430801.65 mE Thence 6909314.23 mN 430749.46 mE Thence 6908901.71 mN 429923.90 mE Thence 6908876.12 mN 429661.61 mE Thence 6908887.24 mN 429476.16 mE Thence 6908926.68 mN 429354.46 mE Thence 6908998.32 mN 429247.24 mE Thence 6909100.44 mN 429148.02 mE Thence 6910434.54 mN 428352.87 mE Thence 6910918.31 mN 428026.43 mE Thence 6910973.88 mN 427949.39 mE Back to datum

Area :

Type	Dealing No	Start Date	Area
Granted		08/11/2024	105.42673 HA
Applied For		01/07/2024	105.43000 HA

SHIRE DETAILS

Shire	Shire No	Start	End	Area
LAVERTON SHIRE	4970	01/07/2024		105.42673 HA

RENT STATUS

Due For Year End 07/11/2025: PAID IN FULL
Due For Year End 07/11/2026: $2,798.40

EXPENDITURE STATUS

Expended Year End : NO EXPENDITURE REQUIRED
Current Year Commitment :

Department of **Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety**

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

eMiTS MINERAL TITLES ONLINE

MINING TENEMENT SUMMARY REPORT

MISCELLANEOUS LICENCE 38/392

Status: Live

TENEMENT SUMMARY

Area: 51.10950 HA
Mark Out : N/A
Received : 01/07/2024 15:27:31
Term Granted : 21 Years
Death Reason :
Death Date :
Commence : 08/11/2024
Expiry : 07/11/2045

CURRENT HOLDER DETAILS

Name and Address
REGIS RESOURCES LIMITED
HETHERINGTON EXPLORATION & MINING TITLE SERVICES, C/- HETHERINGTON EXPLORATION & MINING TITLE SERVICES, SUITE 404, GROUND FLOOR, 50 ST GEORGES TERRACE, PERTH, WA, 6000, xxxxx@hemts.com.au, xxxxx977

DESCRIPTION

Locality: King John
Datum: All Coordinates are GDA 94 in Zone 51 Datum
6911890.58 mN 427937.21 mE
Boundary: From datum Thence 6911962.39 mN 428568.18 mE Thence 6911977.64 mN 429390.10 mE Thence 6912072.33 mN 429541.60 mE Thence 6912376.86 mN 429800.72 mE Thence 6912615.88 mN 430161.41 mE Thence 6912637.54 mN 430221.94 mE Thence 6912442.47 mN 430268.24 mE Thence 6912226.09 mN 429933.69 mE Thence 6911926.70 mN 429680.12 mE Thence 6911912.74 mN 429663.51 mE Thence 6911788.61 mN 429464.11 mE Thence 6911778.42 mN 429426.71 mE Thence 6911762.61 mN 428580.13 mE Thence 6911689.90 mN 427938.82 mE Back to datum

Area :

Type	Dealing No	Start Date	Area
Granted		08/11/2024	51.10950 HA
Applied For		01/07/2024	51.11000 HA

SHIRE DETAILS

Shire	Shire No	Start	End	Area
LAVERTON SHIRE	4970	01/07/2024		51.10950 HA

RENT STATUS

Due For Year End 07/11/2025: PAID IN FULL
Due For Year End 07/11/2026: $1,372.80

EXPENDITURE STATUS

Expended Year End : NO EXPENDITURE REQUIRED
Current Year Commitment :