



Happy EFY members!

I hope there is plenty of yellow stuff coming out of the ground this year!

## eNews of the Amalgamated Prospectors & Leaseholders Association. WA



Representing Prospectors  
Since 1904

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## Tresurer Wanted!

APLA is looking for a capable member to step up to take over from Marise Palmer. Marise has decided after many years as an active volunteer at APLA as both Secretary then Treasurer, that it is time to step down.

APLA relies on its generous volunteers to operate and without their dedication and hard work APLA would not be able to support its members the way it does.

If anyone is interested, or knows someone who has the skills and time please, have a look at the position description on page 19.

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APLA is made up of individual members in 5 Branches throughout the State of WA.

Perth, Mandurah, Goldfields, South West and Albany.

It can only run as effectively as its input from the members. Your contribution at meetings, articles to the Datum Post and help at Open Days and annual camps is much appreciated.



**APLA  
NEEDS  
YOU**

# **From the President's Desk, June 2024**

## **Resource Industry Consultative Committee meeting (RICC) APLA – 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024 Agenda**

APLA attendees: James Allison APLA President (via MS Teams) and Nathan Ridout APLA State Secretary

Introduction to Alex Blackman from the Aboriginal Engagement Unit. He spoke about how his unit will build relationships and work with indigenous stakeholders, community, Miners and DEMIRS to try and bridge the gap of understanding and increase efficiency.

The Resource Division gave an update on topics including:

- Native title matters and the roll out of the heritage surveys.
- Expansion of the Resources Online and matters related to wet signatures. APLA asked about 40e permits and DEMIRS stated they will confirm if this requirement is applicable.
- Position paper 14 (Marking Out procedures). An update should come out within the next few weeks on what could replace photographic evidence to satisfy the application is valid and can proceed through the Warden's court.
- Fee for objection and noted the consultation process was completed. The proposed dollar amount for cost recovery wasn't supported by most industry stakeholders. The Minister will make an announcement soon, around what concessions will apply and to which differing groups. The fee for objection won't start on 1 July 2024 as previously discussed and will start at a later date.

Resource and Environmental Compliance Division gave an update as follows:

- Work with APLA to train people about the EMA notification system.
- Working with APLA on legislative changes and what they mean for small miners.
- Mining Rehabilitation Fund review. DEMIRS is currently working through the government's response and a response should be released prior to the end of the year but no date has been finalised.
- Rehabilitation breaches above \$20,000 will now be named and shamed commencing the next financial year.

Geological survey and Resource Strategy Division gave the following update.

- Looking at compensation for carbon farming when a miner places a lease over the top of their carbon farm. Where a mining lease exists first, there will be no compensation payable.
- The "first in time principle" will apply when pegging a lease over a carbon farm. Clarification is needed when the diversification component of the carbon farm comes into play. The state government holds a 20% portion of a carbon farm to be offset against any mining lease application.

## **ER Law Letter to the mines minister and the Attorney-General**

APLA supports the release of decisions issued by the independent person when resolving disputes for some native title issues. The following is a letter sent to the mines minister and the Attorney-General.

Dear Minister and Attorney-General,

Public availability of 'Independent Person' decisions on behalf of the Energy and Resources Law Association (ER Law),

I write regarding the lack of public availability of decisions issued by 'Independent Persons' regarding proposed developments in Western Australia under the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth). These decisions are part of a process for resolving some native title disputes regarding compulsory acquisition / infrastructure development, which has been occasionally used in Western Australia. Despite the public significance of these decisions, they are not publicly available, and we urge the Western Australian Government to rectify this by ensuring these decisions can be publicly accessed for the reasons explained below. The Native Title Act specifies various procedures for the consideration and grant of rights affecting native title. Most of these, where the proposed grant cannot be agreed/resolved between the parties, are processed through decisions of the National Native Title Tribunal. However, there are a few areas where the Native Title Act created a process requiring the decision of 'an independent person or body'. This applies to compulsory acquisition and creating mining rights for infrastructure (under s24MD(6B)), as well as where the State/Territory has developed alternative processes (eg. ss26A, 26B and 43A). As far as we understand, the 'independent person' process has only arisen in Western Australia regarding proposals under s24MD(6B) resulting in a handful of decisions which have been made through ad-hoc appointments by Western Australia's Chief Magistrate. The Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety's (DEMIRS) website currently indicates this 'independent person' process still applies,<sup>1</sup> and relevant decisions will be made 'by an independent person/body appointed by the State'.<sup>2</sup> We note, with the High Court's recent decision regarding s24MD(6B),<sup>3</sup> there may be increased attention and use of this process and the need for 'independent person' decisions. The previous 'independent person' decisions which have been made, regarding developments in Western Australia, are not publicly available (save for a summary of one decision by Magistrate Heath in 2005<sup>4</sup> which is available online). Obviously, as the WA Government is a party to each of these decisions, it has access to all of them. We understand that, through Freedom of Information, some persons have been able to obtain copies of some previous decisions (but even then, such Freedom of Information applications take time and do not guarantee that access will be granted). The lack of public access to these decisions means that most parties and their advisers in these processes will be ignorant as to how previous cases have been assessed and decided. This is not conducive to transparency of decision-making which allows for the operation of precedent under an objective rule of law (whereby similar cases should be decided in a similar way), and seems inconsistent with Principle 3 of the State's Leading practice principles for a sustainable resources sector A Western Australian perspective,<sup>5</sup> being to 'Provide a clear and consistent regulatory framework'. The Government has explained its rationale for this principle as follows: A clear and consistent regulatory framework is essential for providing industry with the certainty required to make investment decisions. It also provides the community and other stakeholders

with the confidence that the industry is complying with its obligations, particularly with respect to the environment and occupational health and safety.<sup>6</sup> Not having all previous 'independent person' decisions publicly available also unnecessarily increases the transaction costs incurred by non-government parties and their advisers, as each new case must be considered without the benefit of the previous reasoning and analyses that have been applied in similar circumstances. This also creates inequality between the parties as the Government has access to all those decisions. ER Law has sought to progress this issue through the Resources Industry Consultative Committee (RICC). We understand, via RICC, that DEMIRS considered this matter for some time, inquired and learnt that the Chief Magistrate has no objection to the 'independent person' decisions being made publicly available, and then indicated that only future decisions will be made available online. This is of some concern to ER Law, as the availability of future (but not past) 'independent person' decisions does nothing to address the deficiencies noted above, and is difficult to reconcile with the Leading practice principles noted above, for example: The Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety supports transparency across government and ... is committed to ongoing improvements in the accessibility of information and ensuring that all information that can legally be requested by the community is made publicly accessible.<sup>7</sup> DEMIRS explained its decision to RICC as follows: 'DEMIRS will make new decisions made by the Independent Person publicly available on its website. DEMIRS has not committed to making previous decisions publicly available due to resourcing constraints. In this instance, however, we strongly urge reconsideration of the proposal to exclude past 'independent person' decisions as it would significantly reduce the utility of the overall approach. Failing to maximize the benefit of publishing the 'independent person' decisions would itself be an inefficient use of resources. Accordingly, ER Law respectfully requests that you consider directing that all 'independent person' decisions (past and future) be made publicly available.

### **DEMIRS meeting for Mine Development and Closure Plan for small mine operators – Kalgoorlie 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

APLA joined EGPA to attend a meeting with DEMIRS representatives to discuss a revision of the current Mining Proposal and Mine Closure Plan. After a lengthy meeting and further discussions with EGPA, APLA produced a preliminary submission which was sent to DEMIRS. The submission was followed up by the APLA President with a face-to-face meeting in Perth with Tyler Sujdovic, Dan Endacott and Emily Cross to ensure there was a clear understanding of APLA's concerns and the simple inclusion that would satisfy all the 2022 Mining Act amendments. See below APLA's submission.

#### **Background**

DEMIRS has a draft Mining Development and Closure Proposal for Small Mining Operations out for consultation. APLA members have used and are still using the current Mine Development and Closure Plan without any problems. The existing document is straight forward, easy to understand and fit for purpose.

## General Comments

APLA has long recognised the current Small Mining and Closure Plan has and still is operating adequately however the newly proposed Small Mining and Closure Plan doesn't meet the needs of the numerous small mine operators throughout Western Australia and is too restrictive to the point whereby the document is unworkable.

At present mining operations are contained by total footprint area of 10 ha not tonnage or volume and should remain so. The definition DEMIRS has assumed that small mining operations be considered is that excavations should not exceed 40,000M<sup>3</sup>. This assumption is not measurable nor workable and leaves the small mine operator with the problem of how to measure all excavations. The simple 10ha rule should apply to all excavation methods.

DEMIRS draft document; Proposal Description Section 2.5 requires "Details of excavations, including maximum number, length, width and depth (in meters)" This is a hypothetical question as small mine operations, quite often, don't know to what extent any excavation will end up in the future as it depends solely on the availability of payable ore or alluvial gold.

**Confirmation excavations will not encounter groundwater Section 2.** If no exploration drilling has been carried out, the small mine operator would have little information available to determine if (1) groundwater is present and (2) what depth is the ground water, however the document requires you to tick the box "yes" with no opportunity to say "no".

**Details of scrape and detect, including maximum number, length, width and depth (in meters) Section 2.7** This is another hypothetical question as the small mine operator is basing the proposal on surface rock deposits, soil sampling, landforms, historic mining data, and other records. The extent of the scrape and detect operations depends on the recovery of payable alluvial gold, which may expand over a large area or could be confined to a small patch only. The current document has set parameters with all the present agreed and allowable activities workable, however the proposed activities will be considerably reduced in the new draft. For example, losing the ability and severely limiting many types of mining excavations and processing operations including sluicing and wet plants which are common small-scale processing techniques.

**Indicative Site Layout Plan and Activity Envelope Section 3** requests "indicative locations of all proposed and existing activities" This is another "best guess" question as the actual or proposed activities are dependent on what information the applicant has sourced, what equipment is available, what timeline is proposed and how/ where the excavated material being treated, to name a few. The tick box shows "yes" for what reason?

DEMIRS draft document considers small mining operations don't involve permanent landforms above the natural surface. This will now preclude exploration and permanent shaft sinking, decline and small open pit operations and conducting test trial mining operations with various mullock/ore stockpiles deemed not part

of a small mining operation. If an operation, as referenced above, is not considered to fit into a small mining proposal category then a full-blown mining proposal would be required costing many hundreds of thousand dollars and be cost prohibitive for small miners. For example, applying for a small open pit situation would cost around \$500k.

Small ASX companies require an avenue for prompt low-cost approval to do starter and test pits. Having a tonnage limitation would preclude the ability to do this type of activity. For example, prospectors may have a Joint Venture (JV) with an ASX registered company or others to do a small pit for a cash flow prior to implementing a full and detailed mining proposal. The draft MDCP for SMO would preclude these operations.

**Land Use and Stakeholder Engagement. Section 6.4** Presently Section 118 of the Mining act 1978 and Reg 64b requires proponents to “*notify*” the Pastoralist- not consult, the new document is steering proponents to seek approval from pastoralist and other “*relevant stakeholder/s*” which appears that DEMIRS is now giving them the power of Veto. The current requirements are and have been working for numerous years and these should continue in their present form that is to “*notify*” the pastoralist or other stakeholders.

**Baseline Data and Risk Assessment. Section 7.1.3 Management/ controls** states “Scrape and detecting and dry blowing operations are to be progressively rehabilitated so that no more than two hectares will be open (meaning disturbed without rehabilitation works being completed) at any one time.” Small mine operators work across a tenement in an orderly fashion and part of the scrape and detect operation, sampling is carried out to determine if fine gold is present requiring either dry blowing or a wet sluice treatment. Limiting the entire workable area to 2 hectares can restrict how effective operations are carried out and allowing for sufficient space to work in a safe manner. It is necessary to be able to stay within the 10-hectare limit as setout in the current small mining operations guidelines.

**Section 7.3.1 Existing status.** DEMIRS is now asking for technical descriptions that can only be answered by specialist consultants, at prohibitive costs and could cause delays in the approval process.

Currently the Small Mining Proposal for small mining operations is used as an attachment for a mining lease application/s and can be completed in a timely fashion. The draft document with new onerous ultra vires requirements means the proponent would not be able to get the application completed in a timely fashion to attach to a mining lease application. In fact, one could be tied up in consultative requirements and not be able to lodge a mining application prior to a prospecting license expiring, then the proponent is put in a situation where they could lose the tenure. Local small miners are aware of what fauna and flora are present within the boundaries of their mining lease and all precautions would be taken, not the interfere or cause harm with either fauna or flora. It may be noted that when a prospecting license is granted there are conditions by which proponents must abide by and one of those conditions relates to specific flora that maybe present on the granted prospecting license. When a POW is approved, in most cases, any sensitive or vulnerable flora will be identified and a photo will be attached to the POW so that the proponent has a clear picture of what to look out for and take the required steps for protection.

**Section 7.3.2 Impacts from proposed activities states** “Select all potential environmental impacts on biodiversity that apply to the proposed activities” The list includes death of fauna, loss of conservation significant fauna habitat, loss of conservation significant flora and vegetation clearing outside approved areas. Until actual activities commence, and soil, rock and vegetation are cleared there is no way of knowing what the actual impact would be on local fauna and flora.

**Section 8.2 Closure outcomes** states “Constructed landforms are physically and geotechnically stable, to minimize erosion and to support revegetation and/or the post mining land use, constructed landforms will consider visual amenity and local topography, constructed landforms are geochemically stable and will not cause pollution or contamination.” DEMIRS has stated they consider a small mining operation not to have “permanent landforms above the natural surface” APLA requests that the document be changed to have the option to have permanent landforms.

## **Conclusion**

APLA recognises the current Small Mine and Closure Plan is working very well and is fit for purpose however, to make the document compliant with the 2022 Mining Act amendments, APLA suggests to simply add a clause relating to the risk assessments required for the environment section.

**Response from DEMIRS:** Thank you for your submission dated 27 May 2024 on DEMIRS’ Mining Development and Closure Proposal (MDCP) form for small operations, and for your time at our recent meetings to discuss the small operations form. In preparation for our upcoming meeting on 10 June 2024, and taking on board your feedback that the current Mining Proposal for Small Mining Operations form works well and should be retained, we have developed a revised Mining Development and Closure Proposal for Small Mining Operations (MDCP) form (Attachment 1). This form is an amended version of the existing Mining Proposal for Small Mining Operations and Mine Closure Plan for Small Mining Operations forms.

For ease of review, a marked up version of the revised form is provided to illustrate any new inclusions or changes. The most significant change for small operators is the inclusion of a risk assessment component (section 12). This new requirement is being driven by legislative changes to the Mining Regulations 1981 which will require a MDCP to consider and assess the environmental risks of activities included in a MDCP.

However, DEMIRS has endeavoured to make this process as simple as possible for small operations by attaching a risk assessment that applicants can use for their submission. I am particularly keen for your feedback on this element of the form and to understand if this approach would work for your members. A summary of other changes made to the document is provided below:

- Criteria for what constituted a small mining operation has been updated to clarify that pits, costeans, quarries, shafts, winzes, harvesting, dredging and any construction activities incidental or conducive to the activities including plant, leaching operations, tailing storage facilities, and overburden dumps are considered acceptable activities.



- Criteria requiring no permanent landforms above the natural surface has been removed.
- Criteria requiring no intersection with groundwater has been removed.
- ‘Existing Environment’ section has been amended to reflect the existing requirements of the Small Operation Mining Proposal form.
- ‘Stakeholder Engagement’ section has been simplified to reflect the existing requirements of the Small Operation Mining Proposal and Mine Closure Plan forms. With regards to the criteria for small operations, DEMIRS has elected to retain the criteria of mining excavations being limited to 40,000m<sup>3</sup>. DEMIRS considers it appropriate to limit the size of excavations being authorised under this framework and previous analysis undertaken by DEMIRS indicates that the vast majority of small operations using the proforma would still fit within these criteria. Please note there are no proposed limits on scraping and detecting and other ancillary activities, affording applicants greater flexibility than previously (previously these activities were constrained to a 10ha limit). Importantly, the form has also been updated to clarify that in situations where an operation does not meet the criteria for a small operation, an applicant may still be able to use the form in agreement with DEMIRS. This gives us the flexibility to ensure the form can still be used in instances where the criteria aren’t met if DEMIRS still considers the operation to be small and low risk. I believe that the changes outlined above address the key themes of feedback from our meeting and your follow up written correspondence. In addition to developing the revised form, we have also taken this time to develop a draft stand-alone policy specific to Small Mining Operations, which is provided as Attachment 2 for your consideration and review. Following on from our discussions, and in recognition of the nature, scale and generally low risk of small mining operations, we considered it important to develop a policy which clearly articulates what aspects of DEMIRS’ broader regulatory framework are applicable to small operations, and which aspects are not. The policy includes matters such as reduced environmental reporting obligations and proportionate mine closure planning requirements.

The above response was signed by Tyler Sujdovic , Executive Director Resource and Environmental. Compliance Resource and Environmental Compliance Division, DEMIRS

### **ABC Kalgoorlie – Breakfast interview with Ivo De Silva - 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

I had the opportunity to speak on ABC radio in Kalgoorlie to explain who APLA is and how we educate all our members on safety in the bush. I informed the listeners the following;

- The only Not for Profit group representing prospectors and leaseholders in WA and has done for 120 years.
- Only group that is recognised as an industry stakeholder at numerous government departments.
- Over 2,100 members at 5 branches
- Training at branch level and out in the bush at newbie and annual members camps.
- APLA promotes safety and are working with DEMIRS to raise the safety awareness before travelling into the bush.

I then explained to the listeners what essentials are needed when venturing into the outback;

**Water**, you can go without food but your body needs water and when out in the hot weather you dehydrate very quickly, become disorientated and clumsy. Then you start to make wrong decisions which could end up in a fatality.

**Communication**, most people travel and prospect with family or friends so a handheld UHF radio is the best way to stay in contact when prospecting. These operate on a line of sight basis and only have a short range (3kms)

**Location**, knowing where your vehicle or camp is located is essential and you can be 30mts from your vehicle and not see it. A handheld GPS device is all you need and, when leaving your camp or vehicle, just enter a waypoint on the device and you can always find your way back.

**Accidents**, what happens if you are bitten by a snake, trip over and break a leg, have a stroke or medical episode? Many people believe that having a mobile phone is all that is needed when in the bush. This is wrong as many areas of WA don't have phone reception.

First thing to do is Don't panic. Use common sense and assess what you have in the way of communication. A satellite phone works anywhere in WA and these can be purchased outright or hired for a short time. Prepaid cards are available.

A PLB (Personal Location Beacon) will save your life. These devices are light weight, portable and can be registered with your contact details. They cost around \$390, which is nothing when you consider the purchase of a 4WD, caravan, metal detector and all the ancillary equipment required.

Always tell people where you are going, how long you are going for and when you are due home. That way if you don't return within a day or 2 the alarm can be raised.

770,000sq kilometres is the area covered by the goldfields prospecting area so getting lost out there can be a life or death situation. Prospecting is physically different than walking around your local signposted park so you need to know your limits and prepare for any eventuality.

At the end of the interview I received a big thank you from all the staff at the ABC.



## **DEMIRS Catch-up – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

APLA – James Allison

DEMIRS attendees – Kristian Dawson, Simon Moore

### **Safety in the bush**

I attended a meeting with DEMIRS staff to promote safety in the bush after the double fatality recently in the Meekatharra area where a father and son perished.

I spoke about APLA's in-house training sessions and our newbie camps where experienced APLA members demonstrate the use of emergency equipment and bush survival skills whilst in an actual remote environment. DEMIRS are committed to work with APLA to promote bush safety and I took the opportunity to explain that APLA is a not-for-profit organisation and that sets APLA apart from other commercial operators. I requested consideration in allowing APLA to display our application forms on the front counters of Perth and regional offices throughout Western Australia. I explained that when an applicant is applying for a Miner's Right it would be an ideal opportunity for DEMIRS staff to direct applicants to our organisation. There was no immediate commitment, but I will continue to follow up on this issue.

I received the below response from DEMIRS;

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your members to promote safety and the golden rules of prospecting and are very happy to send relevant staff to speak on these topics at your upcoming meetings and events.

Following a recent meeting with the Mines minister, Hon. David Michael, I received the following from the Shire of Yalgoo who are promoting the Murchison Zone of Councils through Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA)

In the first instance I would like to make you aware, that the Shire of Yalgoo holds three small prospecting tenements within 12km of the Yalgoo townsite. The majority of these leases are covered by Telstra phone signal and there is easy unsealed road access to large parts of the lease. If you have anyone that is starting out or has trouble finding legal access to a lease, please point them in our direction. When someone holds a Miners Right we have a \$10 map and admin fee that assists in reporting our expenditure to DEMIRS. Yalgoo is a shorter trek than the goldfields for both Perth and Geraldton. We also have a well-appointed Caravan Park in town and plenty of nearby places to camp on DBCA run parks. If your association would like any further information, please let me know.

This Shire and its neighbours hold safety concerns for prospectors as well as all travellers to, and people residing in, the region. It is disappointing that the State Government who receive enormous amounts of money from the mining sector chooses not to invest more in regional health and emergency services.

As an example, the Mid West has no direct access to a rescue helicopter. If there is availability it can often take days to get assistance from the RAC Rescue choppers for a missing or trapped person and there is no chance of assistance for a time critical incident. This would be similar for most of the Goldfields as well.

When things do go sideways (accidents happen) it is volunteers and not career staff that have to assist in cases when people are injured or lost. While many individuals are happy to help, the resulting mental health toll on regional communities is not fair when weighed against a minority that act irresponsibly. This does not necessarily reflect your membership who are actively trying to stay informed and carry out their business or hobby responsibly.

I make the following comparison to fishing from a boat. To do so you are legally required to hold a boat license (practical test), fishing license (regularly renewed) and boat registration (yearly). If you are 400m from shore (which is easily visible and can remain in constant 2 way radio communication with a rescue agency) you are again legally required to have a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB/EPIRB) as well as life jackets, flares and other equipment.

Once you hold a miners right in WA you can spend 30 or X years living in and getting accustomed to metropolitan life (where rural survival skills and considerations are not needed) and then decide to drive 100km off the beaten track, kilometres from another living soul with limited food, fuel, water or easy way for you to be found.

It would be amazing if we lived in an idealized world where everyone was only effected by their own actions and the irresponsible minority only effected themselves. Even those who are better prepared can be unlucky due to the unpredictability of weather and the tyranny of distance (punctures, accidents, medication, equipment failure).

As a volunteer ambulance officer who has pronounced people as deceased in rural and remote areas I implore you in your discussions with the Minister to raise these safety concerns and advocate for some level of mandatory safety equipment such as a PLB. Knowing someone's exact location and that they need assistance should always be preferred to finding people who have sadly passed away due to exposure or other perils such as abandoned shafts.

Kind regards

Ian Holland  
Chief Executive Officer



Below is a copy of a letter received by the Shire of Yalgoo from the Mines minister;

Minister for Mines and Petroleum;

Ports; Road Safety; Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport

Level 9, Dumas House, 2 Havelock Street, West Perth, Western Australia, 6005. Telephone +61 8 6552 5100

Email: Minister.Michael@dpc.wa.gov.au Our ref: 83-04057

Ms Samantha Appleton

Executive Officer Murchison Country Zone

Western Australian Local Government Association [samantha.appleton1212@gmail.com](mailto:samantha.appleton1212@gmail.com).

Dear Ms Appleton MURCHISON COUNTRY ZONE – PROSPECTING SAFETY

Thank you for your correspondence of 27 April 2024, regarding your concerns about the safety of prospectors operating within the Murchison Country Zone of the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA). I acknowledge the tragic circumstances raised in your memorandum. Incidents like these are a reminder of how critical it is to incorporate adequate safety measures into trip preparation before undertaking prospecting in remote and isolated settings. The Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DEMIRS) has developed a number of resources to advise and support remote prospectors when preparing for remote travel, including the guide to prospecting and fossicking in remote areas. DEMIRS has Regional Liaison Officers located across Western Australia who regularly seek out opportunities to engage with prospectors and provide resources and advice to encourage safe practices.

I will ensure that DEMIRS continue to partner with your members to get this important information out to all prospectors in Western Australia.

The Amalgamated Prospectors and Leaseholders Association recently wrote to me in relation to these incidents and is meeting with DEMIRS to discuss opportunities for a joint education initiative aimed at the safety of prospectors.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. David Michael MLA

Minister For Mines and Petroleum

APLA is making a difference for prospectors and leaseholders throughout WA and we are getting listened to in a positive way.

James Allison

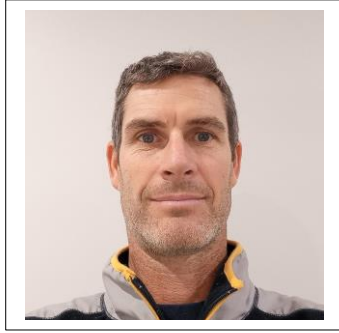
APLA State President

## EDITORIAL

Ryan Daws. Editor

Contact:

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### Warra Wirrin

I was on a prospecting trip earlier this year with my brother-in-law out NE of Laverton. We had been camping for just over two weeks when I had something happen which I have never had before.

It was 1am on a moon lit night, laying asleep in my swag I was gradually woken by the sound of what I could only describe as a Kangaroo being chased by a cow. Thudding with hooves! As the sound drew nearer, I become more and more alert until I woke fully realizing this thing was close. I sat up in my swag when “thwack”. What ever it was it crashed into my swag and me!

I was a bit shocked but could only think, what was it!

I quickly rolled over and located my trusty Olight head torch, unzipped the swag and sprung out of my swag sporting nothing but a pair of grundies.

I could see clearly without the light on for roughly 50m and further with my torch, the sound of both the thudding and hooves were still close but for the life of me I couldn't spot a thing. After wandering around for ten minutes with Adam, we found nothing, not even tracks.

In the morning, we looked everywhere where we heard the sound but no sign!

I said jokingly that it must have ben a bunyip, strange sound with no evidence. I told the story to an indigenous friend who told me about the Warra Wirrin a bad spirit that brings trouble at night.

I'm still not sure butat least it gave me something to think about whist detecting that day!

## From the Editors Desk

Members, over the past couple of years I have had several members writing articles, pomes and just putting me onto some interesting subjects. This has been greatly appreciated and would be great if this could continue.

I would especially like to hear about branch open days, branch camps etc remember this is a good way for us all to keep in touch sharing stories, tips project ideas.

Next issue I am inserting an article based on my vehicle fitout. This was done to a reasonable budget, my hope is that either someone out there is able to take away an idea for their own car or someone may have a suggestion for me to enhance what I have done!



### MRF disturbance data reports due

#### Online Systems

Tenement holders to report disturbance data for Mining Rehabilitation Fund by 30 June

The Mining Rehabilitation Fund (MRF) is a pooled fund that Western Australian tenement holders under the *Mining Act 1978* are required to contribute to through an annual levy. Where a mine operator is unable to meet their rehabilitation obligations and the site is declared abandoned, the MRF can be used.

The MRF requires tenement holders to report disturbance data by 30 June each year.

Based on this information, an assessment notice is issued to the operator with details of the levy payable.

To support those lodging their reports, the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety will have an officer from the MRF team available in the department's Kalgoorlie office from 25 to 27 June.

#### **Location**

Corner of Hunter and Broadwood streets  
West Kalgoorlie  
Open from 8.30am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday

If you have any queries or need assistance lodging your report, please contact 9222 3162 or email [MRFenquiry@dmirs.wa.gov.au](mailto:MRFenquiry@dmirs.wa.gov.au)

[Mining Rehabilitation Fund Reporting Guidelines](#) are also available to assist in lodging a report.

#### EYE ON IT

DMIRS have on the bottom of their website page a box entitled.

### Subscribe to updates.

The department provides a range of newsletters and information products to keep you up to date. Subscriptions to the latest DMIRS news services of your choice are available.

They are free to the public and cover a wide range of articles and information.

Click and keep yourself informed on the DMIRS web page.

## CURRENT INDUSTRY / DMIRS NEWS. cont.

### **The Cook Government has approved draft mining amendment legislation needed to support security of tenure in Western Australia's mining sector**

- Draft mining legislation to ensure security of mining tenure and address key industry issues
- Actions address High Court's Forrest & Forrest v Wilson decision and other matters
- Powers to excise areas from the grant of an exploration licence to be introduced

Following the decision in the Forrest & Forrest v Wilson case in 2017, the High Court found that granted mining leases were invalid if they did not strictly follow the Mining Act 1978's process for preparing and lodging tenement applications.

As a result, the Cook Government will address procedural matters in the Mining Act 1978 to prevent future scenarios like those arising from the High Court's decision.

Changes will include amendments to address common pitfalls in the tenement application process such as the statements required to accompany an exploration licence application.

The amendments will also address the Blue Ribbon Mines v Roy Hill Infrastructure decision in 2022 that found the Mines and Petroleum Minister does not have the power to excise areas from the grant of an application for an exploration licence.

Procedural changes to the Mining Act 1978 were proposed as part of the Mining Amendment (Procedures and Validation) Bill 2018, with validation matters addressing existing mining leases remaining subject to ongoing consultation with the Federal Government to consider Native Title Act 1993 amendments.

### **Comments attributed to Mines and Petroleum Minister David Michael:**

"The Cook Government understands the importance of Western Australia's mining sector to the State and national economies, much of which is underpinned by security of tenure.

"Splitting the draft mining amendment legislation in two will speed up the legislative process and deliver greater certainty to industry.

"We will continue to work with the Australian Government to deliver mutually beneficial outcomes for all stakeholders, including Traditional Owners."

Care of DEMIRS



## **A guide to Traveling safely**

### **PLANNING A TRIP**

A lot of effort is given to identifying a prospective area, obtaining a Miner's Right and getting the land holder's permission to prospect or fossick. The next steps are just as vital for every trip you take, regardless of the length of time away, location, and your level of experience. Communication is the key.

You should plan trips according to your experience level. It is often safer to travel with others or as part of a larger group. There are many prospecting and 4WD clubs or associations that can provide support and information, which will help build skills.

### **BEFORE YOU LEAVE**

Let people know where you are going and how long you expect to be away. Ask someone reliable to be your home contact.

Leave them copies of maps marked with roads you are likely to use and potential camp sites in the areas where you will be prospecting. You should also provide the home contact with the details of the vehicles and people involved in the prospecting trip, including any mobile or satellite telephone numbers.

Consider having scheduled call times as a way to indicate that you are alright. Always call when you are back from your trip.

Agree on a back-up plan so it is clear when the alarm will be raised if a scheduled call is missed.

Be familiar with the use of your chosen communication devices before leaving home.

### **COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS**

There are many communication and location devices available to the prospector.

You are strongly encouraged to use a satellite-based device because telecommunication networks may not cover the area you are in and charging mobile phone batteries may be an issue. These devices can be purchased or hired.

A personal locator beacon (PLB) is also highly recommended. PLBs can be purchased from most quality outdoor stores. When activated, this small, portable and inexpensive device transmits a message via a satellite to the emergency services. The coordinates transmitted are used by rescuers to pinpoint the

location of the person. PLBs should not be confused with global positioning systems (GPS) devices, which also use satellites to locate a position on the ground, but do not transmit location information to emergency services.

Other satellite-based systems include satellite phones and personal satellite tracking systems. The personal satellite tracking systems can help one-way communication in the field by sending pre-prepared messages via a satellite based provider. Locators can be tracked using the internet. Some have emergency alert functions but these may have time delays attached.

## **IN THE FIELD**

Being on foot away from the vehicle and the camp can pose new issues for a prospector. You are exposed to the effects of climate, terrain and how the land is being used. It is recommended that you:

- have a PLB and communications device on you at all times
- carry adequate water and food for the trip (4-6 litres of water per person per day, more in hot or humid conditions)
- have a suitable first aid kit and the medications you need
- have an emergency kit (e.g. matches, whistle, mirror, thermal blanket)
- wear appropriate clothing and footwear for the conditions.

Before leaving the camp or vehicle, locate yourself in the field (e.g. use a tracking device such as a GPS, maps, compass, flagging tape). It is easy to become disorientated so check your location regularly.

Be vigilant around old mining centres and workings. Look out for hazards such as obscured shafts or other mine workings, collapsing or slumping ground, old equipment and abandoned chemicals.

If prospecting or fossicking on farms, stations or mining tenements, be mindful of farming, pastoral and mining or exploration activities.

Keep up-to-date with conditions while in the field by contacting:

- Local Shire – road and weather updates; water and fuel sources
- Landowners – ground, road and track conditions; stock and vehicle movements; planned burn offs; mining and exploration activities such as haulage, ground surveys and drilling
- Police – road conditions, safety alerts.

# Expressions of Interest- Volunteer Position- Treasurer and Membership Officer Delegate

Amalgamated Prospectors and Leaseholders of Australia (APLA) has a rich history of supporting and safeguarding prospecting activities in the Western Australian outback dating back over 120 years.

APLA is looking for a Volunteer Treasurer-Membership Officer who would become a Delegate to join our passionate team of 12.

If you already have experience in accounting, sound bookkeeping or have worked on a board and would like something more interesting, then this is for you.

## Responsibilities:

- As a Delegate, you'll play a crucial role within the Association.
- Financial Reports: Income and Expenditure Balance Sheet Reports - Budget.
- Data Entry from an Integrated CMS Management System. Some Training is available for this. The payments from Members are processed this way. Along with renewals.
- Sound understanding of the APLA Constitution and By-Laws for information about Treasurer and Membership. (This research could be done over the first 3 months).
- Help onboard new members by assisting organisers during membership drives, Open Days and Field Days, also via email campaigns and Facebook social media.
- Once a year attend the Beginners Camp.
- Collaborate with the Webmaster with any issues and the Website Developer.
- Collaborate with the APLA Merchandise officer for budgets and purchasing request of a small amount of stock. Invoicing and purchase orders for stock.
- We meet at least 4 times a year Online on MS Teams and correspond by email.
- As a State Delegate you will also be liaising with members and Branch Presidents.

## Skills/Knowledge Needed:

- Applicant must be computer literate. If you have used Saasu that's an advantage but not imperative.
- Skills for Financial Reporting: Strong understanding of accounting/bookkeeping principles for bank reconciliation's, Saasu Reports, journals.
- As CMS Management system is used, knowledge of the CMS Management system for reporting is valuable.
- Membership Statistical Reporting using, Microsoft Access Data Stats exported into spreadsheets. Macros are run to facilitate this. Good or demonstrated knowledge on spreadsheets would be advantageous. Some training also available for this.

**Perks:**

- Enjoy bush activities with like-minded individuals.
- The opportunity to work with a friendly experienced group of individuals who share their experiences with you.
- The opportunity to gain experience and learn about prospecting for gold including metal detecting through to how to peg a lease.
- An honorarium is offered to the right candidate and other details will be discussed should you apply.

**Time Commitment:**

- Approximately 15 hours per week, with variations based on the time of year.
- The busy period for onboarding renewal membership is from December to April.
- Meeting virtually on MS Teams at least four times a year.
- Attend the annual Beginners Camp.
- Involves participating in membership drives, including local events, email campaigns, and social media.

**Nomination and Election Process:**

- As a financial member of the APLA, you will be nominated through your local branch as a delegate.
- Candidate will be joining the team of around 12 Delegates in July 2024.
- From the 12 delegates, the Treasurer-Membership Officer position is then nominated and elected by the remaining Delegates during an MS Teams Delegate Committee Meeting held after the Annual General Branch Meeting.
- The Position is then Ratified at the state AGM.
- The successful individual will need to sign a Statutory Declaration as per the Incorporated Associations Act.

Some training will be provided on handover and ongoing for the Membership CMS Management online system via the outgoing Treasurer, between August- October. Thereafter the current treasurer (Marise), is just a phone call or email away and happy to help.

**Please contact Marise Palmer**

APLA Treasurer and Membership Officer Delegate

[treas@apla.com.au](mailto:treas@apla.com.au) or alternatively send your application to [sec@apla.com.au](mailto:sec@apla.com.au)

Phone 0403 353 029

# Australia's Emu Wars

By Jasper Garner Gore



A bolshie emu stares down a photographer sometime between 1935 and 1937. Image credit: State Library of Victoria/Roy Dunstan

In 1932 Australian troops were dumbfounded when they found themselves out maneuvered by clever birds during the Emu Wars.

Early on the morning of 2 November 1932, the Seventh Heavy Battery of the Royal Australian Artillery alighted at Campion, WA, on to a hot red-dirt landscape about halfway between Perth and Kalgoorlie. There they unpacked two Lewis automatic machine guns and 10,000 rounds of ammunition.

The unit's intention? To open hostilities with the emus of Western Australia that were moving in from central Australia in search of water and, having stumbled on the region's delicious wheat districts, had begun to ravage crops.

No sooner had the unit arrived than a flock of 50 emus was sighted. The company's commander, Major G.P.W. Meredith, immediately ordered his troops to circle the birds and chase them into range of the guns. By the day's end only a dozen birds out of the thousands the men had shot at were dead. Nevertheless, first blood had been drawn in Australia's 'Emu Wars'.



Emu running in the Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges national park in the Flinders Ranges, South Australia.

*Image credit: Mike Langford/Australian Geographic*

#### Australian farmers and the Emu Wars

It all came about late in 1932, after a marauding emu population of at least 20,000 had been devastating farms across WA for some time. The farmers under attack (many of them ex-soldiers themselves) had eventually petitioned for military aid from the Minister of Defence George Pearce. He deployed troops swiftly, and they arrived with hopes of quick victory and a few emu feathers for their hats.

No sooner had the conflict begun, however, than it became clear that the Australian military had vastly underestimated the emu. Cunning adversaries, the emus proved almost impossible to hit with machine-gun fire, and they seemed able to shrug off even serious injury from bullets without breaking stride.

Describing the emus, Major Meredith later said:

“If we had a military division with the bullet-carrying capacity of these birds it would face any army in the world... They can face machine guns with the invulnerability of tanks.”

A few days into operations, a planned ambush by a dam failed miserably when one of the Lewis guns jammed. A later attempt to mount a machine-gun on a truck fell apart when it was made apparent that the vehicle could not keep up with the birds.



In recent times we can see thousands of emus flock against Western Australia's 'rabbit-proof fence', as they make their annual migration southwards.

*Image credit: WA Department of Agriculture and Food*

#### Emu War and Peace

Within a week of first contact the troops were recalled. Roughly 2500 rounds had been fired and killed somewhere between 50 and 200 emus. Meredith did note that his men had suffered no casualties. When the question was raised if a medal would be struck for the conflict, federal labour parliamentarian A.E. Green replied that any medals should go to the emus who had 'won every round so far'. For his involvement in the deployment, Defence Minister George Pearce earned the unofficial title 'Minister for the Emu War'.

Although a second (slightly) more successful military operation was mounted against the emus only a few days after the initial retreat in November 1932, in the end it was the instituting of a bounty on emus that proved most effective. Between 1945 and 1960 around 284,700 emus were killed in WA.

Australia's emu population, however, remains stable to this day. Thankfully, they do not seem interested in resuming hostilities with the Australian government.

# **MINELAB SOUTH AUSTRALIA.**

Article care of Steve Palmer.

Recently both myself and wife Marise were given a tour of the Minelab facilities in South Australia.

Minelab's parent company is Codan. Founded in 1959 and headquartered in South Australia, Codan Limited is an international company that develops rugged and reliable electronics solutions for government, corporate, NGO and consumer markets across the globe. Codan's technologies include metal detection and communications

Founded in 1985, Minelab has grown to become a global authority in the design and manufacture of metal detection equipment, catering to a wide range of applications from gold prospecting and treasure hunting to military and humanitarian demining. The company's headquarters at Mawson Lakes is not only the central hub for its operations but also a symbol of its commitment to advanced research and development.

Minelab, a world-renowned name in metal detection technology, has its headquarters situated in Mawson Lakes, Adelaide, South Australia.

This strategic location places Minelab at the heart of a thriving technological and educational precinct, bolstering its reputation as a leader in innovation and precision engineering.

Mawson Lakes, known for its modern infrastructure and proximity to educational institutions like the University of South Australia's Mawson Lakes campus, provides an ideal environment for Minelab. The area fosters a collaborative atmosphere with access to a highly skilled workforce and cutting-edge research facilities. This synergy supports Minelab's mission to push the boundaries of metal detection technology.

The headquarters itself is a state-of-the-art facility equipped with the latest technological advancements. It houses the company's primary R&D labs, administrative offices, and a manufacturing unit where selected high-quality metal detectors are crafted with precision. The site also serves as a training ground for staff and partners, ensuring that they are well-versed in the latest technologies and techniques.

Minelab continues to lead the industry, providing reliable and advanced metal detection solutions to customers worldwide.

Whether you're on an outdoor adventure, an artisanal miner looking for gold or a humanitarian organisation clearing land mines in the world's most challenging environments, our metal detectors give you the range, depth and reliability you need to change your fortune.

Whilst there were areas of the facility completely off limits because of sensitive R&D it was a most impressive experience. Military use of detectors for finding and removing landmines in countries throughout the world was just one of many projects.



# Minelab Metal detector product range

## Find Treasure entry level

- X-TERRA PRO
- EQUINOX 600
- VANQUISH 540 PRO-PACK
- VANQUISH 540
- VANQUISH 440
- VANQUISH 340
- GO-FIND SERIES
- X-TERRA ELITE
- X-TERRA ELITE EXPEDITION



## Find Treasure advanced

- CTX 3030
- EXCALIBUR II
- MANTICORE
- EQUINOX 900
- EQUINOX 800
- EQUINOX 700



## Strike Gold

- GPZ 7000
- GPX 6000
- GPX 5000
- SDC 2300
- GOLD MONSTER 1000





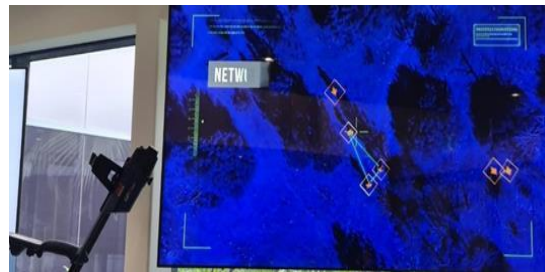
A dedicated set of test pits for all types of detectors, with terrain from different States.



This is the man! Brendan is Minelab's Service Technician for Aust. and NZ.



Unfortunately, only replicas. One being “The hand of Faith”. Bradley Corrie was our tour guide –an absolute wealth of information.



Codan as the parent company has major interest in tactical communications, metal detection, and mining technology communications.

APLA is extremely lucky to have a state-of-the-art company in Minelab virtually on our doorstep. Minelab supports APLA in Western Australia not only with service second to none but also as one of our major sponsors. Minelab generously donate to APLA by supplying the Branches and State with donations for raffles. Such as a GPX 6000 for APLA’s AGM which is a draw for all APLA members nationwide.

## Newbies Camp May 2024



This years Newbies camp was held between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of May. The weather was pretty kind with sunshine most das allowing for plenty of detecting.

As usual, Arron accompanied by Jarrod from Reeds attended giving up their time, and expertise to assist the newbies with all aspects of detecting. Plenty of questions asked and answered so we say thank you.

By all reports, the vast majority of attendees found gold, most of which for the first time which is a good sign.

A big shout goes out to Mr Greg Young, once again has delivered an exceptional camp. It sounds like the camp was a great success with another batch of budding Prospectors/Detectorists hooked! These camps can't run without people like Greg and all those who support him on the ground to make the camp run like clockwork so thank you.



The official judges officiating the Damper cook off.



Winners are grinners!



Cheffs and Officiators in action



I hope that your efforts in the field were shiny! Well done Greg for concluding yet another Introductory Camp. Now that the basics are covered, I wish them all the pleasure of the next find!

**Here is a poem about the season to come!**

I have a Prospecting Poem

I have a poem for you all, about the year to come

It will be lucky for a few, if not for everyone

You may be in the Outback, your detector in your hand

You're hoping for a signal, and a big one would be grand

You're looking at the ground ahead, which doesn't seem that hot

Until you get a signal that reveals you've hit the spot

You think of all the trash that you have picked up in the day

And once you've found the trash at hand the noise will go away

You scrape the ground to move the rocks cause that's what you've been told

And use the rare earth magnet, which will pull trash from the gold

And once you have the hole revealed, the signal's still within

It must be just a bullet, or you've missed a bit of tin

So, you scrape a little deeper and dig to find the source

And now you have just two small heaps to separate of course

One heap shows no signal, so you push it in the hole

And the pile that you are left with must most surely hold the gold

This one is elusive, and it must be small to hold

But every little nugget is worth its weight in gold

For around four thousand million years, it's lain there in the ground

Just waiting for the moment that it's presence will be found

And there it is, it's in your palm and shining, as does gold

The wonder of the planet and your pleasure to behold

You hold your breath, and breathe a sigh; you've had a mighty find

The effort that you spent today flows freely from your mind

That's why we go prospecting in the outback as we do

Cause the next big nugget found out there, may be found by me, or you

Big thanks to Gerry Baylee January 2024

# BRANCH NEWS

## ALBANY BRANCH UPDATE

Meetings held 3rd Saturday of every second month. Each meeting consists of general Branch business and a guest speaker to assist members.

Next meeting **October 21<sup>st</sup>**

Contact Michael McCaffery

## GOLDFIELDS BRANCH UPDATE

Meetings are held at the Regency Room at the Tower Hotel Crn Maritana and Bourke st Kalgoorlie. Contact R Laing 0418 930 064

Next meeting **26<sup>th</sup> September**

## MANDURAH BRANCH UPDATE

Meetings held at 1.30pm, 2 Leslie st Mandurah. See APLA website for dates.

Contact Bob Wilson 0429 001 515

Next Meeting **8<sup>th</sup> September**

## SOUTHWEST BRANCH

Meetings Fourth Wednesday of every Second Month at the Capel Golf Club at 7:00pm - \$5 Includes Supper)

Next meeting **23<sup>rd</sup> July**

Contact Judith, SW Secretary for more information, 0428385457

## PERTH BRANCH UPDATE

APLA Perth Branch is conveniently located for Perth Members and now meets in the WA LAPIDARY AND ROCKHUNTING CLUB.31-35 GLADSTONE ROAD, RIVERVALE WA.

Next Meeting **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July**





## Why you should Join APLA

- Protect Your Rights under the Miner Right.
- Ensure your access to prospecting ground is fought for.
- Free \$20m Public Liability Insurance for Financial members.
- Access to valuable information and help in the Members Newsletter
- Access to APLA training
- Bush Training and Prospecting Camps
- Annual Membership Draw for a Minelab Detector
- Help, advice and support from your fellow members.

*Join Now*

To take advantage of all the Benefits that a like-minded group of Enthusiasts and Professional Prospectors and Leaseholders can offer you.

## AMALGAMATED PROSPECTORS AND LEASEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION



Postal Address  
PO Box 2715  
Ellenbrook WA 6069  
[www.apla.com.au](http://www.apla.com.au)



*Protecting your prospecting rights and future*



Take advantage of all the Benefits that APLA of WA Inc, has to offer. APLA has over 100 years of industry knowledge.

Importantly, APLA represents stakeholders to Government on Policies that exclude Prospectors from accessing some areas within WA. APLA fight for your rights to go Gold Prospecting. Delegate Representatives from each branch are attending, representing our members, all 2145 members as at year end 2023. We run training Camps free for Members. Our Branches

do fantastic volunteer work to improve your prospecting experience. Your membership includes public liability Insurance. These are the things that are important.

Recently joined **New Members** please **check out**, up and coming events listed on the APLA webpage. [www.apla.com.au](http://www.apla.com.au) click on your branch and the **events** window in the bottom right corner to find out more. Join our members only APLA Facebook page. Link can be found on the bottom of the webpage.

[APLA | Facebook](#) If you need help with a virtual payment or joining just contact:

Membership Officer: **Marise Palmer** Email: [tres@apla.com.au](mailto:tres@apla.com.au) Phone: **0403353029**

# GOLDHAWK SERIES



Fully Minelab approved for the GPX 6000

Rick Fishers  
Metal Detectorist

Swoop in on the smallest flecks to the mightiest nuggets with our magnificent GOLDHAWK metal detector coil:

Available in three Minelab for the (beginner and ser coverage, sharp and swift agility.

- Available in 3 sizes: 9", 10x5" and 14x9"
- Waterproof to 1m / 3ft
- Fits GPX 6000
- 2-year warranty



**9" GOLDHAWK MONO**

pen or tricky excellent depth and maintained sensitivity for smaller targets.

- 232mm round
- 700g / 24.7oz including attached skid plate
- Waterproof to 1 metre
- 2-year warranty



**10x5" GOLDHAWK MONO**

Find flecks and deep targets with easy manoeuvrability, outstanding coverage and unparalleled pinpointing.

- 244x140mm elliptical
- 575g / 20.3oz including attached skid plate
- Waterproof to 1 metre
- 2-year warranty



**14x9" GOLDHAWK MONO**

Prospect all day and spot both smaller sub-gram and larger targets, with reliable ease and accuracy.

- 355x228mm elliptical
- 900g / 31.7oz including attached skid plate
- Waterproof to 1 metre
- 2-year warranty

Learn  
from  
the locals



## Training courses for prospectors

Goldtalk Leonora is the only 'school' for prospecting in WA that is run by full time professional prospectors. Local knowledge is critical if you want to find gold in WA! We offer Three Day Training courses in Leonora **AND** One Day Training courses in Mandurah WA.

- The basics you need to learn.
- Patch hunting techniques specific to WA.
- Finding, then working a patch.
- Research.
- Reading the ground.
- Developing a strategy.
- Practical safety.

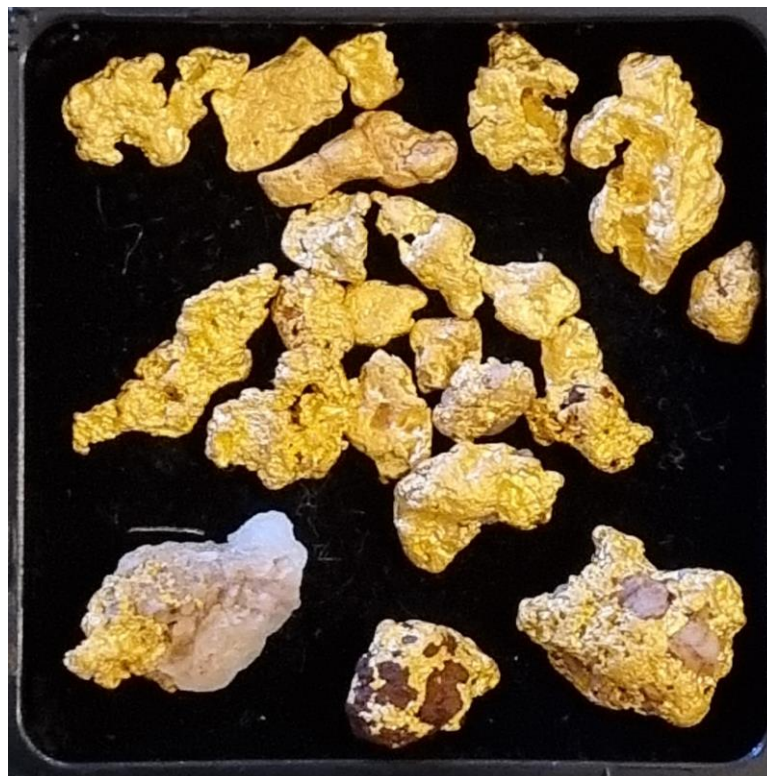
## Aussie Gold Rush Camps

You've seen it on TV. Now come and see it for real! Be part of the crew on our 5 Day/ 4 Night camps. A unique prospecting experience like no other.

- Be involved with a professional prospecting team on active leases as we use heavy earth moving gear to chase down gold.
- Why we dig where we dig.
- As much detecting as you like.
- Drilling.
- Pegging a lease.

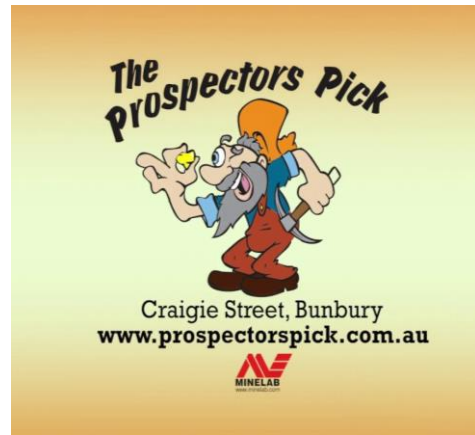
*All training courses and camps gives you **FREE** access to thousands of ha of live mining leases where you can camp/prospect for up to 2 months.*

For course/camp information go to: [www.goldtalkleonora.com.au](http://www.goldtalkleonora.com.au) or call 0418 277 861



# A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS





A big thank you to our sponsors

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**FINDERS KEEPERS—BLUEPRINT INDUSTRIES—**

**THE PROSPECTORS PATCH-- GOLD PROSPECTING WA.**



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 Contact: Ryan Daws 0409 435 702