

## Razorback Iron Ore Project – Managing our environmental impact

February 2024

### Our sustainability philosophy

Magnetite Mines recognises that sustainable mining of iron ore can only be achieved by working in partnership with local communities, and through collaboration we can minimise our environmental footprint.

With a commitment to embed a focused sustainability culture from the outset, Magnetite Mines aims to deliver the Razorback Project with leading environmental and social performance.

### foresight

Under our best-practice ‘foresight’ sustainability platform, Magnetite Mines strives to rigorously assess its potential performance, reduce its negative impacts and maximise its benefits.

### Environmental and social studies

Magnetite Mines has spent over three and a half years completing the necessary studies for the development of the Razorback Project Mining Lease Proposal.

With the support of consulting environmental specialists, Eco Logical Australia, the existing environment and social structures have been comprehensively characterised. Assessments have included flora, fauna and habitats, aquatic ecology, regional groundwater systems and catchments, background noise and air quality profiles, soil resources, cultural heritage, social conditions and traffic levels.

With this detailed understanding of the Project’s setting, potential impacts can be identified, modelled and assessed.

### Ecology

Extensive ecology surveys have been completed across the Razorback Project footprints. Over 13,250 hectares of vegetation associations have been assessed and mapped since 2020. Results of these surveys indicate:

- no protected flora species within project sites
- limited presence of the *EPBC Act*-listed Mallee Bird Community of the Murray-Darling Basin Threatened Ecological Community (TEC)
- presence of three *EPBC Act*-listed bird species – Southern Whiteface, Eastern Major Mitchell’s Cockatoo and South-eastern Hooded Robin
- ten State-listed species recorded.

Magnetite Mines’ assessment indicates that the

*Eastern Major Mitchell’s  
Cockatoo*



three *EPBC Act*-listed bird species are unlikely to be materially impacted by the project; however, a small section of the Mallee Birds TEC may be impacted by project activities.

A range of management actions have been implemented to keep Magnetite Mines’ ecological impacts as low as reasonably possible. Steps taken have included:

- reduction in project footprint, where possible
- retention of felled vegetation and seedbank
- weed and pest control
- haul road fencing to reduce animal strike
- bushfire management systems
- ecological surveys to assess any changes.

## Groundwater

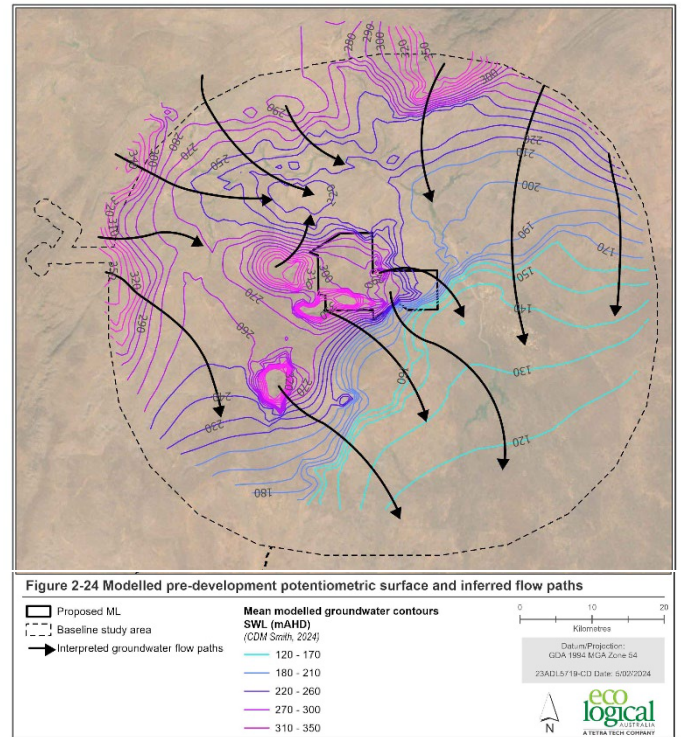
Magnetite Mines has undertaken extensive characterisation and assessment of the groundwater systems within and around the Razorback Project site.

A series of technical studies within the 3,000km<sup>2</sup> study area has enabled Magnetite Mines to characterise the local and regional groundwater regime and to assess potential impacts.

The regional system is dominated by a fractured rock aquifer system with generally brackish water quality. Recharge is principally from rainfall but at low rates. The aquifer drains towards the south and into Murray Basin groundwater systems.

The Razorback Project may interact with the local and regional groundwater system through a number of ways, including:

- limited groundwater extraction for discrete applications (i.e., construction, dust control)
- pit dewatering
- tailings storage facility (TSF) seepage
- change in groundwater recharge rates through other surface development.



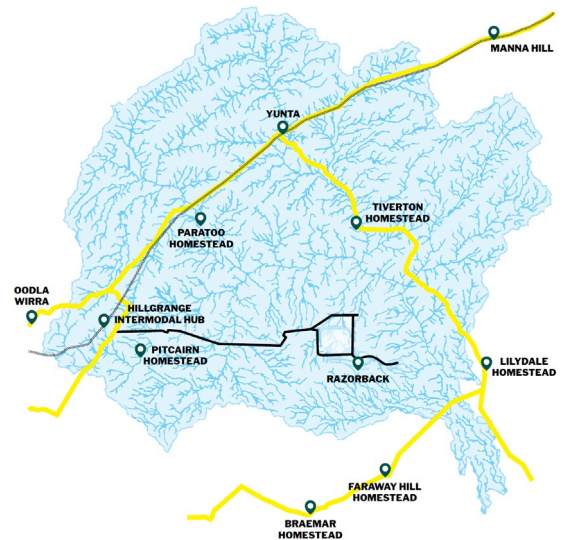
Potential impacts to groundwater will be reduced by using an external process water supply, recovering water from the tailings storage facility and implementing groundwater monitoring.

## Surface water

The Razorback Project's mining and haulage activities lie within the 5,000km<sup>2</sup> Manunda Creek catchment of the Lower River Murray Basin. Two years of surface water quality assessments have been completed (using sediment as a proxy).

The ephemeral Manunda Creek catchment includes the Yunta, Ocalia, Winnininnie and Vickery's Creek sub-catchments, the last of which is where the mining area is located.

Project activities will not materially change the flood regime of the region – impacting less than 1% of the overall catchment. Minor changes to flow availability downstream of the TSF and potential water quality changes during construction are the principal associated risks.



## For more information...

Magnetite Mines' Mining Lease Proposal will provide detailed information on baseline environmental and social conditions and impact assessment outcomes. All documentation is to be made publicly available.

If you have any queries and questions about the Company's proposed activities or assessed impacts, please contact Magnetite Mines to schedule a call. Alternatively, please visit the Razorback Project Community Hub at: [magnetitemines.com/communityhub](https://magnetitemines.com/communityhub) (launch March 2024).