GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Department of **Mines, Petroleum and Exploration**

Mining Rehabilitation Fund

Yearly Report 2024–25

Contents

This report outlines the activities and achievements of the Mining Rehabilitation Fund (MRF) and Abandoned Mines Program (AMP) from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. The Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration (DMPE) is committed to good governance and this report seeks to provide a summary of the administration of the *Mining Rehabilitation Fund Act 2012* (WA).

Background

The MRF was introduced in 2013 and is the State's first dedicated and perpetual fund for the rehabilitation and management of historical abandoned mines. Created as a pooled fund to which Western Australian mining operators contribute yearly means the WA community is no longer paying for the rehabilitation of abandoned mining operations.

The MRF is administered as a Special Purpose Account under the *Financial Management Act 2006* (WA) and funds must be spent in accordance with the purposes set out in the *Mining Rehabilitation Fund Act 2012* (WA) (MRF Act) for which the Director General of DMPE is accountable.

All tenement holders operating on *Mining Act 1978* (WA) (Mining Act) tenure are required to report disturbance data and contribute annually to the fund depending on their level of environmental disturbance on tenements.

Contributions to the MRF are used in circumstances where there are unsuccessful efforts to enforce the obligations of tenement holders/operators to rehabilitate mines. The recovery of costs may still be sought from any former holder/operator that fails to meet their obligations to rehabilitate.

In addition, interest earned on the fund can be used to rehabilitate, fund the administration of the MRF and undertake rehabilitation work on legacy abandoned mines throughout the State.

DMPE's annual reports provide information on the management of the fund and enable the WA Government to consider and approve the projected revenue and expenditure for the MRF through the State Budget each year.

This report is supplementary to the annual report and presents detailed information of the activities and achievements of the MRF and AMP for 2024–25, as well as indicating future plans for both initiatives.

10-year Statutory Review

Section 38 of the MRF Act establishes a requirement for the Minister for Mines and Petroleum to undertake a review of the operation and effectiveness of the MRF Act 10 years after the date upon which the MRF Act received royal assent. It requires the Minister to table a report in Parliament based on the review no later than 18 months after its commencement.

The review was undertaken by Marsden Jacob Associates in collaboration with DMPE's predecessor, the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DEMIRS). The review included consultation with a range of stakeholders, including community, industry and non-government organisations who provided valuable insight.

The review, tabled in Parliament in April 2024, identified that stakeholders share a general view that the MRF Act remains a relevant and well-targeted legislative approach for minimising the potential financial burden of abandoned mines. The review made 16 recommendations on a broad range of matters including the applicable contribution rate, calculation of unit rates, expenditure of funds and other matters to enhance the operation and effectiveness of the MRF Act. DMPE has considered the findings and recommendations of the review and has prepared a departmental response, available on the DMPE website.

Activities
of the Mining Rehabilitation Advisory Panel

The Mining Rehabilitation Advisory Panel (MRAP), as outlined in the Mining Rehabilitation Fund Regulations 2013, provides advice to the Director General of DMPE on matters relating to the fund and the associated AMP.

The current members of MRAP recently appointed are:

Vern Newton

Chair

Paul McDonald

Deputy Chair

Andrew Buckley

Member

Melissa Harrison

Member

Nelson Amoah

Member

MRAP members hold office for a period of no more than three years. They currently meet bi-annually in a statutory meeting to discuss and provide independent advice on a range of matters relating to managing the MRF and work activities associated with the AMP. Members also attend workshops that aim to prioritise projects under the AMP.

On 28 May 2025, the former Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DEMIRS) published a notice calling for Expressions of Interest for appointment as a member. Three new members were selected from a diverse range of applicants representing industry and peak industry groups.

The new members, Paul McDonald (appointed as Deputy Chair), Melissa Harrison and Nelson Amoah, were appointed to join Vern Newton, newly appointed as Chair, and Andrew Buckley who was also recently appointed in December 2024 to replace resigning member Helen Chernoff.

The Panel commenced their Term 5 of office on 10 August 2025 which will cease on 15 December 2027.

DMPE would like to acknowledge the considerable contributions of the MRAP members, particularly those that now leave the Panel; **Renee Young (former Chair), Angela Bishop (former Deputy Chair), Naomi Hutchings** and **Helen Chernoff**.

The panel attended various workshops in addition to the formal MRAP meetings, and their guidance and support was invaluable to furthering the projects with the rehabilitation of mines under the AMP program.

Members of MRAP during Term 4 (10 August 2022 – 9 August 2025):

Member	Position	Term of service
Renee Young	Chair	10 August 2022 – 9 August 2025
Angela Bishop	Deputy Chair (two terms – reappointed former member)	19 June 2019 – 9 August 2025
Vern Newton	Member	10 August 2022 – 9 August 2025
Naomi Hutchings	Member	10 August 2022 – 9 August 2025
Helen Chernoff	Member	10 August 2022 – 6 June 2024
Andrew Buckley	Member	16 December 2024 – 9 August 2025

During the 2024–25 financial year, the MRAP undertook a range of activities to support the effective delivery of the AMP.

- Participated in workshops to review the AMP five-year plan and budget, including the annual strategy update and a review of current projects. Key projects discussed included Safer Shafts for Towns, Reid's Ridge, Northampton Shafts, Elverdton, Collieries, Ellendale, and projects in planning: Ashmore Seppelt and Smoke Creek.
- Considered the development and preliminary results of the Legacy Tailings and Silicate Minerals projects.
- Reviewed preliminary findings from the Elverdton detailed site investigation, and agreed that further work is required to address data gaps relating to potential downstream impacts on the Steere River and Culham Inlet.
- Reviewed and provided feedback on a draft refreshed Abandoned Mines Policy, which is set to be released for public comment in 2025–26.
- Endorsed the revocation of the declaration of the Stewart Shaft Cue as an abandoned mine (under the Safer Shafts for Towns project), following the completion of final geotechnical monitoring.
- Endorsed the declaration of the Scottish Colliery as an abandoned mine under the Collieries project, enabling significant risks associated with historical workings to be addressed.
- Endorsed the declaration of the Safer Shafts for Towns Yalgoo and Cue Phase 1 works program areas as abandoned mines, supporting the management of significant historical risks.
- Collaborated with the AMP team on the revision of the project prioritisation methodology, including participation in a workshop focused on the development of the Safer Shafts for Towns project.
- In addition to formal meetings, panel members attended various workshops and provided valuable support to the AMP team, contributing to the advancement of key projects and initiatives.

Abandoned Mines Program

Funds contributed to the MRF can be used to rehabilitate mine sites that have been abandoned by companies that have either previously paid into the MRF or were eligible to pay into the fund (after all other avenues to ensure rehabilitation have been exhausted). Interest generated on the funds contributed to the MRF can be used to rehabilitate those legacy mining features abandoned prior to the introduction of the MRF.

A decade of dedication, celebrating 10 Years of WA's Abandoned Mines Program

The department's AMP, launched in 2015, plays a central role in identifying, managing and rehabilitating abandoned mine sites across the State.

With more than 150 years of mining history, WA has inherited tens of thousands of abandoned mine features – open shafts, pit voids and waste rock landforms among them. Many pose risks to public safety, the environment and surrounding land use.

In response, the WA Government introduced the AMP, which is supported by the MRF. Rather than relying on public funding, the MRF is supported by annual contributions from active mining operators. This provides a dedicated, ongoing source of funds for rehabilitating both legacy sites and those left without a responsible party.

Over the past 10 years the AMP project scope has grown in line with the growth in the MRF from the initial first four pilot projects to today's portfolio of nine active project locations, two investigative projects, plus two projects in planning spread across regional WA.

Making a difference: AMP's successes

In its first decade, the AMP is working towards creating a tangible difference across Western Australia:

- Improving safety: High-risk sites are being stabilised or made safe – closing shafts, reshaping landforms and reducing danger to communities and the environment.
- Smart, strategic prioritisation: The Abandoned Mines Inventory, a comprehensive database developed by the Geological Survey of Western Australia (GSWA) containing more than 192,000 records, informs the 'Abandoned Mines Prioritisation Tool'. The Prioritisation Tool uses a risk-based approach focused on health, safety, environmental and heritage impacts. This aids the AMP in prioritising work based on risk and long-term impact.
- Collaboration: The AMP has fostered collaboration with Traditional Owners, Aboriginal peoples on Country and stakeholders through works undertaken on abandoned mines projects. For example, enabled job opportunities with the Yamatji Southern Regional Corporation during the Yalgoo Safer Shafts project.
- Innovative engagement: Through a bold approach to contract development, the AMP has enabled training opportunities through the Ellendale project. This contract has delivered high participation of Indigenous Australians, achieving for the month of June 2025, 82 per cent Indigenous participation of machinery operators and 49 per cent Indigenous participation across the entire contract workforce. Training program participants have achieved a combined 41 nationally-recognised 'Units of Competency' (machinery operations) over the first two seasons, with six trainees currently engaged through the Ellendale Bunuba Trainee Program

Improving processes

The AMP Strategy (the Strategy), first initiated in 2020, provides the foundation towards achieving the overarching vision, 'To be the leading practitioner in the management of abandoned mine features'. The Strategic Plan identifies the key initiatives that will support the program's execution providing for an outcomes-based and adaptive approach to the management of abandoned mine features. Strategic thinking and outcome-based objectives combined with the implementation of the project planning framework enables AMP projects to deliver long-term sustainable outcomes.

The Strategy has enabled the development of a dedicated AMP procurement process which has been recognised under WA Procurement Rule C1. This allows AMP works to be procured in-house under the MRF Act, without requiring direct involvement with the Department of Housing and Works (formerly known as the Department of Finance).

Under the Strategy, the AMP has successfully implemented a robust five-year planning process. This enables annual engagement with the Department of Treasury and Finance and supports a sustainable spending profile for the MRF.

Additionally, the Strategy has driven the recent revision of the AMP risk prioritisation process. Sites are now assessed using a structured prioritisation tool, after which the project implementation framework guides development and delivery. This framework ensures stakeholder engagement at every stage of an evolving process, aligning project objectives with expectations and mitigating risks posed by abandoned mine features.

Project planning

AMP projects are developed following a risk assessment and prioritisation process in line with the Abandoned Mines Policy. The policy requires that projects are prioritised with consideration to significant risks to the community and the environment, and that the potential value associated with a site is identified and protected.

Projects are planned and executed in line with the AMP project implementation framework in alignment with stakeholder expectations and are developed towards ensuring safe and sustainable final outcomes. Each phase of a project may involve engaging subject matter experts in investigations, planning and eventual execution of a works program – a process which may take several years before project completion is achieved.

Stakeholder engagement is a significant part of the process at all stages of any project. All projects endeavour to work with Traditional Custodians and identify opportunities for direct employment or employment opportunities under AMP contracts on Country.

Detailed five-year planning is undertaken across all AMP projects on an annual basis and includes consideration of all the aforementioned elements in project development and execution. It also takes into consideration inputs to MRF, both from interest earnings and industry contributions, to ensure its longevity.

AMP expenditure

Over the past decade, the MRF has demonstrated strong financial performance, with consistent growth in principal contributions and a strategic increase in rehabilitation expenditure aligned to AMP priorities (Figure 1 and Figure 2).

Figure 1. MRF – 10-year balance

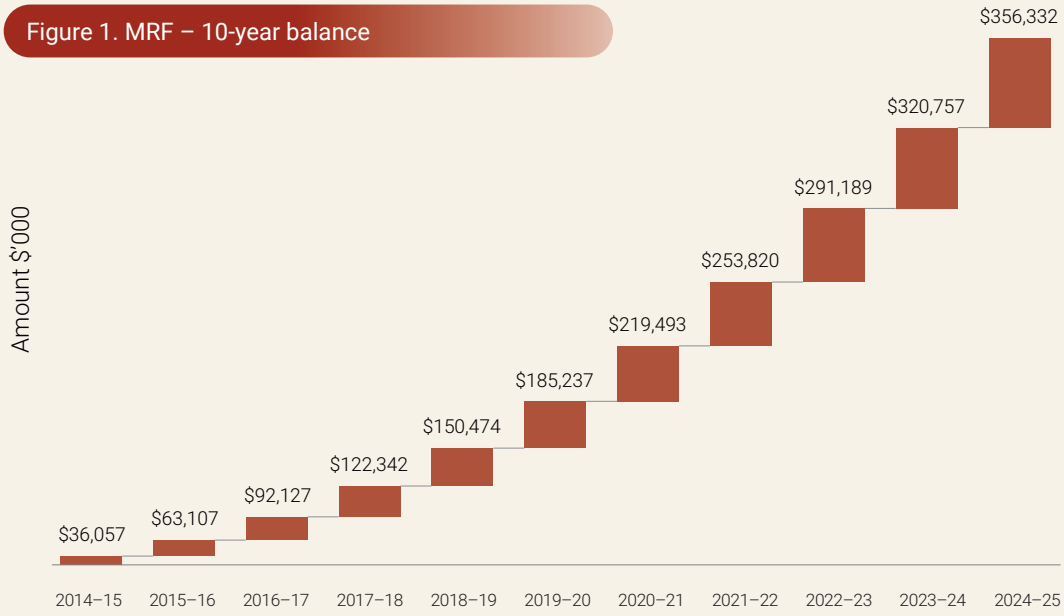
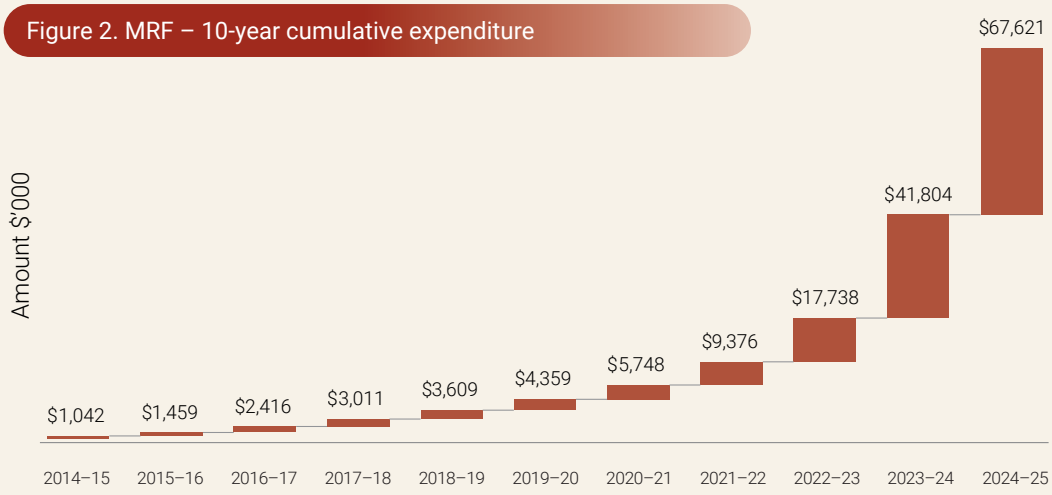
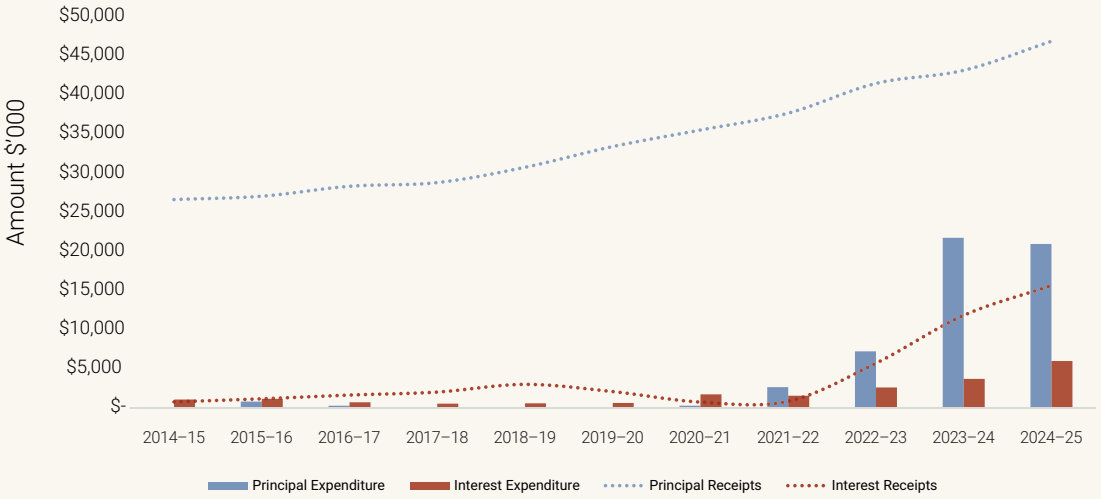


Figure 2. MRF – 10-year cumulative expenditure



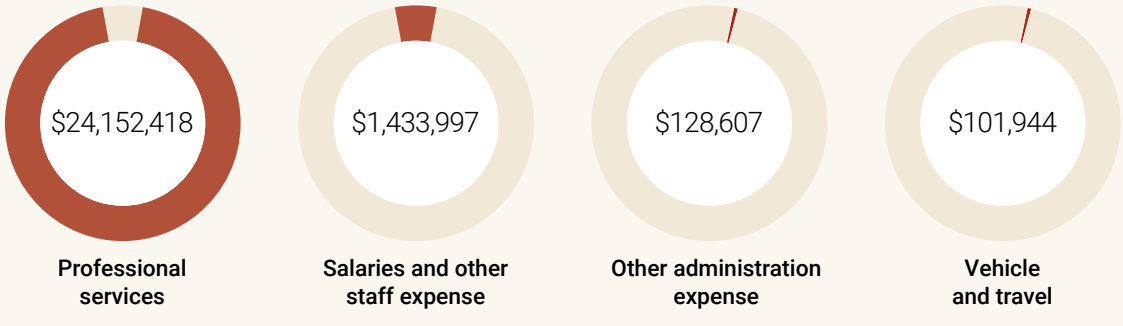
Operational expenditure rose sharply in the last two years, increasing from $8.3 million in 2022–23, to $24 million in 2023–24 and $25.8 million in 2024–25, reflecting the transition of planned rehabilitation works into active execution (Figure 3). Despite this increase, the MRF's closing balance continued to grow, reaching **$356.3 million**, underscoring sound financial management and long-term fund sustainability.

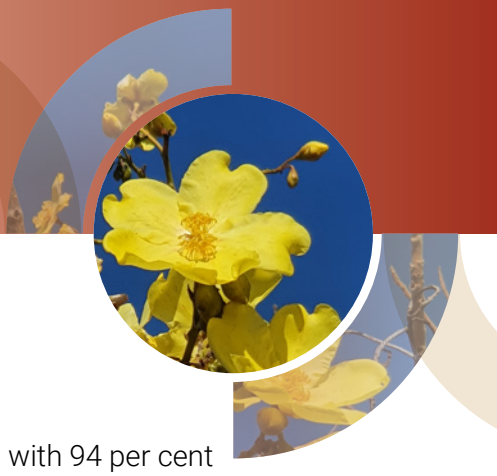
Figure 3. MRF – Income vs expense



Importantly, rehabilitation of mining legacies – sites abandoned prior to the introduction of the MRF Act – can only be funded through MRF interest earnings. As shown in Figure 3, significant interest income only became available from 2022 onward. Between 2020 and 2022, reduced earnings constrained the development of interest-funded projects, resulting in the deferral of initiatives such as **Elverdton**, **Safer Shafts for Towns**, and **Northampton Shafts**.

Figure 4. MRF – Expenditure profile





In FY2024–25, AMP expenditure was strongly focused on project delivery, with 94 per cent allocated to professional services (Figure 4). This reflects a lean internal cost structure and a commitment to technical excellence in rehabilitation. A breakdown of professional services expenditure (Table 1) shows that the majority was directed toward technical and engineering contracts, including rehabilitation earthworks, geotechnical investigations and engineering services.

Table 1. Breakdown of AMP professional services FY2024–25

Category	Actual expenditure
Professional services – Technical and Engineering	$22,920,534
Professional services – Surveys	$434,831
Professional services – Scientific Analysis	$405,170
Professional services – Environment	$229,229
Other professional services	$162,654
Total	**$24,152,418**

With interest earnings rebounding and principal contributions remaining strong, the MRF is well-positioned to deliver high-priority rehabilitation projects under the AMP. The MRF continues to be a robust and responsive funding mechanism for abandoned mine rehabilitation in Western Australia. Ongoing monitoring of income trends and expenditure priorities will ensure its continued effectiveness and alignment with community and environmental outcomes.

Looking ahead

Now entering its second decade, the AMP continues to evolve – guided by innovation, strong partnerships and a commitment to sustainable land use. With ongoing support from across government, industry and local communities, the program remains a vital force in protecting people, land and heritage across WA.

Abandoned Mines Policy

Originally published in 2016, the Abandoned Mines Policy was identified for review as part of the 10-year statutory review of the MRF Act. To support the refresh, a series of internal workshops were held, including targeted discussions at an MRAP AMP workshop, to discuss how a revised policy may best reflect current priorities, stakeholder expectations and operational learnings from the past decade.

A draft refreshed Abandoned Mines Policy will be released for public comment in 2025–26. This will provide an opportunity for broader stakeholder input and ensure the policy continues to guide transparent, risk-based, community-aligned rehabilitation of abandoned mine features across WA.

AMP Projects status

The AMP continues to deliver significant milestones though the execution of the planned works program. Current projects underway are indicated below (Table 2 and Figure 5).

Table 2. AMP Project Status

AMP project	MRF funding	Status	In planning / In progress / No activity
Ashmore Seppelt *Balanggarra*	Principal		In planning pending Traditional Owner engagement. Deconstruction, clean-up and rehabilitation works program.
Smoke Creek *Miriuwing Gajerrong*	Principal		Stakeholder engagement in progress for deconstruction and clean-up, plus rehabilitation earthworks program planned for execution in 2026.
Ellendale *Bunuba*	Principal		Deconstruction and site clean-up completed 2022. Safety and landform stabilisation earthworks in progress.
Safer Shafts for Towns *Nyamal, Wajarri Yamaji, Yugunga-Nya, Yamatji Nation*	Interest		Focusing on mitigating risks posed be abandoned mines shafts typically associated with the gold rush era within proximity to communities. Staged progression to be expanded to other regional areas as project develops.
Beyondie *Gingirana and Birriliburu People (MNR)*	Principal		Former brine potash operation, tenements forfeited in 2024. Project in planning pending resolution of fortified leases and potential third-party interests.
Northampton Shafts *Yamatji Nation*	Interest		Staged progression supporting DPLH Northampton Lead Program. Heritage surveys underway; geotechnical investigations undertaken, rehabilitation pending stakeholder engagement.
Reid's Ridges *Badimia*	Principal		Joint DBCA project, Karara Rangeland Park. Deconstruction and site wide cleanup completed. Geotechnical investigations completed, rehabilitation works in planning.
Bulong TSF *Kakarra*	Interest + bond		Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) on the edge of Lake Yindarlgooda. Project on hold pending resourcing and engagement with Traditional Owners.
Collieries *Gnaala Karla Boodja*	Interest		Work in progress to improve understanding of subsidence and mined combustible materials which have resulted from historical underground coal workings. Improved understanding will inform appropriate strategies to mitigate risks posed by these legacy mine features in the Collie Basin.
Elverdton *Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar*	Interest		Detailed site investigation in progress to inform remediation strategies on the uncontained Elverdton tailings.
Legacy Tailings	Interest		Trail project investigating the use of new satellite change monitoring technology to identify changes on constructed landform walls across select abandoned mines with TSF.
Silicate Minerals	Interest		Trial project investigating the use of new technologies and approaches to determine presence, abundance, dispersion of crocidolite across abandoned mines potentially associated with extraction of fibrous minerals.

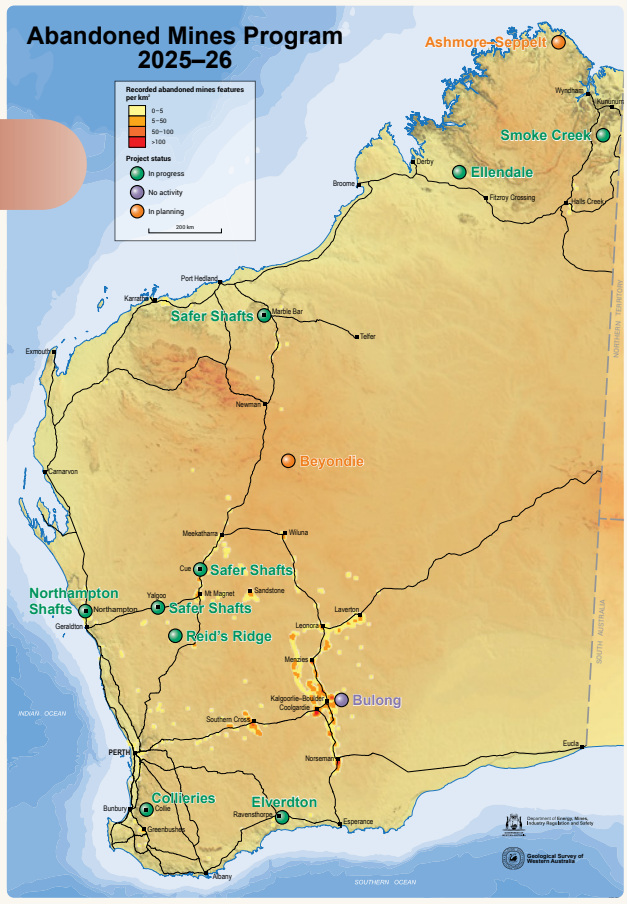


Figure 5. Abandoned Mines Program – Inventory and project locations

Engagement

Australian Centre for Geomechanics (ACG) 17th International Conference on Mine Closure

On 27 November 2024, the AMP presented its revised abandoned mines prioritisation process at the ACG Mine Closure Conference in Perth. The presentation, titled 'Prioritising Risks for Rehabilitation from a Legacy of Mining in Western Australia', was well received and showcased the Strategy's approach to risk-based project planning and implementation. [Australian Centre for Geomechanics Conference Paper: Prioritising risks for rehabilitation from a legacy of mining in Western Australia]

Talis All About It Podcast

On 27 June 2025, Tara Read, General Manager of the AMP, joined Andrew Mack from Talis Consultants for an episode of the Talis All About It Podcast. The conversation, titled 'Shafted No More – WA's Fight to Fix Abandoned Mines', explored the program's evolution, challenges and achievements over the past decade. The episode is now available on Spotify and YouTube.

Goldfields Environmental Management Group: (GEMG) Conference 2025

On 8 May 2025, the AMP delivered its third Ellendale update at the GEMG Conference, presenting 'Enabling Opportunities on Country: Ellendale, A Case Study in Progress.' The presentation was voted Best Presentation out of 36 papers and received the highest number of audience questions, reflecting strong interest in the AMP's work.

Abandoned mines prioritisation

Building on the work initiated during 2023–24 to review the AMP prioritisation methodology, the revised process was formally presented at the ACG Mine Closure Conference. This marked a significant milestone in enhancing the transparency and robustness of AMP's approach to identifying and managing abandoned mine features.

In May 2025, the AMP team undertook further on-ground validation of the prioritisation outcomes in the Goldfields region. This field-based review provided valuable insights and has been used to refine the methodology – embedding a continuous improvement approach into the prioritisation process. The updated framework ensures that AMP decisions remain responsive to site-specific conditions and evolving risk profiles.

AMP team inspecting the Bulong TSF.

AMP team reviewing shafts in the former Kanowna Townsite.

AMP team reviewing shafts near Widgiemooltha.

Projects in planning

Ashmore Seppelt

The Ashmore, Seppelt 1 and Seppelt 2 sites, located approximately 75 km east of Kalumburu and 150 km northwest of Wyndham, are former diamond exploration operations. While these sites are not currently a priority within the Kimberley works program – which remains focused on the Ellendale project – preliminary efforts are underway to initiate engagement with the Balanggarra Traditional Owners. Establishing a relationship with the Balanggarra is a key step toward future project development, and early-stage discussions are being explored to support this process.

Aerial view over part of the Ashmore site.

Beyondie

The site, originally developed for sulfate of potash production, is located approximately 78 km east of the Kumarina Roadhouse, south of Newman. The mining lease encompassing the majority of the site's disturbance footprint – including the processing plant, airstrip, camp, stockpiles and over 500 hectares of evaporation ponds – was forfeited at midnight on 2 September 2024. Remaining tenements were disclaimed under Section 568 of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) on 29 October 2024.

Waste brine stockpile.

A preliminary site inspection conducted by the AMP in January 2025 identified significant safety risks. These are currently being managed by Reward Minerals, who have Ministerial approval to remain on site until 2 September 2025 while coordinating the removal of infrastructure acquired from the former operator's liquidator/receiver.

In addition to safety concerns, the site presents notable environmental risks due to its location within a sensitive wetland environment. There is limited evidence of effective long-term controls to mitigate impacts from concentrated salt in bitterns, production stockpiles and evaporation ponds.

Concurrently, third parties are exploring legal avenues to access the site. As such, Beyondie is currently listed as 'in planning' within the AMP, pending resolution of these issues and subject to prioritisation and funding availability.

Panoramic view of the Beyondie site: main plant area, west ponds and waste brine stockpile.

Projects in progress

Ellendale

2024 dry season – July to November

The former Ellendale diamond mining operation located in the West Kimberley region of WA consists of various constructed landforms including the E4 and E9 pit voids, stockpiles, waste rock landforms, TSFs and associated water holding infrastructure. Mining at the Ellendale site commenced in 2002 and continued to 2015, when Kimberley Diamond Company NL (KDC) entered administration in October 2015. Ellendale was declared an abandoned mine site in December 2015.

The Stage 1 Earthworks program is into the second season of works following a drier wet season in 2023–24.

Works were well underway by July 2024 following a commencement in April of the mobilisation of the fleet back to site. The camp was brought back online quickly following monthly wet season maintenance runs, and operations recommenced smoothly for the work under contract.

The trainees that commenced in May 2024 progressed rapidly through their acclimatisation to an active operational site, with several having passed the requirements to commence machinery operations under supervision.

During this time all former exploration, bore fields and open areas were completely rehabilitated by Ellendale Bunuba Trainee Program participants. A great effort – completing 81.3 ha in total which involved re-profiling disturbance areas to blend back into the natural environment in addition to applying topsoil and contour ripping. These areas were rehabilitated to a very high standard ready for the next wet season to initiate vegetation growth and the start of primary ecosystem development.

Open areas rehabilitation.

Stabilisation works continued and were completed on several low-grade stockpiles experiencing significant erosion and movement of sediment on Country. These low-grade stockpiles are a possible resource for the tenement holder and with the new designed profiles executed to specification this will ensure landform integrity and longevity.

Above left: Sampling materials on the E4 ROM.

Above right and main image: Taking core samples from the E4 TSF2A.

MIWATCH collaboration

In August 2024 a combined GSWA and University of Queensland Mine Waste Transformation through Characterisation (MIWATCH) team attended the site to undertake a comprehensive sampling program. With assistance from the AMP the sampling aims to inform on the potential of the waste resource to meet future resource recovery or mine waste valorisation.

MIWATCH is focused on revolutionising how mine waste is understood and managed. Instead of treating waste as a liability, they explore its potential as a resource – especially for recovering critical minerals like lithium and copper.

Landform stabilisation

Several waste rock landforms were reprofiled following detailed waste characterisation and 3D evolutionary modelling. Final landform designs incorporated crest bunds and internal bunding to manage surface water flows, with topsoil applied to upper surfaces to support future rehabilitation. Performance monitoring over upcoming wet seasons will provide valuable metrics to assess the effectiveness of the design parameters.

E4 New landform: Works in progress (Oct 2024) and finishing touches (Nov 2024).

In addition, 72.4 ha of low-grade ore stockpiles – specifically E4 Lights, E9 Lights, and E9 Noise Bund – were reprofiled and stabilised. Crest bunds were installed in addition to internal bunding on upper surfaces, where required. However, topsoil was not applied to these stockpiles due to their retained commercial value to tenement holders.

Contract item	Completion (%)	Schedule	Footprint (ha)
E4 Lights stockpile	100	Complete	15.6
E4 New landform	100	Complete	15.8
E9 Lights stockpile	100	Complete	48.7
E9 ROM	100	Complete	15.5
E9 Noise Bund	100	Complete	8.1
E9 South landform	100	Complete	18.3
E9 West landform	100	Complete	3.9
Bore fields	100	Complete	7.9
Open areas	100	Complete	73.4
Trainee program	Intake two	Complete	207.2

Above: Aerial view of the former E9 Plant area including the ROM, Noise Bund and Lights stockpile.

Right: Finishing works on the E9 ROM and Noise Bund.

Indigenous participation

The conclusion of the 2024 dry season was marked by a celebratory awards evening recognising the achievements of six Indigenous participants in the Ellendale Bunuba Trainee Program. Collectively, the trainees earned 20 National Certificates of Attainment across a range of heavy vehicle operations.

All graduates are from the Kimberley region, including five Bunuba people. The program, delivered by Buru Rehab, in partnership with the local community and the DMPE AMP, provided hands-on training in the operation of machinery such as loaders, water carts, excavators, graders, articulated trucks, skid steers and dozers.

This initiative reflects a strong commitment to local capacity building and meaningful engagement with Traditional Owners through skills development and employment pathways.

Les Jones, Bunuba Elder and Buru Rehab Trainer Assessor with participants of the Ellendale Bunuba Trainee Program on award night.

Ellendale

2025 dry season – March to June 2025

The Buru Rehab team mobilised back to site in March for the 2025 dry season, including seven new Kimberley-based trainees onboarding under the Ellendale Bunuba Trainee Program.

The natural resilience of the Kimberley country was demonstrated upon returning to site after the 2024–25 wet season. Remarkable growth on the rehabilitated exploration and open areas, in addition to topsoiled areas on the rehabilitated waste rock landforms' upper surfaces was observed, noting no seeding was undertaken and only topsoil respreading was used to promote vegetation establishment.

Natural recruitment following the 2024–25 wet season in the exploration open areas rehabilitation.

Natural recruitment on the outer walls and upper surface of the E4 New landform, March 2025.

All completed landforms performed as designed in terms of stability and are on trajectory for achieving the required standards.

TSF1B low grade load and haul

The 2025 works program is a load and haul operation, relocating over 723,000 m³ of low-grade material placed on top of the partially-capped TSF1B. The removal of the low-grade stockpile from the upper surface of the E9 TSF1B aims to improve the longevity of the tailings facility.

TSF1B load and haul campaign.

Pre-start at the go-line, TSF1B low-grade stockpile in the background.

Achievements under the contract	Total Jul 2024 to Jun 2025
Expenditure over the period	$19,960,457
Local spend – Shire of Derby West Kimberley	$4,756,633
Other Indigenous contractor spend	$4,042,015
Indigenous participation*	Av. 32%
Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR)	0
Contract completion	91%

* For the month of June 2025 achieved 82 per cent Indigenous participation of machinery operators, 49 per cent Indigenous participation across the entire contract workforce.

Under the current Stage 1 Earthworks contract, the Ellendale project is proceeding ahead of schedule, with no injuries or reportable incidents as at 30 June 2025.

Geotechnical investigation and options on Ellendale tailings facilities

An investigation has commenced to assess the current landform condition, identify potential risks and determine the scope of works and associated costs required to rehabilitate the four abandoned TSFs located across the Ellendale site. The objective is to ensure each TSF is brought to a safe, stable and non-polluting state.

Given the age of the facilities and their abandoned status – meaning no ongoing maintenance or monitoring – the following assessments will be undertaken for each TSF:

- **Hazard rating classification**: Establish the TSF's hazard rating in accordance with relevant regulatory frameworks.
- **Dam break assessment**: Evaluate potential downstream impacts in the event of structural failure.
- **Failure likelihood assessment**: Determine the probability of failure based on current conditions and historical data.
- **Geotechnical investigation and audit**: Conduct detailed geotechnical studies to assess structural integrity and stability.
- **Identification of remedial works and cost estimates**: Clearly define the works required to render each TSF safe, along with associated cost estimates.
- **Options analysis for end-state scenarios**: Provide a comprehensive evaluation of potential end-state scenarios, both in the current condition and post-remediation.
- **Probable cost estimates for each option**: Deliver detailed cost projections for each proposed end-state option.

These works are due to be completed next financial year and will inform future works, where required.

The AMP continues to work with the Bunuba people and other key stakeholders, including tenure interests across the Ellendale area, to minimise the safety, health and environmental risks at the site while ensuring the resource value of the tenements is not diminished.

Geotechnical investigations underway on the Ellendale tailings storage facilities.

Smoke Creek

This former diamond exploration site is located adjacent to Lake Argyle, a Ramsar-listed wetland of international significance. The surrounding area is well known for tourism activities including birdwatching, fishing and 4WD camping. The proximity of the abandoned site to this sensitive and culturally-significant landscape highlights the importance of completing rehabilitation works and returning the area to Country.

Remaining infrastructure includes a small redundant processing plant, remnants of the former on-site camp, a small tailings facility and low-grade ore stockpiles. An initial site visit was conducted in October 2023, and further aerial imagery with specifications for volumetric analysis was collected during the current period.

Scoping is currently underway for a one-season deconstruction and rehabilitation program, planned for the next financial year. It is anticipated that the works will be selectively tendered to East Kimberley-based Indigenous businesses, supporting local economic development and cultural stewardship.

Reid's Ridge

The Reid's Ridge abandoned gold mine site is located within the Karara Rangeland Park, managed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), in Western Australia's Mid West region. The area is a popular destination during the wildflower season. Mining disturbances at the site are relatively small and confined to discrete areas – but include a 160 m main shaft with surrounding subsidence, uncontained tailings and waste rock material, redundant infrastructure, hydrocarbon and chemical storage vessels, a former camp and general debris. Additional legacy shafts and exploration disturbances are also present.

Cultural heritage and site disposal

All recommendations from the Aboriginal cultural heritage survey were adopted and implemented during site investigations and works. The site was assessed under the Government Heritage Property Disposal Process for potential state heritage values. The assessment concluded that the site is 'unlikely to have the cultural heritage significance required to meet the condition for entry in the State Register'.
With this process complete, disposal of the site may now proceed.

Site cleanup and deconstruction

Sitewide cleanup and deconstruction works were completed in 2025. This included the removal of the 12.3-metre-high headframe, camp dongas, collapsing 'gold room' cottage, concrete water tank and obsolete machinery. Abandoned chemicals, hydrocarbon vessels, and impacted soils were also removed. A safety bund was constructed around the main shaft to mitigate public safety risks until the geotechnical rehabilitation works can be implemented.

Deconstruction and clean-up activities in progress.

Reid's Ridge headframe: before and after.

Geotechnical and rehabilitation planning

Geotechnical engineering assessments continued throughout the year, with the final geotechnical and rehabilitation options reports published on AMP website Reids Ridge project. These recommendations have been discussed with relevant stakeholders. Drafting of tender and construction specifications for the shaft rehabilitation works has commenced, with a rehabilitation earthworks contract anticipated for release in early 2026.

Safer Shafts for Towns

The Safer Shafts for Towns project targets the rehabilitation of abandoned mine features – primarily mine shafts – located in and around regional towns. The project also aims to facilitate opportunities for Aboriginal employment on Country through its implementation.

The initiative is being piloted in three regional locations identified as having the highest number of high-risk shaft features recorded in the Abandoned Mines Inventory, within one kilometre of a school. Yalgoo and Cue are the first of the pilot locations, declared abandoned mine sites on 19 September 2024. Additional locations will be prioritised and commenced based on risk assessment.

Safer Shafts – Yalgoo

Yalgoo Phase 1

Geotechnical engineering site assessment commenced in Yalgoo, the first of the three pilot towns to progress to Stage 2 Engineering and Design. These assessments were completed in 2024 and included the training and employment of two Aboriginal Field Technicians, nominated through consultation with the Yamatji Southern Regional Corporation. Stakeholder engagement on assessment findings and rehabilitation options began in May 2025, with community information sessions held in Yalgoo and attended by local community members, WA Police, the Shire of Yalgoo and Yalgoo Primary School. Engagement is scheduled to conclude later in 2025 and includes tenement holders, the Yamatji Southern Regional Corporation and the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH). Feedback received will inform the rehabilitation works planned for 2026.

Left: Yalgoo phase 1 stage 2 geotechnical investigation completed: testing relative soil density.
Right: Testing shaft base stability and surrounding soil conditions.

Yalgoo Phase 2

Concerns regarding the risk to public safety from abandoned mine shafts adjacent to the Morawa-Yalgoo Road near the former townsite of Gullewa were reported to the AMP in 2024. A Stage 1 Geotechnical Feature Survey and Risk Assessment was undertaken concurrently with the Yalgoo phase 1 stage 2 assessment. The risk assessment confirmed a high risk to road users, particularly in low light conditions. This location is proposed to be declared an abandoned mine site in 2025, forming the Phase 2 project site for Yalgoo.

Yalgoo phase 2 stage 1 geotechnical assessment completed along the Morawa-Yalgoo Road, near the old Gullewa townsite. Left: Open abandoned mine shaft adjacent to Morawa-Yalgoo Road. Right: LiDAR scanning to determine interconnectivity between abandoned mine features.

Down-hole LiDAR scanning of abandoned shaft feature.

Safer Shafts – Cue

The first shaft rehabilitated under the project was the Stewart Shaft in Cue. This urgent work was prompted by changed ground conditions following heavy rainfall and was identified through local stakeholder engagement as part of the Cue pilot project. The final monitoring site visit in November 2024 did not identify any unexpected settling since the shaft was backfilled in 2023. The 'Declaration of Abandoned Mine Site for Stewart Shaft Cue' was revoked on 24 March 2025.

Cue Phase 1

The preliminary geotechnical engineering site assessment commenced in Cue in mid-2025 and is scheduled for completion in 2026. Prior to the assessment, engagement with the Yugunga-Nya Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (YNNTAC) and the Wajarri Yamaji Aboriginal Corporation (WYAC) was undertaken to enable Aboriginal employment opportunities through the contract, with ongoing dialogue to support employment whenever possible. Stakeholder engagement throughout 2024–25 included the Shire of Cue, tenement holders, Cue Primary School, WYAC, YNNTAC and DPLH.

The geotechnical investigation will be scheduled following further engagement with Traditional Owner groups including incorporation of requirements specific to cultural heritage obligations.

Cue phase 1 stage 1 geotechnical assessment in progress. Left: Open abandoned mine shaft with erosion evident around original timbers. Right: Down-hole LiDAR scanning of abandoned mine feature with eroding collar.

Northampton Shafts

The AMP has continued its collaboration with the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) on the Northampton Lead Tailings project, focusing on three historical mining areas near the Northampton town site in WA's Mid West: Wheal Ellen, Commonage and Wanerenooka.

Legacy shafts in the Northampton project area.

Wanerenooka and Commonage

Geotechnical assessment and rehabilitation options reports were refined and published on the AMP website Northampton Shafts project. Recommendations have been discussed with the Shire of Northampton and DPLH.

Drafting of construction specifications for rehabilitation works commenced during the year. These documents will support stakeholder engagement, heritage referrals to the Western Australian Heritage Council and the Shire of Northampton, and the development of future works contracts.

Wheal Ellen

Intrusive geotechnical investigations, fill material analysis and surface drainage assessments were completed. These informed updates to the site's Rehabilitation Options report which is available online via the Northampton Shafts project.

Construction specification drafting also commenced for Wheal Ellen, with the same purpose of guiding stakeholder engagement, heritage referrals and future contracting.

Environmental and cultural assessments

DPLH has undertaken contaminated sites investigations and flora/fauna surveys across all areas. Significant contamination issues are being assessed to inform a risk-based sequencing of remediation and rehabilitation works.

Recommendations from Aboriginal cultural heritage surveys, geotechnical reports, contaminated site investigations and heritage referrals will be considered in consultation with land managers and key stakeholders. These inputs will guide the implementation of the recommended remediation and rehabilitation options.

Collieries

Coal has been mined in the Collie Basin since the late 19th century, using both underground and open-cut methods. This long history of extraction has resulted in extensive abandoned underground workings, some of which now lie beneath the towns of Collie, Allanson, Collie Burn and Collie Cardiff.

The Collieries project aims to develop strategies to mitigate safety risks to the public and the environment arising from legacy coal mining activities. Key focus areas include understanding ground subsidence caused by deteriorating underground mine workings and assessing risks associated with historically mined combustible materials. Insights gained through this project will be shared with stakeholders to support similar initiatives elsewhere.

GKB Heritage Monitors and geotechnical consultant examining proposed access for the geotechnical investigation.

Stakeholder engagement

During the reporting period, the AMP engaged with the Shire of Collie, DBCA, DPLH, the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER), Synergy and the Gnaala Karla Booja Aboriginal Corporation (GKB) to identify regional safety priorities and inform project direction.

Geotechnical investigation – Scottish Colliery

A pilot geotechnical investigation was undertaken on public land over the Scottish Colliery near Collie Burn to assess subsidence risks associated with legacy underground coal workings. An initial desktop study identified key risk factors specific to the Collie Basin and informed the design of targeted site investigations.

Fieldwork included drilling, sampling and analysis. Cultural Heritage Monitors were engaged through GKB to ensure fieldwork did not impact areas of cultural significance.

Development of potential remedial solutions for this location is currently underway.

Geotechnical investigation underway.

Geochemical investigation – combustible materials

A separate, desktop geochemical investigation was conducted to improve understanding of risks associated with combustible materials in legacy coal mining areas. On-ground investigations have been scoped and are scheduled to commence in the next financial year.

Elverdton

The Elverdton site, located approximately 10 km southeast of Ravensthorpe, has a long history of copper and gold mining dating back to 1899, with significant copper production during 1901–1918 and 1957–1971.

The current project focuses on addressing environmental impacts from tailings material that has migrated downstream from the uncontained stockpiles. A preliminary site investigation in 2020 informed the development of a sampling and analysis quality plan (SAQP), which was formally endorsed by an Accredited Contaminated Sites Auditor (CSA) in 2021.

The Elverdton project *Phytophthora* dieback hygiene management plan was based on the initial survey in 2023. This work was revisited in October 2024 with a new *Phytophthora* dieback survey undertaken. The *Phytophthora* dieback hygiene management plan is implemented across all project activities.

Mine waste characterisation

Elverdton tailings were sampled as part of a collaborative research initiative led by the MIWATCH group. The objective was to assess the potential of legacy tailings as a source of new economy metals. Sampling was completed in October 2023, and the final report was published in May 2025, 'Mine waste sampling and characterisation in Western Australia: Elverdton tailings'. While various minerals and rare earth elements were identified, the report concluded that current recovery methods are not economically viable. Further investigation is proposed through a postgraduate research project.

Detailed site investigation (DSI)

Improved interest earnings from the MRF enabled a DSI, with the contract awarded in December 2023. On-ground activities commenced in February 2024 following extensive stakeholder engagement. The DSI included installation of groundwater monitoring bores, portable x-ray fluorescence sampling, soil and sediment sampling, a first flush sampling event in the river headwaters and repeated sampling of water monitoring bores. Local contractors supported fieldwork, including utility locating, earthworks and surveying. All fieldwork was completed by late 2024, and the draft DSI report is currently awaiting CSA endorsement.

Preliminary DSI findings indicate the need for further investigation, particularly relating to dust lift-off from the tailings stockpiles and the deposition fan, plus the potential for downstream impacts to the Steere River and Culham Inlet.

Dust investigation

In response to identified data gaps, a dust monitor and deposition gauge were installed at the neighbouring property to support a broader dust monitoring study, which will be expanded and conducted over a 12-month period (pending CSA endorsement of the SAQP). A dust suppressant trial has also commenced on the tailings deposition fan, with two products being tested and consideration given to the organic input status of the material from the southern uncontained tailings stockpile.

Dust suppressant trial over the deposition fan. Left: Dust suppressant application. Right: View of trial area.

Downstream investigation

Further investigation into the potential for downstream impacts is being scoped following discussion with the MRAP.

Material modelling

To improve understanding of the tailings material and inform future remedial works, 3D modelling of the uncontained tailings stockpiles is underway. Samples collected in November 2024 are informing the modelling inputs, with draft reports currently under review. A potentially suitable non-reactive capping material has also been identified locally.

Preparing bulk samples of Elverdton tailings material for modelling.

Stakeholder engagement

Stakeholder engagement over the past year has included meetings with DWER, Ravensthorpe Agricultural Initiative Network, neighbouring residents, the Shire of Ravensthorpe and Tourist Information Centre, tenement holders and the Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar Aboriginal Corporation.

Trial projects

Legacy Tailings

The Legacy Tailings project is trialling the use of satellite-based services to detect and monitor change (horizontal and vertical movement) of selected abandoned TSF walls. The project was identified as a priority under the Strategy when queries were raised about how the condition of abandoned TSFs across the State might be monitored. Reviewing the challenges relating to remote area access, time required to travel and potential difficulties with vehicle access to areas which may not see regular traffic, the effort required in assessing risk or likelihood associated with these features becomes apparent.

The project continued through the current reporting period focusing on the Ellendale TSFs. The Ellendale facilities were selected as there is an ongoing presence on the Ellendale site for the duration of the planned earthworks programs, any significant changes observed during the trial can be reviewed on ground without additional mobilisations into remote areas.

During the time period it was noted that:

- The frequency capture rate can be extended in duration while still maintaining the integrity of the data and monitoring.
- Baseline and change monitoring data is available for the three selected TSF locations and monthly reporting and analysis has demonstrated seasonal fluctuations in TSF wall movement up to 8 mm to be common and acceptable.
- An event with variance of up to 30 mm was noted in one location that lasted over several months was reviewed on-ground detecting nil issues.

The next phase of the project will expand coverage to additional sites as well as maintaining the current change monitoring over the existing projects sites.

Ellendale TSF1D showing wall variance over the duration of several months.

Silicate Minerals

As reported in the '2023–24 MRF Yearly Report', a desktop study identified over 130 suspected historical mine workings that may contain fibrous silicate minerals, primarily in the Pilbara region. Joint investigations, supported by the GSWA, explored the potential for detecting crocidolite using selective hyperspectral bandwidth analysis.

Phase 1 of the project, completed in 2023–24, trialled remote detection techniques using emerging satellite-based hyperspectral and hydrogen gas technology. While the technology showed promise, it was not able to reliably differentiate between naturally occurring and mined fibrous material at a regional scale.

Phase 2 focused on evaluating the effectiveness of high-resolution detection techniques for identifying and mapping fibrous materials. Two complementary approaches were adopted:

- Refined sampling techniques: An extensive sampling program was conducted in ephemeral riparian systems to assess the presence and distribution of fibrous minerals.
- Drone-based hyperspectral imaging: A drone-mounted hyperspectral camera was used to capture mineral signatures, which were then compared with ground-based sampling data to assess correlation and accuracy.

These approaches aim to develop a repeatable, cost-effective detection method that can be applied across WA, reducing the need for direct exposure to potentially hazardous materials.

In June 2025, a multifaceted sampling trial was conducted in an area of known crocidolite distribution. Four different crocidolite sampling techniques were tested within the same quadrants that were surveyed by the hyperspectral drone, enabling direct comparison and validation of results. A total of 1,060 samples were collected, with results expected in September 2025.

Silicate Minerals: suited and sampling in June 2025.

MRF Lodgement

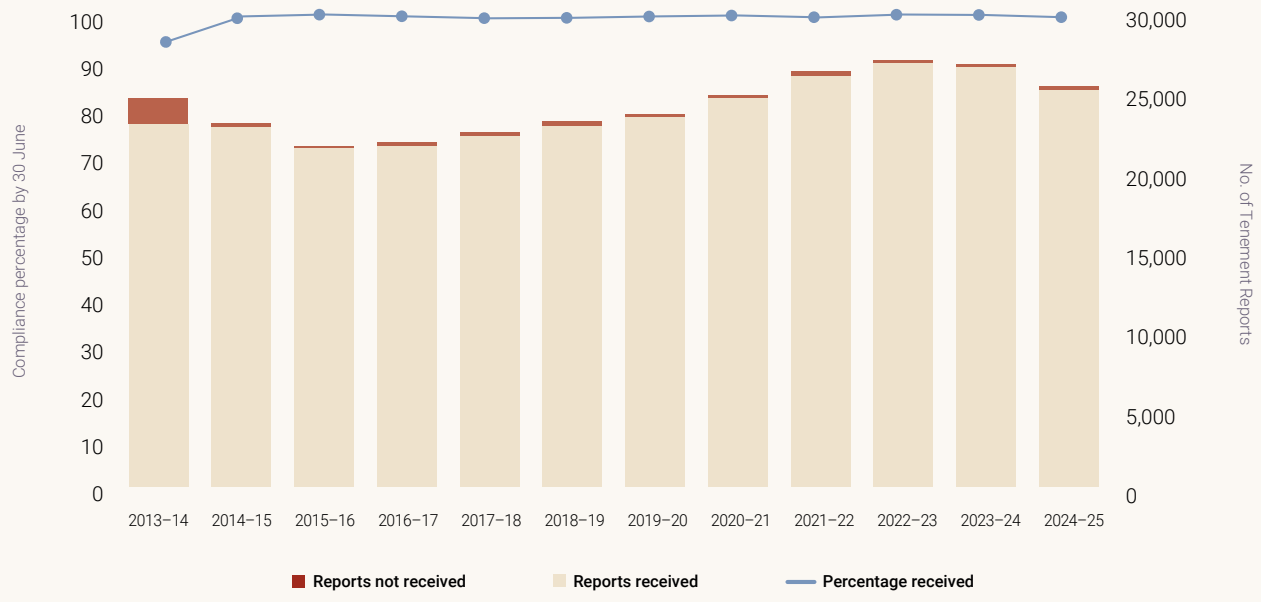
In WA, all tenement holders that conduct mining or exploration operations under the Mining Act are required to provide disturbance and rehabilitation information (assessment information) annually for the purposes of calculating a mining rehabilitation levy.

Tenement holders are not required to pay a levy if they have a 'rehabilitation liability estimate' of $50,000 or less, however, they are still required to lodge an MRF report.

The MRF reporting period is aligned with the financial year 1 July to 30 June, but tenement holders are able to submit data at any time during this period with assessment information reckoned at a date of their own choosing. These reports may then be selected for compliance review to identify any discrepancies in reporting.

In the 2024–25 financial year, 98.93 per cent of reports had been submitted by the due date, in compliance with reporting obligations under the MRF Act (Figure 6). By 31 August 2025, 99.87 per cent had been submitted. For the remainder, levy liability was determined by DMPE itself, under the provisions of Section 16(2) of the MRF Act.

Figure 6. Percentage of tenement reporting obligations met by 30 June for each levy period



Mining rehabilitation levy for the 2024–25 period

Mining rehabilitation levies totaling $51.6 million have been assessed for the 2024–25 financial year period (Figure 7) based on assessment information provided up to 31 August 2025, in comparison to the $47.7 million assessed for the previous year. This represents an 8.17 per cent increase from the 2023–24 period. As at 31 August, 70.7 per cent of these levies had been collected (noting that most were not due for payment before 6 September 2025).

Assessment information can be formally reassessed under the MRF Act for up to two years after the date of the original assessment. This means that the final total levy calculated for a levy period may vary from the amount initially reported.

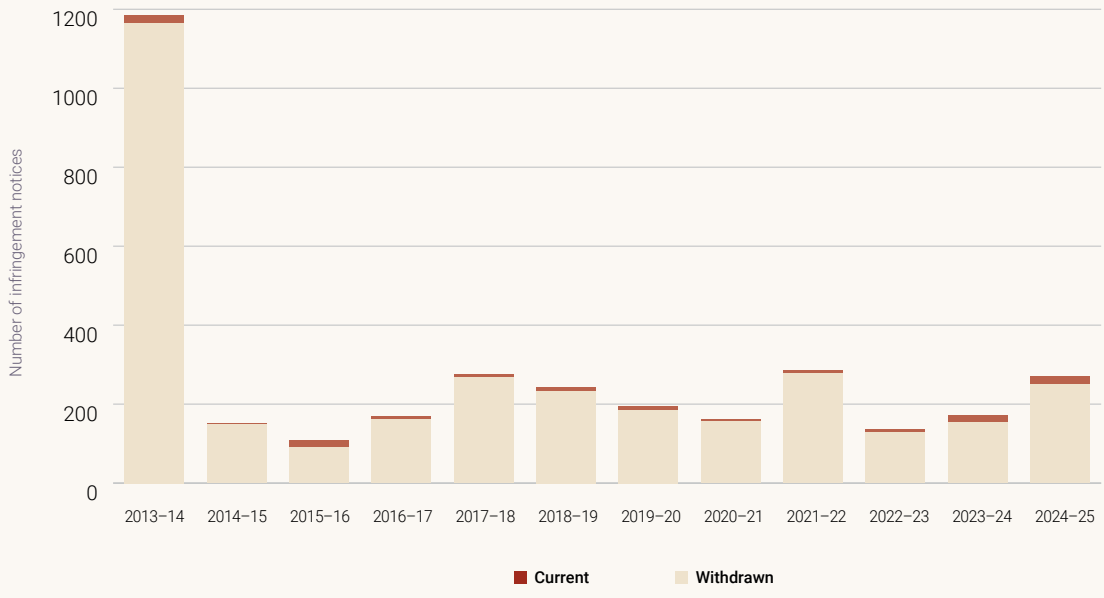
Figure 7. Levies assessed and paid 2014–2025

Enforcement

The MRF was first introduced for the period ending 30 June 2013, at which time tenement holders that held Unconditional Performance Bonds (UPB) under the State's former mining securities system were able to apply to participate in the fund voluntarily and to have their UPBs returned. The MRF became mandatory for the period ending 30 June 2014 when the department began issuing infringement notices to tenement holders who failed to comply with their reporting obligations by 30 June. Under the *Criminal Procedure Act 2004* (WA), a modified penalty of $4,000 (20 per cent of the statutory amount) applies for each tenement.

In the 2024–25 financial year, the department served 270 infringement notices to tenement holders that failed to submit assessment information by the 30 June 2025 deadline.
Most tenement holders that received an infringement notice provided the information before the Final Demand was served – that is, within 28 days of issue – and 249 notices had been withdrawn by 31 August. Any notices not withdrawn will be referred to the Fines Enforcement Registry.

Figure 8. Infringement notices issued for failure to provide MRF assessment information



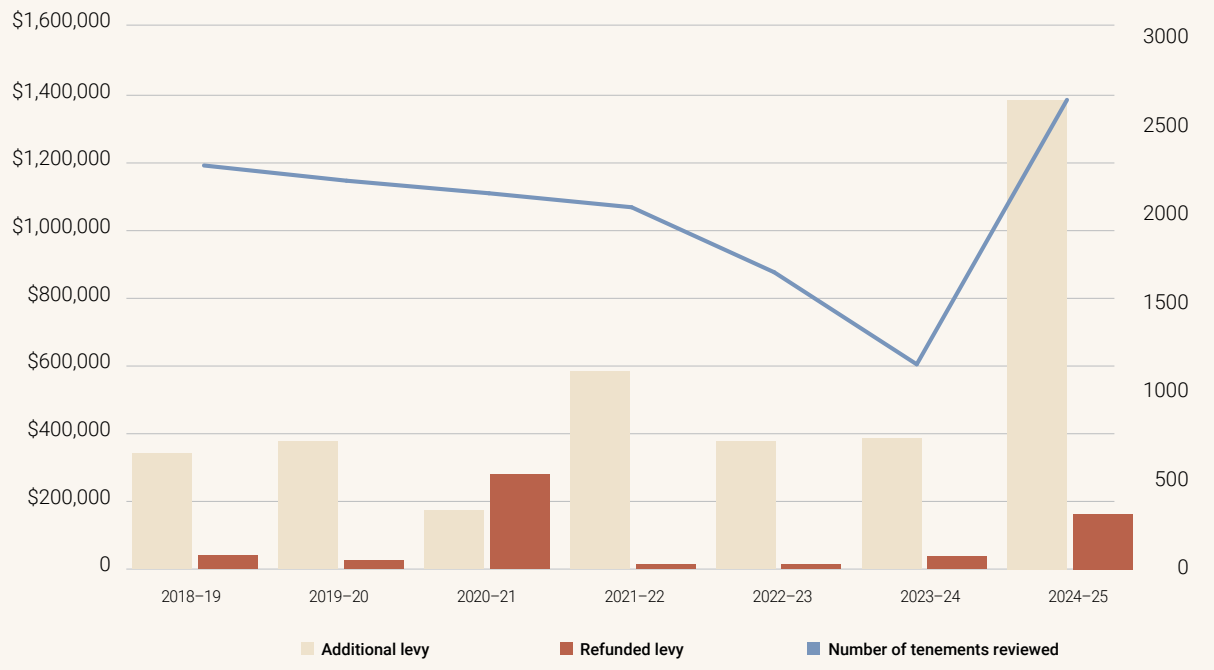
Annual MRF compliance assessments

In the 2024–25 financial year, 2,631 tenements across 110 MRF reports for the 2023–24 levy period were reviewed. The department continued to strengthen its compliance program through a more agile and collaborative approach. By enhancing stakeholder engagement, and placing a strong emphasis on education, the MRF Compliance team has significantly improved the effectiveness and reach of its review processes. These outcomes reflect the department's commitment to continuous improvement and meaningful engagement with industry.

MRF compliance outcomes

As a result of the compliance activities undertaken, the program identified additional levy payments totaling $1,394,258.93, alongside $163,089.77 in refunds issued as of 1 July 2025. These figures demonstrate the department's ongoing efforts to support accurate reporting, uphold transparency and ensure the integrity of the Mining Rehabilitation Fund.

Figure 9. MRF – Income vs expense



MRF compliance reviews routinely identify a range of reporting errors, with the most common being features that are not reported, under-reported or incorrectly categorised. These errors are particularly significant when they involve high-risk features such as those classified under Category A and B – including waste dumps and tailings storage facilities – which carry the highest rehabilitation liability. By focusing on these areas, the department continues to strengthen the integrity of the Mining Rehabilitation Fund and promote accurate reporting through education, guidance and active engagement with industry.

MRF data for 2024–25 financial year

Each year DMPE publishes the MRF Data Release which provides disturbance and rehabilitation data on tenure held under the Mining Act that is subject to the requirements of the MRF Act. It does not include tenure held under State Agreements.

The assessment information submitted under the MRF Act is considered the most comprehensive publicly available dataset of mine site activities in Australia and is available for download at DMPE Mining Rehabilitation Fund data releases.
A summary of this dataset is also provided at the end of this report.

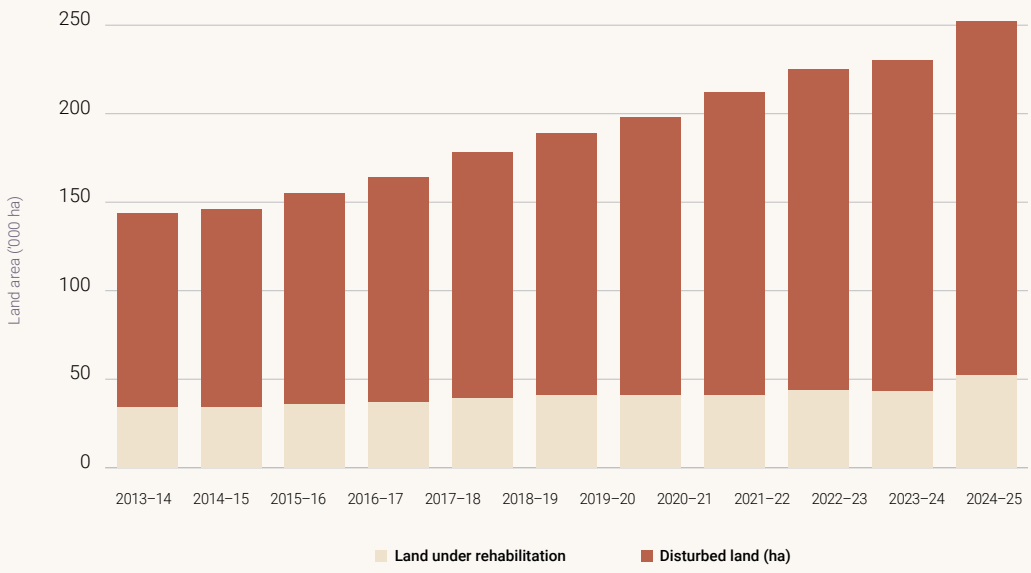
For the 2024–25 financial year, the area of land reported as 'under rehabilitation' (that is, where rehabilitation was in progress, with at least the earthworks component of closure obligations completed) was 52,503 ha. This represented 20.8 per cent of the total area reported and an increase of 8,110 ha (18.3 per cent) from the area reported in 2023–24. While such an increase is encouraging, it is important to note that most of this increase is the result of changes to the manner in which exploration and prospecting activity is reported.

Until 2024–25, exploration and prospecting activity that had been rehabilitated but not yet been confirmed through submission of a Programme of Work Rehabilitation Report was reported as a 'disturbance'. This area is now reported separately as 'land under rehabilitation' (in much the same way as mining-related activity).

The change in reporting means that, for the first time, 'land under rehabilitation' includes activity related to exploration and prospecting – 6,515 ha in 2024–25, which is more than 12 per cent of the total 'under rehabilitation' and accounts for 80 per cent of the increase over the year. At the same time, the reported disturbance for exploration and prospecting dropped to 19,465 ha (by 3,807 ha or 17 per cent) in 2024–25. If these areas had been reported in the same way as in prior years, exploration/prospecting activity would have accounted for disturbance of 25,980 ha (an increase of approximately 16 per cent), while total 'land under rehabilitation' would have been reported as 45,988 ha – an increase of only 1,696 ha, so that the proportion of land under rehabilitation would have been only 18 per cent of total disturbance (compared to 18.6 per cent in 2023–24).

Taking these changes into account shows the underlying position has deteriorated slightly – despite the slight increase in the area under rehabilitation, it was offset by the increase in mining footprint over the period and, proportionately, was at its lowest level to date. What is now clearer, however, is that at least a quarter of exploration-related activity is likely to have been rehabilitated during 2024–25, which suggests that, historically, the actual area of land 'under rehabilitation' would have been proportionately higher than reporting suggested.

Figure 9. MRF data reported for land under rehabilitation



	Disturbed land (ha)						Land under rehabilitation					
	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	Change 2022–23 (%)	Change 2023–24 (%)	Change 2024–25 (%)	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	Change 2022–23 (%)	Change 2023–24 (%)	Change 2024–25 (%)
Exploration Licences	14,388	13,968	10,744	-2.4%	-2.9%	-23.1%	20	49	4,480	-22.9%	147.2%	8993.0%
General Purpose Leases	4,435	4,886	5,008	7.6%	10.2%	2.5%	932	881	888	1.9%	-5.4%	0.8%
Miscellaneous Licences	19,415	20,993	22,182	5.4%	8.1%	5.7%	2,684	3,359	3,597	13.7%	25.1%	7.1%
Mining Leases	144,164	152,642	160,899	8.4%	5.9%	5.4%	38,831	39,977	43,215	0.5%	3.0%	8.1%
Prospecting Licences	720	717	646	-1.6%	-0.5%	-9.9%	25	25	216	71.3%	2.5%	755.2%
Retention Leases	712	603	627	17.7%	-15.4%	4.1%	0	0	6	–	–	–
Total	**183,835**	**193,810**	**200,106**	**7.1%**	**5.4%**	**3.2%**	**42,491**	**44,292**	**52,403**	**1.3%**	**4.2%**	**18.3%**
Percentage of Total Area	81.2%	81.4%	79.2%	–	–	–	18.8%	18.6%	20.8%	–	–	–

Financial summary

The MRF is a Special Purpose Account under Section 18 of the *Financial Management Act 2006* (WA) and, in accordance with Section 10 of the MRF Act, principal funds are used to rehabilitate abandoned mine sites after exhausting all other avenues to recover expenses from the tenement holder. Interest generated from the MRF is used to rehabilitate legacy abandoned mine sites (sites that have not had an MRF reporting obligation).

The department reports on the performance of the MRF in its annual report, available on its website. A summary of this information is provided in Table 2. This yearly report is an expanded summary to showcase the activities within the MRF and the AMP.

Table 2. MRF Financial Summary (Actual) figures for the 2024–25 FY

		2023–24 Actual $'000	2024–25 Actual $'000
Opening balance		**291,189**	**320,757**
Add receipts	Contribution from industry	43,195	46,911
	Interest received	11,866	15,688
	Other	–	
	Receipts subtotal	**55,061**	**62,599**
Less payments	Salaries (incl. Super)	1,065	1,398
	Operational expenditure	22,882	23,983
	Other	1,546	1,644
	Payments subtotal	**25,493**	**27,025**
Balance at the end of the period		**320,757**	**356,331**

By 30 June 2025, the net balance of the fund reached approximately $356.3 million. In 2024–25, $46.9 million in levy and $15.7 million interest revenue had been received. To facilitate work being carried out by the AMP, nearly $24 million was disbursed within the same period which is working towards achieving improved environmental and community safety outcomes.

Table 3 provides a breakdown of the expenditure by the AMP in the 2024–25 financial year.

Table 3. Breakdown of sources and applications of funds for abandoned mine projects 2024–25

	2023–24 Expenditure from principal $'000	2023–24 Expenditure from interest $'000	2024–25 Expenditure from principal $'000	2024–25 Expenditure from interest $'000
Ashmore	0	–	–	–
Collieries	0	6	–	677
Donnybrook Shafts	–	11	–	0
Ellendale	21,451	–	20,394	–
Elverdton	–	377	–	728
Legacy Tailings	–	127	–	372
Northampton Shafts	–	280	–	203
Reid's Ridge	171	–	309	–
Safer Shafts	–	97	–	712
Silicate Minerals	–	70	–	577
Smoke Creek	19	–	13	–
Total	**21,641**	**968**	**20,717**	**3,267**

Government of Western Australia

Department of Mines, Petroleum and Exploration

8.30am – 4.30pm

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