

# Report

# **Groundwater Management Plan**

Eliwana Mine and Railway

**January 2019** 100-PL-EN-1009\_Rev0g



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# **ACRONYMS**

The following acronyms, defined in Table 1, have been used through this Plan.

Table 1: Acronyms

Acronyms	Definitions
LUC	Land Use Certificate
EP Act	Environmental Protection Act 1986
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
GDE	Groundwater dependent ecosystem
GDV	Groundwater dependent vegetation
TSF	Tailings Storage Facility



#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Fortescue Metals Group (Fortescue) is an integrated business comprised of mine, rail and port operations based in the Pilbara region of Western Australia, with its head office located in Perth.

Detailed background information regarding the projects, timing and nature of Fortescue's environmental approvals under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (WA), the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth), current operations and plans for future expansion is contained in Appendix 1.

### 1.1 Requirements for Management Plan

The Groundwater Management Plan is required by the Environmental Scoping document as part of the environmental scoping document for development approval for Fortescue Iron Ore related infrastructure in the Pilbara under:

- Environmental Scoping Document: Action Item 20 Eliwana Iron Ore Mine Project
- Environmental Scoping Document: Action Item 48 Eliwana Railway Project

The environmental objectives and targets for groundwater management are outlined in Table 2.

## 1.2 Objective and Scope

The Plan addresses the EPA's objective for the following key environmental factors:

- inland waters environmental quality "to maintain the quality of groundwater and surface water so that environmental values are protected"
- hydrological processes "to maintain the hydrological regimes of groundwater and surface water so that environmental values are protected."

The objective of this Plan is to identify the potential direct and indirect impacts on groundwater flows and/or quality and develop management and monitoring measures that maximise the ongoing protection of groundwater dependent systems to be retained from disturbance within and adjacent to Fortescue controlled sites.

This Plan has been provided to meet the requirements of the EPA's "Instructions on how to prepare *Environmental Protection Act 1986* Part IV Environmental Management Plan". The provisions addressed within this Plan are outlined in Table 2 below and in the Provisions Table within Appendix 1 and 2.





**Table 2:** Management Plan Provisions

Provision	Location in Plan
Requirement for Plan	1.1
Outcomes	1.2
Performance Indicators	1.2
Key Environmental values	1.3
Management actions <sup>1</sup>	4
Key environmental impacts and risk	3
Monitoring	5
Corrective actions	5.6
Reporting	8
Adaptive management and review of the EMP	7 and 9
Stakeholder Consultation	10

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Outcomes based Environmental Management Plans do not require management actions in accordance with the EPA's "Instructions on how to prepare *Environmental Protection Act 1986* Part IV Environmental Management Plan". Management actions have been included in the Plan to demonstrate effective management of the factor but will not be reported against to demonstrate compliance.



Table 3: Environmental outcomes and measures/targets

Approval	Condition Type	Environmental Outcome	Trigger and Threshold Criteria
Eliwana Railway	Outcome	During construction, groundwater management	Trigger Criteria
(Construction/Post Construction only)		infrastructure operates as per design to minimise adverse impacts outside of assessed impact areas <sup>2</sup>	An exceedance of expected groundwater level values inside or outside of the assessed impact areas in comparison to reference sites over two consecutive monitoring events
			Threshold Criteria
			Following construction, groundwater level values outside of the assessed impact areas are below baseline values after two years of above average rainfall <sup>3</sup>
Eliwana Mine	Outcome	No adverse impacts to groundwater quality outside of	Trigger Criteria
		assessed impact areas $^{\bar{4}}$ as a result of implementing the proposal	An exceedance of groundwater quality guideline values (see Table 8) in comparison to reference sites over two consecutive monitoring events
			Threshold Criteria
			An exceedance of site specific background trigger values <sup>5</sup> over four consecutive monitoring events in comparison to reference sites
			AND
			Subsequent investigations determine that the impacts are likely a result of the implementation of the proposal.
		Groundwater management infrastructure operates as per	Trigger Criteria
		design to minimise adverse impacts to groundwater dependent vegetation and/or potentially restricted stygofauna habitat beyond that which has been assessed	Groundwater drawdown measured at impact monitoring sites exceeds 80% of maximum drawdown presented in the <i>Eliwana Iron Ore Mine Public Environmental Review (EW-RP-EN-0003)</i> , measured over two consecutive events.
			Threshold Criteria

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Refer to *Eliwana Railway Public Environmental Review* (EW-RP-EN-0004)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Rainfall to be considered as an average of rainfall measured at Eliwana and Solomon (Castle Camp) weather stations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Refer to Eliwana Iron Ore Mine Public Environmental Review (EW-RP-EN-0003)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Site specific trigger values will be developed in accordance with guidance outlined in ANZECC Guidelines



Approval	Condition Type	Environmental Outcome	Trigger and Threshold Criteria
			Groundwater drawdown measured at impact monitoring sites is within 1 m of maximum drawdown presented in the <i>Eliwana Iron Ore Mine Public Environmental Review (EW-RP-EN-0003)</i> , measured over two consecutive events.
			AND
			Subsequent investigations determine that the impacts are likely a result of the implementation of the proposal.



#### 1.3 Key environmental values

Key environmental values associated with groundwater at the Eliwana Railway and Mine are outlined in the *Public Environmental Review: Eliwana Railway Project* (Fortescue reference EW-RP-EN-0004\_A) and *Public Environmental Review: Eliwana Iron Ore Mine* (EW-RP-EN-0003\_0) and listed here:

- Conservation significant fauna and their critical habitat
- · Conservation significant vegetation and flora
- Groundwater dependent systems.

#### 1.4 Definitions

Groundwater management infrastructure may include bores, sumps and associated pumps, power sources, interconnected pipelines, settlement ponds and direct conveyance pipelines.

Groundwater dependent vegetation (GDV) is defined as terrestrial vegetation that is dependent on the presence of groundwater to meet some or all of its ecological water requirements. GDV as a component of groundwater dependent ecosystems in the Pilbara plays an important ecological role by providing essential habitat and oases of biological diversity and productivity. GDVs are a component of groundwater dependent ecosystems.

Groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDE) are ecosystems that require access to groundwater on a permanent or intermittent basis to meet all or some of their water requirements so as to maintain their communities of plants and animals, ecological processes and ecosystem services (NWC, 2011). GDEs include aquatic, terrestrial and subterranean ecosystems.

High risk areas are defined as areas where groundwater dependent systems have been identified to be retained from disturbance and potential impacts are significant (as defined through ongoing impact assessment of potential direct and indirect impacts of the project).

Water dependent systems are parts of the environment in which the composition of species and natural ecological processes are determined by the permanent or temporary presence of flowing or standing surface water or groundwater. The in-stream areas of rivers, riparian vegetation, springs, wetlands, floodplains, estuaries, karst systems and groundwater-dependent terrestrial vegetation are all examples of water dependent systems (Department of Water, January 2013). Water dependent systems are addressed in both the Groundwater Management Plan and the Surface Water Management Plan for the Eliwana project.



# 1.5 Legislation and Regulatory Framework

Fortescue employees and contractors are obliged to comply with all relevant environmental Commonwealth and State legislation. Legislation directly relevant to the management of groundwater in Western Australia is provided in Table 4.

Table 4: Commonwealth and State Legislation Relating to Groundwater

Legislation	Application
Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (WA)	Conservation and protection of biodiversity and biodiversity components. The Act repeals parts of the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950.
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)	Assesses the conservation significance of fauna species and forms the framework for significant species protection at the Federal level.
Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)	State environmental impact assessment and Ministerial approval process.
Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharge) Regulations 2004 (WA)	Prevention of direct discharge of sediment or pollutants to the surrounding surface waters.
Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914 (WA)	Relates to rights in water resources, to make provision for regulation, management, use and protection of water resources, to provide for irrigation schemes, and for related purposes.
Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945 (WA)	Addresses the conservation of soil and land resources and the mitigation of the effects of erosion.
Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 (WA)	State process that assesses the conservation significance of fauna species and forms the framework for significant species protection.

The following standards and guidelines are also of relevance to this Plan:

 Water Quality Protection Guidelines for Mining and Mineral Processing (Department of Water, 1999)



#### 2. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

All Fortescue employees and contractors are required to comply with the requirements of this Plan.

Accountability for fulfilling the requirements of this Plan is dependent on the stage of project development (construction, operations, decommissioning) and the project type (port, rail or mine).

During exploration, the Group Manager Exploration will be accountable for ensuring the requirements of the Plan are met.

During construction stages, whether activities are undertaken by an external service provider or internal Fortescue personnel, the Project Director (Port/ Rail or Mine) will be accountable for ensuring the requirements of this Plan are met.

During operational, decommissioning and closure stages, the General Manager (Port/ Rail or Mine) will be accountable for ensuring the requirements of this Plan are met.

Where responsibilities are delegated, this must be clearly recorded and communicated.

In Section 4 specific Management Actions have been attributed to the appropriate personnel.

The RASCI framework should be utilised to delegate roles, responsibilities, and review and approval levels associated with this Plan. RASCI is used to denote:

**R-Responsible** Those who do the work to achieve the task.

**A-Accountable** Those who are ultimately accountable for the completion of the deliverable

or task and the one to whom the Responsible person is accountable.

**S-Supportive** Resources allocated to the Responsible person and who will also assist in

completing the task.

**C-Consulted** Those whose opinions are sought, two-way communication.

**I-Informed** Those whom are kept informed, one-way communication.



#### 3. MANAGING ENVIRONMENTAL RISK

Fortescue actively manages risk by undertaking an Annual Environmental Impact Risk review. Although the review considers all environmental risks, there is a focus on the inherently moderate to high risk impacts. The review considers the effectiveness of management actions that are currently in place for these impacts. The review also considers any relevant incidents that have occurred, if the actions from incident investigations have translated into new management actions, and generally considers the need for any new management actions to ensure lower risk targets can be achieved.

The environmental risks associated with groundwater management at Eliwana Mine include:

- Groundwater abstraction for mine dewatering and water supply
- Injection or infiltration of excess water
- Controlled release of excess water into inactive mining voids or via surface water discharge
- Groundwater drawdown and alteration of hydrological processes as a result of mine dewatering and water supply abstraction
- Groundwater mounding in areas of surplus water injection or infiltration;
- Altered hydrogeology and water balance associated with the creation of permanent and episodic mining void water bodies.

The environmental risks associated with groundwater management at Eliwana Railway include:

- Groundwater abstraction for water supply resulting in localised groundwater drawdown.
- Impacts to groundwater quality associated with hydrocarbon or chemical spills.
- Groundwater abstraction drawdown resulting in impacts to groundwater dependent vegetation.

Section 4 provides the management actions proposed to manage these potential environmental risks at the Eliwana Mine and Railway project.





#### 4. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

A series of environmental management objectives have been developed to mitigate environmental impacts on groundwater dependent systems to be retained from disturbance as approved under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* and/or the *Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. These include:

- 1. Assess the potential direct and indirect impacts on groundwater levels, groundwater quality and any associated groundwater dependent systems within identified high risk areas.
- Establish management strategies to minimise potential impacts on groundwater levels, groundwater quality and any associated groundwater dependent systems within identified high risk areas.
- Develop and implement a groundwater monitoring program to assess the effectiveness of the management strategies to minimise potential impacts on groundwater levels, ground water quality and any associated groundwater dependent systems within identified high risk areas.

For each objective, management actions have been developed to ensure the impacts from Fortescue's operations are managed, and that appropriate monitoring, reporting and corrective action functions are implemented to support the successful implementation of the management actions.

The key elements of the environmental management process associated with each objective are described in Table 5.

Table 5: Description of Key Elements of Environmental Management Process to Achieve Identified Objectives

Element	Definition/ Description
Objective	What is intended to be achieved
Management Action	Tasks undertaken to enable the objective to be met
Performance Indicators	Metrics for evaluating the outcomes achieved by Management Actions
Reporting/ Evidence	Demonstrates that the Management Action has been applied and the outcome evaluated.
Timing	Period during which the Management Action should be undertaken.
Responsibility	Accountability for ensuring management action is completed. The responsible role is dependent on project timing.

The key management actions, performance indicators, evidence, timing and responsibilities for each objective are provided in Table 6.



Table 6: Key Management Actions for Groundwater Management

Objective 1	1 Identify the potential direct and indirect impacts on groundwater levels, groundwater quality and associated groundwater dependent systems within identified high risk areas						
Reference	Site L	ocation	Management Action	Performance indicators	Reporting/ Evidence	Timing	Responsibility
	Rail	Mine					
1.1	x	X	<ul> <li>When a groundwater management activity requires a 5C Licence under the <i>Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914:</i> <ul> <li>where required, conduct a hydrological assessment in accordance with the parameters outlined in the Operational policy no. 5.12 Hydrological reporting associated with a groundwater well licence (DoW).</li> </ul> </li> <li>where required, develop and implement a Groundwater Operating Strategy in accordance with the Operational policy 5.08: Use of operating strategies in the water licensing process.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>5C Licence application completed</li> <li>Hydrological assessment report developed and approved</li> <li>Compliance with Policy no. 5.12</li> <li>Groundwater Operating Strategy developed, where required</li> </ul>	Hydrological assessment report     Correspondence with DWER     Groundwater Operating Strategy	Feasibility/ Design	Manager Long Term Planning and Hydrology
1.2	х	х	Conduct an impact assessment to identify impact areas where groundwater dependent systems have been identified and potential impacts are significant. High risk areas are outside of the assessed impact areas <sup>2</sup> and <sup>4</sup> .	Risk assessment conducted     High risk areas identified	Risk assessment outcomes	Design	Manager Environmental Approvals/ Project Manager/ Group Manager Environment
1.3	х	x	Where groundwater dependent systems have been identified within identified high risk areas undertake mapping surveys to determine relevant species critical habitat and if future monitoring is required.	<ul> <li>Mapping survey completed</li> <li>GIS and PIMS updated</li> <li>Future monitoring defined</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Mapping survey</li> <li>GIS dataset</li> <li>PIMS record</li> <li>Monitoring Planned</li> </ul>	Design	Group Manager, Environment
1.4	х	х	Conduct a desktop assessment for all LUC <sup>6</sup> applications to ensure groundwater dependent systems within high risk areas are identified prior to ground disturbance. Where the works have the potential to impact on groundwater and any associated groundwater dependent systems, apply relevant management measures to the LUC prior to approval.	Desktop assessment undertaken     Management measures included in relevant LUCs	Desktop assessment     LUC approval	Construction/ Operation	Project Manager/ Site HSES Manager
Objective 2	Site Locat	ions	Establish management strategies to minimise potential impacts on groundwater levels, gro	undwater quality and associated groundwater d	ependent systems within identified high	risk areas	
Reference	Rail	Mine	Management Action	Performance indicators	Reporting/ Evidence	Timing	Responsibility
2.1	x	х	Ensure staff and contractors are provided with appropriate training to ensure groundwater and associated groundwater dependent systems are protected.	<ul> <li>Inductions completed</li> <li>Pre-start meetings conducted</li> <li>Role dependent training completed</li> </ul>	Induction materials and register of attendees     Record of pre-start meetings     Training materials/ records	All stages	Project Manager/ HSES Manager
2.2	х	х	Ensure groundwater management infrastructure location and design aligns with the assessment outcomes to minimise impacts to groundwater levels, quality and associated groundwater dependent systems where possible.	Location infrastructure aligns with risk assessment outcomes where possible	Risk assessment     Monitoring reports	All stages	Project Manager/ Manager Long

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> An internal permit system required to undertake on-ground activities.



			For the Eliwana Rail Project, the impact assessment outcomes are provided in the <i>Groundwater Impact Assessment: Eliwana Rail Water Supply</i> (750ES-3100-RP-HY-0002).  For the Eliwana Mine Project, the impact assessment outcomes are provided in the <i>Groundwater Impact Assessment: Eliwana Mining Project</i> (750WH-5700-RP-HY-0001).				Term Planning and Hydrology
2.3		х	Fauna management measures, including exclusion or exit/egress structures, to minimise potential impacts on conservation significant fauna, are in place:  • For infrastructure that poses a fauna entrapment or drowning risk  • When conducting excavation or trenching activities  In accordance with the Conservation Fauna Management Plan (100-PL-EN-0022).	<ul> <li>Compliance with the Plan</li> <li>No mortality of conservation significant fauna as a result of entrapment, drowning, excavation or trenching activities</li> <li>No significant increase in feral animal records</li> </ul>	BMS Record     CAR	Construction/ Operation	Project Manager/ Manager Mine Services or Manager Technical Services
2.4		х	Where a subterranean fauna survey indicates a risk of loss of subterranean species or communities, and those species or communities are deemed significant due to their restricted distribution within the project area, develop a Subterranean Fauna Management Plan as required by the Subterranean Fauna Survey Plan (45-PL-EN-0010).	<ul> <li>Subterranean fauna surveys completed</li> <li>Where a risk of loss of species or communities identified, Plan developed</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Subterranean Fauna survey</li><li>Subterranean Fauna Plan</li></ul>	Design	Group Manager Environment
2.5	х	х	Chemical and hydrocarbon storage areas will be designed, constructed and operated in accordance with the requirements outlined in the <i>Chemical and Hydrocarbon Management Plan</i> (100-PL-EN- 0011) and a Licence issued under Part V of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> .	<ul> <li>Compliance with Plan</li> <li>Role/area dependent training completed</li> <li>Water quality remains within required limits</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Laboratory sample results</li><li>AEMR</li></ul>	Construction/ Operation	Project Manager/ NPI Manager
2.6		x	When injecting or infiltrating excess dewater into a compatible aquifer utilise methods outlined in the Operational Policy 1.01 managed Aquifer Recharge in Western Australia (DoW) and an applicable and approved Groundwater Operating Strategy as required under a 5C Licence.	<ul> <li>Compliance with Policy 1.01</li> <li>Compliance with the requirements outlined in the corresponding Groundwater Operating Strategy</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Annual aquifer review</li><li>Triennial aquifer review</li></ul>	Operation	Planning Manager
2.7		х	When dewatering activities result in volumes in excess of what can be injected into a compatible aquifer and/or utilised for onsite activities such as dust suppression and OPF operations, discharge surplus water to the environment in accordance with the requirements of the Surface Water Management Plan (100-PL-EN-1015).	Surface Water Management Plan implemented	• CAR	Operations	Planning Manager
2.8	x	х	When an uncontrolled release of water has occurred as a result of Fortescue activities and the release has caused or is likely to cause pollution or environmental harm, investigate and report the incident in accordance with the <i>Incident Event Management Procedure</i> (100-PR-SA- 0011).	Incident reported	<ul><li>BMS records</li><li>Where required Regulator notification</li></ul>	Construction/ Operation	Project Manager/ Manager Mine Services
2.9		х	Where post closure mine voids are present within the project boundary and impacts to groundwater dependent systems are expected, the requirements of the <i>Eliwana Mine Closure Plan</i> (EW-PL-EN-0001) will be adhered to.	Mine Closure Plan implemented	<ul><li>Monitoring reports</li><li>CAR</li><li>AER</li></ul>	Closure	Planning Manager
2.10	x	Х	Conduct progressive rehabilitation of disturbed areas no longer required for operations, including bores and associated infrastructure, in accordance with the <i>Eliwana Mine Closure Plan</i> (EW-PL-EN-0001) and the <i>Integrated Rail Network Closure Plan</i> (R-PL-EN-0041) developed in accordance with the Guidelines for Preparing Mine Closure Plans.	Mine Closure Plan implemented	<ul><li>Monitoring reports</li><li>CAR</li><li>AER</li></ul>	Closure	Planning Manager / Manager Rail Maintenance



Objective 3	Site Locat	Site Develop and implement a groundwater monitoring program to assess the effectiveness of the made dependent systems within identified high risk areas.		ne management strategies to minimise potential impacts on groundwater levels, groundwater quality and associati		ality and associated	ted groundwater
Reference	Rail	Mine	Management Action	Performance indicators	Reporting/ Evidence	Timing	Responsibility
3.1	х	x	Ensure baseline modelling and groundwater sampling are undertaken to:     Document groundwater levels and quality within impact and reference sites     Identify baseline modelling and groundwater quality at impact and reference sites     Compare data across impact and reference sites (and/or regional monitoring sites where available).	Baseline modelling and /or groundwater sampling undertaken for all sites      Data comparison undertaken	Baseline monitoring reports	Design/ Construction/ Operations	Project Manager Manager Long Term Planning and Hydrology
3.2	X	х	Implement a groundwater monitoring program in areas identified as high-risk areas where groundwater dependent systems have been identified and potential impacts are significant.	Monitoring program implemented	Monitoring reports     Compliance Assessment Report (if the Plan is conditioned under the EP Act)     Annual aquifer review     Triennial aquifer review	Rail  Construction/ Post construction  Mine  Construction/ Operations/ Decommissioning and Closure	Manager Long Term Planning and Hydrology
3.3	X	x	Where monitoring indicates a potential impact on groundwater levels and/or quality or associated groundwater dependent systems, implement contingency actions defined in Table 11.  Update this Plan where required to inform an adaptive management approach to groundwater management across the business.	<ul> <li>Monitoring program implemented</li> <li>Contingency actions implemented</li> </ul>	Monitoring reports     Compliance Assessment Report (if the Plan is conditioned under the EP Act)     Annual aquifer review     Triennial aquifer review	Rail  Construction/ Post construction  Mine  Construction/ Operations/ Decommissioning and Closure	Manager Long Term Planning and Hydrology



#### 5. MONITORING GUIDELINES

A monitoring program is required to measure the effectiveness of the management actions as defined in this Plan. The outcomes of the monitoring program will contribute to ongoing improvements in management actions to ensure an adaptive management approach is adopted.

## 5.1 Objectives

The guiding objectives of the groundwater monitoring program includes:

- Determine whether the levels and water quality in groundwater dependent systems potentially impacted by Fortescue activities are significantly different from baseline modelling and/or control site values.
- 2. Monitor and measure the success of management measures to inform an adaptive management approach.
- 3. Obtain adequate data to measure spatial and temporal changes in site hydrogeology within Fortescue controlled sites.

Baseline and operational monitoring will be informed by the findings of the monitoring itself as they become available. These findings may similarly lead to ongoing refinements to this Plan and its management strategies to ensure an adaptive management approach is undertaken during Fortescue activities.

### 5.2 Baseline Modelling/ Sampling

Initial hydrogeological modelling has been conducted as part of the Eliwana Mine groundwater impact assessment to obtain a representative baseline dataset of the site hydrogeology.

Baseline sampling for groundwater quality will be conducted where possible prior to construction to obtain an accurate baseline dataset.

## **5.3** Program Summary

An effective monitoring program may be adaptive over time, dependent on quality and quantity of data collected from each site, with innovations in monitoring techniques and methodologies incorporated into program design over time. This would however be dependent on and be driven by the quality and quantity of data collected from each site, coupled with a periodic review of monitoring methods. Further, program design should be based on replicable sampling at impact and reference sites.





A set of monitoring parameters and methods have been selected to provide broad coverage of potential changes in groundwater flow and quality that can be expected under a range of different mining related impacts. The number of monitoring parameters will vary depending on the approval conditions and groundwater dependent systems.

Groundwater sampling should be conducted in accordance with the requirements of AS/NZS 5667.11:1998 *Water Quality – Sampling - Guidance on Sampling of Groundwaters*.

Monitoring will be undertaken in accordance with the *Groundwater Sampling Procedure* (CH-PR-WM-0001).

A summary of monitoring parameters and methods have been provided in Table 7.

Table 7: Monitoring Parameters and Methods

Monitoring Parameter	Method
Rainfall	Rainfall gauge
Hydrochemistry	Sample collection (field)/ Analysis (lab)
Field EC and pH	Water quality meter (field)
Water levels	Water level indicator (field)

Table 8 provides the monitoring parameters to be monitored per location type within Fortescue controlled sites where water is present and accessible.

Table 8: Types and Associated Parameters and Site Locations

Туре	Parameter	Site
Rainfall	Rainfall	Suitable location within representative catchment boundary and within the approval boundary
Select bores near: Landfill TSF Waste dumps GDV	Field EC and pH	Monitoring Bores
Select bores near: Landfill TSF Waste dumps GDV Restricted Styogofauna Habitat	Groundwater levels <sup>7</sup>	Monitoring Bores

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Bores for groundwater level are to be outside the modelled drawdown extent **Groundwater Management Plan**Page 21 of 46





Туре	Parameter	Site
Select bores near: Landfill TSF Waste dumps	Hydrochemistry <sup>89</sup>	Monitoring Bores
Select bores near <sup>10</sup> : Waste dumps TSF	See Acid and Metalliferous Drainage Sampling Plan (100-PL-EN-1014)	Monitoring Bores
Select bores near: Bulk Fuel Facilities Landfill Bioremediation Areas	Total Recoverable Hydrocarbons	Monitoring Bores

Table 9 provides the hydrochemistry parameters to be monitored for those select bores near the landfill, TSF and Waste Dumps.

Table 9: Hydrochemistry parameters

Туре	Parameter
TDS	TDS
Anions	Alkalinity
	Chloride
	Nitrate
	Sulfate
	Fluoride
Cations	Calcium
	Potassium
	Magnesium
	Sodium
Metal Suite	Arsenic
	Chromium
	Copper
	Mercury
	Nickel
	Lead
	Zinc
	Aluminium

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See Table 9

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Waste landforms will be monitored when determined to be a potential source in the sites source, pathway, receptor risk model as defined by the *Acid and Metalliferous Drainage Management Plan* (100-PL-EN-1016).



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> ANZECC water quality guidelines, 95% protection level value



Туре	Parameter
	Boron
	Cobalt
	Iron
	Manganese
	Antimony
	Selenium
	Silica
	Bismuth
	Molybdenum
	Tin
	Thorium
	Uranium
	Vanadium
Ultra-low detection	Silver
limits	Beryllium
	Cadmium
	Lanthanum
	Thallium

Contingency actions (Section 5.6) and reporting (Section 8) requirements will be implemented where required.

Indicative monitoring sites have been identified in Figure 1 for the Railway and Figure 2 for the Mine. Monitoring at these indicative sites is dependent on land access granted through tenure and heritage approvals (yet to be obtained) before the monitoring activity can be undertaken. Where the required tenure and/or heritage approval is not obtained for all or some of the indicative monitoring sites, the indicative locations identified in Figure 1 and 2 will be revised to reflect the limitations of the approval.

Monitoring locations will be finalised once the Mine Plan is approved.

Results of the groundwater monitoring program will also inform and be informed by the following monitoring programs to determine impacts to ecosystem health:

- Conservation significant fauna
- Vegetation health
- Surface Water





• Subterranean fauna (where surveys have identified a restricted habitat and management and monitoring is required).

A summary of the groundwater monitoring program is provided in Table 10.



Table 10: Summary of Groundwater Monitoring Programs

Area/ Aspect to be monitored	Location	Parameter	Collection Method	Frequency - Mine	Frequency - Rail
Rainfall	Centroid, upper reaches of catchments. On high ground away from buildings, vegetation	Rainfall	Field Collection/ Rainfall gauge	Quarterly <sup>Error!</sup> Bookmark not defined.	Monthly
Landfill TSF Waste Dumps Bulk Fuel Facility GDVs	Within the referenced aquifer and upgradient and downgradient from the potential impact source	Field EC and pH	Field Collection/ water quality meter	Quarterly	Monthly
TSF Waste Dumps Bulk Fuel Facility GDVs Restricted stygofauna habitat		Groundwater level <sup>7</sup>	Field Collection/ water level indicator	Quarterly	Monthly
Landfill TSF Waste Dumps Bulk Fuel Facility		Hydrochemistry	Sample Collection (field)/ Analysis (Lab)	Quarterly	NA
Waste Dumps Landfill		See Acid and Metalliferous Drainage Sampling Plan (100-PL-EN-1014)	Sample Collection (field)/ Analysis (Lab)	As required <sup>12</sup>	NA
Bulk Fuel Facility Bioremediation Area		TRH	Sample Collection (field)/ Analysis (Lab)	Quarterly	NA



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#### 5.4 Monitoring Program Review

#### 5.4.1 Rail Monitoring Program

The overarching monitoring program will be technically assessed and reviewed upon acceptance of this plan.

The rail monitoring program will be implemented during construction and post construction to verify the environmental outcomes in Table 3 have been met. If no triggers have been exceeded (detailed in Table 11) and the data captured over two years of above average rainfall can demonstrate the environmental outcomes in Table 3 have been met, the monitoring may cease. Any further groundwater monitoring required to demonstrate effective groundwater management during operations will be managed under a Groundwater Operating Strategy required under a 5C Licence under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*.

Contingency actions (Section 5.6) and reporting requirements (Section 8) will be implemented where required.

# 5.4.2 Mine Monitoring Program

The overarching monitoring program will be technically assessed and reviewed upon acceptance of this plan and then every three years thereafter. The main objective of the assessment and review will be to ensure that the methods, parameters and frequency used are considerate and appropriate to the findings of the monitoring program. If no triggers are exceeded (detailed in Table 11) after three years, the frequency of monitoring will be reduced to a frequency supported by the review.

Monitoring sites may need to be adapted over time in response to project impacts.

Contingency action (Section 5.6) and reporting requirements (Section 8) will be implemented where required.

#### **5.5** Data Handling Statistical Analysis

Data will be handled in accordance with the data handling protocol established as part of the annual monitoring tender. The protocol will include the requirements as to data storage and protection, data extraction, quality control, analysis, interpretation, reporting and presentation.

The protocol will also directly reference and align with the requirements detailed in *Document Control, Information Management* (100-ST-DC-001) and *Geographic Information Systems and Raw Data Guidelines* (100-GU-EN-0009).





Statistical analysis of data will be undertaken where data permits. Where data capture allows, analysis will include using time series line charts for each parameter and scatterplots to determine relationships between parameters. If parameter relationships appear to be present or exceedances or trends occur determine cause and implement corrective actions.

The results of chemical and physical data should be analysed after every sample event, values of each parameter should be compared against trigger values to determine if an exceedance has occurred.

Monitoring reports will also be provided to the State and Commonwealth Governments as dictated by annual reporting requirements. In addition, the monitoring raw data will be made available to the Western Australian State Government and the Commonwealth Government upon request or where conditioned to provide.

## **5.6** Contingency Actions

Contingency actions will be initiated during construction, operational and decommissioning activities when an exceedance of a trigger is identified, and monitoring indicates that implemented management measures are not successfully mitigating impacts on groundwater dependent systems and/or the management objectives are not being achieved.

Contingency actions for groundwater monitoring triggers have been developed in Table 11.



Table 11: Trigger Criteria and Associated Contingency Actions

Outcome	Trigger/ Threshold Criteria	Contingency Action
Railway Groundwater management infrastructure operates as per design to minimise adverse impacts outside of assessed impact areas <sup>11</sup>	Trigger Criteria An exceedance of expected groundwater level values outside inside or outside of the assessed impact areas in comparison to reference sites over two consecutive monitoring events Threshold Criteria Following construction, groundwater level values outside of the assessed impact areas are above baseline values after two years of above average rainfall <sup>12</sup>	Trigger Contingency Actions  Initiate implementation of the contingency measures within 2 weeks of the exceedance being identified.  Determine whether the changes observed in the impact sites are comparable to baseline monitoring/sampling  Re-examine monitoring results (QA/QC) to validate data. Re monitor if required.  Ground truth the results of the disturbance to validate if findings of assessment are correct.  Increase monitoring frequency  Identify the reason for the change and where it was caused by construction, operations or decommissioning/closure activities, review management measures with an adaptive management response.  Threshold Contingency Actions
		<ul> <li>Initiate implementation of contingency measures within 24 hours of the exceedance being identified.</li> </ul>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Refer to Eliwana Railway Public Environmental Review (EW-RP-EN-0004)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Rainfall to be considered as an average of rainfall measured at Eliwana and Solomon (Castle Camp) weather stations.



Outcome	Trigger/ Threshold Criteria	Contingency Action
		<ul> <li>Re-examine monitoring results (QA/QC) to validate data. Re monitor if required.</li> <li>Ground truth the results of the disturbance to validate findings of the assessment and/or determine/identify what may be causing the exceedance. Where cause is identified during ground truthing and can be rectified, undertake action immediately. For actions which require alternate resources, schedule works to be undertaken as soon as possible.</li> <li>Cross reference groundwater monitoring results with most recent vegetation health monitoring results to determine whether an impact can be identified. Implement additional actions under the vegetation health management and monitoring plan where impacts are present.</li> <li>Where the threshold exceedance was not caused by construction, operation or decommissioning activities, resume standard monitoring frequency.</li> <li>Where the threshold exceedance was caused by construction activities:         <ul> <li>Implement adaptive management response (modified abstraction) management guidance within the Groundwater Operating Strategy. This may include a reduction in abstraction volumes in impacted areas.</li> <li>Once management actions have been completed, extend the monitoring program to include an additional recharge event to determine if groundwater quality and level values recover.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



Outcome	Trigger/ Threshold Criteria	Contingency Action
		<ul> <li>Continue to implement actions to remediate the exceedance until approval to cease has been given by the OEPA.</li> </ul>
Mine (1)  No adverse impacts to groundwater quality outside of assessed impact areas 13 as a result of implementing the proposal	Trigger Criteria An exceedance of groundwater quality guideline values (see Table 8) in comparison to reference sites over two consecutive monitoring events Threshold Criteria An exceedance of site specific background trigger values 14 over four consecutive monitoring events in comparison to reference sites AND Subsequent investigations determine that the impacts are likely a result of the implementation of the proposal.	Trigger Contingency Actions  Determine whether the changes observed in the impact sites are comparable to baseline sampling  Re-examine monitoring results (QA/QC) to validate data. Re monitor if required.  Increase monitoring frequency  Identify the reason for the change and where it was caused by construction, operations or decommissioning/closure activities, review management measures with an adaptive management response.
Mine (2) Groundwater management infrastructure operates as per design to minimise adverse impacts to groundwater dependent vegetation outside of assessed impact areas	Trigger Criteria Groundwater drawdown measured at impact monitoring sites exceeds 80% of maximum drawdown presented in the Eliwana Iron Ore Mine Public Environmental Review (EW-RP-EN-0003), measured over two consecutive events.  Threshold Criteria Groundwater drawdown measured at impact monitoring sites is within 1 m of maximum drawdown presented in the Eliwana Iron Ore Mine Public Environmental Review (EW-RP-EN-0003), measured over two consecutive events.	<ul> <li>Mine (2) only - Recalibrate the model developed during baseline modelling</li> <li>Threshold Contingency Actions</li> <li>Initiate implementation of contingency measures within 24 hours of the exceedance being identified.</li> <li>Re-examine monitoring results (QA/QC) to validate data. Re monitor if required.</li> </ul>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Refer to *Eliwana Iron Ore Mine Public Environmental Review* (EW-RP-EN-0003)

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> The modelled value will reference the numerical groundwater model from the most recent Hydrological Assessment approved by DWER as part of the Groundwater Operating Strategy for the Proposal.



Outcome	Trigger/ Threshold Criteria	Contingency Action
Outcome	AND Subsequent investigations determine that the impacts are likely a result of the implementation of the proposal.	Ground truth the results of the disturbance to validate findings of the assessment and/or determine/identify what may be causing the exceedance. Where cause is identified during ground truthing and can be rectified, undertake action immediately. For actions which require alternate resources, schedule works to be undertaken as soon as possible.      Cross reference groundwater monitoring results with most recent vegetation health/surface water/conservation significant fauna monitoring results to determine whether an impact can be identified. Implement additional actions under the vegetation health management and monitoring plan where impacts are present.      Where the threshold exceedance was not caused by construction, operation or decommissioning activities, resume standard monitoring frequency.      Where the threshold exceedance was caused by construction activities:      Implement adaptive management response (modified abstraction) management guidance within the Groundwater Operating Strategy. This may include a reduction in abstraction volumes in impacted areas.
		<ul> <li>Once management actions have been completed, extend the monitoring program to include an additional recharge event to determine if groundwater quality and level values recover.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Continue to implement actions to remediate the exceedance until approval to cease has been given by the OEPA.</li> </ul>



#### 6. **COMPLIANCE**

Fortescue ensures compliance with its legal obligations through first party quality assurance by site and corporate environment teams with a focus on effective environmental management through the implementation of the Fortescue wide Environmental Management System (EMS).

Fortescue has adopted a risk based approach to monitor compliance with its legal obligations. Site environment teams will monitor their compliance with this Plan and the required site specific management and monitoring programs using the *Self-Verification of High Risk Environmental Legal Obligations Guideline* (100-GU-EN-0030).

Where non-conformance issues or opportunities for improvement are identified these will be documented and tracked via the Business Management System (BMS).

#### 7. ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

Fortescue will implement adaptive management practices to learn from the implementation of mitigation measures, monitoring and evaluation against management targets, to more effectively meet the conditioned environmental objective. Adaptive management practices that will be assessed for the vegetation health management and monitoring program as part of this approach may include:

- Evaluation of the monitoring program, data and comparison to baseline data and reference sites on an annual basis to verify whether responses to project activities are the same or similar to predictions
- Evaluation of assumptions and uncertainties of the management and monitoring program
- Re-evaluation of the risk assessment and revision of risk based priorities as a result of monitoring outcomes
- Review of data and information gathered over the review period that has increased understanding of site environment in the context of the regional ecosystem
- Review of management actions as the project matures and new management measures and technologies become available that may be more effective for environmental management
- Assessment of changes which are outside the control of the project and the management measures identified (i.e. a new project within the area or region; regional change affecting management)

Review of the Environmental Management Plan will be undertaken following the review of the associated monitoring program and the corresponding results.





#### 8. REPORTING

## 8.1 Annual Monitoring Report

An Annual Monitoring Report will be developed with the results of the monitoring programs across all Fortescue controlled sites. This report will outline the monitoring data captured during the reporting period and the analysis required to report compliance against management targets and conditioned environmental objectives.

### 8.2 Annual Compliance Assessment Report

Fortescue is required to report against its compliance with the Management Plan in the Compliance Assessment report prepared in accordance with the OEPA's Post Assessment Guideline for Preparing a Compliance Assessment Report, Post Assessment Guideline No. 3.

Annual Compliance Assessment Reports (CAR) are required to be submitted in accordance with relevant Ministerial Statements conditions.

The reporting requirements against management targets and conditioned environmental objectives are provided in Table 3. In the event that trigger criteria were exceeded during the reporting period, the CAR will include a description of the effectiveness of the contingency actions that have been implemented to manage the impact and any adaptive management measures applied as a result of the exceedance.

Currently, the Eliwana Iron Ore Mine Project is not required to report on compliance with the Groundwater Management Plan. Once approval is granted under Part IV of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* and implementation of the Groundwater Management is conditioned in the Ministerial Statement, Fortescue will adhere to the reporting requirements outlined in section 8 of this Plan.

## **8.3** Annual Environmental Monitoring Report

Fortescue is required to report environmental monitoring data, as required by Operating Licences issued by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

An Annual Environmental Monitoring Reports (AEMR) will be submitted in accordance with the relevant licence conditions once the Eliwana project is approved and a licence is issued.





## 8.4 Annual/Triennial Aquifer Review

Fortescue is required to develop an Annual Groundwater Monitoring Summary and a Triennial Groundwater Monitoring Review as required by a Groundwater Operating Strategy issued under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*. Annual and Triennial reporting will be undertaken for the Eliwana Mine Project in accordance with the Operational Policy 5.08 in "*Use of Operating Strategies in the Water Licensing Process* (DoW, 2010).

During construction, the Eliwana Railway Project will utilise existing bores within the Southern Fortescue Borefield approved under the Solomon Iron Ore Project – Sustaining Production Proposal. Reporting requirements will be undertaken in accordance with the existing Groundwater Operating Strategy.

# **8.5** Reporting of Potential Non-Compliances

Fortescue is required to report against monitoring outcomes as per conditioned timeframes. Trigger criteria and where required threshold criteria have been identified in Table 2.

In the event that monitoring, tests, surveys or investigations indicate an exceedance of a threshold criteria in Table 3 Fortescue will report in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Ministerial Statement condition(s).

Currently, the Eliwana Iron Ore Mine Project is not required to report on compliance with the Groundwater Management Plan. Once approval is granted under Part IV of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* and implementation of the Groundwater Management is conditioned in the Ministerial Statement, Fortescue will adhere to the reporting requirements outlined in the Ministerial Statement.



## 9. REVIEW OF THE PLAN

Review of this Plan will be undertaken every five years or as required by a condition. Revisions of this Plan will be submitted to the relevant State and Commonwealth Governments for approval, in accordance with relevant approval conditions.



### 10. STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

Fortescue has undertaken extensive stakeholder consultation program whereby landowners, regulators and other relevant parties have been consulted with regard to investigation and design of the mine sites and port and rail infrastructure through the environmental approvals process.

Regulatory agencies will be consulted in accordance with the requirements of the EPA's "Instructions on how to prepare *Environmental Protection Act 1986* Part IV Environmental Management Plan".

Table 12 will be updated following receipt of stakeholder comment as a result of the review and approval process.

Table 12: Stakeholder Consultation, Comments and Responses

Stakeholder	Correspondence	Comment	Change
DWER – Regions	CMS17164	The proponent has prepared a site-specific Eliwana Groundwater and Surface Water management plans to support the ERD submission. RSW will comment on the content and acceptability of these plans during the assessment period, makes note that whilst the plans presented contain information on potential management strategies, the plans do not define which surface and groundwater features are significant and will need management.	See attached Figures for relevant groundwater features.
DWER – Regions	CMS17164	No proposed management strategies (triggers and thresholds) established within the plan rather the plan commits to develop these strategies. It is unclear that this addresses the work required for task 18 of the scoping requirements.	Following discussions with the EPA, the Plan has been revised to support an outcomes-based approach. The Plan now meets the requirements of the EPA's "Instructions on how to prepare Environmental Protection Act 1986 Part IV Environmental Management Plan". Which specifies trigger and thresholds criteria to be established where an outcomes-based condition is being proposed.  Water quality triggers have been identified within the Plan through reference to the ANZECC Guidelines, Water Quality Protection Guidelines for Mining and Mineral Processing and Water Quality Protection Note 68 where triggers are identified.



Stakeholder	Correspondence	Comment	Change
DWER - Regions	CMS 17164	As mentioned, the proponent has submitted the more general Pilbara wide groundwater and surface water management plans applicable to the Chichesters and Solomon Operations. These plans are not applicable because the ESD requires standalone Eliwana surface water and groundwater plans to be submitted to support the Eliwana operations.	EPA's "Instructions on how to prepare Environmental Protection Act 1986 Part IV Environmental Management Plan" enables proponents to draft factor-based plans for multiple operations. This is the approach Fortescue is using for its EMP development program.
DWER -Terrestrial Ecosystems	CMS 17164	The SWMP and GWMP are also inadequate. They are plans to develop plans rather than containing specific information, management actions, monitoring techniques and SMART trigger and thresholds required. The SWMP should include management actions for maintaining sheet flow dependent vegetation.	Following discussions with the EPA, the Plan has been revised to support an outcomes-based approach. The Plan now meets the requirements of the EPA's "Instructions on how to prepare Environmental Protection Act 1986 Part IV Environmental Management Plan" which specifies trigger and thresholds criteria to be established where an outcomes-based condition is being proposed.  Management actions are not required under outcomes based plans – see EPA's "Instructions on how to prepare Environmental Protection Act 1986 Part IV Environmental Management Plan". Management actions have been included in the Plan to demonstrate effective management of the factor but will not be reported against to demonstrate compliance.  Management actions (Section 4), Monitoring methods (Section 5) and triggers and thresholds (Table 2) are outlined in the Plan as required under the Instructions.
DWER – Regional Services	DWERT998, DWERDT88185	Section 8.2 states that FMG commits to adhering to the reporting requirement outlined in Section 9.2 of this plan (GWMP). The document does not contain a section 9.2.	The comment received regarding a reference to Section 9.2 of the Plan was a typo. Section 8.2 has now been updated to state "Fortescue will adhere to the reporting requirements outlined in Section 8 of this Plan.
DWER – Regional Services	DWERT998, DWERDT88185	The GWMP and SWMP contain figures showing environmental	Fortescue has revised the Groundwater Management



Ctalcab alder	Componder	Comment	Change
Stakeholder	Correspondence	Comment	Change
		consideration and groundwater impact assessment areas, however there is no context to these figures within either plan (the figures are referenced in the PER, Section 4.5.5.2). Although the figures indicate groundwater dependent, surface water dependent and potentially groundwater dependent ecosystems (including several pools), RSD re-iterates advice that there are no proposed monitoring sites detailed on these figures or in the management actions (e.g. identifying locations and frequency).	Plan to include monitoring sites to verify groundwater recovery following recharge events. The monitoring program has been designed to monitor recovery following recharge events once construction has been completed. Once recovery has been verified over four monitoring events, groundwater monitoring will cease. See Figure 1 for indicative monitoring sites.
		Whilst RSD recognises it is difficult to assign specific sites in the preliminary stages, the baseline monitoring data gathered to date should be used to at least set preliminary (estimated) monitoring sites and monitoring frequency - specifically where pools and groundwater dependent ecosystems have been identified. In the absence of this information, RSD is not possible to assess the plan as suitable to manage water related impacts to the rail proposal.	
DWER	Email correspondence from DWER on 28/11/2018	Provide a provisions table and update the threshold criteria to include immediate action.	Provision table and revised threshold criteria



#### 11. REFERENCES

Department of Water, January 2013. Managing the hydrology and hydrogeology of water dependent ecosystems in urban development, Guidance Note 7.

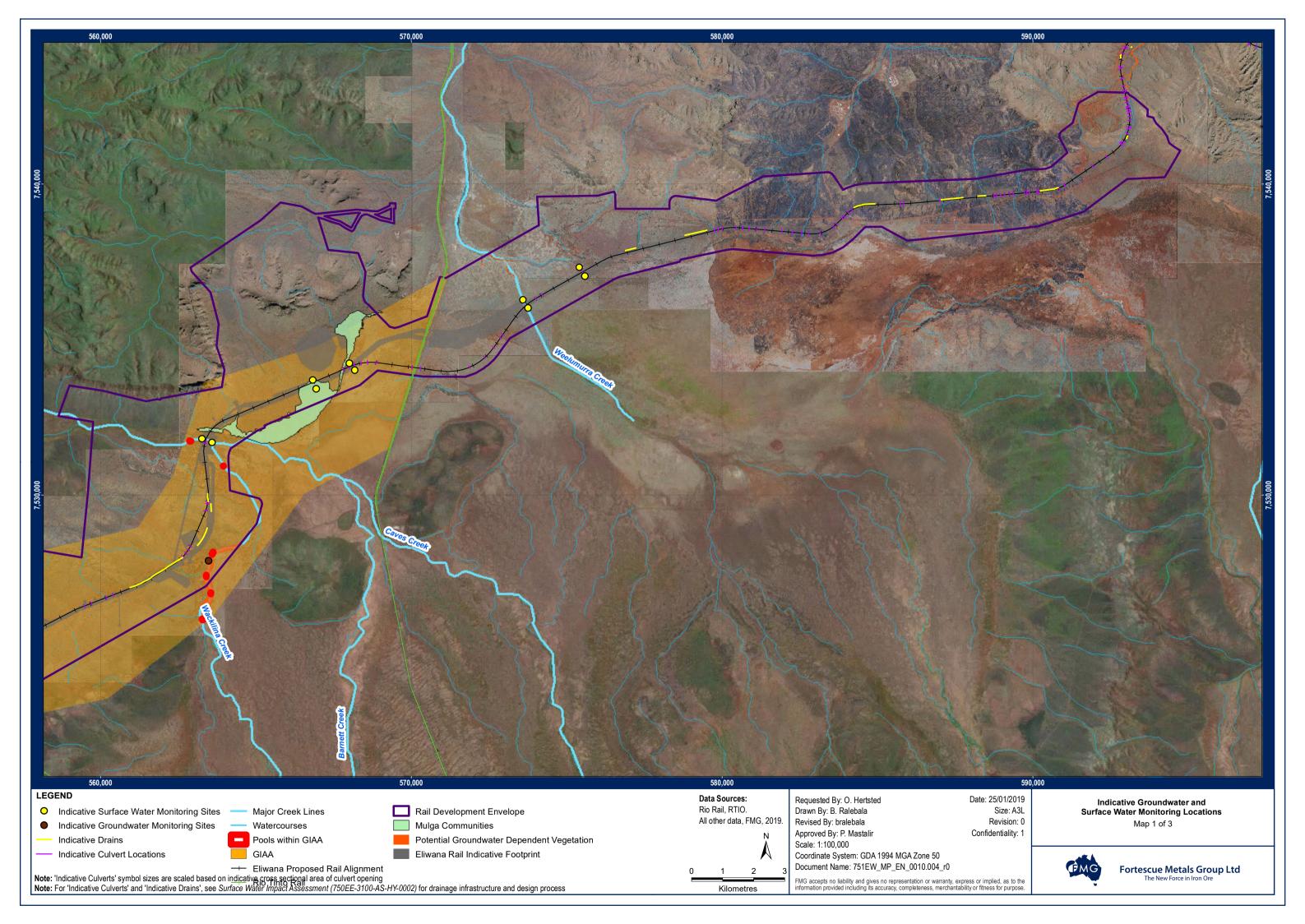
Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand (ARMCANZ) and Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council (ANZECC) 2000.

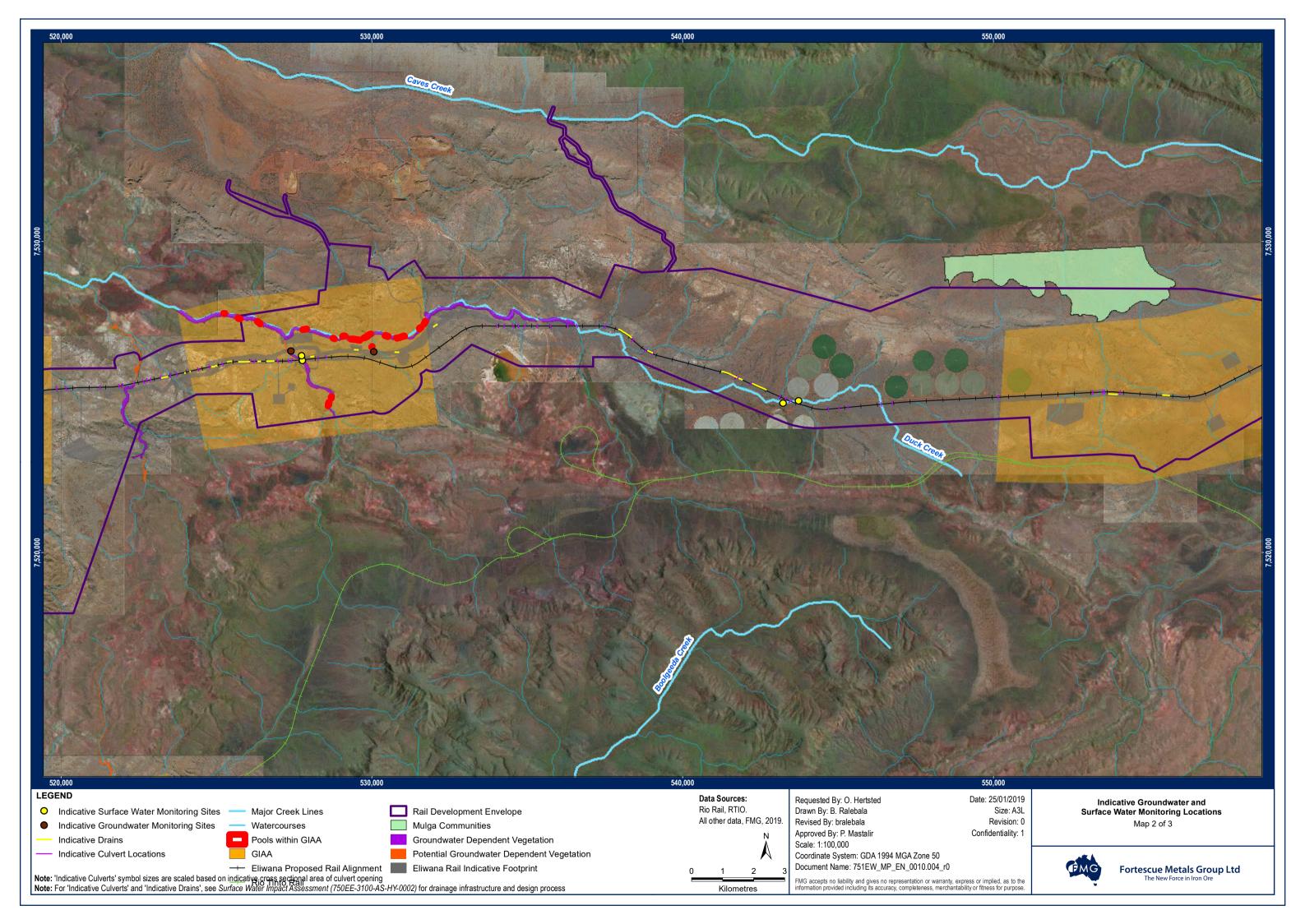
Australian guidelines for water quality monitoring and reporting. National Water Quality Management Strategy paper No 7, Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council & Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand, Canberra.

Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand (ARMCANZ) and Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council (ANZECC) 2000, NationalWater Quality Management Strategy: Australian Guidelines for Urban Stormwater Management.

Richardson, E, Irvine, E, Froend, R, Book, P, Barber, S & Bonneville, B 2011, Australian groundwater dependent ecosystems toolbox part 1: assessment framework, National Water Commission, Canberra.

**Figure 1:** Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring Sites: Eliwana Rail





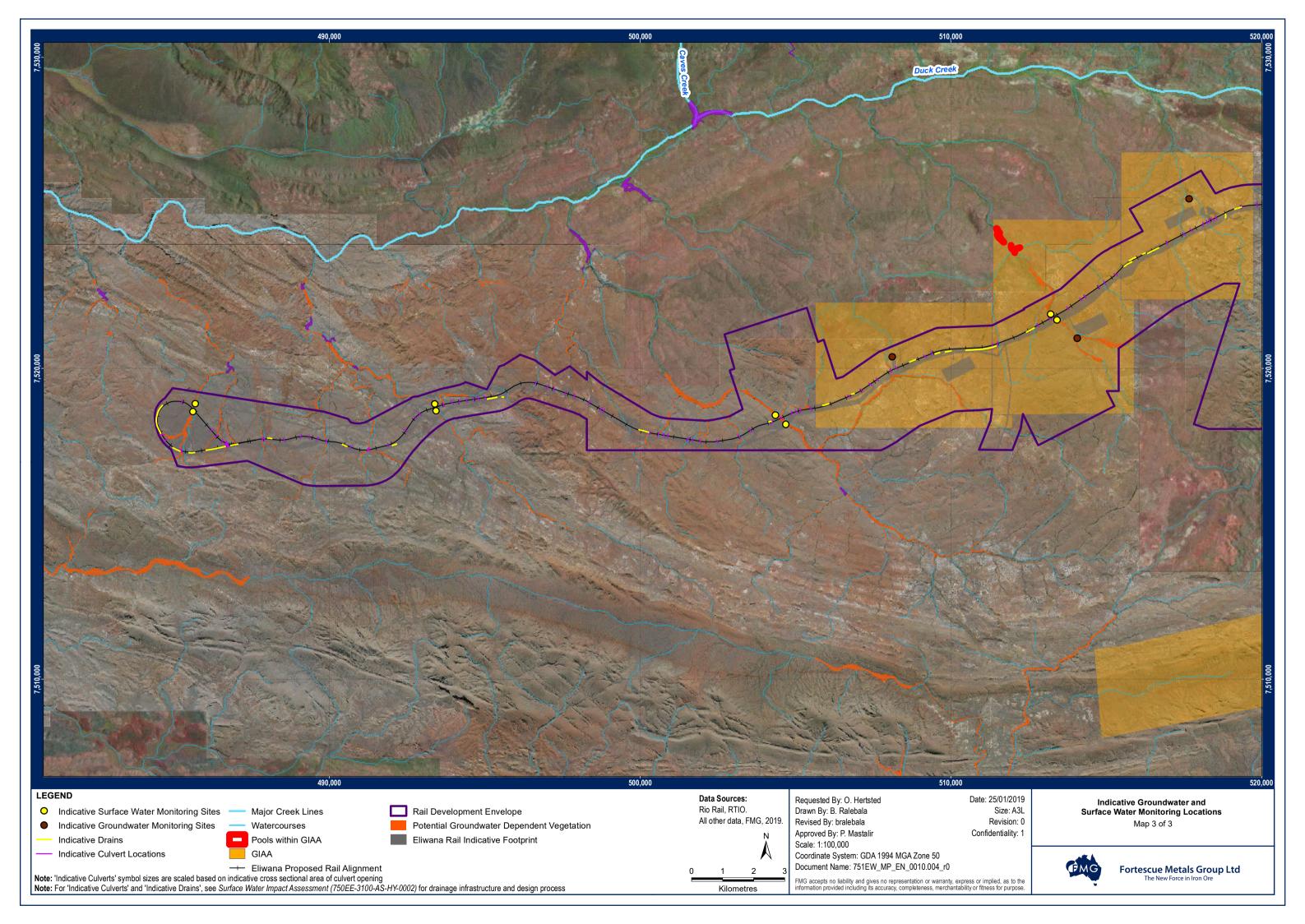
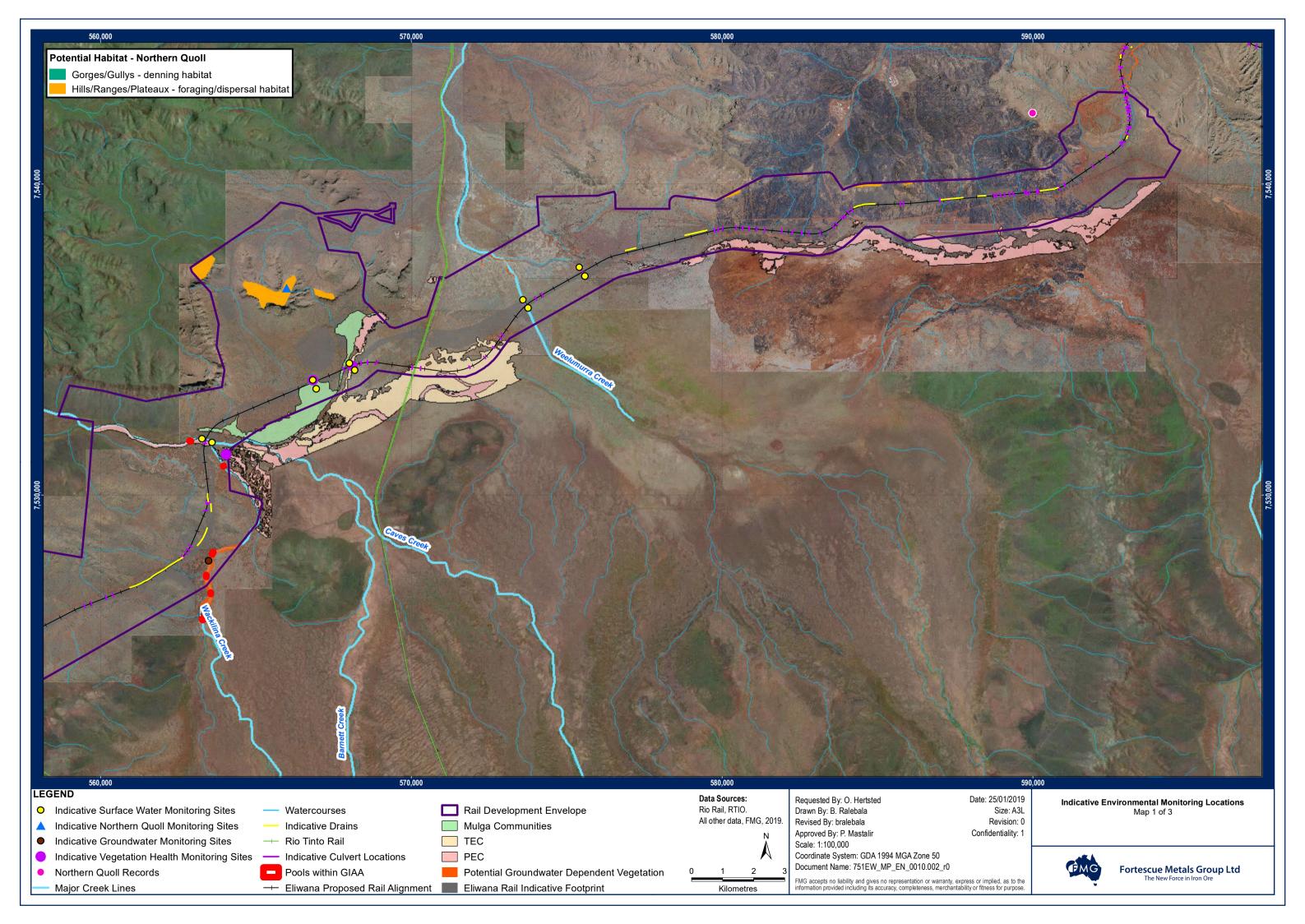
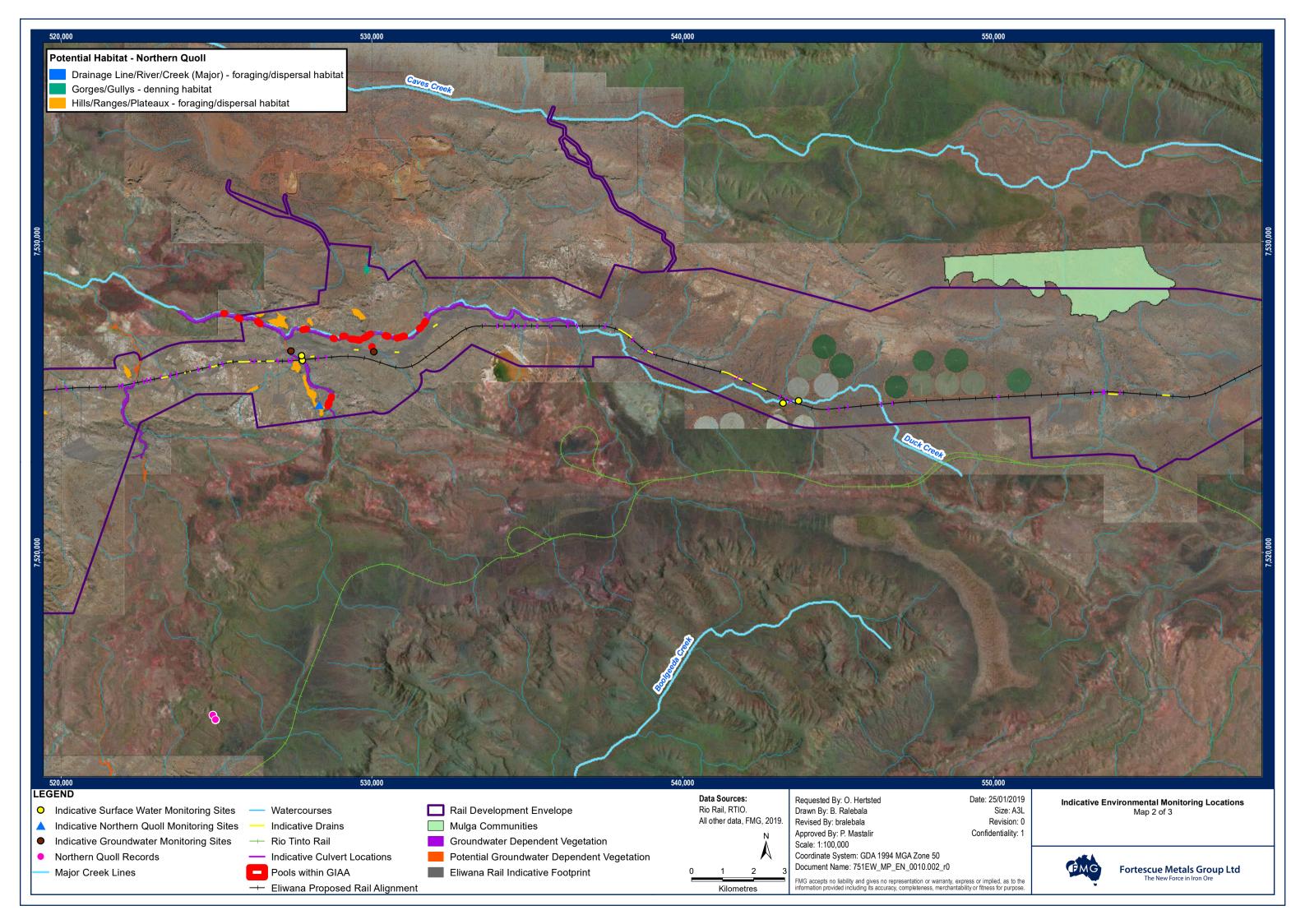
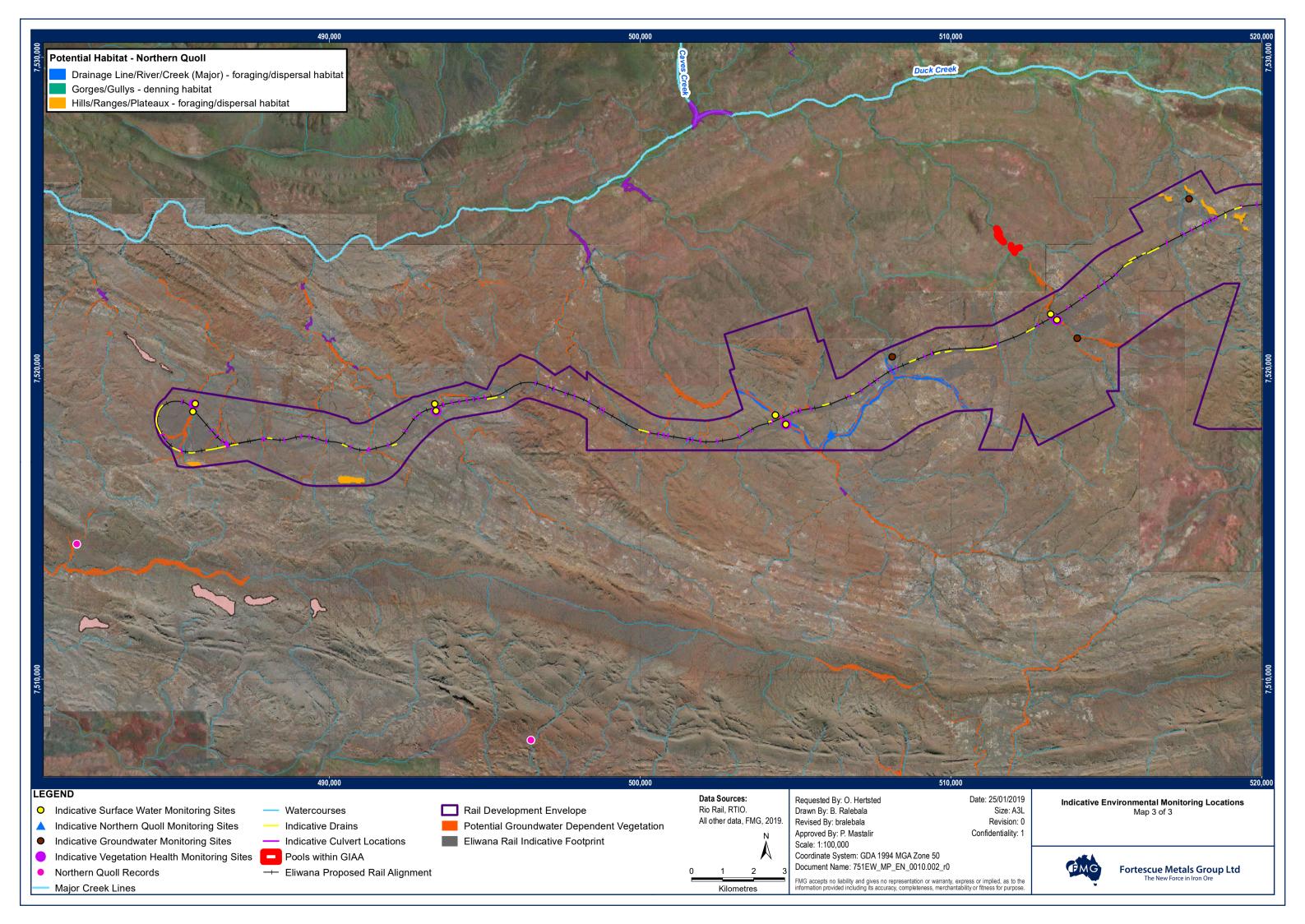


Figure 2: Environmental Monitoring Sites – Eliwana Rail







**Figure 3:** Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring Locations: Eliwana Mine

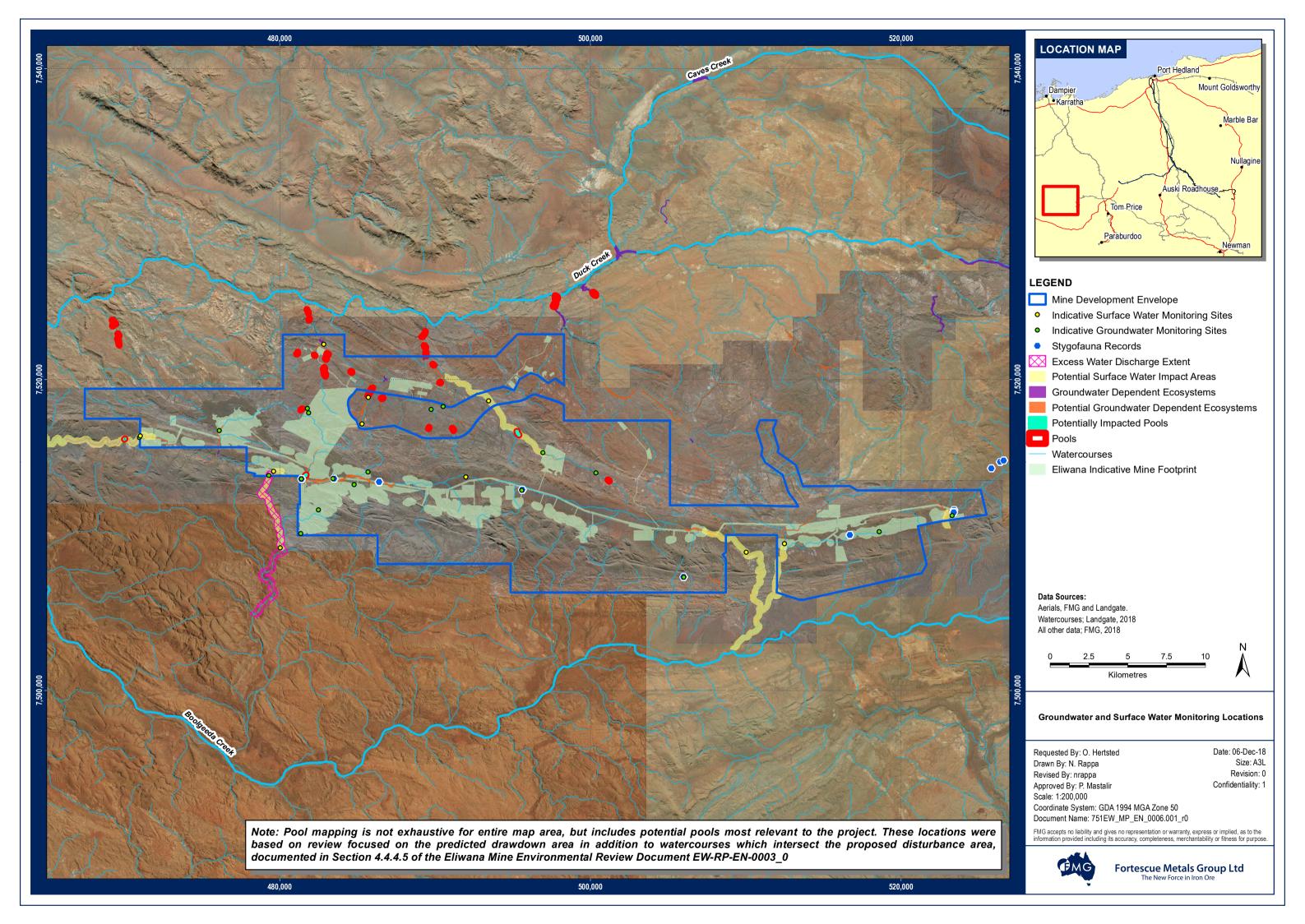
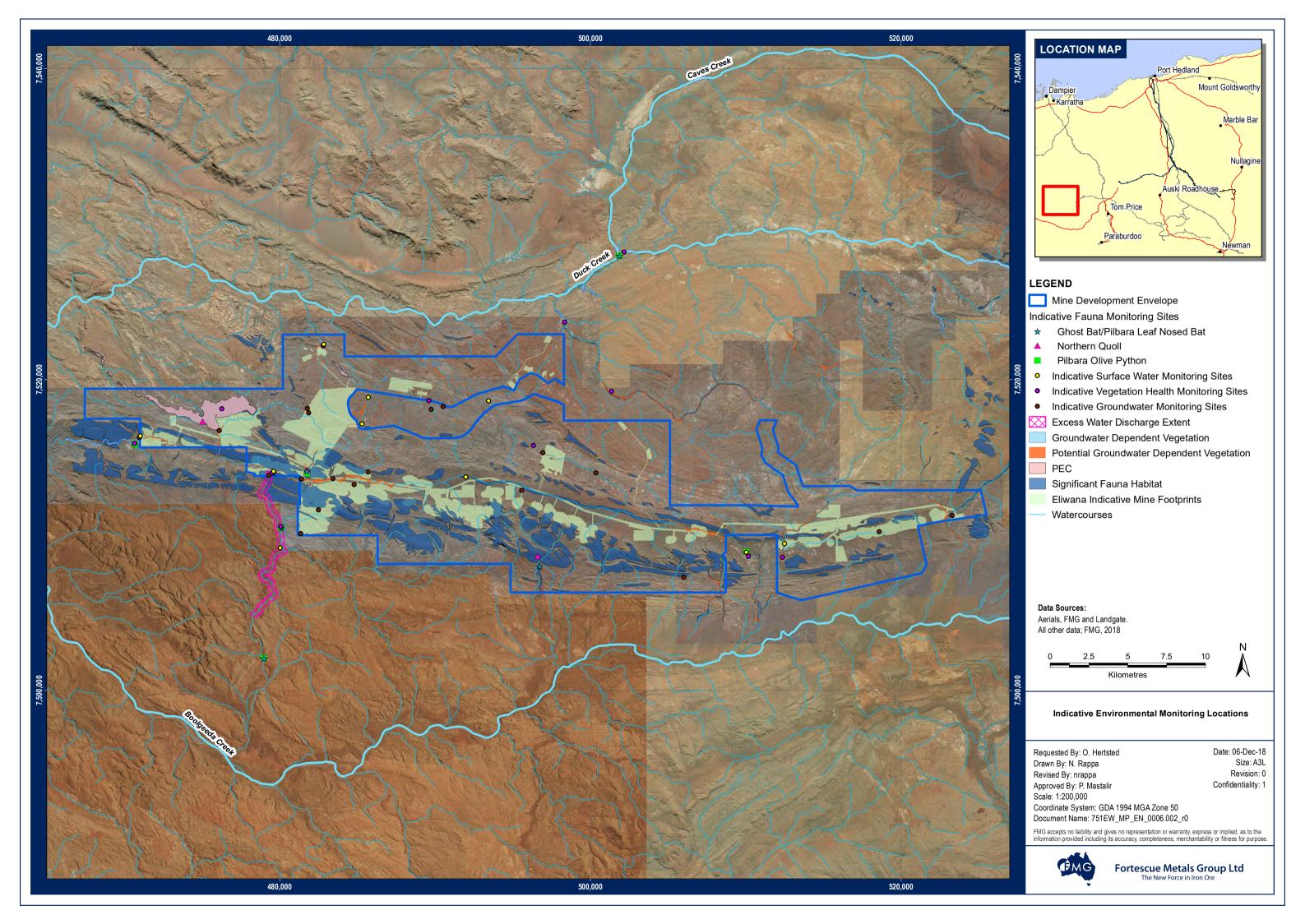


Figure 4: Environmental Monitoring Locations: Eliwana Mine



# **Appendix 1:** Provisions Table – Eliwana Rail



# **GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN - PROVISION TABLE**

# PURPOSE: To meet item number 48 of the Environmental Scoping Document for the Eliwana Railway Project

EPA Factor/s and objectives: Inland waters and hydrological processes

Outcomes: During construction, groundwater management infrastructure operates as per design to minimise adverse impacts outside of assessed impact areas1

# **Key Environmental Values:**

• Conservation significant fauna and their critical habitats; Groundwater dependent vegetation (GDV); conservation significant vegetation and flora

# **Key Impacts and Risks:**

Localised groundwater drawdown; impact to groundwater salinity; Impacts to groundwater dependent vegetation							
Outcomes-based provisions	Outcomes-based provisions						
Management Actions <sup>2</sup>	Environmental criteria		Monitoring				Reporting
Outcome: During construction, groundwater n		per design to minimise adverse impacts outside of ass	sessed impact a				
Ensure baseline monitoring and groundwater sampling are undertaken to:	sampling are undertaken to:   expected groundwater level values	Trigger Contingency Actions     Initiate implementation of the contingency	Aspect	Monitoring parameters	Method	Timing/ Frequency	Annual reporting will be undertaken in accordance with the OEPA's Post Assessment Guideline for
Document groundwater levels and quality within impact and reference sites	inside and outside of the assessed impact areas in comparison to reference sites over two	measures within 2 weeks of the exceedance being identified.	Rainfall	Rainfall	Local weather stations	Monthly	Preparing a Compliance Assessment Report (CAR), Post Assessment Guideline No. 3. In the event that trigger criteria were exceeded during the reporting
<ul> <li>Identify baseline monitoring and groundwater quality at impact and reference sites</li> </ul>	consecutive monitoring events	Determine whether the changes observed in the impact sites are comparable to baseline monitoring/sampling	GDV	Field EC and pH	Tipping bucket rain gauge Field Collection/	Monthly	period, the CAR will include a description of the effectiveness of the contingency actions that have
Compare data across impact and reference sites (and/or regional)	Threshold Criteria: Following construction, groundwater level	Re-examine monitoring results (QA/QC) to validate instrumentation outputs. Re monitor if		Groundwater level	water quality meter Field Collection/	Monthly	been implemented to manage the impact and any adaptive management measures applied as a result of the exceedance.
monitoring sites where available).  Timing: Construction	values outside of the assessed impact areas are below baseline values after two years of above	required.  • Ground truth the results of the disturbance to			water level indicator	,	When an exceedance of threshold criteria has occurred, Fortescue will:
Risk Based Priority: High  Conduct a desktop assessment for all LUC <sup>4</sup>	average rainfall <sup>3</sup>	<ul> <li>Ground truth the results of the disturbance to validate if findings of assessment are correct.</li> <li>Increase monitoring frequency</li> <li>Identify the reason for the change and where it was caused by construction, operations or decommissioning/closure activities, review</li> </ul>	statistical analysis: Where data capture allows, analysis will include using time series line charts for each parameter and scatterplots to determine relationships between parameters. If parameter relationships appear to be present or exceedances or trends occur in relation to the environment criteria to determine cause and implement corrective actions.				Where the exceedance is attributable to construction, operation or decommissioning activities, report the exceedance to the CEO (of the OEPA) within 7 days of the exceedance being identified
applications to ensure groundwater dependent systems within high risk areas are identified prior to ground disturbance.							
Where the works have the potential to impact on groundwater and any associated water dependent systems, apply relevant		management measures with an adaptive management response.  Threshold Contingency Actions  The results of chemical and physical data should be analysed after every event, values of each parameter should be compared against trigger values of each parameter should be compared against trigger values.			Initiate the implementation the threshold contingency actions within 24 hours and continue to implement those actions until the		
management measures to the LUC prior to approval.  Timing: Construction/ Operation		Initiate implementation of contingency measures within 24 hours of the exceedance being identified.  Location of		Location of indicative groundwater monitoring sites (See Figure 1).			CEO has confirmed by notice in writing that it has been demonstrated that the threshold criteria are being met and the implementation
Risk Based Priority: High Ensure groundwater management		Re-examine applied monitoring parameters to validate they are operating within				of the threshold contingency actions is no longer required.	
infrastructure location and design aligns with the assessment outcomes identified in		management levels  Ground truth the results of the disturbance to					<ul> <li>Investigate to determine the cause of the threshold criteria being exceeded.</li> </ul>
Groundwater Impact Assessment: Eliwana Rail Water Supply to minimise impacts to groundwater levels, quality and associated groundwater dependent systems where		validate findings of the assessment and/or determine/identify what may be causing the exceedance. Where cause is identified during ground truthing and can be rectified,					<ul> <li>Investigate to provide information for the OEPA to determine potential environmental harm or alteration of the environment that occurred due to threshold criteria being exceeded.</li> </ul>
possible.  Timing: All stages  Risk Based Priority: High		undertake action immediately. For actions					<ul> <li>Provide a report to the OEPA within 21 days of the exceedance being reported. The report shall include:</li> </ul>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Refer to Eliwana Railway Public Environmental Review (EW-RP-EN-0004)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> An internal permit system required to undertake on-ground activities.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As this is an Outcomes Based Management Plan management actions have only been provided to demonstrate how the outcome will be achieved. These management measures will not be verified against for compliance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Rainfall to be considered as an average of rainfall measured at Eliwana and Solomon (Castle Camp) weather stations.



### **GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN - PROVISION TABLE**

Implement a groundwater monitoring
program in areas identified as high-risk
areas where groundwater dependent
systems have been identified and potential
impacts are significant.

**Timing:** Construction/ Post Construction **Risk Based Priority**: High

Where monitoring indicates a potential impact on groundwater levels and/or quality or associated groundwater dependent systems, implement contingency actions.

Update this Plan where required to inform an adaptive management approach to groundwater management across the business.

**Timing:** Construction/ Post Construction

Risk Based Priority: High

Conduct progressive rehabilitation of disturbed areas no longer required for operations, including bores and associated infrastructure, in accordance with the Integrated Rail Network Closure Plan.

**Timing:** Post Construction/ Operations/ Closure

Risk Based Priority: High

which require alternate resources, schedule works to be undertaken as soon as possible.

- Cross reference groundwater monitoring results with most recent vegetation health monitoring results to determine whether an impact can be identified. Implement additional actions under the vegetation health management and monitoring plan where impacts are present.
- Where the threshold exceedance was not caused by construction, operation or decommissioning activities, resume standard monitoring frequency.
- Where the threshold exceedance was caused by construction activities:
- Implement adaptive management response (modified abstraction) management guidance within the Groundwater Operating Strategy. This may include a reduction in abstraction volumes in impacted areas.
- Once management actions have been completed, extend the monitoring program to include an additional recharge event to determine if groundwater quality and level values recover.
- Continue to implement actions to remediate the exceedance until approval to cease has been given by the OEPA.

- Details of threshold contingency actions implemented,
- The effectiveness of the threshold contingency actions implemented, against the threshold criteria,
- The findings of the investigations,
- Measures to prevent the threshold criteria being exceeded in the future,
- Measures to prevent, control or abate the environmental harm which may have occurred,
- Justification of the threshold remaining, or being adjusted based on better understanding, demonstrating that outcomes will continue to be met.

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# **Appendix 2:** Provisions Table – Eliwana Mine



### **GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN - PROVISION TABLE**

# PURPOSE: To meet item number 20 of the Environmental Scoping Document for the Eliwana Mine Project

**EPA Factor/s and objectives**: Inland waters and hydrological processes

Outcomes: (1) No adverse impacts to groundwater quality outside of assessed impact areas¹ as a result of implementing the proposal; (2) Groundwater management infrastructure operates as per design to minimise adverse impacts to groundwater dependent vegetation and/or potentially restricted stygofauna habitat outside of assessed impact areas

### **Key Environmental Values:**

• Conservation significant fauna and their critical habitats; Groundwater dependent vegetation (GDV); Groundwater dependent systems

# **Key Impacts and Risks:**

• Localised groundwater drawdown; injection of excess groundwater resulting in groundwater mounding; controlled release of excess water; Impacts to groundwater dependent vegetation; altered hydrogeology and water balance associated with permanent or episodic mining void water bodies

volu water bodies							
Outcomes-based provisions							
Management Actions <sup>2</sup>	Environmental criteria	Response actions	Monitoring				Reporting
Outcome: No adverse impacts to groundwater quality ou		a result of implementing the proposal					
Ensure baseline monitoring and groundwater sampling	Trigger Criteria:	Trigger Contingency Actions	Aspect	Monitoring	Method	Timing/	Annual reporting will be undertaken in accordance
are undertaken to:	An exceedance of groundwater quality quideline values (see	Determine whether the changes		parameters		Frequency	with the OEPA's Post Assessment Guideline for
Document groundwater levels and quality within	Table 8) in comparison to	observed in the impact sites are	Rainfall	Rainfall	Local weather	Quarterly	Preparing a Compliance Assessment Report (CAR), Post Assessment Guideline No. 3. In the
impact and reference sites	reference sites over two	comparable to baseline sampling			stations Tipping bucket rain		event that trigger criteria were exceeded during the
Identify baseline monitoring and groundwater	consecutive monitoring events	Re-examine monitoring results (QA/QC)			gauge		reporting period, the CAR will include a description
quality at impact and reference sites		to validate data. Re monitor if required.	Landfill	Field EC and pH	Field Collection/ water	Quarterly	of the effectiveness of the contingency actions that
Compare data across impact and reference sites  (and/or regional manifesting sites where available)	Threshold Criteria:	Increase monitoring frequency	TSF Waste Dumps		quality meter		have been implemented to manage the impact and
(and/or regional monitoring sites where available).	An exceedance of site specific	Identify the reason for the change and	Bulk Fuel Facility				any adaptive management measures applied as a result of the exceedance.
Timing: Construction	background trigger values <sup>3</sup> over	where it was caused by construction, operations or decommissioning/closure	GDVs				When an exceedance of threshold criteria has
Risk Based Priority: High	four consecutive monitoring events in comparison to	activities, review management measures	Landfill TSF	Hydrochemistry	Sample Collection	Quarterly	occurred, Fortescue will:
Conduct a desktop assessment for all LUC <sup>4</sup>	reference sites	with an adaptive management response.	Waste Dumps		(field)/ Analysis (Lab)		Where the exceedance is attributable to
applications to ensure groundwater dependent systems within high risk areas are identified prior to ground	AND	Threshold Contingency Actions	Bulk Fuel Facility				construction, operation or decommissioning
disturbance. Where the works have the potential to	Subsequent investigations	<ul> <li>Initiate implementation of contingency</li> </ul>	Waste Dumps	See Acid and	Sample Collection	As required <sup>12</sup>	activities, report the exceedance to the CEO (of
impact on groundwater and any associated water	determine that the impacts are likely a result of the	measures within 24 hours of the	Landfill	Metalliferous Drainage	(field)/ Analysis (Lab)		the OEPA) within 7 days of the exceedance
dependent systems, apply relevant management	implementation of the proposal.	exceedance being identified.		Sampling Plan			being identified
measures to the LUC prior to approval.	impromentation of the proposali	Re-examine monitoring results (QA/QC)	Bulk Fuel Facility	TRH	Sample Collection	Quarterly	Initiate the implementation the threshold
Timing: Construction/ Operation		to validate data. Re monitor if required.	Bioremediation Area		(field)/ Analysis (Lab)		contingency actions within 24 hours and continue to implement those actions until the
Risk Based Priority: High		Ground truth the results of the		Mhoro data canturo	allows, analysis will incl	uda usina tima	CEO has confirmed by notice in writing that it
		disturbance to validate findings of the assessment and/or determine/identify			d scatterplots to determi		has been demonstrated that the threshold
Ensure groundwater management infrastructure		what may be causing the exceedance.			ionships appear to be pr		criteria are being met and the implementation
location and design aligns with the assessment outcomes identified in <i>Groundwater Impact</i>		Where cause is identified during ground			to the environment crite	ria to determine	of the threshold contingency actions is no
Assessment: Eliwana Mining Project to minimise		truthing and can be rectified, undertake	cause and implemen	nt corrective actions			longer required.
impacts to groundwater levels, quality and associated		action immediately. For actions which					Investigate to determine the cause of the     threshold eritoria being evacaded.
groundwater dependent systems where possible.		require alternate resources, schedule works to be undertaken as soon as			ta should be analysed at		threshold criteria being exceeded.
Timing: All stages		possible.	sample event, value values to determine		r should be compared ac	gainst trigger	<ul> <li>Investigate to provide information for the OEPA to determine potential environmental harm or</li> </ul>
Risk Based Priority: High		, possible.	values to determine	ii ali exceedance na	as occurred.		to determine potential environmental natifi of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> An internal permit system required to undertake on-ground activities.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Refer to Eliwana Iron Ore Mine Public Environmental Review (EW-RP-EN-0003)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As this is an Outcomes Based Management Plan management actions have only been provided to demonstrate how the outcome will be achieved. These management measures will not be verified against for compliance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Site specific trigger values will be developed in accordance with guidance outlined in ANZECC Guidelines



#### **GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN - PROVISION TABLE**

When injecting or infiltrating excess dewater into a compatible aquifer utilise methods outlined in the applicable and approved Groundwater Operating Strategy as required under a 5C Licence.

Timing: Operations

Risk Based Priority: High

When dewatering activities result in volumes in excess of what can be injected into a compatible aquifer and/or utilised for onsite activities such as dust suppression and OPF operations, discharge surplus water to the environment in accordance with the requirements of the *Surface Water Management Plan*.

Timing: Operations

Risk Based Priority: High

Implement a groundwater monitoring program in areas identified as high-risk areas where groundwater dependent systems have been identified and potential impacts are significant.

**Timing:** Construction/ Operations

Risk Based Priority: High

Where monitoring indicates a potential impact on groundwater levels and/or quality or associated groundwater dependent systems, implement contingency actions.

Update this Plan where required to inform an adaptive management approach to groundwater management across the business.

**Timing:** Construction/ Operations

Risk Based Priority: High

Where post closure mine voids are present within the project boundary and impacts to groundwater dependent systems are expected, the requirements of the *Eliwana Mine Closure Plan* will be adhered to.

Timing: Closure

Risk Based Priority: High

Conduct progressive rehabilitation of disturbed areas no longer required for operations, including bores and associated infrastructure, in accordance with the *Eliwana Mine Closure Plan.* 

Timing: Operations/ Closure Risk Based Priority: High

 Cross reference groundwater monitoring results with most recent vegetation health monitoring/surface water/conservation significant fauna results to determine whether an impact can be identified. Implement additional actions under the vegetation health management and monitoring plan where impacts are present.

- Where the threshold exceedance was not caused by construction, operation or decommissioning activities, resume standard monitoring frequency.
- Where the threshold exceedance was caused by construction activities:
  - Implement adaptive
     management response
     (modified abstraction)
     management guidance within
     the Groundwater Operating
     Strategy. This may include a
     reduction in abstraction
     volumes in impacted areas.
  - Once management actions have been completed, extend the monitoring program to include an additional recharge event to determine if groundwater quality and level values recover.
  - continue to implement actions to remediate the exceedance until approval to cease has been given by the OEPA.

Location of indicative groundwater monitoring sites (See Figure 2).

alteration of the environment that occurred due to threshold criteria being exceeded.

- Provide a report to the OEPA within 21 days of the exceedance being reported. The report shall include:
  - Details of threshold contingency actions implemented,
    - o The effectiveness of the threshold contingency actions implemented, against the threshold criteria,
    - o The findings of the investigations,
    - Measures to prevent the threshold criteria being exceeded in the future,
    - Measures to prevent, control or abate the environmental harm which may have occurred,
    - Justification of the threshold remaining, or being adjusted based on better understanding, demonstrating that outcomes will continue to be met.

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# **GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN – PROVISION TABLE**

Outcomes-based provisions							
Management Actions <sup>5</sup>	Environmental criteria	Response actions	Monitoring				Reporting
Outcome: Groundwater management infrastructure oper		erse impacts to groundwater dependent vegetation	on and/or potentially restricted	stygofauna habitat	outside of assess	ed impact areas	S
Ensure baseline monitoring and groundwater sampling are undertaken to:	Trigger Criteria: Groundwater drawdown	<ul><li>Trigger Contingency Actions</li><li>Determine whether the changes</li></ul>	Aspect	Monitoring parameters	Method	Timing/ Frequency	Annual reporting will be undertaken in accordance with the OEPA's <i>Post Assessment Guideline for</i>
<ul> <li>Document groundwater levels and quality within impact and reference sites</li> <li>Identify baseline monitoring and groundwater quality at impact and reference sites</li> </ul>	measured at impact monitoring sites exceeds 80% of maximum drawdown presented in the Eliwana Iron Ore Mine Public	observed in the impact sites are comparable to baseline monitoring/sampling  Re-examine monitoring results (QA/QC)	Rainfall	Rainfall	Local weather stations Tipping bucket rain gauge	Quarterly	Preparing a Compliance Assessment Report (CAR), Post Assessment Guideline No. 3. In the event that trigger criteria were exceeded during the reporting period, the CAR will include a description
<ul> <li>Compare data across impact and reference sites (and/or regional monitoring sites where available).</li> <li>Timing: Construction</li> </ul>	Environmental Review (EW-RP-EN-0003), measured over two consecutive events.	<ul> <li>Re-examine monitoring results (QA/QC) to validate outputs. Re monitor if required.</li> <li>Increase monitoring frequency</li> </ul>	TSF Waste Dumps Bulk Fuel Facility	Groundwater levelError! Bookmark not defined.	Field Collection/ water level indicator	Quarterly	of the effectiveness of the contingency actions that have been implemented to manage the impact and any adaptive management measures applied as a result of the exceedance.
Risk Based Priority: High  Conduct a desktop assessment for all LUC <sup>6</sup>	Threshold Criteria Groundwater drawdown measured at impact monitoring sites is within 1 m of maximum drawdown presented in the Eliwana Iron Ore Mine Public Environmental Review (EW-RP- EN-0003), measured over two consecutive events.  AND  Subsequent investigations determine that the impacts are likely a result of the implementation of the proposal.  Threshold Contingency Actions  Initiate implementation of contingency measures within 24 hours of the exceedance being identified.  Re-examine monitoring results (QA/QC) to validate outputs. Re monitor if required.  Ground truth the results of the disturbance to validate findings of the assessment and/or determine/identify what may be causing the exceedance. Where cause is identified during ground truthing and can be rectified, undertake action immediately. For actions which require alternate resources, schedule works to be undertaken as soon as possible.  Cross reference groundwater monitoring results with most recent vegetation	where it was caused by construction,	GDVs Restricted Stygofauna				When an exceedance of threshold criteria has occurred, Fortescue will:
applications to ensure groundwater dependent systems within high risk areas are identified prior to ground disturbance. Where the works have the potential to impact on groundwater and any associated water dependent systems, apply relevant management measures to the LUC prior to approval.  Timing: Construction/ Operation  Risk Based Priority: High		Statistical analysis: Where data capture allows, analysis will include using time series line charts for each parameter and scatterplots to determine relationship between parameters. If parameter relationships appear to be present or exceedances or trends occur in relation to the environment criteria to determin cause and implement corrective actions.  The results of chemical and physical data should be analysed after every sample event, values of each parameter should be compared against trigger values to determine if an exceedance has occurred.				activities, report the exceedance to the CEO (of the OEPA) within 7 days of the exceedance	
Ensure groundwater management infrastructure location and design aligns with the assessment outcomes identified in <i>Groundwater Impact Assessment: Eliwana Mining Project</i> to minimise impacts to groundwater levels and associated groundwater dependent systems where possible.  Timing: All stages  Risk Based Priority: High		disturbance to validate findings of the assessment and/or determine/identify what may be causing the exceedance. Where cause is identified during ground truthing and can be rectified, undertake action immediately. For actions which require alternate resources, schedule works to be undertaken as soon as possible.  • Cross reference groundwater monitoring	Location of indicative ground	dwater monitoring s	sites (See Figure 2	<b>)</b> ).	<ul> <li>criteria are being met and the implementation of the threshold contingency actions is no longer required.</li> <li>Investigate to determine the cause of the threshold criteria being exceeded.</li> <li>Investigate to provide information for the OEPA to determine potential environmental harm or alteration of the environment that occurred due to threshold criteria being exceeded.</li> <li>Provide a report to the OEPA within 21 days of the exceedance being reported. The report shall include:</li> </ul>

<sup>6</sup> An internal permit system required to undertake on-ground activities.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> As this is an Outcomes Based Management Plan management actions have only been provided to demonstrate how the outcome will be achieved. These management measures will not be verified against for compliance.



### **GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN - PROVISION TABLE**

Where a stygofauna survey identifies a risk of loss of
stygofauna species or communities, and those species
or communities are deemed significant due to their
restricted distribution within the project area, manage
groundwater abstraction and injection regimes to
minimise impacts on those restricted stygofauna
species.

Timing: Operations
Risk Based Priority: High

When injecting or infiltrating excess dewater into a compatible aquifer utilise methods outlined in the applicable and approved Groundwater Operating Strategy as required under a 5C Licence.

Timing: Operations
Risk Based Priority: High

Implement a groundwater monitoring program in areas identified as high-risk areas where groundwater dependent systems have been identified and potential impacts are significant.

Timing: Construction/ Operations
Risk Based Priority: High

Where monitoring indicates a potential impact on groundwater levels and/or quality or associated groundwater dependent systems, implement contingency actions.

Update this Plan where required to inform an adaptive management approach to groundwater management across the business.

**Timing:** Construction/ Operations

Risk Based Priority: High

Conduct progressive rehabilitation of disturbed areas no longer required for operations, including bores and associated infrastructure, in accordance with the *Eliwana Mine Closure Plan*.

Timing: Operations/ Closure Risk Based Priority: High

health/ surface water/ conservation significant fauna monitoring results to determine whether an impact can be identified. Implement additional actions under the vegetation health management and monitoring plan where impacts are present.

- Where the threshold exceedance was not caused by construction, operation or decommissioning activities, resume standard monitoring frequency.
- Where the threshold exceedance was caused by construction activities:
  - Implement adaptive
     management response
     (modified abstraction)
     management guidance within
     the Groundwater Operating
     Strategy. This may include a
     reduction in abstraction
     volumes in impacted areas.
  - Once management actions have been completed, extend the monitoring program to include an additional recharge event to determine if groundwater quality and level values recover.
  - Continue to implement actions to remediate the exceedance until approval to cease has been given by the OEPA.

- Details of threshold contingency actions implemented,
- The effectiveness of the threshold contingency actions implemented, against the threshold criteria,
- o The findings of the investigations,
- Measures to prevent the threshold criteria being exceeded in the future,
- Measures to prevent, control or abate the environmental harm which may have occurred,
- Justification of the threshold remaining, or being adjusted based on better understanding, demonstrating that outcomes will continue to be met.

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