Tackle Resources Pty Limited

Assessment Application Report – Westmoreland Project – MDL 2026

03.06.2024

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1. Introduction

On 30 March 2023, Tackle Resources Pty Limited (“Tackle Resources”) made an application to the Department of Resources for a Mineral Development Licence (“MDL”). The MDL application was accepted the area was provided the authority number MDL 2026.

Tackle Resources proposes to undertake exploration drilling for gold, uranium ore and vanadium ore on MDL 2026 as part of the Westmoreland Project. Tackle Resources has an approved Environmental Authority (“EA”) for MDL 2026 –
P-EA-100440853. This EA is a standard EA granted by the Department of Environmental Science and Innovation (“DESI”). The holder also seeks a Regional Interests Development Approval (RIDA) application for mineral exploration to be undertaken within the Gulf River Strategic Environmental Area (SEA), (Figure 1).

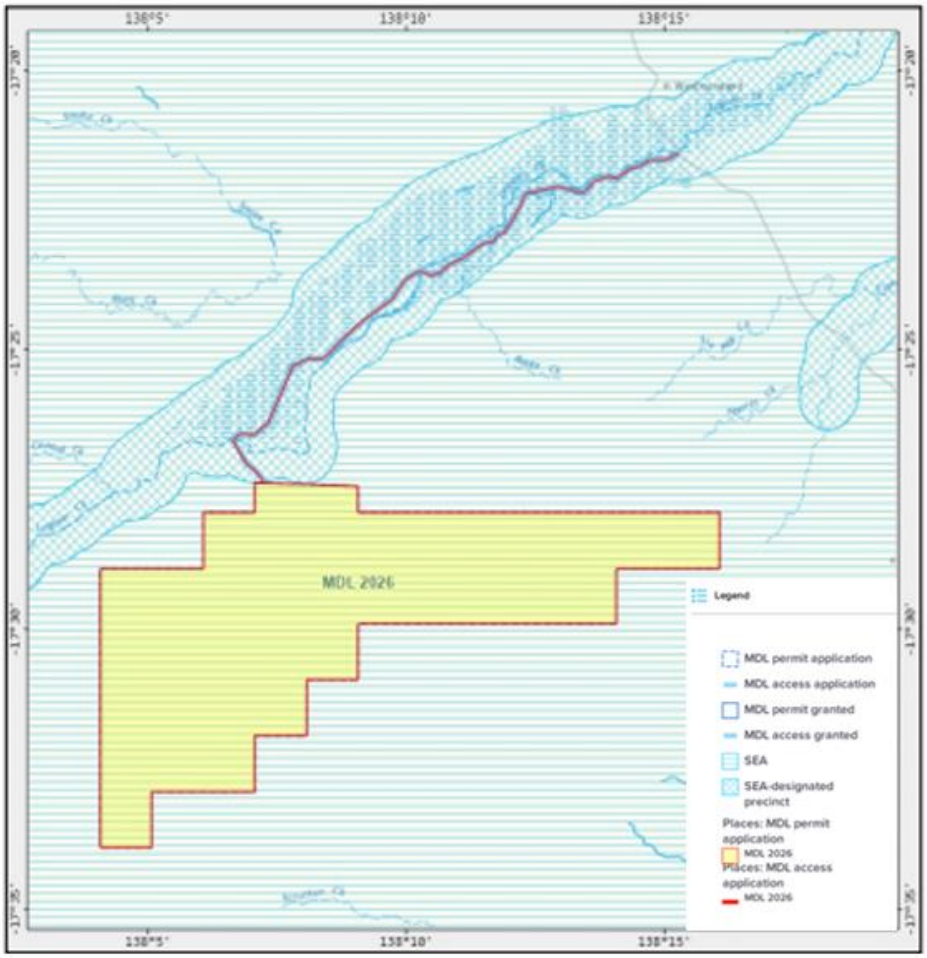


Figure 1: MDL 2026 permit area and access area and the Gulf River Strategic Environmental Area

This assessment report accompanies Tackle Resources application for a Regional Interests Development Approval and has been prepared in accordance with the Regional Interest Planning (RPI) Act. Tackle Resources has assessed the environmental attributes of the tenement areas and proposed mitigating controls to ensure protection of these attributes from irreversible impacts. It is considered that the proposed exploration activities will not result in any significant adverse impact on any environmental attributes or values of the Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area (GRSEA).
Environmental attributes associated with the GRSEA are outlined in the Regional Planning Interest Regulations 2014 under Regulation 9 and an assessment has been conducted against them.

It should be noted that none of the proposed exploration activities to be undertaken on MDL 2026 will be conducted within the high preservation section of the GRSEA. All said activities and the entire area of MDL 2026 for that matter, will be conducted within the low preservation area of the GRSEA. The only activity associated with MDL 2026 that will be within the high preservation area of the GRSEA, will be the existing access track to gain access to MDL 2026. This track is currently in existence and is currently used by the existing property owner as cattle yards are located on this track. Road trains use this track to gain access to the cattle yards for loading and transporting the cattle. As such, the landholder needs to maintain this track for the on-going grazing operations. As a result, the limited use of the MDL holder in using this existing road will have negligible impact on the GRSEA given the current and on-going landholder requirements.

1.1 Project Overview

The permit area of MDL 2026 is located over Lot 1 on CP887914, owned by Turn off Lagoons Pastoral Holding Company Pty Ltd and the access for MDL 2026 is located over Lot 1 on SP887914, owned by Westmoreland Pastoral Company Pty Ltd.

Tackle Resources has been carrying out detailed evaluation of the Westmoreland Project, located approximately 380km NNW of Mt Isa for over 15 years. These exploration activities have been successfully completed with negligible adverse impact to the environmental values and attributes of the GRSEA which has only recently been recognized via the RIDA legislation. The exploration activities proposed to be conducted under the authority of MDL 2026 is simply a continuation of the exploration activities that have been successfully conducted to date under the authority of EPM 14558 and 14672.

The Westmoreland Project covers the highly prospective Westmoreland Conglomerate unit. These rocks host the Westmoreland uranium deposit that is encompassed by the pre-requisite resource authorities referred to as EPMs 14558 & 14672. The region is prospective for uranium, gold and vanadium mineralization.

The Company's approach to the Westmoreland project has always been to define extensions to the existing Redtree, Huarabagoo, Junnagunna deposits first, on the basis that these will be developed first and then explore for satellite deposits within trucking distance to supplement future production, such as Long Pocket deposit. Tackle Resources has stood by this approach and has invested significantly in the definition of the known deposits and the estimation of a resource.
The proposed exploration activities will continue to comply with all the existing Environmental Authority (EA) conditions and as such will result in continued negligible adverse impact to the existing environmental values for the GRSEA.

1.2 The Applicant

The applicant for this RIDA application is Tackle Resources Pty Ltd, who currently holds the pre-requisite EPMs 14558 and 14672 and MDL 2026. It should be noted that upon grant of MDL 2026, the replaced areas of EPMs 14558 and 14672 will be surrendered. As such the proposed exploration activities to be conducted under the authority of MDL 2026 will simply be a continuation of those currently being successfully conducted under the authority of EPMs 14558 and 14672 with negligible adverse impact to the GRSEA. In this case it the requirement to seek a RIDA application to these continued exploration activities is essentially a technicality of the grant MDL 2026 and the fact that the existing exemption conditions for seeking a RIDA approval do not extend to circumstances such as this one.

1.3 Landholder And Tenure Details

MDL 2026 was applied for on 30 March 2023 by Tackle Resources. The tenement is currently in application. The pre-requisite resources authorities used to apply for MDL 2026 are EPM's 14558 and 14672.
The accompanying EA for MDL 2026 is P-EA-100440853.
The Native Title holder is Gangalidda & Garawa People #2 (QCD2015/003) as shown in Figure 2 below. The land use is cattle grazing.

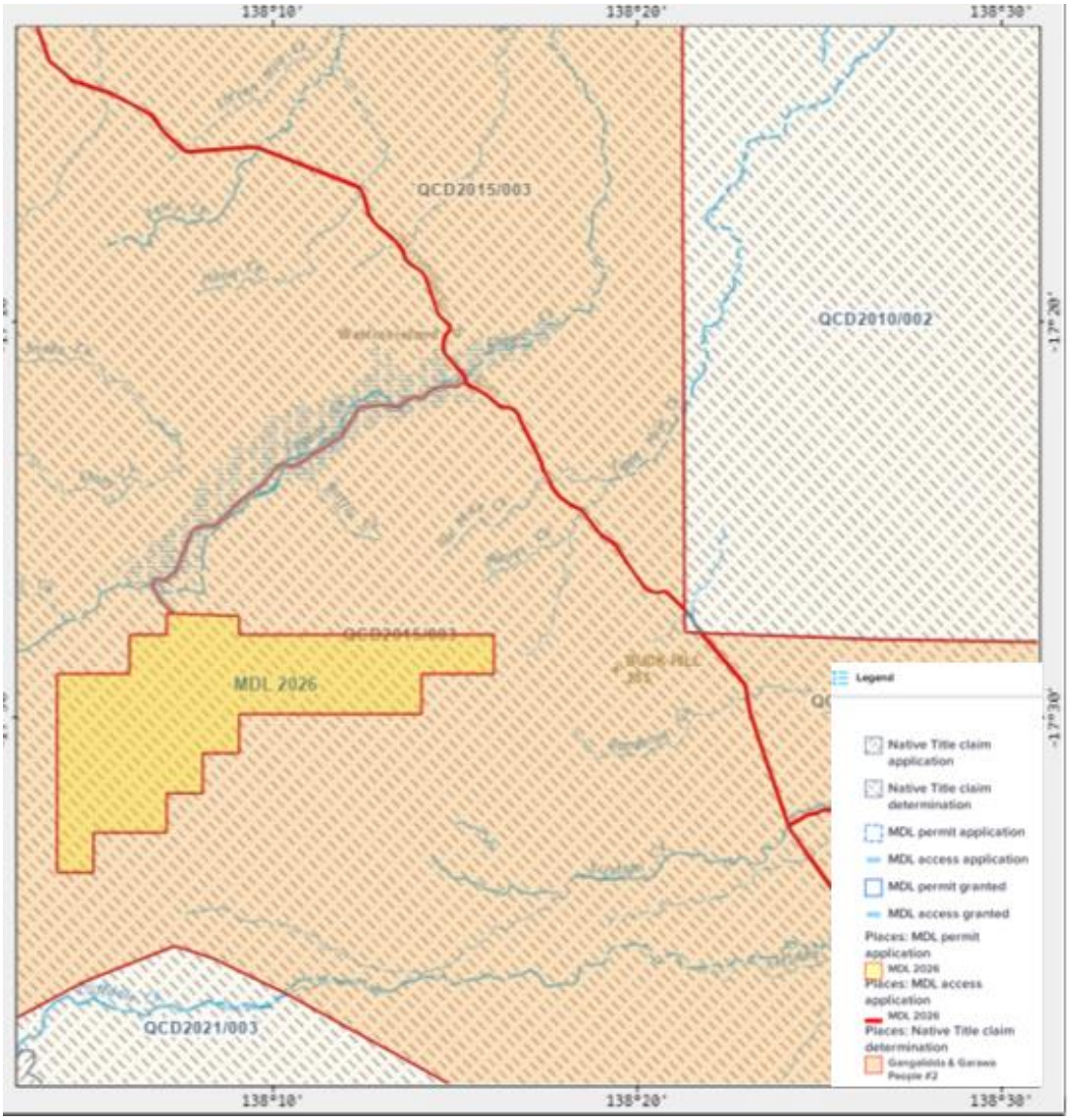


Figure 2: Native Title Area and MDL 2026

2. Proposed Exploration Activities

2.1 Exploration Program Details

Exploration activities to be conducted within MDL 2026 in forthcoming years will be limited to mineral exploration and resource drilling. Drilling will either be Reverse Circulation (RC) or Diamond Core (DD). The nature of exploration drilling is such that results will define the precise location and quantum of subsequent drilling. Accordingly, the proposed program outlined below (and shown in Appendix 1) represents an upper limit of expected works, with work areas broadly defined. Drilling requires establishment of drill pads approximately 20m x 20m in area. Where appropriate pads can be utilized for multiple drillholes minimizing disturbance. Access to pads may require new track clearing from pre-existing access routes. Drill pads and any new access tracks will be rehabilitated upon completion of works, in line with the EA conditions of the tenure, and to best practice.

Table 1 – Expected maximum number of drill holes to be completed on MDL 2026

Planned Exploration within MDL 2026			
Location	**Drillholes**	**Access (km)**	**Total Disturbance (Ha)**
Redtree	0	0.0	0.0
Junnagunna	40	1.5	3.0
JG-HB Link	120	1.5	7.5
Huarabagoo	50	3.5	4.0
Long Pocket	50	4.0	4.0
Black Hills	7	1.5	1.5
U-Valley	5	0.5	1.0
Wanigarango	3	1.5	1.0
Redtree-Magooma	10	8.0	3.5
Anomaly 22	5	1.0	1.0
Cross Strip	2	1.0	0.5
TSF	8	2.0	1.5
Plant	3	1.0	0.5
TOTAL			**29.0**

It should be noted that the number of drill holes detailed in Table 1 above represents the maximum number of drill holes expected to be completed under the authority of MDL 2026. Therefore, the actual number of drill holes completed could be considerably less than this. Also, a significant number of the drill holes to be completed may not require the construction of a drill pad due to the topography and vegetation cover in the area. As such the actual disturbance of the drill hole would be considerably less than 0.04Ha/drill hole. Finally, progressive rehabilitation of drill holes and any constructed access tracks will be undertaken. As such, the total disturbance at any one time on MDL 2026 will be significantly less than the maximum 10Ha limit as defined by the current EA.

2.2 Access Roads and Tracks

Access to work areas will be via the Savannah Highway and then pre-existing Westmoreland station tracks. The unsealed station tracks (approximately 3m in width) extend from the Savannah Highway to the MDL boundary over 21.3km and then throughout the project area (see Appendix 1). These station tracks are maintained by the Westmoreland Pastoral Company and are suitable for, and utilized by, road trains for transport of cattle from

Westmoreland station and Wollogorang Station in the NT. There are no plans to amend or alter the pre-existing access tracks.

Tackle expects to mobilize drill rigs once annually using these pre-existing station tracks. Ongoing road usage will amount to 2-4 light vehicle movements daily, representing <5% of total usage.

Within drilling areas, pre-existing station tracks will be utilized where possible. Where required small access tracks will be established to specific drill sites and will be subject to standard rehabilitation protocols upon completion of works.

2.3 Water Supply

Options for water supply to support exploration activities (specifically, diamond core drilling) are consistent with previous years' and include the following.

a) pumping short distances using 50mm high pressure poly pipe along existing tracks where from either flowing bores (e.g. Junnagunna bore, Figure 3), or station owner surface water dams upon agreement.

b) possible water pumping down open drill holes (a series of holes from the 2023 drill program were left open for this purpose) and pumping short distances using 50mm high pressure poly pipe along existing tracks where possible.

c) using a water truck to bring water to site.

Figure 3: Established Station Water Bore

2.4 Timing

Tackle's exploration work is seasonal with drilling programs conducted during the dry season, specifically between the months of April through to November. However timing is dependent on the region's wet season, which will impact access along unsealed roads and at local river crossings.

3. Environmental Attributes

The environmental attributes associated with the GRSEA are outlined in the Regional Planning Interest Regulations 2014 under Regulation 9 and described as follows:

(a) the natural hydraulic processes of the area characterized by-
   (i) natural, unrestricted flows in and along watercourses and estuaries; and
   (ii) overflow from watercourses onto flood plains of the area, or the other way: and
   (iii) natural flow paths of water across flood plains connecting waterholes, lakes and wetlands in the area; and
   (iv) natural flow in and from groundwater and springs.

(b) the natural geomorphic processes of the area characterized by-

   (i) natural erosion; and
   (ii) the transport and deposit of sediment by water throughout the catchments and along watercourse systems and estuaries.

(c) the functioning riparian processes of the area characterized by native riparian vegetation associated with watercourses, estuaries, lakes, floodplains and wetlands.

(d) the functioning wildlife corridors of the area characterized by-
   (i) natural habitat in the watercourse systems; and
   (ii) permanent waterholes and springs.

(e) the natural water quality in the watercourse channels and aquifers and on flood plains in the area characterized by physical, chemical and biological attributes that support and maintain natural aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.

3.1 Climate

A number of the Gulf's climatic gradients appear to be aligned with the coast as well as having a north-south component. Average summer rainfall ranges between 400 mm in the south and up to 800 mm in the north, with moderate to high variability each year. Temperatures are hot with maximums around 36°C; however more frequent pleasant weather is recorded in the far north coastal sections and the extreme eastern areas in Queensland. Winter dry-season temperatures can drop, after warm, sunny days, to an average overnight low of 12°C.
The bulk of the rainfall occurs during the summer monsoon from December through March. Average maximum precipitation in January, the wettest month, is 212 mm, although it can be as high as 1,000 mm.

3.2 Hydrology

Lagoon Creek is the major local watercourse at Westmoreland. It is dry for half the year, but in the monsoon, the braided channels fill and overflow creating a floodway some 3 km wide and quite impassable. The nearest gauging station is on the Nicholson River at Doomadgee. Mean discharge of the Nicholson River is 985,000 ML/day (data from National Land and Water Resources Audit, 2003) from its 72,000 km^2 catchment area.

3.3 Geomorphology

The tenements are situated in remote, sparsely populated, rugged hill country. Topography ranges from broad gentle valleys covered by open woodland dominated by grey box eucalypt trees, to steep rugged east-west trending ridges on the flanks of the valleys. The terrain ranges in elevation from 80 m to 360 m

3.4 Vegetation Communities

The environmental Regional Ecosystem (RE) reports generated for MDL 2026 indicate that vegetation communities are present within MDL 2026 as shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2 – Vegetation Communities within MDL 2026

BVG (1 Million)	Description	Area (Ha)	% of AOI
None	None	19.81	0.18
14b	Woodlands dominated by Eucalyptus tetrodonta (Darwin stringybark) (or E. megasepala (Melville Island bloodwood)) or E. chartaboma (or E. miniata (Darwin woollybutt)), with Corymbia clarksoniana (grey bloodwood) on erosional surfaces, residual sands and occasionally alluvial plains.	2,258.41	20.35
16a	Open forest and woodlands dominated by Eucalyptus camaldulensis (river red gum) (or E. tereticornis (blue gum)) and/or E. coolabah (coolabah) (or E. microtheca (coolabah)) fringing drainage lines. Associated species may include Melaleuca spp., Corymbia tessellaris (carbeen), Angophora spp., Casuarina cunninghamiana (riveroak). Does not include alluvial areas dominated by herb and grasslands or alluvial plains that are not flooded.	135.83	1.22
16b	Woodlands dominated by Eucalyptus leptophleba (Molloy red box), with Corymbia tessellaris (carbeen) or C. clarksoniana (grey bloodwood) or C. dallachiana; or dominated by Corymbia terminalis (desert bloodwood) or other Corymbia or dominated by Corymbia terminalis (desert bloodwood) or other Corymbia spp. in the Gulf Plains and Northwest Highlands bioregions. On sandy levees.	296.23	2.67
16c	Woodlands and open woodlands dominated by Eucalyptus coolabah (coolabah) or E. microtheca (coolabah) or E. largiflorens (black box) or E. tereticornis (blue gum) or E. chlorophylla on floodplains. Does not include alluvial areas dominated by herb and grasslands or alluvial plains that are not flooded.	25.24	0.23
18c	Woodlands and open woodlands dominated by Eucalyptus chlorophylla (E. microtheca or E. leptophleba on heavy soils) frequently with Corymbia spp.; or dominated by E. tectifica west of Burketown.	0.19	less than 0.01
19a	Low open woodlands dominated by Eucalyptus leucophloia (snappy gum) with Triodia spp. dominated ground layer, mainly on hills and ranges.	2,226.87	20.07
19b	Low open woodlands dominated by Eucalyptus leucophylla (Cloncurry box) or less extensively Corymbia terminalis (long-fruited bloodwood) low open woodlands and related associations, mainly lower slopes and valleys.	61.44	0.55
19c	Low open woodlands dominated by Eucalyptus pruinosa low open woodlands on sandplains, outwash areas and lateristised surfaces.	1,113.00	10.03
21a	Low woodlands and low open woodlands dominated by Melaleuca viridiflora (coarse-leaved paperbark) on depositional plains.	355.36	3.2
21b	Low open woodlands and tall shrublands of Melaleuca stenostachya or M. citrolens or other Melaleuca spp.	1,345.63	12.12
27c	Low open woodlands dominated by a variety of species including Grevillea striata (beefwood), Acacia spp., Terminalia spp. or Cochlospermum spp.	390.32	3.52
29b	Open shrublands to open heaths on elevated rocky locations.	2,805.26	25.28
31a	Open forblands to open tussock grasslands which may be composed of Atriplex spp. (saltbush), Sclerolaena spp. (burr), Asteraceae spp. and/or short grasses on alluvial plains.	52.69	0.47
34d	Palustrine wetlands. Freshwater swamps/springs/billabongs on floodplains ranging from permanent and semi-permanent to ephemeral.	11.77	0.11

The Table 3 below shows that only 29.85% of the area is of concern and 69.95% has no concern. An area of 0.03% of the tenement contains an endangered Regional Ecosystem as shown in Table 3.

Appendix 1 depicts the exploration plan for the Westmoreland Project, which pertains to the Endangered Regional Ecosystem. There are no “Of concern” regional ecosystems present.

Table 3 – Biodiversity Status of Vegetation within MDL 2026

Biodiversity Status	Area (Ha)	% of AOI
Endangered	2.93	0.03
Of concern	3,312.31	29.85
No concern at present	7,762.99	69.95
Total remnant vegetation	11,078.23	99.82

Table 4 below identifies the remnant regional ecosystems and vegetation communities mapped within MDL 2026 and provides their short descriptions, Biodiversity Status, and remnant extent within MDL 2026.

Table 4: Remnant Regional Ecosystem, Descriptions and Status within MDL 2026

Regional Ecosystem	Short Description	BD Status	Area (Ha)	% of AOI
1.10.2	Eucalyptus miniata woodland on sandstone plateaus	No concern at present	2,258.41	20.35
1.10.3	Corymbia aspera low open woodland on rocky soils	No concern at present	363.27	3.27
1.10.3x2	Corymbia aspera low open woodland on rocky soils	No concern at present	797.77	7.19
1.10.9	Acacia spp. and/or Calytrix exstipulata open shrubland on rock pavement	Of concern	2,805.26	25.28
1.12.1	Eucalyptus leucophloia low open woodland on granites	No concern at present	172.17	1.55
1.12.1x5	Eucalyptus leucophloia low open woodland on granites	No concern at present	6.76	0.06
1.12.7x1	Terminalia aridicola and Brachychiton collinus low open woodland on torfields	No concern at present	27.06	0.24
1.3.11	Eucalyptus chlorophylla open woodland on alluvium	No concern at present	0.19	less than 0.01
1.3.5	Corymbia polycarpa, C. bella, C. grandifolia and Eucalyptus chlorophylla in mixed woodlands on sandy levees in the north	No concern at present	61.44	0.55
1.3.7f	Eucalyptus camaldulensis woodland on channels and levees	Endangered	0.08	less than 0.01
1.3.7g	Eucalyptus camaldulensis woodland on channels and levees	Endangered	2.85	0.03
1.5.11	Melaleuca citrolens and/or Eucalyptus pruinosa low open woodland on sandy plains	No concern at present	1,345.63	12.12
1.5.2b	Mixed eucalypt woodland on sandy plains	No concern at present	331.36	2.99
1.7.7b	Corymbia capricornia +/- Eucalyptus leucophloia or E. miniata low open woodland on silcrete	No concern at present	1,250.16	11.26
2.3.15	Eucalyptus microtheca woodland to low open woodland with Sarga spp. in seasonally flooded depressions on gleyed podsolics	No concern at present	11.77	0.11
2.3.20e	Corymbia bella, Eucalyptus pruinosa, C. terminalis, Lysiphyllum cunninghamii in mixed woodlands on active levees and alluvial plains in the west	Of concern	296.23	2.67
2.3.26e	Eucalyptus camaldulensis +/- Melaleuca spp. woodland fringing sandy, seasonal channels	Of concern	8.41	0.08
2.3.26f	Eucalyptus camaldulensis +/- Melaleuca spp. woodland fringing sandy, seasonal channels	Of concern	124.49	1.12
2.3.30a	Melaleuca spp. low woodland in seasonally flooded depressions on podsolic soils in the west	No concern at present	355.36	3.2
2.3.42c	Eucalyptus microtheca +/- Excoecaria parvifolia, Lysiphyllum cunninghamii, Melaleuca spp. open woodland on Quaternary alluvial plains with coarse-grained parent material	Of concern	25.24	0.23
2.3.69a	Dichanthium spp., Iseilema spp., Aristida spp. and Brachyachne convergens in mixed tussock grasslands on active Quaternary alluvial deposits derived from coarse-grained parent material in the west	Of concern	52.69	0.47
2.5.23c	Eucalyptus pruinosa, Lysiphyllum cunninghamii, E. chlorophylla and Corymbia setosa in mixed low open woodlands on sand sheets overlying Tertiary lateritic surfaces	No concern at present	781.64	7.04
non-remnant	None	None	19.81	0.18

Table 5 below provides a summary of the Matters of State Environmental Significance within MDL 2026.

Table 5: Summary of MSES present within MDL 2026

1a Protected Areas- estates	0.0 ha	0.0 %
1b Protected Areas- nature refuges	0.0 ha	0.0 %
1c Protected Areas- special wildlife reserves	0.0 ha	0.0 %
2 State Marine Parks- highly protected zones	0.0 ha	0.0 %
3 Fish habitat areas (A and B areas)	0.0 ha	0.0 %
4 Strategic Environmental Areas (SEA)	0.0 ha	0.0 %
5 High Ecological Significance wetlands on the map of Referable Wetlands	0.0 ha	0.0 %
6a High Ecological Value (HEV) wetlands	0.0 ha	0.0 %
6b High Ecological Value (HEV) waterways	0.0 km	Not applicable
7a Threatened (endangered or vulnerable) wildlife	811.51 ha	7.3%
7b Special least concern animals	371.19 ha	3.3%
7c i Koala habitat area - core (SEQ)	0.0 ha	0.0 %
7c ii Koala habitat area - locally refined (SEQ)	0.0 ha	0.0 %
7d Sea turtle nesting areas	0.0 km	Not applicable
8a Regulated Vegetation - Endangered/Of concern in Category B (remnant)	4472.69 ha	40.3%
8b Regulated Vegetation - Endangered/Of concern in Category C (regrowth)	0.0 ha	0.0 %
8c Regulated Vegetation - Category R (GBR riverine regrowth)	0.0 ha	0.0 %
8d Regulated Vegetation - Essential habitat	812.4 ha	7.3%
8e Regulated Vegetation - intersecting a watercourse	263.8 km	Not applicable
8f Regulated Vegetation - within 100m of a Vegetation Management Wetland	0.0 ha	0.0 %
9a Legally secured offset areas- offset register areas	0.0 ha	0.0 %
9b Legally secured offset areas- vegetation offsets through a Property Map of Assessable Vegetation	0.0 ha	0.0 %

4. Potential Impacts on Environment Attributes

4.1 Hydrologic processes

The exploration program will be conducted during the dry season in northern Australia. Conducting works in the dry season will avoid periods of high rainfall and subsequently high flow of water across the landscape. As a result, it is expected that most seasonally inundated creeks within the tenements will be dry and there will be limited flow of water into the surrounding waterways.

Drilling activities will avoid rivers and riparian zones as far as practicable, providing protection to rivers and riparian zones and reducing potential changes to waterflow within the area.

Existing tracks will be used where possible; however, some new exploration tracks will need to be established for exploration drilling. New exploration tracks are proposed to be cleared with a small dozer (e.g., Caterpillar D6 or front loader) up to approximately 4m wide excluding windrows. The dozer will clear ground with a minimum disturbance approach, which is with the blade-up to preserve root stocks and going around larger trees wherever possible. Where this is

not possible, blade down clearance will be used to clear vegetation and any outcropping rock. A rock breaker may be utilised if the ground is hard or to re-open historic tracks that have degraded over time; this will be kept to a minimum.
All drill holes will be plugged on completion of drilling, and the drill site rehabilitated once no more work is required on the site, where possible within the same dry season. These measures will ensure that the natural surface water flow patterns, stream flow and connectivity in the area will not be adversely affected during the works. The minimal disturbance intent of the exploration process is to ensure that connectivity of the stream flow within any watercourse and laterally across the landscape will be maintained following the activity.

4.2 Geomorphic processes

Disturbance in rivers and riparian zones will be avoided where possible. Access tracks may need to cross minor rivers on occasion. The disturbance to land will be rehabilitated in the same dry season, where possible. Given the proposed minimal disturbance approach, it is not expected that there would be significant, widespread, or irreversible impacts on natural geomorphic processes within the
area of proposed activity or wider tenement area as a result of the exploration activities.

Movement of water across the landscape during the wet season can be substantial with localised intense rainfall events. Adverse erosion and sedimentation can result from the waterflow when tracks and drill lines are cleared of trees, saplings and ground cover and the ground surface is disturbed. Given the proposed exploratory activity is a low impact, small scale and a temporary process, undertaken during the dry season it is not anticipated these issues will occur. Nor is the activity expected to cause long term disruption to soil profiles through earthworks or excavation. The proposed exploration activity is not anticipated to compromise the preservation of the natural erosion, transportation, and deposition of sediments by water throughout the catchment.

Minimal width exploration tracks will be pushed with the dozer blade raised above the surface where possible to reduce damage to ground cover and topsoil. Rootstock from saplings, shrubs and trees will be retained and native, mature trees will be avoided using the minimal disturbance approach. Minimal disturbance and retention of the ground layer (particularly grasses) will help facilitate a reduction in erosion potential of tracks during the following wet season. Additional management practices such as strategic flow dissipation and drainage works along the new exploration tracks will also be applied where necessary to assist in dispersing water across the landscape rather than concentrating flows that may lead to erosion and sedimentation issues along tracks.

4.3 Riparian processes

Drilling activity in riparian areas will be minimized. Consequently, it is not expected that the proposed exploration activities would have widespread or irreversible impacts on riparian function in the area of activity or the wider tenement area.

All vehicles entering will be subject to weed and seed control inspections to minimize the control of invasive weed species. Rehabilitation of exploration activity is anticipated to occur shortly after drilling is completed allowing for timely stabilization of the disturbed area.

4.4 Water quality

Exploration activities will only be undertaken during the dry season. No water will be extracted from surface waterways within the tenement. Water for drilling will be sourced from established

bores. The chemicals utilised within drilling muds are biodegradable and therefore contamination to groundwater is unlikely. In this respect it is anticipated the physical, chemical, and biological water quality immediately downstream of the exploration activity will be consistent with water quality immediately upstream of the exploration activity. The exploration methodology of minimal disturbance during the dry season will reduce the likelihood of adversely affecting riverine and non-riverine wetlands and streams water quality during wet season overland flow. There is no anticipated significant water flow across the landscape during exploration works that could lead to altered water quality in the area. Similarly, the activity will not inhibit the overflow or flow of surface water in or out of wetlands or watercourse post construction.

The proposed minimization of exploration in close proximity to rivers and riparian zones will facilitate their protection. There are no water storage dams within the proposed area of activity.

4.5 Wildlife Corridors

The exploration activity is not anticipated to impact the preservation of the wildlife corridor function of the riparian vegetation given the activity:

- *Maintains the connection between native terrestrial vegetation along and across the watercourse system to a level sufficient to provide for migration, shelter and habitat.*
- *Does not impede passage for aquatic/marine fauna along the water course system.*

Large trees will also be preserved as much as possible during the disturbance process to ensure potential breeding places are protected.

4.6 Beneficial Flooding

The exploration activity will not compromise beneficial flooding as the proposed exploration activity does not alter the natural flow paths and the natural extent of flooding across floodplains. Establishment of drill access tracks for exploration activities will result in minimal disturbance to the ground, with negligible change to the natural contours of the proposed area of activity. There is anticipated to be limited to no surface waterflow across the landscape during the exploration program as the exploration activities will be conducted during the dry season. Wet season overland flows are unlikely to be significantly modified or altered as a result of the exploration activities.

5.0 Regional Planning Interests Regulation 2014 Assessment Criteria

Schedule 2, Part 5 of the RPI Regulation provide criteria for the assessment or decision of the RPI application. The required outcome and prescribed solutions are detailed below in Table 6.

This table provides a summary of the details described in this project against the assessment criteria.

Table 6 Criteria for assessment or decision in a SEA

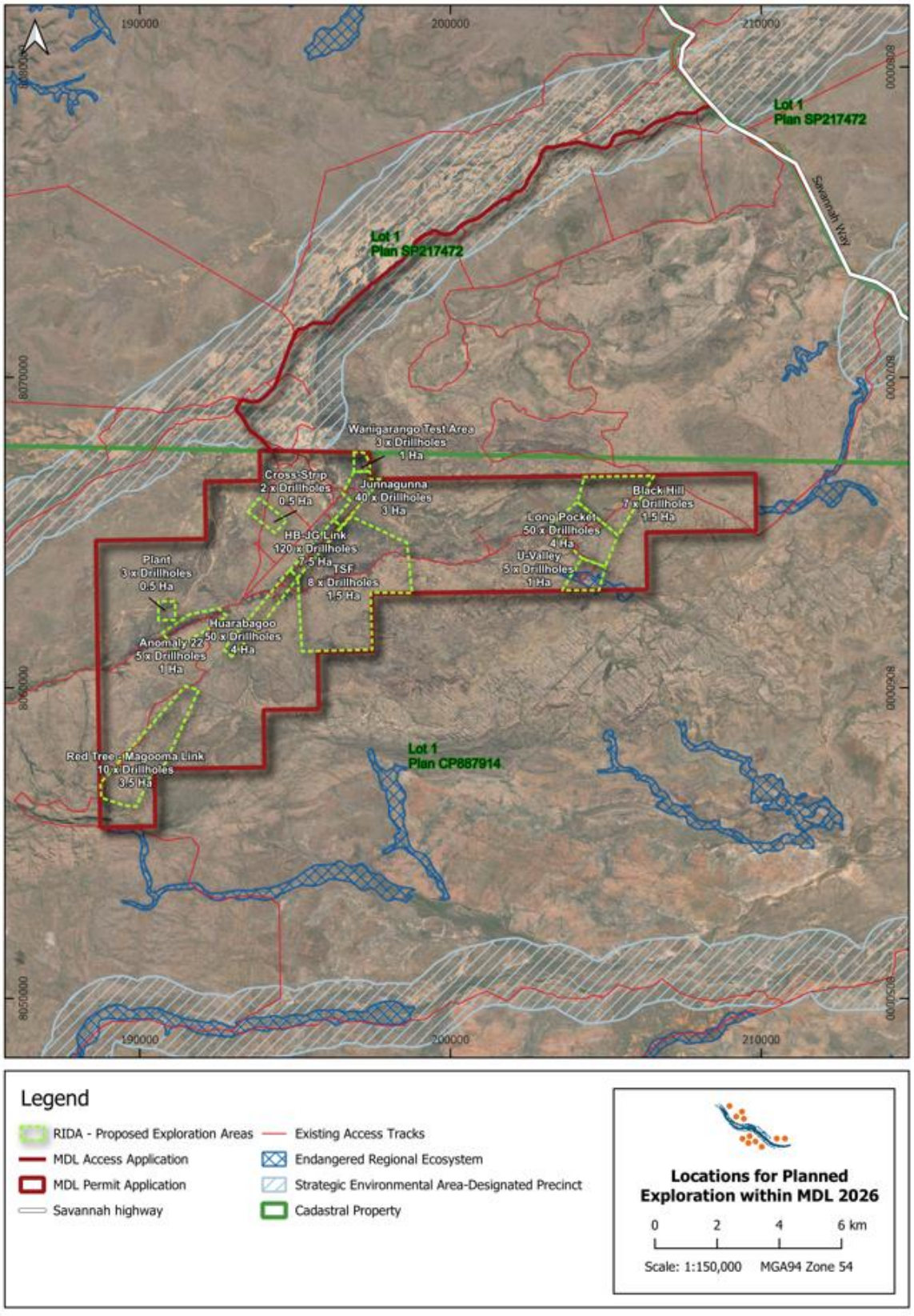
Schedule 2 Part 5 of the RPI Regulation	Response
(14) Required Outcome	
The activity will not result in a widespread or irreversible impact on an environmental attribute of a strategic environmental area.	The proposed activities will not result in widespread or irreversible damage to the environmental attributes listed in section 9 of the RPI Regulation for the Gulf Rivers SEA as described in Sections 1 and 3 of this report (and summarised in the response components of this table, below).
(15) Prescribed Solution	
(1) The application demonstrates <u>either</u> *–* *(a) the activity will not, and is not likely to, have a direct or indirect impact on an environmental attribute of the strategic environmental area; or*	*Note: this application addresses the requirement of section 15(1)(b).*
(b) all of the following – *(i) if the activity is being carried out in a designated precinct in the strategic environmental area – the activity is not an unacceptable use for the precinct;*	There are no proposed activities that will be carried out within a designated precinct. Furthermore, the proposed activities do not include any of the unacceptable uses listed in Schedule 2 Part 5 section 15(2).
(ii) the construction and operation footprint of the activity on the environmental attribute is minimised to the greatest extent possible;	• Desktop investigations have been conducted to refine the access tracks to the drill sites in order to minimise the operational footprint on environmental attributes. • Searches of Queensland Government environmental databases have been undertaken. • Operational footprint specifically designed for avoidance of Designated Precinct. • Site access construction will be limited to a 3m wide track. • Drill pads are limited to 20m x 20m. • During on-site access road construction and drill pad location, all mature trees and areas of ecological significance will be avoided.
(iii) the activity does not compromise the preservation of the environmental attribute within the strategic environmental area;	• Desktop investigations have been conducted to refine the access tracks to the drill sites in order to minimise the operational footprint on environmental attributes. • The exploration activities will have minimal impacts on the natural hydrologic processes of the area with waterflows related to watercourses, floodplains and groundwater will be minimal due to activities being conducted in the dry season when precipitation and waterflow is very low.

Schedule 2 Part 5 of the RPI Regulation	Response
	• The activities will have minimal impacts on geomorphic processes of the area through limited impact to the natural erosion of the region, in addition to the movement of sediment by water throughout the catchment as waterflow will be minimal in the dry season. • Based upon a desktop assessment, it is considered that only minor disturbance to the wildlife corridors in the area will occur. Due to the small-scale and temporary nature of the exploration works, it is unlikely to create widespread or irreversible impact to the functioning of the wildlife corridors. • Although minor disturbance to the riparian area will occur, due to the small-scale and temporary nature of the exploration works and the fact that works will be conducted only during the dry season, it is considered unlikely that there will be widespread or irreversible impact to the functioning riparian processes. Mitigation measures will be employed as required. • Water quality in the region that supports and maintains natural aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems will not be impacted as no major watercourses will be disturbed. With only minor drainage features being crossed with no flow likely to be present at this proposed time of year. • All drill site and associated sumps will be rehabilitated in accordance with the *Code of Environmental Compliance for Exploration and Mineral Development Projects*. Due to the high evaporation rates in the region, drill water remaining in the sumps will likely evaporate within two to three weeks. Temporary fencing of the sumps will occur to prevent cattle or wildlife access. Once dry, rehabilitation of the site will occur with the bentonite clay material remaining at the bottom of the sumps to be covered with the stockpiled subsoil and topsoil. Timing of all activities will aid in minimising surface water impacts.
(iv) if the activity is to be carried out in a strategic environmental area identified in a regional plan – the activity will contribute to the regional outcomes, and be consistent with the regional policies, stated in the regional plan.	The North West Regional Plan (August 2010) does not identify the Gulf River SEA.

5.0 Conclusions

The proposed exploration activities to be conducted on MDL 2026 are not expected to result in a significant adverse impact on the existing environmental attributes of the GRSEA. This statement is supported by the evidence provided in this document and the fact that similar exploration activities have been conducted within the area of MDL 2026 by Westmorland under the authority of existing EPMs 14558 and 14672 for the last 10 years with no apparent adverse impacts. This is due to Tackle Resources Pty Ltd full compliance with all conditions of the existing EA for the resource authorities in question. The conditions of the current project EA require compliance with the Eligibility Criteria for Exploration Permits and Mineral Development Licences. This Code was developed in conjunction with DESI and industry groups to ensure such operations result in negligible adverse impact to the existing environment, including watercourses such as the GRSEA.

APPENDIX1


190000
200000
210000
8080000
8070000
8060000
8050000
Lot 1
Plan SP217472
Savannah Way
Lot 1
Plan SP217472
Wanigarango Test Area
3 x Drillholes
1 Ha
Cross-Strip
2 x Drillholes
0.5 Ha
Junnagunna
40 x Drillholes
3 Ha
Black Hill
7 x Drillholes
1.5 Ha
Long Pocket
50 x Drillholes
4 Ha
U-Valley
5 x Drillholes
1 Ha
HB-JG Link
120 x Drillholes
7.5 Ha
TSF
8 x Drillholes
1.5 Ha
Plant
3 x Drillholes
0.5 Ha
Huarabagoo
50 x Drillholes
4 Ha
Anomaly 22
5 x Drillholes
1 Ha
Red Tree - Magooma Link
10 x Drillholes
3.5 Ha
Lot 1
Plan CP887914
Legend
RIDA - Proposed Exploration Areas
MDL Access Application
MDL Permit Application
Savannah highway
Existing Access Tracks
Endangered Regional Ecosystem
Strategic Environmental Area-Designated Precinct
Cadastral Property
Locations for Planned Exploration within MDL 2026
0
2
4
6 km
Scale: 1:150,000
MGA94 Zone 54