BATHURST RESOURCES LIMITED

Conceptual Mine Closure Strategy

Buller Plateaux Continuation Project

August 2026

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Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

Term	Definition
ACML	Ancillary Coal Mining Licence
AMD	Acid and Metalliferous Drainage
AWP	Annual Work Plan
Bathurst	Bathurst Resources Limited, including its subsidiary companies BT Mining Ltd, Bathurst Coal Ltd, and Buller Coal Ltd
BDC	Buller District Council
BPCP	**Buller Plateaux Continuation Project**
BRL	Bathurst Resources Limited
BTM	BT Mining
Buller Plateaux	A collective reference to the Stockton Mine Plateau and Denniston Plateau
CHPP	Coal Handling and Processing Plant
CMCS	Conceptual Mine Closure Strategy
CFSF	Coal Fines Storage Facility
CML	Coal Mining Licence
DoC	Department of Conservation
ELF	Engineered Landform
EMS	Environmental Management System
ESE	Escarpment Extended Project sub-area
FTAA	Fast-track Approvals Act 2024
FY	Financial Year
Ha	Hectare (abbreviation)
HAF	High potential for acid forming (overburden)
LINZ	Land Information New Zealand
MFS	Mount Frederick South Project sub-area
MP	Mining Permit
MSR	Mussel Shell Reactors
NAF	Non-Acid Forming (overburden)
NZP&M	New Zealand Petroleum and Minerals
PAF	Potentially Acid Forming (overburden)
PMLU	Post mining land use
RMA	Resource Management Act (1991)
SDT	Slash Direct Transfer
STO	Stockton Mine
TARP	Trigger Action Response Plan
The Project	The Buller Plateaux Continuation Project
UWHR	Upper Waimangaroa Haul Road (a Project sub-area)

Term	Definition
VDT	Vegetation direct transfer
WCRC	West Coast Regional Council

Executive Summary

Bathurst Resources Limited (Bathurst) has prepared this Conceptual Mine Closure Strategy (CMCS) to outline an indicative strategy for closure planning across the Buller Plateaux Continuation Project (BPCP or Project).

The BPCP is made up of five separate project sub-areas: Stockton Mine, Mount Frederick South (MFS), Escarpment Extended (ESE), the Upper Waimangaroa Haul Road (UWHR) and Cypress Mine. The CMCS provides a framework to demonstrate that mine closure will be delivered responsibly to meet regulatory requirements including conditions of relevant approvals.

The BPCP area involves land managed by multiple landowners including Crown Land managed by the Department of Conservation (DOC) and Land Information New Zealand (LINZ), private freehold property, Buller District Council (BDC) and Bathurst-owned property.

At completion of the BPCP, land disturbed by the Project will be reshaped, capped, and revegetated to create safe, stable, and self-sustaining landforms. Rehabilitation will focus on re-establishing native ecosystems, hydrological function, and integration with surrounding conservation and recreation values.

Stockton Mine Closure

Closure planning at Stockton Mine occurs within a distinct regulatory and planning framework due to the long history of mining at the site and the advanced stage of the operation in the mine lifecycle.

Closure at Stockton Mine is governed by two binding agreements between Bathurst and the Crown. These are required due to historical mining at the site and acknowledge legacy environmental impacts. The two agreements are the Deed of Indemnity, which assigns historical non-acid metalliferous drainage (AMD) land rehabilitation to the Crown, and the Deed of Commitment, which maintains historical AMD liabilities with the Crown while assigning Bathurst responsibility for AMD generated post-2017 when it commenced operations at the site. Bathurst remains committed to rehabilitation of all new disturbance at the site and this is secured through bonds and overseen by regulators via annual rehabilitation and work plans.

A key philosophy of Stockton Mine's closure strategy is progressive rehabilitation, with over 500 hectares of rehabilitation already completed under existing approvals, using conventional planting, Slash Direct Transfer and Vegetation Direct Transfer (VDT) methods.

Objectives for closure include safe and stable landforms, self-sustaining native ecosystems, safe removal or managed retention of infrastructure, and long-term water quality improvement.

Due to legacy mining disturbance, Stockton Mine will require active AMD treatment for decades post-closure, with a gradual transition to passive systems. Closure will only be achieved when landforms are safe and stable, ecosystems are established, and monitoring confirms compliance with agreed criteria, enabling relinquishment of permits under the Crown Minerals Act.

Closure of Proposed New Project Areas (MFS, ESE, UWHR)

This CMCS extends Stockton Mine's established rehabilitation and closure framework to new Project sub-areas. Closure objectives include construction of engineered landforms, encapsulation of potentially acid forming materials, staged rehabilitation using topsoil and native planting, and selective use of rockfield rehabilitation to mimic natural sandstone pavement systems. AMD treatment is expected to require only a limited period of active treatment before transition to passive systems, in contrast to the long-term obligations to manage legacy impacts at Stockton Mine. Closure of UWHR will focus on reshaping haul road areas, maintaining sediment controls, and returning to natural drainage patterns.

Post mining land uses (PMLU) will focus on rehabilitation of native ecosystems, provision for recreational access, and explore the potential for promotion of mining heritage features. Closure will be managed adaptively, informed by ongoing research trials and consultation with Iwi, regulators, and local communities.

Timeframes

Although active mining at Stockton Mine will cease around 2037, coal processing facilities and water management infrastructure will remain in operation beyond this point to support the BPCP extension areas and provide for ongoing post-mining AMD treatment. Full rehabilitation of Stockton Mine is therefore not forecast until 2046. Rehabilitation of completed operational areas will continue to be undertaken progressively so that only supporting infrastructure areas are maintained through to the mid-2040s.

For the extension areas (MFS, ESE, UWHR), mining operations are expected to be completed progressively through the early 2040s, with progressive rehabilitation continuing and potential staged closure of areas as mining phases are completed. This allows Stockton Mine to transition earlier to post-mining land use and minimise active disturbance areas.

This approach supports a staged closure process, enabling areas that are no longer required for mining to be progressively rehabilitated and returned to future landowners, while other areas remain operational. This allows environmental outcomes to be delivered earlier and may create opportunities for recreational and public access as parts of the site are progressively closed, subject to agreement with land managers and achievement of relevant safety and environmental performance criteria.

1.0 Introduction

Bathurst Resources Limited (Bathurst) has prepared this Conceptual Mine Closure Strategy (CMCS) to outline its approach to closure planning across the Buller Plateaux Continuation Project (BPCP), which includes Stockton Mine (STO), Mount Frederick South (MFS), Escarpment Extended (ESE), and the Upper Waimangaroa Haul Road (UWHR) (refer to **Figure 1**). The strategy provides a framework to demonstrate that mine closure will be delivered responsibly to meet regulatory requirements, and align with cultural, environmental, and community values.

1.1 Purpose of the plan

Bathurst, including its subsidiary companies BT Mining Ltd, Bathurst Coal Ltd, and Buller Coal Ltd are seeking approvals through the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (FTAA) for the BPCP (also referred to as the 'Project'). This CMCS supports the FTAA Application by:

- Presenting indicative final landforms, including water management features and proposing conceptual final land uses;
- Proposing initial closure objectives and criteria;
- Demonstrating a commitment to progressive rehabilitation; and
- Referencing the practices and procedures that will be followed to enable the BPCP to be properly closed in accordance with its consent conditions.

As mining operations evolve and the site nears end of life, more detailed closure planning will be developed using strategies and principals outlined in this CMCS.

1.1.1 CMCS exclusions

Cypress Mine has a Mine Closure Plan (July 2018), prepared by Bathurst which is currently under review in accordance with Resource Consent 3175, Condition A15. Cypress Mine is managed under its own separate approvals, therefore has been excluded from this CMCS.

A Preliminary Closure Design Concept Report (November 2022) has been prepared for Stockton Mine A18 Coal Fines Storage Facility, by Engineering Geology Limited. As such, closure designs for A18 are summarised throughout the CMCS for reference and alignment only.

1.2 Integration with other management plans

This CMCS is specific to closure-related aspects of the Project and should be read in conjunction with other relevant operational management plans and strategies.

Operational plans, procedures, processes, and checklists from the Stockton Mine are discussed throughout this CMCS as examples of management tools. Reference to these documents demonstrates the adaptive management approach adopted by Bathurst in managing the Stockton Mine site and provides insight into Bathurst's proposed approach to managing the wider BPCP.

The content of the existing Stockton Mine management documents will be reviewed, updated, and optimised for application at the other BPCP areas once approved, and to ensure consistency with the new Project Consent conditions. BPCP site-specific monitoring documents currently under development are referenced where applicable.

1.3 Mana whenua

Bathurst engagement with mana whenua is grounded in the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, genuine partnership, and a commitment to honouring tikanga Māori. We recognise mana whenua as kaitiaki and rights-holders, in the planning and decision-making process. As such, the BPCP approach is centred on early, ongoing, and meaningful engagement that enables mana whenua to input into the outcomes.

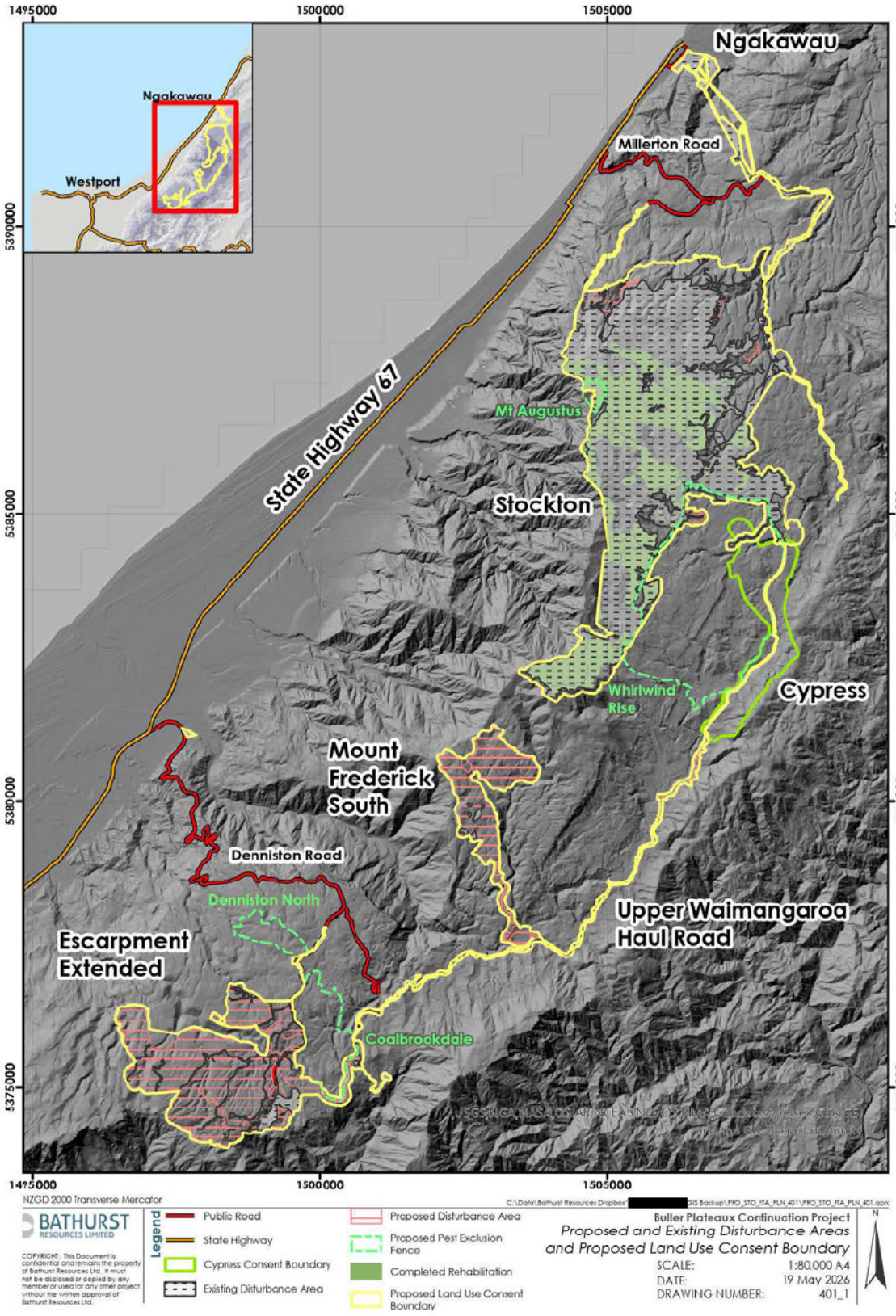

Figure 1: BPCP Project Areas

2.0 The Project

2.1 Setting the scene

The Buller Plateaux, comprising of the Denniston and Stockton Mine plateaux, have been subject to mining and associated industrial development for more than 120 years. Located northeast of Westport in the Papahaua Ranges (refer to **Figure 1**), these elevated lands contain the Brunner Coal Measures, which have long been recognised as a high-quality coal resource. The cumulative result of legacy underground workings, transport networks, and large-scale open-cast operations, is a landscape that is already significantly impacted and modified before considering the current or proposed future mining.

Stockton Mine

In more recent times, the Crown operated the Stockton Mine through State Coal Mines, and the land was designated as a State Coal Mines Area under the Coal Mines Act 1979 (now referred to as the Crown Minerals Act 1991). In the mid-1980s the operation and ownership of the land were transferred to the Coal Corporation of New Zealand (later renamed Solid Energy New Zealand Ltd), a state-owned enterprise. At that time, a Coal Mining Licence (CML) was granted to the company in accordance with the Coal Mines Act 1979.

The Stockton Mine, which was acquired by BT Mining Limited (BTM) on 31 August 2017 as part of the sale of the assets of Solid Energy New Zealand Ltd (which went into a company arrangement prior to liquidation). The mine is operated by Bathurst Resources Limited.

Stockton Mine is currently New Zealand's largest coal mine.

Denniston Plateau

Mining on the Denniston Plateau began in the early 1880s with the establishment of underground operations at the Banbury and Coalbrookdale mines. The rugged terrain required innovative transport solutions, most notably the Denniston Incline, a gravity-operated ropeway system that carried coal from the plateau down to Conns Creek between 1880 and 1967.

The incline was supported by a network of roperoads and tramways that linked several mines, including Ironbridge, Whareatea, and Sullivan, to the incline head at Brakehead. Over time, these systems were extended and upgraded, with aerial ropeways introduced in the mid-twentieth century to replace older haulage methods. Settlements such as Denniston, Burnett's Face, and Coalbrookdale developed around the mines, creating a concentrated footprint of housing, services, and industrial facilities.

Although large-scale underground mining ceased decades ago, the Denniston Plateau remains marked by abandoned adits, subsidence features, historical roperoad alignments, and spoil heaps. The incline itself is no longer operational but is a prominent relic of earlier disturbance, now recognised as a nationally significant heritage site.

The Escarpment Mine is located on the Denniston Plateau on Crown land administered by the Department of Conservation (DOC), which is part of the Mount Rochfort Conservation Area. The Project sub-area of ESE includes the currently consented Escarpment Mine, which is an operating mine currently on care and maintenance, and the extension into adjacent areas currently covered by mining permits and the existing Sullivan CML. The most recent mining operations on the Denniston Plateau took place in the Escarpment Mine permit area from 2014 to 2016.

The MFS Project sub-area is located approximately 1km southwest of the Mount Frederick mining area at Stockton Mine. The Mining area lies within both Mining Permit (MP) 41515 and Minerals Exploration Permit (EP) 61157. Although no modern large-scale mining has yet been undertaken at MFS, the area has previously been disturbed by historical underground mining.

The legacy of these earlier operations forms part of the broader pattern of cumulative impact across the Buller Plateaux. Due to remaining coal resources, there have been several previous studies undertaken by Solid Energy and Bathurst to mine in this area.

Waimangaroa Valley

The Waimangaroa Valley is the primary link between the Denniston Plateaux coalfields and the coast. Early mining activity on the Denniston Plateau relied heavily on the valley for transport connections, as the coal transported down the Denniston Incline was deposited at Conns Creek at the valley floor. From there, coal was loaded onto rail wagons on the Conns Creek branch line, which operated from 1883 until 1967, providing a direct link to Westport and export shipping.

The valley also supported key settlement and service functions. The township of Waimangaroa developed as the main base for railway workers, transport staff, and families associated with both the Denniston and Stockton Mine operations. Roads and bridle tracks were cut through the valley from the 1880s onwards, further reinforcing its role as the logistical gateway to the plateaux.

Millerton, Granity, Ngakawau and Hector townships, further to the North, developed as the main bases supporting Stockton plateau mining operations.

2.2 Project description

The purpose of the BPCP FTAA Application is to reconsent the existing infrastructure and mining operations associated with the Stockton Mine and to enable access to additional coal mining areas across the Buller Plateaux. This is required as the coal resources within the current Stockton Mine operational areas are nearing depletion, and access to additional coal resources is necessary to maintain production and extend the life of mining on the Buller Plateaux.

Bathurst is proposing that approximately 20 million tonnes of product coal will be mined over the next 25 years from four separate Project sub-areas. This will be supported by the proposed UWHR, the existing coal processing infrastructure at Stockton Mine and existing aerial ropeway and train loading facilities at Ngakawau.

The summary of the Project sub-areas is listed below in **Table 1.** A detailed description of mining areas, site background and proposed operations is provided in the detailed BPCP Project Description (Bathurst, 2026).

Table 1: Project sub-areas

Project Sub-Area	Project Scope within Sub-Area
Stockton Mine (**STO**) (including the Ngakawau Rail Loadout and associated Aerial Ropeway)	Completion of mining of existing pits and remaining coal resources, completion of rehabilitation throughout the site. Ongoing utilisation of existing infrastructure inclusive of workshops, Coal Handling Processing Plant (CHPP) and Coal Fine Storage Facilities (CFSF), the aerial ropeway and loadout facilities through to closure and then decommissioning.
Upper Waimangaroa Haul Road (**UWHR**)	Road connecting Stockton Mine with Mount Frederick South mine and the Escarpment Extended operations. Avoiding the public road network, coal will be transported to the processing facilities at Stockton Mine and then to the existing rail loadout at Ngakawau. The road is a combination of upgrades to existing roads and the development of a new section through the Upper Waimangaroa Valley.
Mount Frederick South (**MFS**)	A new opencast mining area with initial mining through old underground workings, and extension into unmined areas to the northwest along with the extension of the UWHR road into the MFS mine area. Coal will be transported via the UWHR to Stockton Mine for processing the CHPP.
Escarpment Extended (**ESE**) (including the Waimangaroa storage yard)	Mining is opencast with a combination of an existing opencast pit (Escarpment), old underground workings (Whareatea), and an extension into unworked areas (West Whareatea). Coal will be transported to Stockton Mine via the UWHR for processing at the CHPP.
Cypress	Ongoing mining is authorised under existing consents, the only elements for inclusion in the Project are the renewal of Wildlife Act authorities and a variation to the compensation provisions to integrate with the broader compensation package across the full BPCP.

2.2.1 Time to mine closure

The timing provided is indicative due to the many factors that can affect the overall schedule of mining over long timeframes. Factors that may affect the schedule include technical mining issues, equipment and contractor availability, weather, staffing, customer requirements and longer-term requirements for water treatment.

The BPCP proposes to extend the life of mining through until the mid-2040s. **Table 2** shows indicative timeframes for the BPCP areas to move through these phases. An indicative closure timeline per Project sub-area is shown in **Figure 2** including the main rehabilitation and closure phases to achieve closure objectives.

Table 2: Indicative BPCP timeline

Project sub-area	Development Phase	Operations	Last Coal	Rehabilitation Completion	Rehabilitation Monitoring, Maintenance and Active Water Treatment	Relinquishment
STO	N/A	Extension of 11 years	FY37	FY46 (to account for infrastructure areas supporting MFS/ESE)	Ongoing in collaboration with the Crown	
ESE	Commencing FY27	16 Years	FY42	FY45	Approx. 15 years	
MFS	Commencing FY27	16 Years	FY42	FY43	Approx. 10 years	
UWHR	Commencing FY27	16 Years	N/A	FY45	Approx. 10 years	

FY – Financial Year

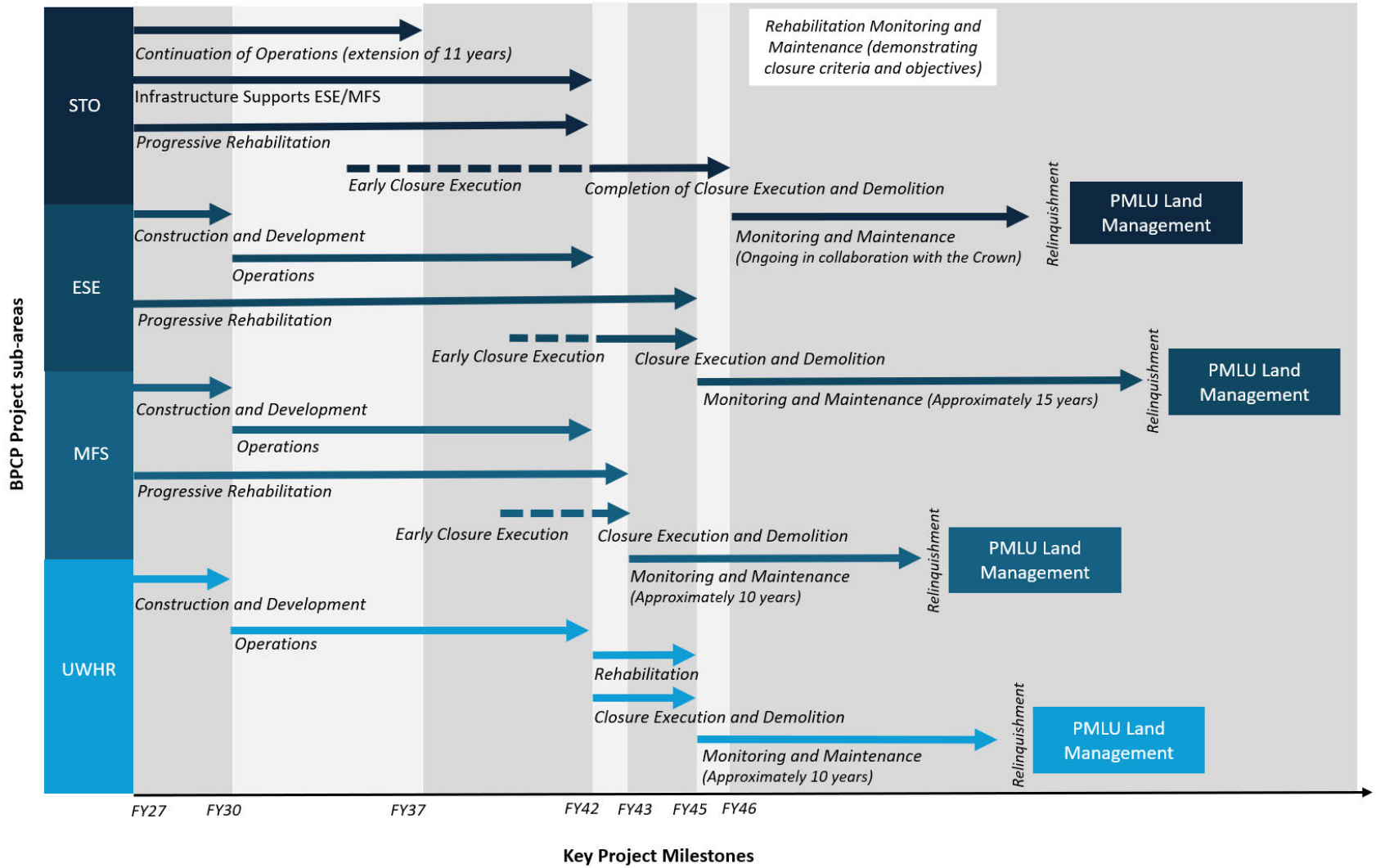

Figure 2:Indicative BPCP Closure Timeline

2.3 Land ownership and land use

Land ownership across the BPCP area is a mix of Bathurst freehold, Crown land (administered by DOC and Land Information New Zealand (LINZ)), Buller District Council (BDC) and private land (Figure 3), with existing access agreements supporting current and historical mining activities.

At Stockton, Bathurst owns most of the land underlying the existing CML and (Ancillary Coal Mining Licence) ACML, including seven titles at Ngakawau associated with the aerial ropeway and rail loadout. These licences expire in 2027, and agreements are in place to return land associated with the CMLs, ACMLs and MPs to the Crown following completion of mining and rehabilitation.

The ESE Project sub-area is located on Crown land administered by DOC within the Mount Rochfort Conservation Area. The MFS area is situated on Crown land administered by LINZ and DOC, with an Access Agreement in place (valid to March 2038 for mining, and beyond for rehabilitation). The majority of the UWHR footprint traverses Crown land, where Bathurst holds specific haulage concessions limited to use of the existing road corridor.

A summary of land ownership and tenure arrangements relevant to this CMCS are listed below in **Table 3.**

Table 3: Land ownership

Project Sub-area	Land Ownership	Current Tenure / Access
STO (CML & ACML areas) Ngakawau (Ropeway & Rail Loadout)	Mix of Bathurst-owned, Crown and private land	CMLs and ACMLs (expiring 2027); existing Access Agreements
ESE	Crown land administered by DOC (Mount Rochfort Conservation Area)	MPs (Escarpment Mine and Whareatea West) CML and ACMLs (Sullivan) and Access Agreements
MFS	Mix of LINZ and DOC administered land	Access Agreement over part of MP 41515 (valid to March 2038, plus rehabilitation period)
UWHR	Predominantly Crown land (LINZ and DOC)	Concessions for haulage along Cascade Mine Road; Coalbrookdale storage consent

Existing approvals within the BPCP consenting boundary for these sub-areas are intended to be superseded by the FTAA application. The FTAA will consolidate rehabilitation and closure obligations under a single framework, providing clarity on performance standards, monitoring requirements and relinquishment pathways across the Project.

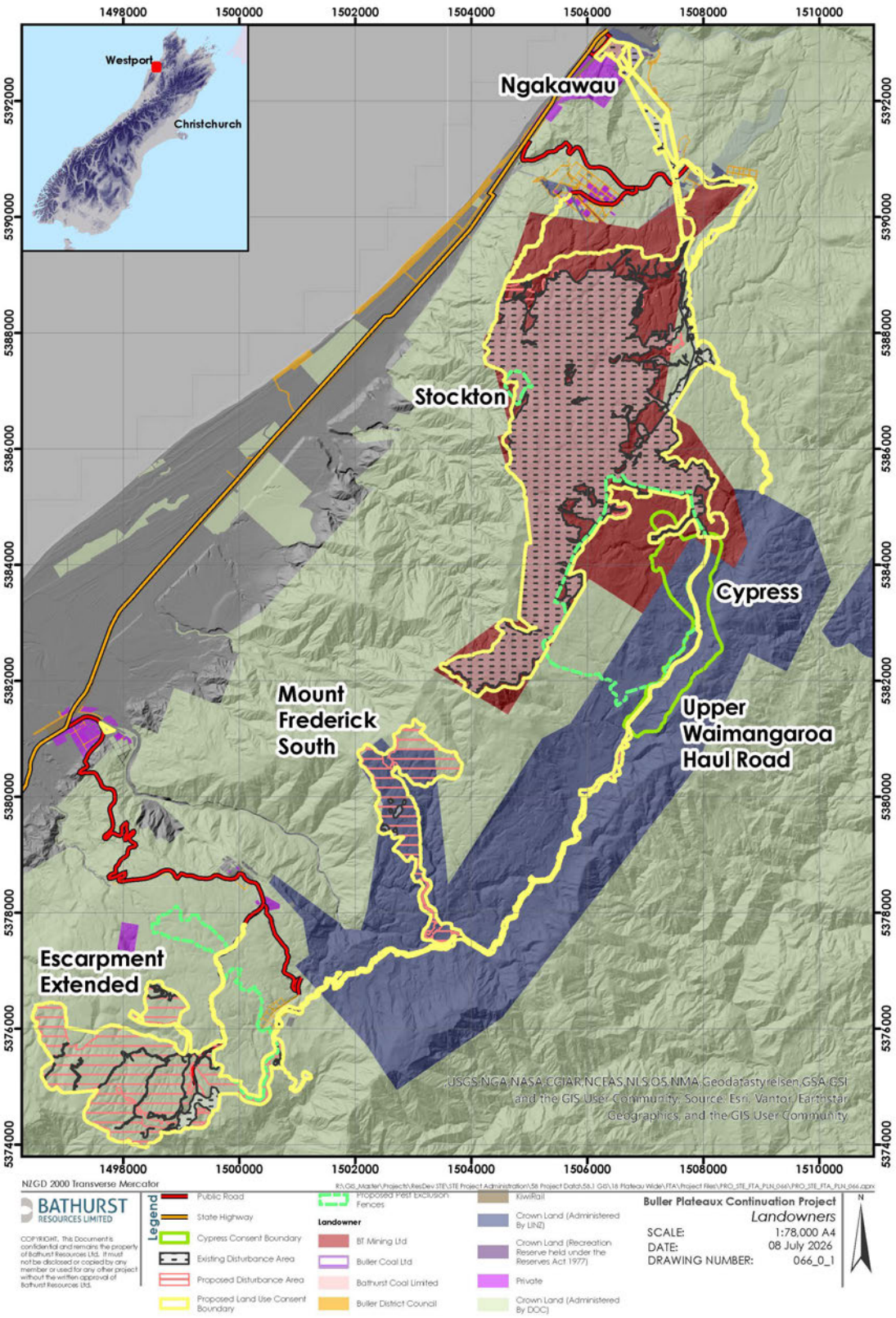

Figure 3: Land Ownership

2.4 Progressive rehabilitation to date

Rehabilitation at Stockton Mine is undertaken progressively under existing approvals as mining areas become available. The process is implemented in stages, commencing with the construction of safe and stable final landforms, followed by the establishment of permanent surface water management controls and drainage infrastructure. These works are designed for long-term geotechnical stability and appropriate management of water quality and quantity for AMD and erosion and sediment control.

As of May 2025, approximately 502 hectares have been progressively rehabilitated and signed off at Stockton Mine towards the approved final landform and land use objectives. Rehabilitated areas completed and jointly signed off by West Coast Regional Council (WCRC) and BDC at Stockton Mine are shown in **Figure 4**, which also shows planned future rehabilitation out to the expiry of Stockton's CML and ACMLs.

Examples of successful rehabilitation at Stockton Mine are shown in **Photo 1** and **Photo 2.**

Photo 1: Rehabilitation progression southwest of the A Drive Borrow Pit (Stockton Mine)

Photo 2: Rehabilitation progression at Webb (Stockton Mine)

Due to the unique environmental conditions at Stockton Mine, rehabilitation has been supported by ongoing research and monitoring programs, including trials of various rehabilitation methods. The outcomes of these trials have played a critical role in refining the mine's rehabilitation strategies and techniques. These refined methods will be adapted and applied to new mining areas to support continued rehabilitation success.

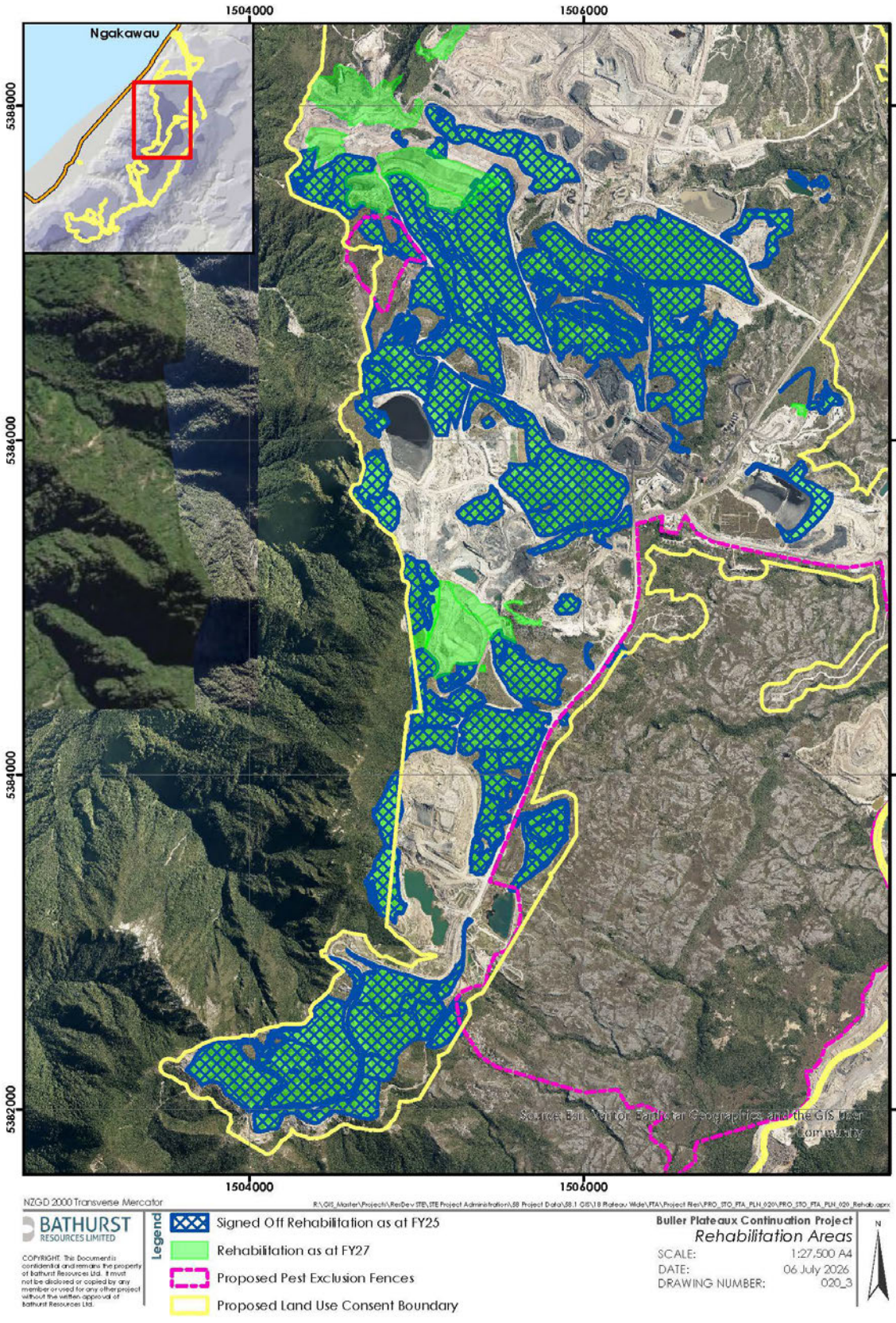

Figure 4: Rehabilitation Status (October 2025)

3.0 Legislative framework and agreements

3.1 Project approvals

Mine closure for the BPCP is guided by a consolidated legislative and approvals framework that regulates mining activities, land access, environmental management and rehabilitation outcomes across the Project area. This framework establishes the statutory controls applicable to different parts of the site and defines the conditions that must be satisfied prior to closure completion and tenure relinquishment.

For new project areas the following approvals may influence closure outcomes:

- **Mining Permits** under the Crown Minerals Act, for coal extraction and mining areas (Stockton, ESE, MFS and UWHR).
- **Access arrangements, concessions or authorisations** from the relevant Crown agency, for Crown land (DOC and LINZ administered areas, including Denniston Plateau and Mount Rochfort Conservation Area).
- **Resource Consents / Environmental Approvals** under the Resource Management Act addressing land disturbance, water management, discharges, infrastructure and rehabilitation performance.
- **Land use approvals and tenure agreements** relevant to the underlying land ownership (Bathurst freehold, Crown, BDC or private).

It should be noted that closure of Stockton Mine is governed by separate agreements with AMD, Non-AMD and financial assurance requirements described in **Section 3.2 and 3.3**. These arrangements are specific to Stockton Mine and do not apply to the MFS, ESE or UWHR sub-areas.

3.2 Obligations and agreements for rehabilitation at Stockton Mine

A defining feature of closure planning at Stockton Mine is the division of liability between Acid and Metalliferous Drainage (AMD) and non-AMD rehabilitation, governed by two key agreements (as well as by the historical approvals):

- **The Deed of Indemnity (2015, amended 2017)**, under which the Crown indemnifies Bathurst Resources Limited (through BT Mining) for historical non-AMD rehabilitation liabilities. BT Mining remains responsible for ongoing non-AMD closure works, secured by rehabilitation bonds and reported annually through Rehabilitation Schedules and Work Plans to the WCRC and BDC.
- **The Deed of Commitment (2016, accessioned by BT Mining in 2017)**, which assigns **responsibility** for historical AMD liabilities to the Crown, under LINZ administration. BT Mining is liable **for** AMD arising from new mining activities post-2017 but may recover the Crown's share of long-term AMD treatment costs.

These agreements were originally established between the Crown, Solid Energy, WCRC, and BDC. When BT Mining purchased Stockton Mine in 2017, it formally assumed Solid Energy's rights and obligations.

3.2.1 Non-AMD rehabilitation obligations

As part of the asset transfer from Solid Energy, the Deed of Indemnity was extended to BT Mining to cover all historical non-AMD rehabilitation liabilities. All new land disturbance created by BT Mining after September 2014 requires rehabilitation bonds to be lodged annually with WCRC and BDC under the Resource Management Act 1991 process.

Each year, BT Mining must prepare and submit an Annual Rehabilitation Schedule and Work Plan. These documents outline planned rehabilitation activities, including landform stabilisation, re-vegetation, and drainage construction. The plans are reviewed and approved by the Crown, WCRC, and BDC. Funding is administered through an escrow account and released only for approved works, ensuring that rehabilitation continues even if the operator faces financial difficulty.

The intended outcomes are stable and safe landforms shaped to minimise erosion and hazards, self-sustaining vegetation suited to Stockton Mine's high-altitude, high-rainfall environment, and functional drainage systems that protect downstream water quality by controlling sediment and runoff.

The Deed of Indemnity monies, approved annually by WCRC and BDC, may be applied to all Crown-related (Solid Energy) disturbance as of September 2014.

3.2.2 AMD management obligations

Under the Deed of Commitment, the Crown is liable for the costs of treating AMD caused by State Coal Mines and/or Solid Energy pre-31 December 2016. BT Mining is required to undertake all treatment of AMD from the Stockton Mine, but can claim back from the Crown, the Crown's proportion of the costs due to historical mining in accordance with the Annual Work Plan (AWP) and approved Annual Rehabilitation Schedule.

While non-AMD rehabilitation can be managed through progressive works, AMD presents a longer-term and more complex liability. Stockton Mine's geology and high rainfall mean that AMD will require active and adaptive management long after mining ceases.

To address this, a 2016 Deed of Commitment was established, setting expectations for AMD treatment, monitoring, and reporting. This was strengthened in 2017, when the AMD Deed of Accession and Assumption transferred obligations from Solid Energy to BT Mining Limited. From this date, BT Mining assumed full responsibility for new AMD liabilities, while the Crown, WCRC, and BDC remained continuing parties to the deed.

Key elements of AMD management include:

- Segregation of non-acid forming (NAF) and potential acid-forming (PAF) overburden for engineered landform (ELF) construction.

- Capping ELFs with granite and construction of ELFs to encapsulate PAF to minimise oxygen and water ingress.
- Management of mine water collection system including drains and sumps and operation of active treatment systems such as lime/alkaline dosing plants to meet water quality standards.
- Establishment of passive systems (e.g., wetlands and settling ponds) where effective and sustainable.
- Long-term monitoring programmes to track water quality and the effectiveness of treatment systems.
- Adaptive management to respond to evolving conditions and improve performance over time.

These obligations recognise that AMD is not a temporary issue but an enduring responsibility requiring technical solutions and financial safeguards.

3.3 Stockton Mine governance and financial assurance

The Deeds provide a strong governance and assurance framework for Stockton Mine. Non-AMD rehabilitation is secured through annual work schedules and escrow funding, while AMD management is enforced through binding commitments that survive changes in mine ownership. Oversight is shared between the Crown, WCRC, and BDC, ensuring independent review and accountability.

Bonds underpin these deeds and provide confidence that rehabilitation and AMD obligations will be met irrespective of company solvency. Legal indemnities and funding structures demonstrate that closure commitments are both enforceable and resourced.

3.3.1 Capped vs non-capped agreements and legacy management

An important distinction exists between capped and non-capped agreements. Capped agreements apply where the Crown has placed a financial limit on its liability, generally associated with non-AMD rehabilitation, where costs can be more accurately forecast. Once that cap is reached, no further funding obligations fall to the Crown. In contrast, AMD management is governed by non-capped agreements. Because AMD is a perpetual issue with uncertain treatment duration and costs, the Crown's commitment remains open-ended, ensuring water quality and environmental protection are maintained indefinitely.

Following the 2017 sale of Stockton Mine, Bathurst Resources Limited (through BT Mining) took on operational responsibility for delivering closure works. This includes the preparation and execution of annual rehabilitation schedules, landform stabilisation, re-vegetation, and AMD treatment activities. The Crown, however, retained responsibility for certain legacy issues, particularly pre-existing AMD liabilities and long-term treatment costs that may exceed the mine's financial capacity. This balance demonstrates that rehabilitation and closure obligations are implemented by the operator while the Crown safeguards the public interest in managing unavoidable legacy liabilities.

It is also significant that, as part of transitional arrangements during Solid Energy's restructuring, the Crown assumed responsibility for rehabilitation and AMD management activities up to 2017. This

provision required the Crown to inherit three years of liability for agreed activities, providing certainty during a period of financial instability and creating a buffer period to establish the current deeds and agreements.

4.0 Cultural values

Bathurst recognises mana whenua as kaitiaki and key partners in shaping closure outcomes. Closure planning for the Project will be guided by iwi values, mātauranga Māori, and aspirations for the post-mining landscape, including rehabilitation, landform design, water management, biodiversity outcomes, and future land-use planning.

A Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA) has been undertaken by Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae for the Project. A key requirement of Ngāti Waewae, and a key commitment of Bathurst, is continued partnership and engagement through operations, rehabilitation, and closure. The CIA identifies several matters of relevance to closure, including headwater streams, aquatic resources, opportunities to enhance mahinga kai habitats, protection of indigenous biodiversity including taonga species, and the mauri of waterways.

The following CIA commitments will be implemented during operations, rehabilitation, and closure:

- Ngāti Waewae will be invited to participate in the delivery of closure and rehabilitation activities, including opportunities to contribute mātauranga Māori to rehabilitation planning and implementation.
- Ngāti Waewae will be engaged on matters relating to water treatment, water quality, and the management of water in headwater catchments. Bathurst will seek to reinstate streams and maintain existing catchment configurations to the extent practicable, and will work with Ngāti Waewae to support suitable cultural and environmental outcomes.
- Ngāti Waewae will be invited to participate in rehabilitation trials and rehabilitation implementation so that mātauranga Māori can inform rehabilitation methods, monitoring, and success criteria.
- Partnership initiatives with Ngāti Waewae will be explored during operations, rehabilitation, and closure, including opportunities that support enduring cultural, ecological, and community outcomes.
- Bathurst will incorporate cultural monitoring activities in consultation with Ngāti Waewae, such as cultural stream health assessment monitoring where agreed.

Cultural values will also be integrated into the Project's offsetting and compensation framework, including measures to support long-term ecological and cultural outcomes beyond the mine footprint. Monitoring and adaptive management programs will incorporate cultural indicators where agreed with mana whenua, allowing performance against cultural outcomes to be tracked and used to inform ongoing improvement.

As this CMCS is conceptual in nature, cultural inputs and closure commitments will continue to be refined through implementation of the CIA, ongoing partnership with Ngāti Waewae, and continued engagement with mana whenua as the Project advances.

5.0 Stakeholder consultation

While this plan outlines minimum closure requirements and objectives for the BPCP, consultation to refine mine closure criteria and outcomes will be an ongoing process throughout the Project's life involving iwi, regulators, landowners, councils, and local communities.

Bathurst's current focus is on communicating the conceptual final landform outcomes, long-term rehabilitation goals, and post-mining land use through structured engagement aligned with the CMCS and BPCP FTAA process. Early consultation has centred on final landform design, access requirements, and water management expectations, with detailed engagement to follow as site-specific closure plans are finalised.

Should the Project be approved, and operations commence, closure planning discussions with key stakeholders (including Councils, DOC, iwi, Heritage NZ, LINZ, local community and internal workforce and management) will progress towards opportunities to retain or repurpose infrastructure, recreational access, and socio - economic transition planning with employees. Stakeholder engagement during closure planning aims to also provide clarity on the post-mining landscape, and how long-term monitoring and land management responsibilities will be addressed.

Mana whenua will remain key partners in shaping outcomes consistent with cultural values and Te Tiriti principles, while the broader community will be engaged through drop-in sessions, consultative committees, and targeted communication.

An internal Mine Closure Stakeholder Engagement Plan has been prepared to guide consultation activities and engagement milestones. The Mine Closure Stakeholder Engagement Plan will remain a live document and be updated during operations to demonstrate closure objectives remain aligned with stakeholder expectations.

6.0 Bathurst mine closure planning approach

Mine closure planning is a continuous, iterative process that is embedded throughout the life of the operation with consideration of international best practice (ICMM 2025) as outlined below in **Figure 5**.

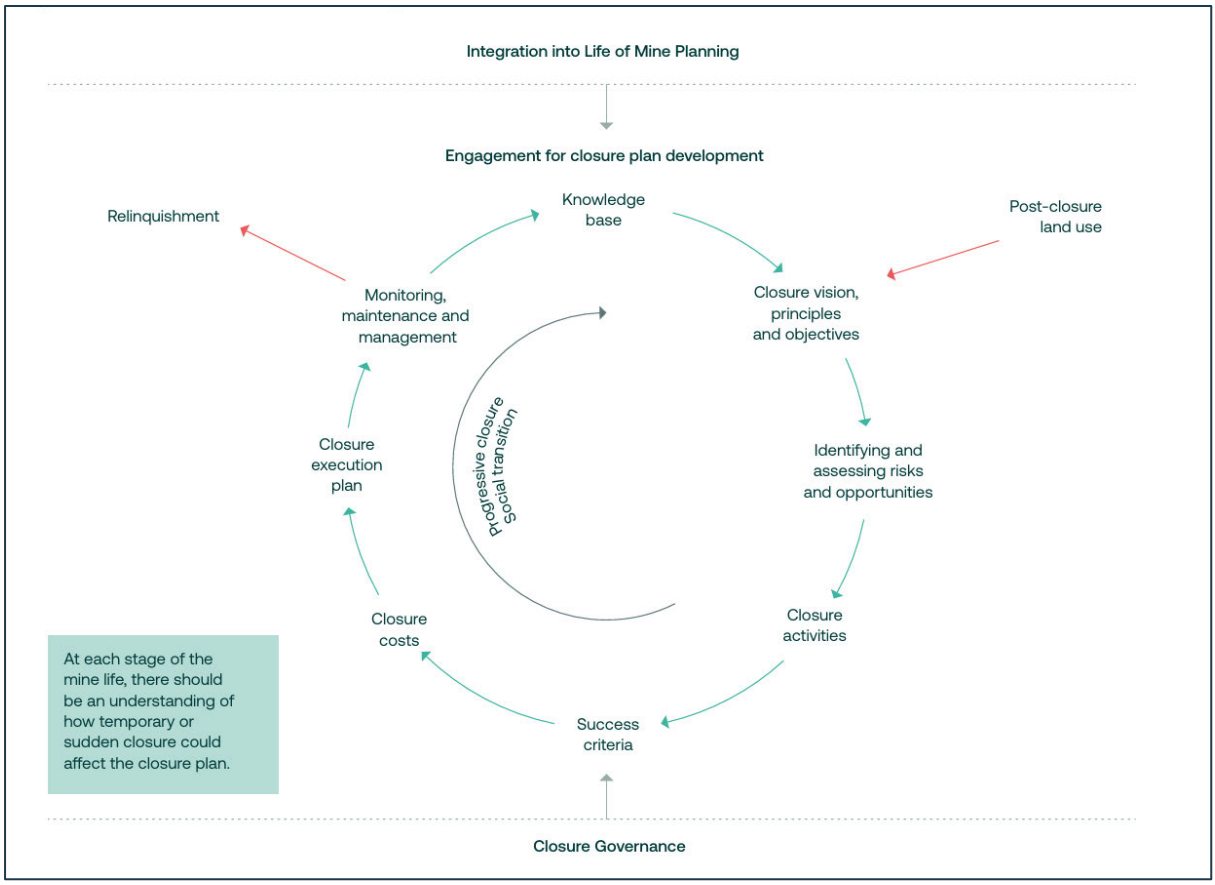

Figure 5: Closure Planning Process (source ICMM 2025)

By integrating closure approval conditions into operational decision-making and resource planning, Bathurst aims to support a smooth transition through each phase of the mine life cycle towards closure and relinquishment. This approach also provides a clear framework for stakeholder engagement and regulatory compliance, increasing confidence that approved final land use objectives will be achieved.

Closure planning for the Project will be regularly reviewed and refined throughout the life of the mine, ensuring alignment with regulatory requirements, environmental best practice, and the expectations of landowners and local communities. This ensures the closure approach remains practical, responsible, and aligned with the long-term environmental, cultural, and land use values specific to the Buller Plateaux.

6.1 Bathurst Mine Closure Policy

Bathurst's mine closure planning is governed by its Mine Closure Policy. This Mine Closure Policy outlines Bathurst's intention to align with international best practice frameworks, including ICMM (2025) and ISO 21795 (2021) in its planning for closure.

A high-level summary of the closure planning framework, including the key plan types at each stage the mines life is presented below in **Figure 6**.

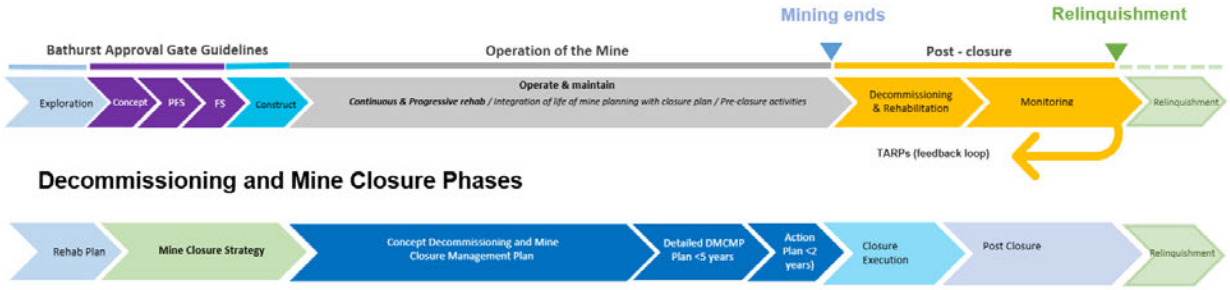

Figure 6: BRL project life cycle and corresponding mine closure plan requirements.

This CMCS focuses specifically on defining the overarching closure strategy, vision and objectives and establishing initial, measurable success criteria.

Ultimately, this CMCS seeks to deliver a final landform that is safe, stable, and sustainable, that is aligned with expectations of landowners, Iwi and other stakeholders, to enable successful relinquishment of the site once closure objectives have been achieved.

Closure planning will improve during the life of the operations and will need to respond to evolving stakeholder expectations, changes to progression of mining, improved information and knowledge base and any technical issues encountered during the life of the operation. Detailed closure planning will be progressed for individual Project sub-areas nearer to the time of closure and will include refined completion criteria, monitoring programs and final landform designs.

6.2 Overview of the BPCP Closure Strategy

The proposed BPCP closure outcome is to leave the site safe and stable post-mining, with landforms that are compatible with the surrounding landscapes. Rehabilitation will encourage indigenous, self-sustaining, and diverse vegetation cover that maintains ecological function and landscape stability into the future.

Final closure outcomes will also include water management infrastructure to achieve water quality objectives and provide for access for public use compatible with surrounding land.

In Project sub-areas that have been subject to legacy mining, modelling indicated that there will be improvements in downstream water quality outcomes.

Bathurst is committed to engagement and collaboration with iwi and stakeholders in development and refinement of the Project's closure vision.

6.2.1 Closure vision

Bathurst acknowledges the significance of this land to Iwi and local communities, as well as the effects on the environment from mining. Bathurst closure processes aim to work collaboratively with Iwi and stakeholders to rehabilitate the land and uphold its natural and cultural heritage whilst enabling access for recreation and public benefit.

The following principles will underlie Bathurst's vision for closure of the BPCP. The vision will be developed and evolve with continued input from stakeholders.

- **Iwi and Community Collaboration:** Respect and integrate Iwi cultural values and heritage into closure planning and continue to maintain transparent communication with a range of stakeholders throughout the closure process, addressing concerns and adapting plans as needed.
- **Acknowledgement of landowner visions and outcomes:** Uphold and aid in supporting the visions, values, and desired outcomes of landowners in all planning and decision-making processes.
- **Adaptive Management:** Closure plans are regularly updated and refined as part of the Bathurst Environmental Management System. Updates are based on ongoing environmental assessments; stakeholder and regulatory input; and site conditions encountered during operations.
- **Environmental Rehabilitation:** Return ecosystems with native flora and fauna so that they are self-sustaining.
- **Water quality and quantity Improvement:** Implement measures so water released from mining areas meets the agreed / approved water quality and quantity criteria on non-mining land. Betterment of water quality in areas that have been subjected to legacy mining.
- **Repurposing Land and Infrastructure:** Consult with Iwi, landowners and relevant stakeholders to transition mined areas into useful spaces, such as biodiversity areas, recreational areas, or other land uses.

6.3 Technical studies

Technical input from various specialists has supported development of the BPCP, and where applicable the development of this CMCS as referenced in **Section 15.0**. These studies have been undertaken to characterise baseline environmental conditions, support project design to avoid or mitigate potential environmental effects and optimise long-term rehabilitation and closure outcomes.

The technical assessments cover key environmental, engineering, cultural, and socio-economic considerations, including aquatic and terrestrial ecology, hydrology, geochemistry and ecotoxicology, geotechnical and civil engineering design, and mine waste cover systems. Additional studies have assessed landscape and visual effects, heritage values, cultural impacts, recreational use, and potential social and economic effects of the project.

These studies also provide a foundation for the closure strategy and rehabilitation requirements, ensuring alignment with the broader commitments outlined in **Section 8.0**, where closure objectives are detailed.

7.0 Closure outcomes

Across the BPCP, closure outcomes prioritise returning disturbed areas to self-sustaining native vegetation, stable landforms and hydrological function consistent with surrounding landscape and recreation values.

Rehabilitation will predominantly be comprised of vegetated landforms, with smaller areas of wetlands, tarns, rockfield rehabilitation, and water management features, including pit lakes.

Closure and rehabilitation at the BPCP will include:

- Removal or remediation of contamination and hazardous materials associated with the mining activities or infrastructure;
- Decommissioning of infrastructure (including redundant water management infrastructure), unless an alternative use is agreed with relevant stakeholders;
- Reshaping waste rock dumps and other disturbed areas to integrate with the natural landscape on the plateaux;
- Reinstatement or construction of enduring water management infrastructure to manage water in the final landform. As far as reasonable and practical, water will be returned to original, pre-mining catchments;
- Rehabilitation using native vegetation and habitat creation to complement surrounding undisturbed landscapes as landforms are built. Bathurst will seek to improve ecological function by opportunistically creating wetlands, tarns, littoral zones, etc to improve habitat diversity in the post mining landscape;
- Retention of pest exclusion fencing, where these provide long-term ecological habitat to support threatened flora and fauna species; and
- Strategically maintaining access in former mining areas for maintenance activities and recreational access (haul roads will be reduced to standard light vehicle track width consistent with non-mined areas of the plateaux).

Water treatment will be an important final land use activity due to the scale of the AMD legacy at the Stockton Mine and this work is covered by the Agreements noted in **Section 2.2**. New project areas will manage PAF materials during operations, and passive treatment systems will be retained in the final landforms to treat the lower levels of AMD expected from utilisation of modern mining methods and as confirmed by geochemical modelling. Further details are in **Section 7.2**.

As mining progresses, detailed closure strategies will be refined in consultation with landowners, Iwi, regulatory authorities and other relevant stakeholders. A summary of closure outcomes per project sub-area is listed below in **Table 4.**

Table 4: BPCP Sub-Areas Closure Outcomes

Project Sub-Areas	Closure Outcome within Sub-Area
Stockton (including the Ngakawau Rail Loadout and associated Aerial Ropeway)	The Stockton plateau is an existing opencast mining area that will be reshaped to form a stable landform, capped with non-acid-forming material, and planted with native shrubland and tussock. Previously mined underground workings being remined and waste rock being placed into ELFs designed to reduce AMD generation. Passive wetland systems and limestone drains will improve water quality. Due to mining legacies at Stockton, full recovery at some sites is predicted to require at least 80 years and ongoing intervention (as per agreements in **Section 3.2.2**). Other streams are likely to become suitable for biota soon after mine closure and land rehabilitation (Instream, 2026). Mine infrastructure areas, coal processing and blending areas, ropeway and rail loadout will be used until closure, then decommissioned. Long-term monitoring will confirm stability and water quality improvements. The proposed final landform is illustrated in **Figure 7**.
MFS	MFS is a proposed opencast area that will be reshaped to gentle, stable slopes post mining. Water management will be via construction of ELFs designed to minimise AMD generation, followed by a possible short period of active treatment prior to a switch to passive systems. Landforms will be vegetated with native forest and shrubland. Areas of wetland will help re-establish natural drainage and moisture conditions. Re-established vegetation is expected within the short to medium term, creating self-sustaining ecosystems that blend with the surrounding bush and that will require minimal ongoing management. The proposed final landform is illustrated in **Figure 8.**
ESE (Including the Waimangaroa \ storage yard)	ESE is new opencast area that will be reshaped to form a permanent lake and wetland system linked to the Whareatea River. ELFs will minimise AMD generation with a short period of active water treatment modelled as being required. Passive water treatment systems will manage acidity and metal loads in the long term, allowing aquatic ecosystems to recover. The area will be rehabilitated with native planting and wetland habitats. Re-established vegetation is expected within the short to medium term, and specialist advice indicates that the lake could support aquatic life (Earth Sciences New Zealand 2026). Ongoing monitoring and maintenance will support long-term stability and water quality outcomes. The proposed final landform is illustrated in **Figure 9**.
UWHR	At the conclusion of coal haulage operations, it is anticipated that the UWHR will transition to a combination of recreational use and ongoing Transpower access up to the point where the Mackley Track diverges (subject to landowner agreement and approvals). Beyond this, the northern sections of the road and the southern portion between the ESE and Burnett's Face will no longer require access for heavy machinery. These areas may be repurposed to provide public recreational opportunities, including potential loop circuits offering access to remote backcountry areas. Where heavy vehicle access is no longer required, the road footprint will be reduced accordingly. This will involve narrowing the pavement to a single lane for light vehicles or cycling, with shoulders reprofiled and revegetated with appropriate native species. Existing ponds and drainage structures will be retained to manage runoff and service the remaining track network. The proposed final landform will include approximately 10 ha of rehabilitation (to a native ecosystem), which is comprised of half the road pavement width plus laydown areas along the length of the UWHR (4 ha).
Cypress	Ongoing mining is authorised under existing consents, the elements for inclusion in BPCP are the renewal of Wildlife Act authorities and a variation to the compensation provisions to integrate with the broader compensation package across the full BPCP and the connection of the UWHR. A variation will also be sought to allow for the UWHR to overlay the existing haul road at Cypress.

7.1 Indicative final landform features

Rehabilitation will establish various final landform features over mine disturbed land across the Project sub-areas. The proposed final landform features for BPCP are defined in **Table 5**, and illustrated in **Figure 7** to **Figure 9**.

Table 5: Final Landform Feature Domains

Final Landform Feature Domain	Description
Native Ecosystem	This domain refers to areas that are to be rehabilitated to native vegetation and associated ecosystems.
Rockfield Rehabilitation	Rockfield rehabilitation aims to mimic existing natural landscapes and the ecological variation on the plateau by implementing the following: • Landscaped Pavement: The landscaped pavement rehabilitation concept includes leaving exposed rock and creating vegetated "islands" where topography allows. This rehabilitation concept will be characterised by continuous slabs of rock strata with intermittent vegetation. • Sandstone Pavement: Refers to creation of a predominantly rocky substrate suitable as habitat for plants adapted to sandstone pavement. This includes creek realignments, constructed wetlands, tarns and drainage features.
Rehabilitated Highwalls	Rehabilitated highwall refers to the rehabilitation of exposed rock faces (battered highwalls) left after mining by establishing plant cover on benches. Walls will be constructed so they are geotechnically stable, and vegetation will help to blend the structure into the surrounding landscape. Refer to **Section 9.2.1.2** for further details.
Infrastructure	This domain includes built infrastructure proposed to be retained for the post mine land use (e.g. recreational access roads). This domain may also include areas of surface infrastructure associated with historical underground workings and areas identified as heritage of significance. Final agreements regarding retained infrastructure will be developed where required and following consultation with the relevant stakeholders closer to end of mine life. Refer to **Section 9.2.4** for further details.
Water Infrastructure	This domain includes water storage areas and associated infrastructure, primarily dams, sumps and culverts. This domain also includes water management infrastructure required to support the post mining water treatment, e.g. passive and active treatment for management of AMD impacted water. Refer to **Section 0** for further details.
Closure Water Bodies	This domain includes planned water features to control overflow pathways of the final landform such as creek realignments, constructed wetlands, tarns and pit lakes.
Offset and Compensation Areas	This domain refers to an area that has an offset or compensation agreement in place with DOC, such as pest free enclosures. These areas are to provide long-term ecological habitat to support threatened flora and fauna species. These areas may occur outside of mining permitted land.
Undisturbed Area	Areas within the MP that have not and will not be disturbed as part of the BPCP.

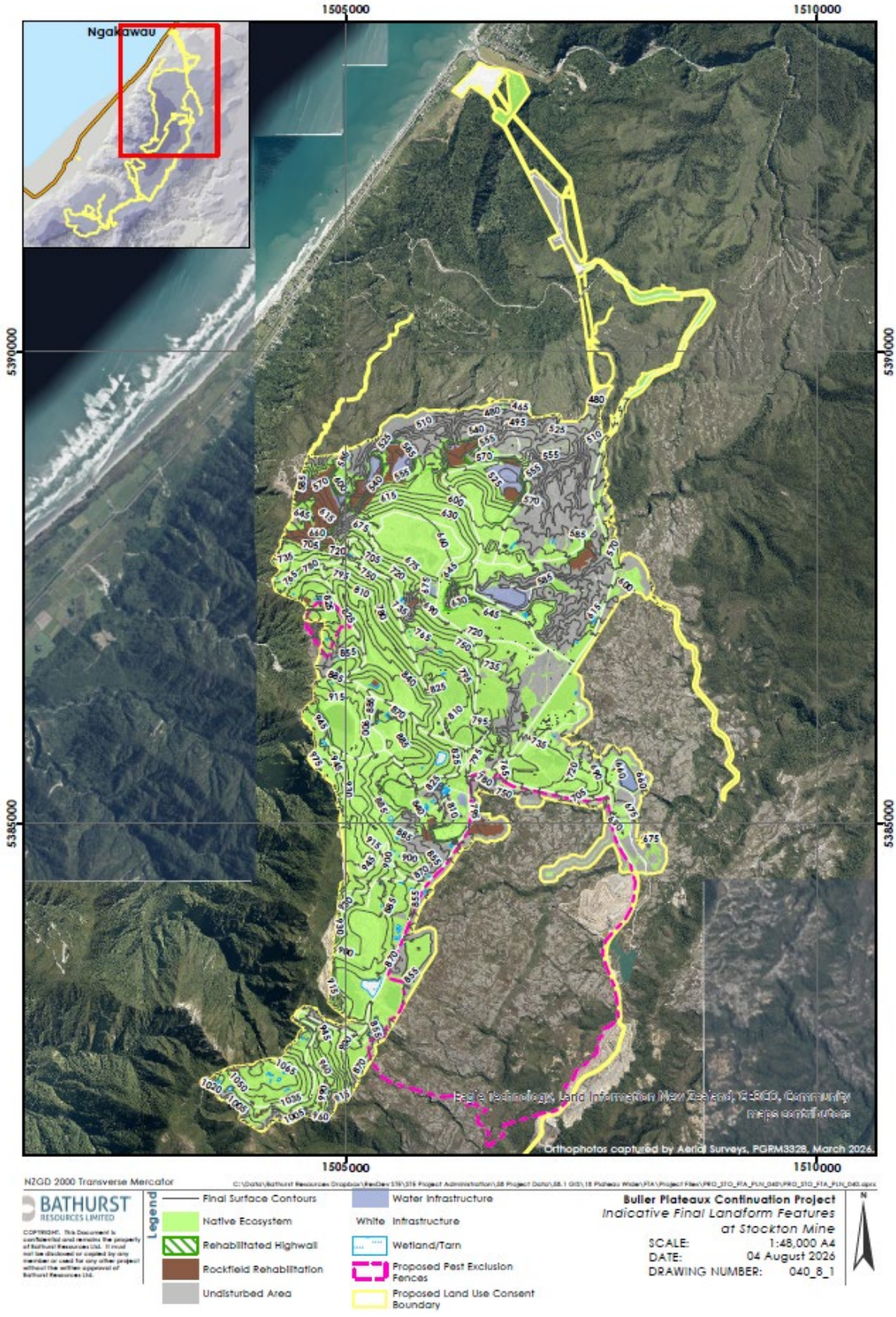

Figure 7: Indicative Final Landform Features (Stockton Mine)

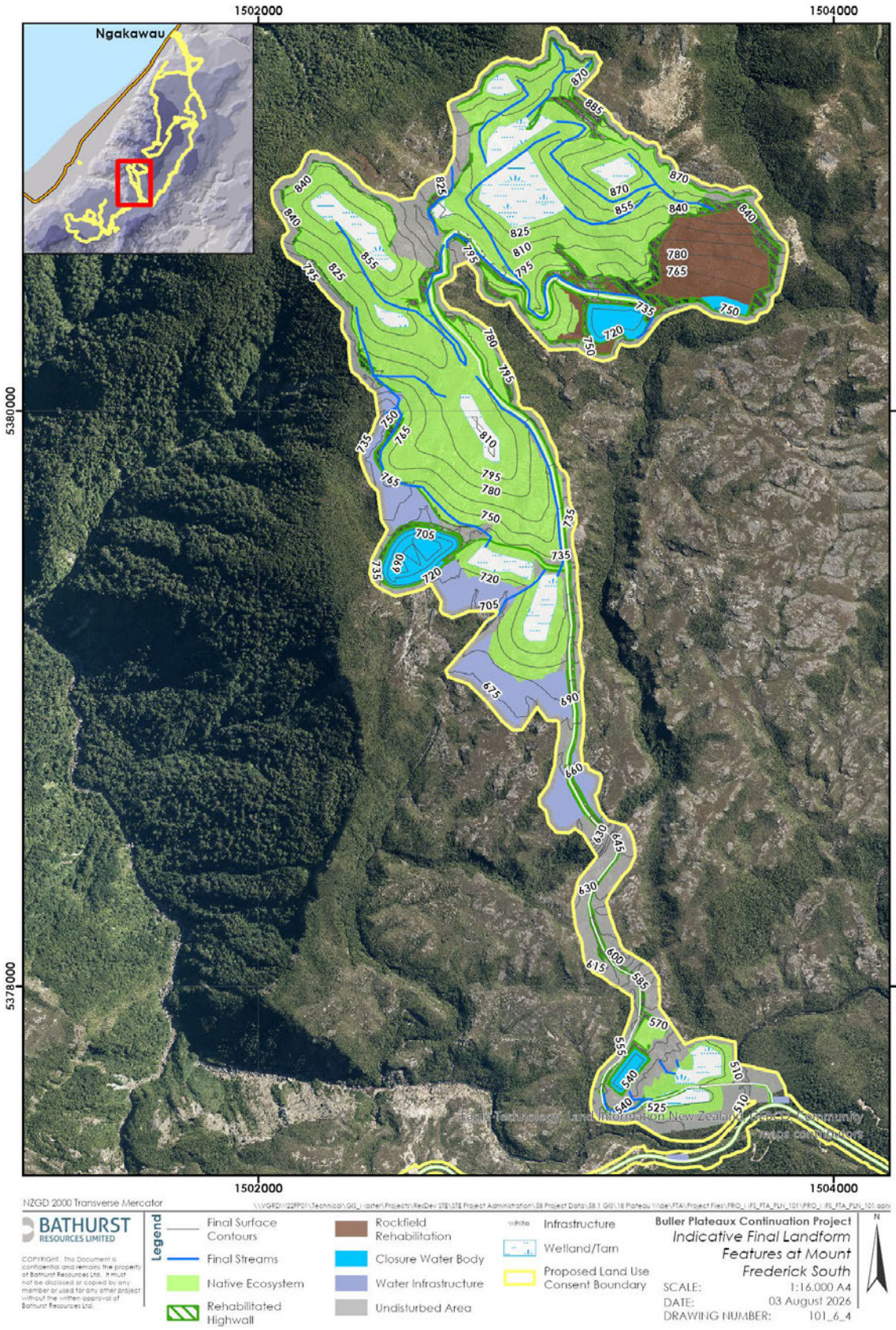

Figure 8: Indicative Final Landform Features (MFS)

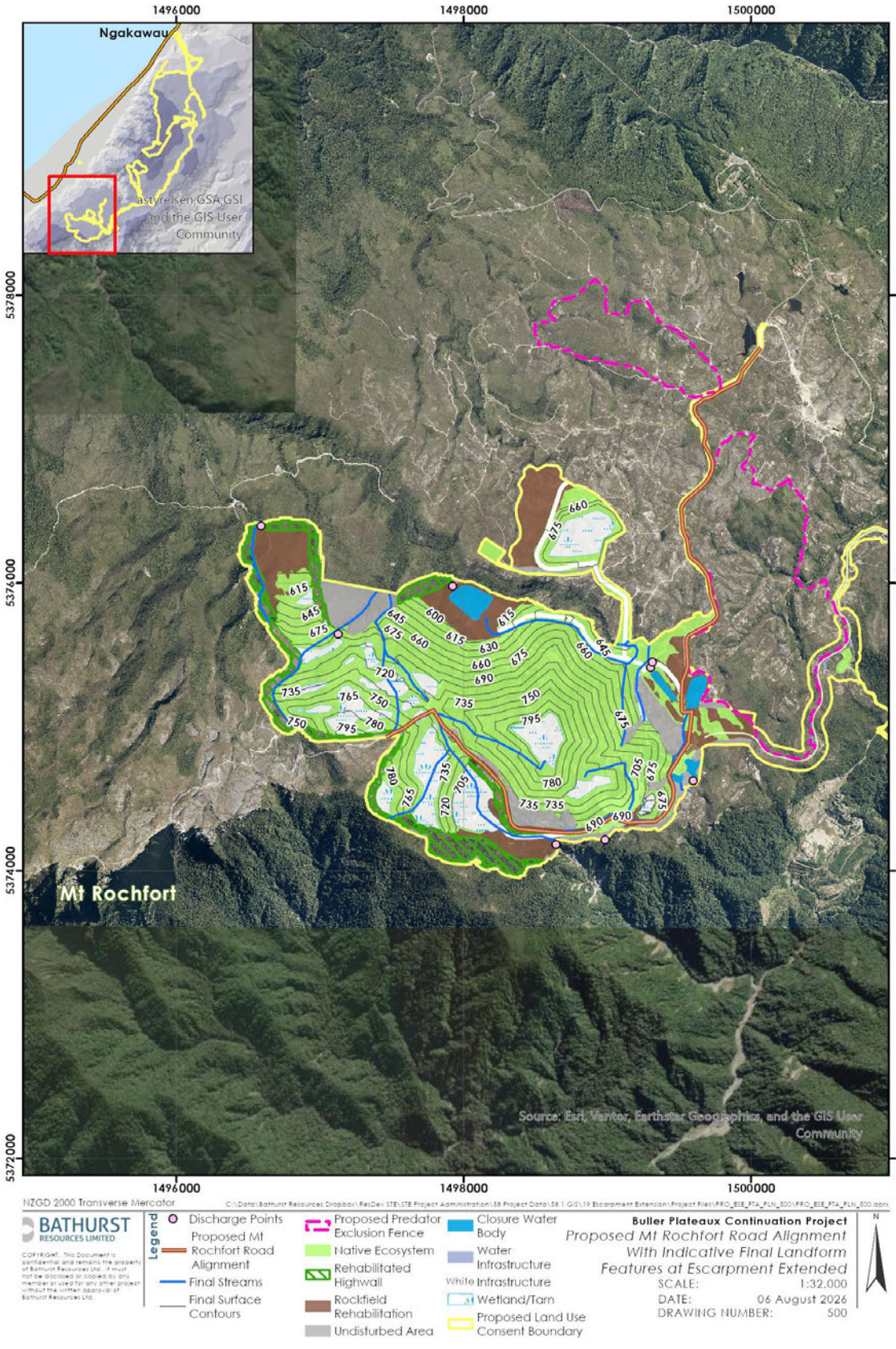

Figure 9: Indicative Final Landform Features (ESE)

7.2 Water treatment in the post mining landscape

AMD management is a significant post closure consideration for the BPCP. The duration of AMD management will vary between Stockton Mine (due to legacy AMD) and the new Project sub-areas. Geochemical modelling undertaken as part of the BPCP FTAA Application suggests the following treatment per Project sub-area as summarised in **Table 6.**

Table 6: Indicative water treatment per project sub-area

Project sub-area	Active treatment	Passive treatment[1]	Long-term closure strategy
STO	Ongoing during operations and for decades post-closure (80-100 years)	Passive systems operate alongside active treatment and may remain long term (up to 300 years)	Legacy AMD requires long-term management. Crown assumes responsibility (under LINZ administration) post-closure as per **Section 3.2.2**, with infrastructure retained until AMD loads decline to acceptable levels
MFS	During mining (approx. 2027–2042) and early closure (approx. 2042–2045)	Earlier transition to passive treatment as final landforms completed and comparatively lower AMD load	Active treatment reduces over time as ELFs stabilise, long-term water quality supported mainly by passive systems and landform design
ESE	During mining (approx. 2027–2042) and early closure (approx. 2042–2057)	Progressive introduction during closure, dominant from approx. 2050s onwards	Active treatment reduces over time as ELFs stabilise, long-term water quality supported mainly by passive systems and landform design
UWHR	Limited, short-term during construction and early rehabilitation if required.	Minor passive drainage and wetland features	Minimal long-term treatment once corridor is narrowed and rehabilitated

For Stockton Mine, Bathurst will retain responsibility for active AMD treatment and associated access infrastructure until monitoring confirms that closure criteria have been met and formal transition to the Crown has been approved.

For the MFS and ESE Project sub-areas, long-term ownership and maintenance arrangements for passive treatment systems will be agreed with landowners and regulators prior to relinquishment. Bathurst will retain responsibility for operating any active treatment systems until monitoring demonstrates that water quality objectives have been achieved and passive treatment systems are performing as intended, after which passive systems are expected to provide long-term water quality management.

The infrastructure required for effective AMD management that will be retained (across all Project sub-areas), generally includes but not limited to:

[1] Active treatment continues until monitored trends show stable or declining contaminant loads compatible with passive treatment capacity.

- AMD capture and control infrastructure, such as AMD collection drains, clean water diversion drains, AMD collection sumps, pump and pipeline infrastructure, gravity pipeline infrastructure, etc.
- Active treatment plants2, such as Lime Dosing Plants and associated AMD sludge capture infrastructure / sumps. For ESE and MFS, these will be decommissioned prior to Bathurst exiting the site.
- AMD sludge management infrastructure, such as discharge to stream, dewatering beds.
- AMD treatment byproduct storage / disposal areas, such as stockpile areas, in-dump backfill areas, in-dump containment cells, etc.
- Passive treatment systems and associated spent substrate / sludge management infrastructure.
- All associated support infrastructure, such as roads, power, monitoring sites, telemetry and radio equipment, etc.

It should be noted that roads providing access to active AMD treatment infrastructure will be maintained to a high standard suitable for regular use by road-going trucks, given the expected ongoing maintenance requirements. Access roads to passive treatment systems, which require less frequent intervention at MFS and ESE, will be maintained as required for light-vehicles.

7.3 Socio-economic transition

Coal mining has been an integral part of the West Coast and Buller Plateaux for over 120 years.

Bathurst will continue to work with the local community as coal resources are exhausted and during the transition into closure to ensure a positive legacy is left behind.

As part of the planning for the BPCP, early assessment of socio-economic effects has been undertaken, and impacts of operations ceasing are understood.

Ongoing engagement with key stakeholders will remain a priority throughout operations and the transition to closure.

[2] Active treatment continues until monitored trends show stable or declining contaminant loads compatible with passive treatment capacity.

8.0 Closure objectives and completion criteria

Closure objectives are the set of objectives that will guide rehabilitation and closure activities in achieving the final land use and closure vision for the mining area.

Completion criteria set out the detailed parameters which must be met to demonstrate the achievement of the closure objectives. Further, completion criteria are objective target levels or values assigned to a variety of closure and rehabilitation indicators (i.e. slope, species diversity, groundcover etc.), which can be measured to demonstrate progress and ultimate success of rehabilitation. As such, closure criteria provide a defined end point where rehabilitation can be deemed successful, and the lease relinquishment process can proceed.

Building on the closure vision and closure outcomes proposed earlier in this plan, Bathurst have proposed closure objectives and completion criteria for the site. The objectives and the criteria will be refined based on the progression of mining and in consultation with stakeholders during the life of the project.

The proposed objectives and completion criteria have been developed based on the outcomes of technical assessments with consideration of international best practice (ICMM 2025), refer to **Figure** 10.

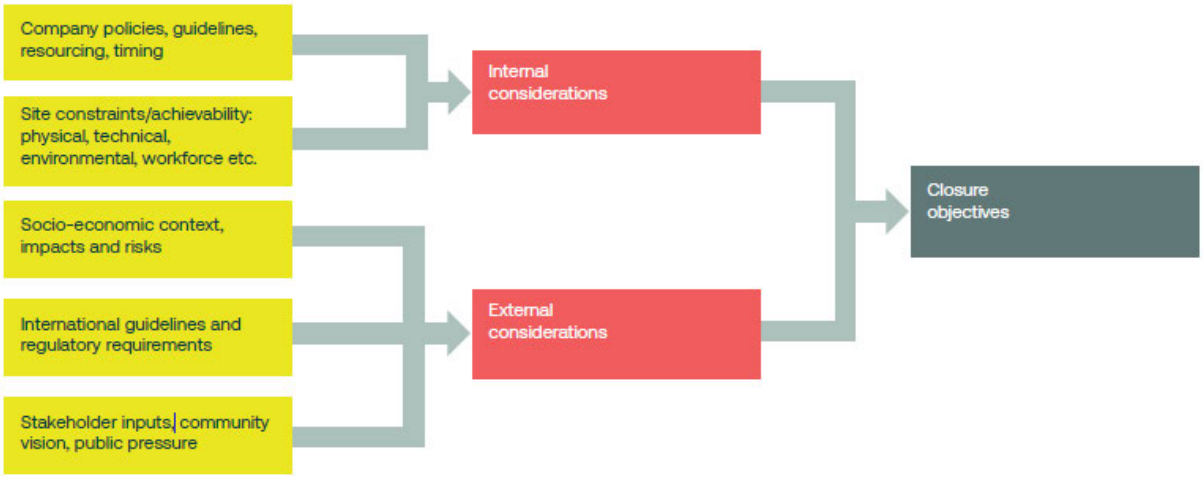

Figure 10: Inputs into closure objectives (sourced ICMM 2025)

A summary of the closure objectives is provided in the following **Table 7**, with the completion criteria and proposed validation methods are provided in **Attachment A.** Detailed completion criteria per technical aspect are further described in the operational management plans.

Table 7: Summary of BPCP Closure Objectives

Category	Closure Objective
Infrastructure	Removal - All infrastructure that is not to be used as part of the final land use is removed so that the site is safe and free of hazards.
	Retention - All infrastructure that is to remain as part of the final land use is safe, does not pose any hazard to the community or the environment and is accepted by the landowners.
	There is no residual contamination on site that is incompatible with the final land use or that poses a threat of human or environmental harm.
	Residual waste materials stored on site (e.g. coal fines, coarse rejects and other wastes) will be appropriately contained / encapsulated so they do not pose any hazards or constraints to the intended final land use. Coarse reject material to be scraped up and disposed within the ELFs.
Water infrastructure	To prevent, minimise, and manage the generation and release of AMD from mine affected materials, ensuring the protection of downstream water quality, human health, and ecological values.
	For ESE and MFS Project sub-areas, sumps or voids that are retained to support AMD treatment maintain long-term water quality that is physically and chemically stable, non-toxic to aquatic life, and protective of downstream receiving environment. For STO water management is as per agreements noted in **Section 3.2.2**.
	Post-closure water management infrastructure will be designed to be safe, stable and fit-for-purpose within the intended PMLU, with the objective of minimising long-term operational requirements where practicable.
Closure water bodies	Water bodies that are retained as lakes, wetlands and tarns in the rehabilitation areas maintain long-term water quality that is physically and chemically stable, non-toxic to aquatic life, and protective of downstream receiving environments.
Landform / ELFs	The final landform is long-term stable and does not present a risk of environmental harm downstream / downslope of the site or a safety risk to the public or native fauna. The final landform is commensurate with surrounding natural landscape.
Rehabilitated Highwall	Highwalls are long-term stable and do not present a risk of environmental harm downstream / downslope of the site or a safety risk to the public or native fauna.
Native ecosystem	The composition of the rehabilitated vegetation includes species that are typical of the local area and commensurate with the appropriate vegetation type including: 1. Tall Forest – beech dominated 2. Tall Forest – other (podocarp / kamahi / rata dominated) 3. Shrubland – manuka dominated 4. Shrubland – flax dominated 5. Pākihi – manuka and tussock / rush dominated This is further outlined in the Rehabilitation Management Plan (BPCP-ENV-PLN-02).
	Levels of ecosystem function have been established that demonstrate the rehabilitation is self-sustainable.
Rockfield Rehabilitation	Levels of ecosystem function have been established that demonstrate the rehabilitation is self-sustainable.
Surface water	Runoff surface water quality from the mine site meets the requirements of the relevant compliance limits.
Groundwater	Groundwater quality meets the requirements of the relevant compliance limits.

9.0 Rehabilitation implementation

This chapter describes implementation of rehabilitation activities. Water management is covered by **Section 7.2** above and further described in the operational management plans that support the BCPC application.

9.1 Indicative life of mine rehabilitation schedule

Rehabilitation has been carried out progressively over the course of existing operations at Stockton Mine as mining blocks are completed.

Stockton Mine will continue its current operations and progressive rehabilitation, with the BPCP proposing an extension of mining of 11 years. Coal processing and handling activities will continue at Stockton after this time to support the MFS and ESE Project sub-areas. Areas that are no longer required for mining will be progressively rehabilitated and returned to future landowners, while infrastructure areas remain operational. This allows environmental outcomes to be delivered earlier and may create opportunities for recreational and public access to parts of the site that are progressively closed, subject to agreement with land managers and achievement of relevant safety and environmental performance criteria.

BPCP will adopt this progressive rehabilitation approach at other Project sub-areas throughout the life of the Project.

Rehabilitation schedules indicate that rehabilitation across the BCPC Project sub-areas is to be finalised by 2046. Rehabilitation schedules have been developed considering project 'Stages', as presented in **Figure 11** for Stockton, **Figure 12** for MFS and **Figure 13** for ESE. Stages will be progressively implemented to finalise rehabilitation by:

- STO mining areas - 20373
- MFS - 2043
- ESE - 2045
- UWHR - 2045
- STO Supporting Infrastructure Areas - 2046

It is noted that the rehabilitation schedules are indicative and are likely to be adjusted based on the progression of mining, commercial and operational considerations.

Water treatment may be required as per **Section 7.2** and a period of monitoring and maintenance will follow rehabilitation activities.

[3] Cells for long term maintenance of sludge (generated from water treatment) may be left open on top of Millerton ELF up to FY62. Cells will then be capped and rehabilitated.

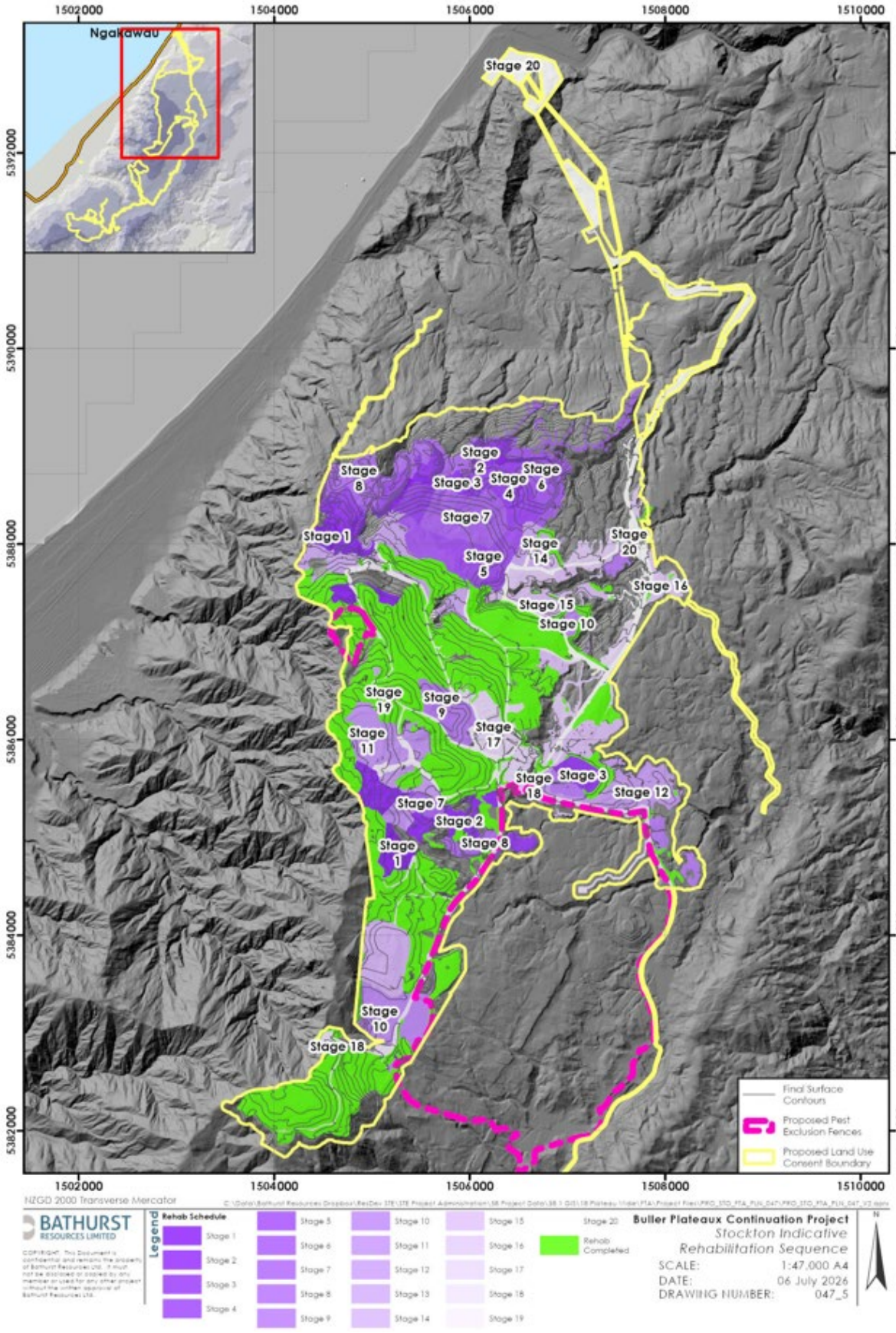

Figure 11: Indicative Staged Rehabilitation (Stockton Mine)

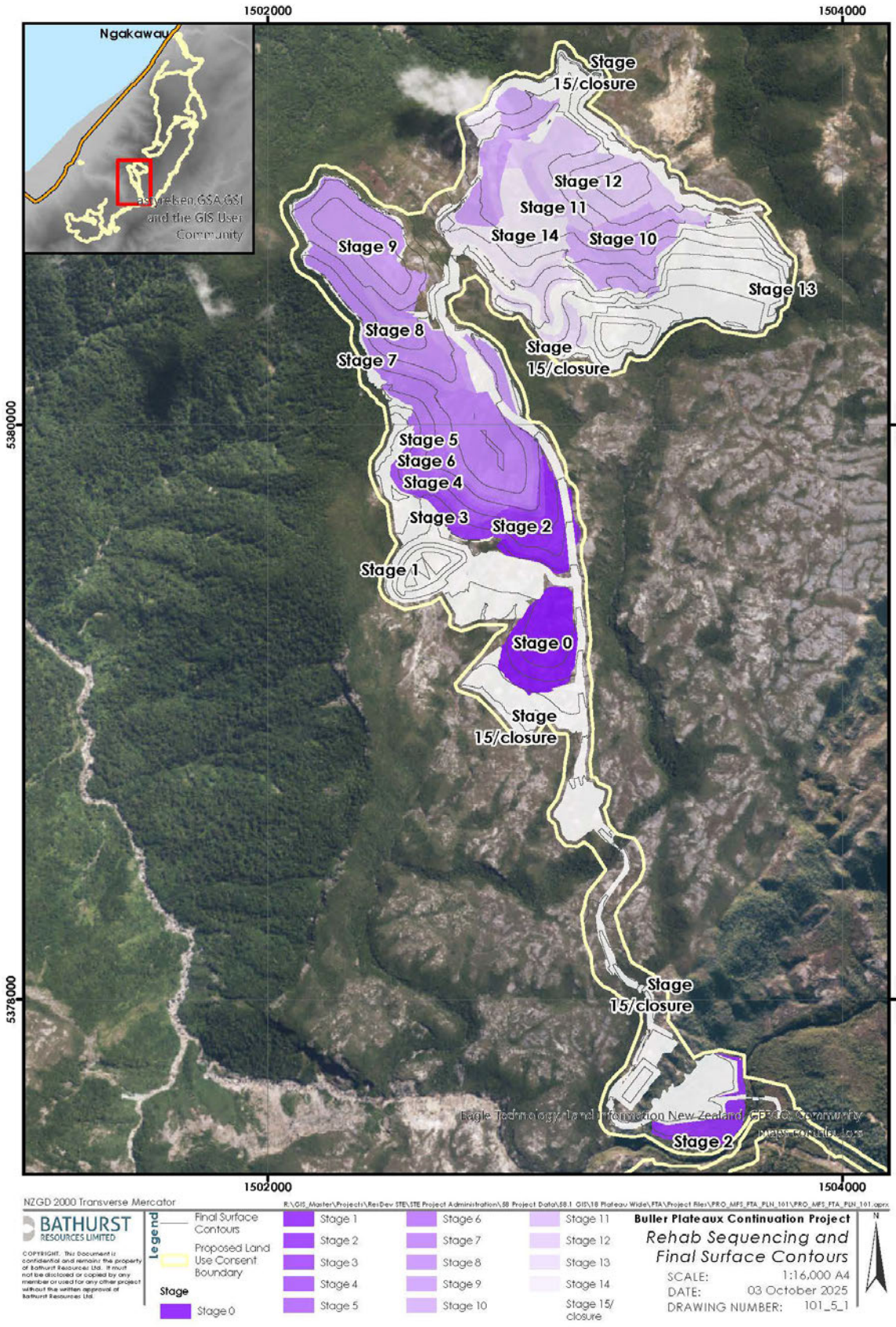

Figure 12: Indicative Staged Rehabilitation (MFS)

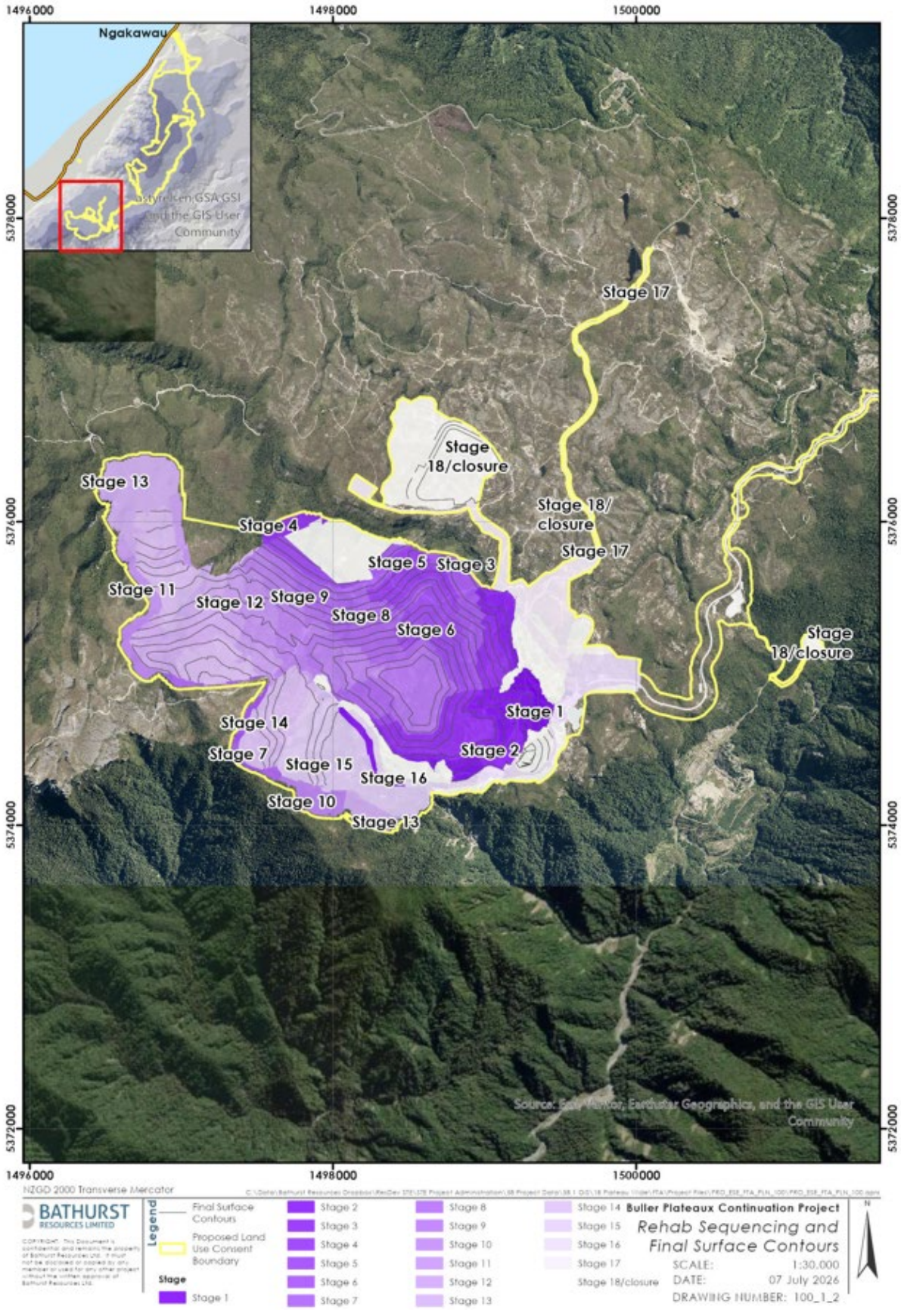

Figure 13: Indicative Staged Rehabilitation (ESE)

9.2 Phases of Closure

The mining phases that are typically associated with closure and rehabilitation at Stockton are briefly described below. This process will generally be followed at the proposed Project sub-areas.

- **Construction and active mining:** Opportunities for effective closure will commence during mining. This includes identifying, winning, segregating and stockpiling rehabilitation materials and constructing landforms that are designed to be free drainage, encapsulate PAF materials and capture mine influenced water for treatment. Bulk earthworks to establish dumps are generally a part of active mining, however some later rehandle and shaping is generally required.
- **Progressive rehabilitation stages:**
    - **Rehabilitation Stage 1 - Landform establishment and bulk reshaping (Section 9.2.1):** This phase of rehabilitation constructs the approved final landform. In addition to profiling the surface of rehabilitation areas, this phase may include works to install surface water drainage features, encapsulate problematic materials such as PAF and coal fines, and prepare a substrate with the desired physical and chemical characteristics.
    - **Rehabilitation Stage 2 - Capping and soil application (Section 9.2.2):** This phase of rehabilitation consists of activities required to establish the engineered capping layer (where required for AMD management), and components of topsoil or alternative growth media for the desired vegetation community.
    - **Rehabilitation Stage 3 – Revegetation (Section 9.2.3):** This phase of rehabilitation consists of the processes to establish the approved final land use following construction of the final landform. For vegetated land uses this rehabilitation phase includes establishing the desired vegetation community and implementing land management activities such as weed control. This phase of rehabilitation may also include habitat augmentation.
- **Infrastructure decommissioning (Section 9.2.4):** Removal of infrastructure associated with mining activities including preparation plants, hard stand areas, buildings, contaminated materials, hazardous materials. Except for infrastructure retained to support the longer-term treatment of AMD[4].
- **Monitoring and maintenance period:** This phase of closure consists of the activities to manage maturing rehabilitation areas, landform stability and water quality/quantity on a trajectory to achieving rehabilitation objectives and completion criteria.
- **Rehabilitation completion and relinquishment:** This final phase of rehabilitation occurs where a rehabilitation area has achieved the final land use and meets the approved

[4] AMD management will continue during all rehabilitation phases, with a progressive reduction of AMD loads expected as final landforms are developed, rehabilitated surfaces become established, and water from sub-catchments meets water quality criteria and are rerouted to natural flow paths.

rehabilitation objectives and rehabilitation completion criteria. At this point the relinquishment of mining tenements is possible.

9.2.1 Progressive Rehabilitation Stage 1 - Landform establishment and bulk reshaping

Landform establishment is the process of shaping the final landform to a safe, stable, and free draining landform that is appropriate for the desired final land use and consistent with the surrounding landscape.

As Bathurst mines through historically disturbed areas, the construction of modern overburden engineered landforms known as ELFs minimises impacts on the environment. These ELFs are capped with NAF material to reduce oxygen and water ingress into the overburden and therefore reduces the potential to produce AMD and provide for the capture of any leachate for treatment. ELFs are carefully designed for long term stability, manage any PAF material and to minimise environmental effects. The ELFs are then reshaped to blend with the natural landscape and are revegetated as part of the mine's rehabilitation process.

Rehabilitation guidelines have been developed in accordance with Crown Liability agreements and work under these guidelines has been ongoing for many years with many ELFs at varying stages of construction. These guidelines include a staged approach to rehabilitation, as shown in **Figure 14** and **Figure 15.**

Similar landform establishment practice will be adopted and enhanced on for new project areas in the BPCP, including Stockton Extension areas.

The following sections summarise the landform and establishment and bulk reshaping activities currently undertaken at the Stockton Mine, proposed for the remainder of the BPCP.

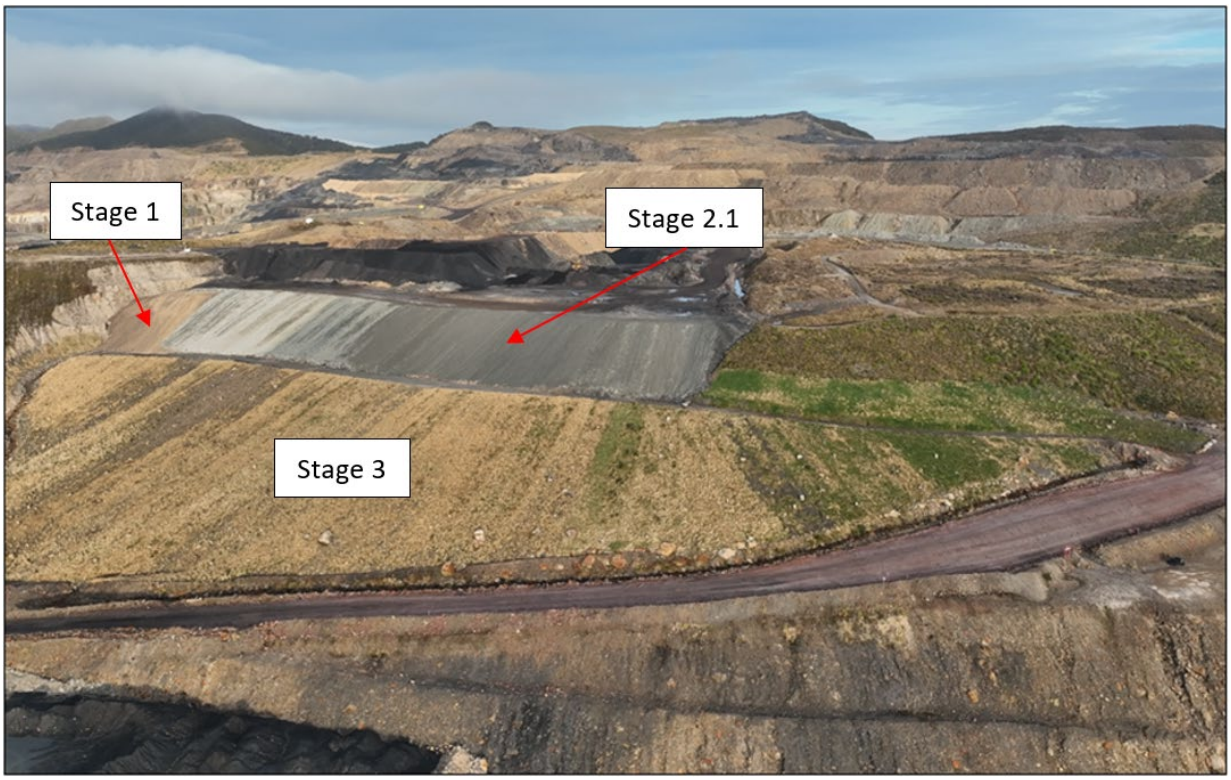

Figure 14: Power Station Upper / Lower Rehabilitation FY24 (Stockton Mine) showing rehabilitation stages landform establishment, topsoil and growth media, and revegetation

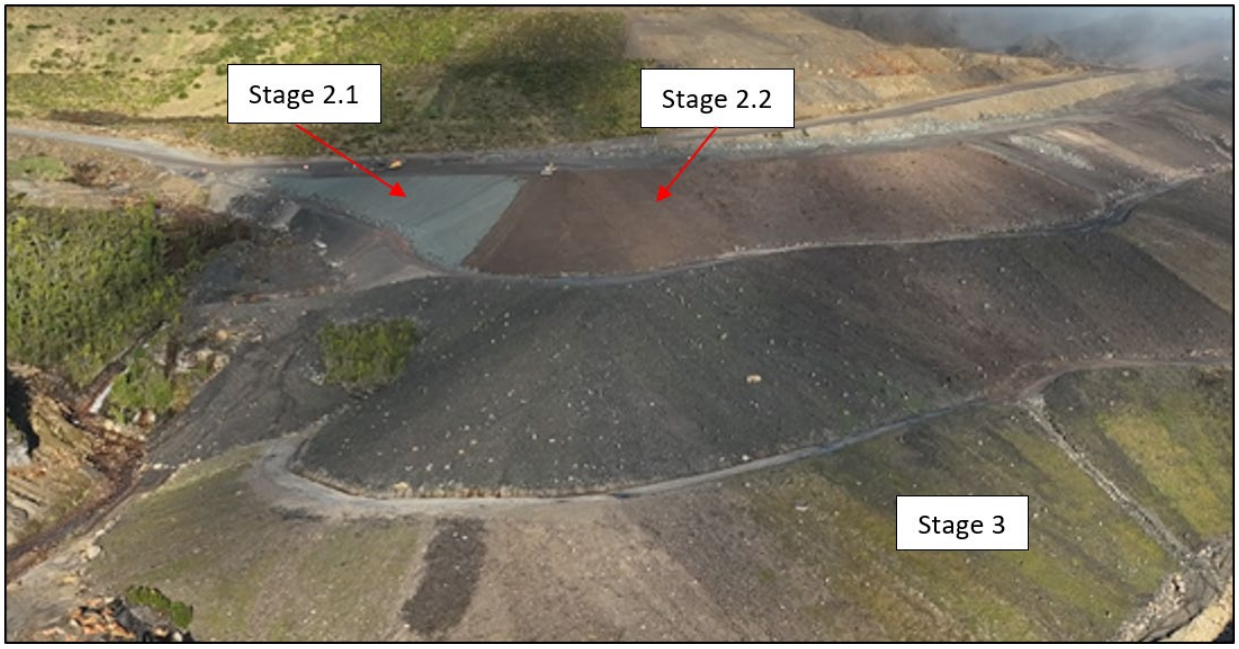

Figure 15: 4West Rehabilitation FY24 (Stockton Mine) showing rehabilitation stages showing topsoil and growth media, and revegetation (refer to text 9.2.2)

9.2.1.1 Final landform construction: Engineered landforms and Registered Dams

Stockton final landform construction:

Bathurst implemented a set of Site Standard Work Procedures to construct final landforms at the Stockton Mine. The designs consider factors including geotechnical stability, erosion, water management, and AMD. Generally, batter slope angles of 21° or less with contour drainage benches between the batter slopes give the landform an overall slope angle of 18° or less.

Waste rock from above mined coal seams (overburden) is transported to designated areas for disposal. The most common method is to place it in ELFs that backfill previously mined areas, effectively utilising the voids created by earlier overburden removal and coal extraction. ELFs are carefully designed to for long term stability, manage any PAF material and minimise environmental impacts. Reduced lift-height, compacted ELF construction methodologies are proposed for the BPCP at Millerton.

PAF ELFs are granite capped (to reduce oxygen and water entering the dumps), reshaped to blend with the natural landscape and are revegetated as part of the mine's rehabilitation process (refer to **Section 9.2.2.1**). NAF ELFs will follow the same process however without the granite capping requirement.

ESE and MFS final landform construction:

Final landform construction at MFS and ESE is guided by operational management plans that use construction methodology to minimise adverse environmental impacts.

To minimise AMD generation, ELFs will be constructed using a bottom-up approach with short lifts with each lift compacted by haul truck traffic. Construction will be progressive and followed by staged rehabilitation. PAF material will be encapsulated by NAF rock.

Waste material identified as High acid-forming (HAF) is to be placed where practical within the core of the ELF (dependent on timing and scheduling) and not closer than 20 m to the final landform surface. PAF material will be placed around or mixed with the HAF material within the dump.

The majority of landforms will be re-sloped to an 18° angle, with overall heights ranging from 20 to 60 m. Where feasible, ELFs will be developed in-pit to limit lateral oxygen ingress. Rock drains will be installed beneath the ELFs to collect and convey seepage for treatment.

Registered Dams:

Registered dams under the Building (Dam Safety) Regulations 2022, including Coal Fine Storage Facilities (CFSFs) (e.g. A18, McCabe's and later A-Drive) will be decommissioned and deregistered at closure. Areas with decommissioned dams will be shaped to blend into surrounding landscapes and revegetated consistent with adjoining rehabilitation and agreed post-mining land uses.

Coal Fine Storage Facilities

The following rehabilitation concepts will be adopted for the CFSF as required:

- Lowering and consolidating coal fines surfaces to provide a buffer below final embankment or rim crest levels.
- Establishing drainage patterns that avoid ponding on capped fines and provide robust conveyance of runoff to natural channels. Prior to decommissioning, runoff from CFSF's will report to treatment systems.
- Designing capping profiles that anticipate long-term settlement, supported by geotechnical and consolidation testing.
- Applying non-acid forming capping materials, with thicknesses determined by stability, erosion and vegetation requirements.
- A period of performance monitoring to demonstrate successful decommissioning and performance of the facility.

9.2.1.2 Final landform construction: Highwalls

Highwalls are designed in accordance with the *Bathurst Resources Highwall Design Parameter Guide*, and in consultation with the site's Geotechnical department. These guidelines are applicable across all BPCP sub-areas.

Maximum inter-bench heights will not exceed 15 metres unless otherwise approved by the sites Geotechnical department. Bench widths may vary between 5-15 metres depending on the batter angle, geological model, inclusion of drainage system and presence of underground workings.

All final landforms including highwalls retained within that landform are geotechnically assessed for long term stability.

Rehabilitated highwalls that will remain as the indicative final landform are presented in **Figure 7** for Stockton, **Figure 8** for MFS and **Figure 9** for ESE**.**

9.2.1.3 Final landform construction: Rockfield Rehabilitation

Rockfield rehabilitation relies on the bedrock left after coal extraction to act as a final rehabilitation surface, mimicking areas of sandstone pavement. Localised areas within rockfield rehabilitation will have topsoil and vegetation established to blend into surrounding landscapes. Rockfield final landform surfaces will occur in areas outside engineered final landform footprints. The surface will largely follow the natural undulating topography of the coal floor. Over-excavation into the coal floor may be required for water management purposes or to remove shallow horizons of high sulfur content material associated with the coal seams for AMD management. Construction of rockfield rehabilitation features will be developed in the landform established stage.

Areas of rockfield rehabilitation that will remain within the final landform are presented in **Figure 7** for Stockton, **Figure 8** for MFS and **Figure 9** for ESE.

9.2.1.4 Final landform construction: Water management infrastructure

Water management infrastructure is integrated throughout the BPCP. Existing operational water management structures will be retained and maintained until the associated catchment areas are rehabilitated and the quality of discharge water meets the relevant closure objectives and criteria (refer to **Attachment A**). This includes water storage facilities and related infrastructure, such as dams, sumps, and culverts as well as any systems needed to support the post-mining land use. These may involve both passive and active treatment methods for managing water affected by AMD. In some instances, especially at the Stockton site, infrastructure required for AMD treatment will need to be maintained for decades, until contaminant loads decrease to environmentally acceptable levels in accordance with the closure objectives and criteria (refer to **Attachment A**).

The final design and placement of surface drainage features are intended to create a stable landform and provide for effective long-term management of AMD.

9.2.1.5 Final landform construction: Creek diversions and reinstatement of drainage lines

Final landform features such as creek realignments, constructed wetlands, tarns, and significant final landform drainage features will be constructed to support the rehabilitation objectives.

Prior to disturbance, clean water diversion drains will be constructed to divert head waters away from the planned work areas. At closure, the clean water diversion drains will be reinstated, reporting the head waters back to natural catchments where practicable. Additional cut off drains may be required around some final landforms to capture and direct AMD to the appropriate treatment system. These structures may permanently divert AMD impacted water flow from one sub-catchment to another. AMD impacted water channels will be kept separate from clean water streams to maximise the volume of clean water discharged to natural catchments and minimise the volume of water being diverted to treatment.

Reinstatement of stream channels will be required on the ELFs as part of the rehabilitation operations. These reconstructed streams will collect surface and sub-surface water and will ultimately discharge into the natural water courses at the mine boundary when water quality meets closure objectives.

Stream reconstruction parameters will be based on a program of baseline geomorphic mapping that will be undertaken prior to mining. This work will capture key information on the channel widths, sinuosity and in-stream habitat parameters (e.g. pool-riffle sequences, substrate composition) of these streams that can be applied to reconstructed reaches.

9.2.2 Progressive Rehabilitation Stage 2 - Capping and soil application

9.2.2.1 Stage 2.1 – Granite Capping

Where required for AMD management, PAF ELFs at Stockton Mine are capped with a minimum 400 mm layer of weathered granite sourced from onsite borrow pits. The capping layer is placed and compacted across the landform surface to reduce water and oxygen infiltration by creating a capillary break, thereby minimising the potential for AMD expression downstream.

9.2.2.2 Stage 2.2 - Topsoil and growth media

Up to 300mm topsoil will be placed on final landforms across the BPCP. There is sufficient topsoil forecast for life of mine using this application depth.

These depths reflect soil availability, erosion risk, rooting depth requirements, capping requirements to limit oxygen infiltration into overburden, and the practical spreading depth achievable by bulldozer.

Compost and/or fertilisers will be applied where required to improve soils with low fertility or high subsoil/rock content. This assists in increasing organic matter and improving the fertility of granite where it is used as a non-acid generating growth medium.

Where soil stockpiles are to be retained for more than three years, they will be stabilised with local species to promote soil fauna, reduce sediment mobilisation, and provide potential plant material for future transfer.

9.2.3 Progressive Rehabilitation Stage 3 – Revegetation

Stage 3 refers to vegetation establishment and is implemented once safe, stable landforms with permanent water management have been achieved and topsoil has been placed.

This stage uses hydroseeding to achieve rapid groundcover for erosion and sediment control, together with targeted seedling planting and transplanting to establish native species and structural diversity. Species selection reflects surrounding ecosystems and approved rehabilitation objectives, with plant material sourced from nursery stock or onsite transplants where appropriate. Planning includes site selection, seasonal timing and appropriate planting methodologies.

Noting the above, there are other revegetation techniques available for the BPCP sub-areas that have been successfully employed at the Stockton mine.

Ongoing monitoring, maintenance, weed control and replacement planting are required to support establishment and meet closure completion criteria.

9.2.3.1 Direct and indirect transfer

Direct transfer methodologies are also used where suitable placement areas become available in alignment with vegetation clearing / stripping for new project stages.

- **Vegetation Direct Transfer (VDT)**: Involves lifting intact mats of vegetation and topsoil from stripping areas and relocating them to rehabilitation areas (refer to **Figure 16**). This provides immediate vegetation cover, soil biome and assists with sediment management. VDT is effective for low-stature vegetation with dense root mats but is limited by vegetation type, terrain suitability and operational constraints, and can therefore only be implemented in select areas. Refer to **Photo 3** for an example of successful VDT.
- **Slash Direct Transfer (SDT):** This technique is used in areas where intact vegetation sods are unable to be removed. It is also referred to as ‘jumble dumping’ of fresh soils, woody debris and associated vegetation. This involves stripping both the vegetation and topsoil together.

This material is then transferred directly to an awaiting rehabilitation surface and carefully spread across the surface to optimise rehabilitation outcomes. Once placed, the slash provides erosion and sediment control, habitat for fauna and assists in maintaining the existing seed bank and encouraging the area to regenerate faster than by replanting alone (EcoLogical, 2026).

- **Indirect Transfer:** Where immediate placement is not feasible, vegetative material is temporarily stored on designated storage pads as an interim measure. The material is subsequently relocated to rehabilitation areas once the final landform becomes available.

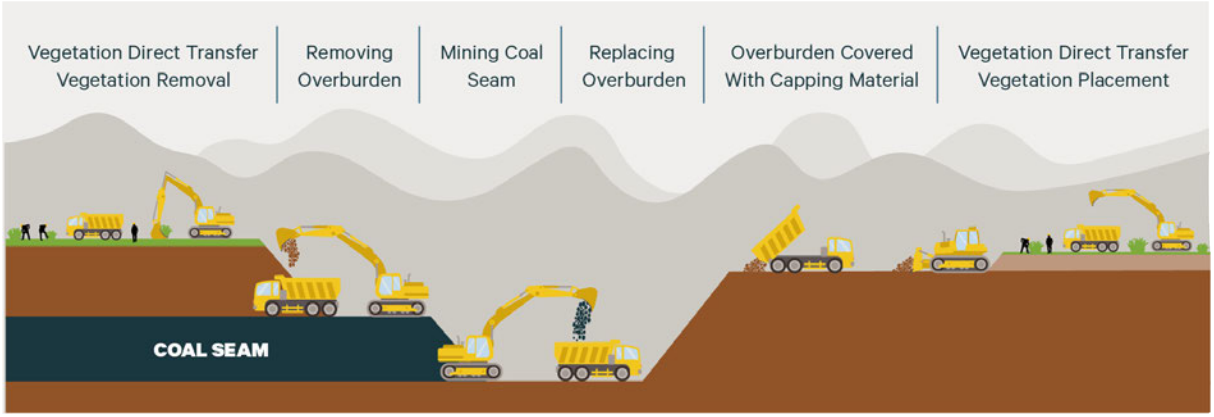

Figure 16: VDT methodology at Bathurst

Photo 3: Cypress Strip 0 VDT

9.2.4 Infrastructure decommissioning

9.2.4.1 Infrastructure to be removed or demolished

All existing coal processing and materials handling infrastructure at the Stockton Mine will be decommissioned, unless an alternative use is proposed for that infrastructure in the future. If infrastructure is to be retained, this will be by agreement with relevant Regulators including current and potential future landowner/managers.

Feasibility of sale of all assets will be explored. If sale is not possible, then items will be scrapped/recycled in preference to being disposed of in landfill.

9.2.4.2 Buildings, structures, and services to be retained

Infrastructure that is supportive or beneficial for future uses (e.g., administration buildings, services, etc) may be left in place, subject to approval by the Regulator, the Landowner or Land Manager, or any other relevant regulatory agency.

Infrastructure that will be maintained post closure to support rehabilitation outcomes and to meet closure obligations may include:

- Light vehicle access via roads, tracks and bridges, with suitably maintained running surface. Windrows will be revegetated (many are already revegetated) while retaining an accessible drainage channel along the roadside for runoff;
- Drainage structures created to support the final landforms (e.g. upslope diversions; ELF drainage lines; creek diversions/reconstructions);
- Active and passive water treatment sumps and plant that will be required to satisfy the Indemnity Agreement;
- AMD management infrastructure, including diversion weirs and pipelines, and drainage channels;
- Site services (such as power, water supply, communications); and
- Any other infrastructure required for ongoing management of the land that is agreed to for retention by regulators and future land managers.

Items to be retained will undergo a dilapidation survey to ensure suitability prior to becoming the responsibility of the future landowner/manager (once Bathurst divests the land). For items currently on non-Bathurst owned land, the landowner will be consulted to ensure that the retained infrastructure is fit for purpose and meets expectations.

9.2.4.3 Management of carbonaceous and contaminated material

Excess coal material remaining on site (dropped on haul roads; around CHPP and on other hardstand) will be scraped up, processed and sold if possible, or disposed of within final voids with appropriate controls.

Any remaining carbonaceous material on the base of coal stockpile areas will be scraped up and processed through the CHPP. Residual material will either be capped with inert material or scraped up, removed, and disposed of as coarse reject within the emplacement area or within final voids with appropriate controls.

All contaminated material identified during the decommissioning phase, will be removed from site or remediated in accordance with the relevant legislation.

9.2.4.4 Hazardous material management

Hazardous materials and dangerous goods used at BPCP include sealed radiation sources, gases for cutting and welding, explosive precursors and fuels, greases and oils. Dangerous goods and explosives are managed in accordance with the relevant legislation.

Hazardous materials may also be present in older buildings and infrastructure for example asbestos linings or insulation, leaded paint, PCBs in capacitors or transformers. Other hazmat may be associated with any built infrastructure such as synthetic minerals fibres (insulation), or refrigerants.

Targeted hazmat assessment will be completed during mine operations and confirmed during closure. All hazardous materials will be identified and removed from site or remediated in accordance with legislation.

10.0 Rehabilitation monitoring and maintenance program

Post-closure, once all rehabilitation is completed, Bathurst will undertake a period of rehabilitation monitoring, maintenance and land management until it can be demonstrated that the defined closure criteria have been achieved. Rehabilitation monitoring will consider landforms, ecosystems and water management systems.

Monitoring outcomes will inform adaptive management and data collated during the monitoring period will provide evidence to support regulatory sign-off and relinquishment.

Objectives of the rehabilitation monitoring program are to:

- Assess the long-term stability and function of rehabilitation areas;
- Assess rehabilitation performance against the closure criteria; and
- Facilitate continuous improvement in site outcomes and rehabilitation practices.

Maintenance and land management activities (inclusive of offset and compensation areas) may include:

- Rework of poorly performing areas;
- Weed, pest and predator control;
- Minor earthworks to remediate any significant erosion features, including maintenance of drainage structures and roads;
- Infill planting and/or seeding to meet vegetation rehabilitation criteria;
- Maintaining erosion and sediment controls; and
- Operating and maintaining AMD active and passive treatment infrastructure.

Once rehabilitation monitoring identifies that areas are meeting or trending towards the closure criteria, Bathurst will submit final Annual Work Plan for approval by the Regulator at which point the relevant mining consents and licences can be relinquished (refer to **Section 11.0**).

11.0 Relinquishment of permits under the Crown Minerals Act

11.1 Stockton Mine

Closure and relinquishment of the Stockton Mine will be undertaken in accordance with the agreements in place, outlined above in **Section 3.2**. Closure may be achieved once landforms are made safe and stable, native ecosystems are self-sustaining, ongoing monitoring confirms compliance with the agreed performance criteria in accordance with the conditions of the relevant consents.

Once these conditions are met, Bathurst may relinquish its permits under the Crown Minerals Act. At that stage, responsibility for managing AMD at the site will revert to the Crown, although Bathurst remains liable for any AMD arising from its own mining activities and a payment will be made to the Crown for ongoing management of this liability.

11.1.1 Enduring Infrastructure

During the closure and immediate post-closure period, Bathurst will retain responsibility for road maintenance and AMD treatment infrastructure at Stockton Mine, it is anticipated that these responsibilities including road access requirements, will ultimately transfer to the Crown (under LINZ administration) in accordance with the terms of the indemnity agreement, particularly in recognition that AMD treatment may be required for several decades at Stockton Mine.

Enduring infrastructure associated with the Crown AMD commitments (infrastructure that is contractually required to remain in place) will be maintained, including replacement of the active (lime dosing) water treatment plants (on a 25-year life cycle) through to year 2105, and the replacement of the passive (mussel shell reactors) water treatment plants through to year 2116. Non-routine operational projects will also include desludging of the treatment sumps through to approximately 2101.

11.2 MFS, ESE and UWHR

Relinquishment of the Project sub-areas (MFS, ESE and UWHR) will follow a similar process, whereby permits may be relinquished once landforms are stable, rehabilitation has achieved the agreed native ecosystem outcomes, and active water treatment is no longer required. Passive treatment systems will then be monitored to demonstrate effective performance prior to final transfer of management responsibilities. Long-term ownership and maintenance arrangements for passive treatment systems will be agreed with landowners and regulators prior to relinquishment.

Enduring infrastructure associated with ongoing water treatment within the post mining landscape for the new project areas is described above in **Section 7.2**.

12.0 Risk management framework

Risk management is a core component of Bathurst's mine closure preparedness.

Closure planning is undertaken using a risk-based framework designed to identify key technical, environmental, social and financial risks early in the planning process. This approach reduces uncertainty, supports informed decision-making, and enables proportionate mitigation strategies to be incorporated into closure design, scheduling and cost estimation. The risk-based methodology is embedded within the Bathurst Mine Closure Policy and aligns with internationally recognised best practice principles, including AS/NZS 31000 Risk Management – Principles and Guidelines.

Closure risks are systematically identified, assessed and prioritised using Bathurst's corporate risk assessment tools and risk matrix. Risks are evaluated across relevant consequence categories, including environmental, financial, safety, social and reputational considerations. Particular focus is placed on high-consequence elements such as landform construction, void management, geochemical performance and drainage infrastructure, recognising long-term implications for stability, water quality and closure cost.

An operational closure risk register is maintained as a live management tool and is reviewed periodically, or in response to material changes in operations or project context. Triggers for review include changes to life-of-mine plans, new or amended approvals, transition to care and maintenance, unplanned cessation of operations, or significant compliance or environmental events.

This adaptive risk management framework ensures that closure planning remains responsive to evolving operational, regulatory and environmental conditions, and that mitigation measures are integrated into design and implementation throughout the life of mine.

13.0 Intervention and adaptive management

To achieve the final land use outcomes and rehabilitation objectives, Bathurst acknowledge that ongoing monitoring and maintenance activities will be required both during operations and for a period after rehabilitation and closure works are complete and criteria is met. Bathurst will undertake and record annual rehabilitation monitoring/inspections to assess the success of overall rehabilitation and identify any areas that require improvement.

Where rehabilitation monitoring indicates that rehabilitation outcomes are not trending toward the nominated completion criteria, Bathurst will instigate an early intervention and adaptive management response to identify the cause and ensure rehabilitation objectives remain on track.

Mitigation actions will be recorded in the Environmental Management System (EMS) document control system for implementation. Where necessary, rehabilitation procedures will be reviewed and revised to improve rehabilitation outcomes. A Trigger Action Response Plan (TARP) will be prepared to identify the proposed contingency strategies in the event of unexpected variations or impacts to rehabilitation outcomes.

14.0 Document control and record management

14.1 Document control

Document control will be in accordance with the ***Bathurst-HST-STD-003 Document Control Standard***. The document control standard provides information on:

- The controlled document hierarchy;
- The document naming and numbering convention;
- The document templates and formats;
- Document approval, version control and issue; and
- The storage and location of controlled documents.

14.2 Records management

This document is issued, revised, and amended under authorisation of the Bathurst Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

A copy of this Plan will be stored electronically with access available to all workers. The signed hard copy will be maintained in the Bathurst library.

Reasons for making changes to this Plan will be documented and recorded in the document management table (**Table 8**). A copy of the original document and subsequent versions will be kept for records and marked as obsolete. Each new/updated version will be issued with a version number and date to eliminate obsolete documentation being used.

Table 8: Document Management Table

Document Management			
DOCUMENT OWNER: GM – Resource Development			
APPROVED BY: Chief Executive Officer Signature: ..... Date:			
Revision history:			
Date	**Revision No.**	**Lead Author**	**Contributing Authors**
19/08/2026	Rev0	IEMA	Bathurst
Version No.	**Detail / Changes**		
Rev0	Issued version.		
NEXT PLANNED REVIEW: August 2027			

15.0 References

Internal Documents:

- *Bathurst Resources Limited, Buller Plateaux Continuation Project - Project Description, 2026.*
- *Bathurst Resources Limited, Geotechnical Assessment, Escarpment Extension, 2025.*
- *Bathurst Resources Limited, Cypress Mine Closure Plan, 2018.*
- *Bathurst Resources Limited, Stockton Mine 80-year water quality forecast Memorandum, 2026.*

Standards and Guidelines:

- *International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM), Integrated Mine Closure, Good practice Guide 3rd Edition, 2025.*
- *ISO 21795, Closure planning Mine Closure and Reclamation Planning – Part 1: Requirements, 2021.*

Key Technical Assessments:

- *Alliance Ecology, Residual Effects Management Report, 2026.*
- *Earth Sciences New Zealand, BPCP Assessment of Environmental Effects: Aquatic Ecology, 2026.*
- *Ecological Solutions, Rehabilitation Outcomes Report, March 2026.*
- *Engineering Geology Limited (EGL), Preliminary Closure Design Concept Report – A18 Coal Fines Storage Facility, 2022.*
- *GHD, Stockton water management and assessment of effects on waterways and water users from the BPCP Stockton mining activities, 2026.*
- *Instream, Stockton Plateau Aquatic Ecology: history, thresholds and long-term management, 2026.*
- *Mine Waste Management, BPCP Acid Metalliferous Drainage (AMD) Overview Report, 2026.*
- *PDP, Geotechnical Assessment, A-Drive Borrow Pit Stockton Mine, 2026.*
- *PDP, Geotechnical Assessment, Mount Frederick South Mine, 2025.*
- *Pestproof Fences, Denniston and Stockton Plateaux Pest Exclusion Fencing Feasibility Report, 2025.*
- *Rough Milne Mitchell (RMM) Landscape Architects, Landscape Assessment Report, 2026.*
- *Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae, BPCP Cultural Impact Assessment, 2026.*

Attachment A: Closure objectives and completion criteria

Table 9: Stockton Mine Closure Objectives and Completion Criteria

Category	Objective	Completion Criteria	Justification / Validation
Infrastructure	Removal - All infrastructure that is not to be used as part of the final land use is removed so that the site is safe and free of hazardous materials.	Removal of all services (power, water, communications) that have been connected on the site as part of the operation.	Statement provided, utility service disconnection record / notification.
		All haul roads not required for management or monitoring are rehabilitated.	As-constructed final landform plan and photos.
		Required legal heritage obligations have been met.	Copy of any relevant approval documentation.
		Removal of all plant, equipment and associated infrastructure including processing facilities, stockpile areas, rail infrastructure and loading facilities, underground hydrocarbon storage tanks, office complex, portable offices, exploration core samples, camp facilities, storage racks, samples.	As-constructed final landform plan, photos, decommissioning reports.
	Retention - All infrastructure that is to remain as part of the final land use is safe, does not pose any hazard to the community or the environment. Infrastructure to be retained is agreed to and accepted by the landowner.	Potential hazards (e.g. electrical, mechanical) have been effectively isolated and secured.	Statement provided by suitably qualified engineer.
		Selected roads remain as one-way tracks where necessary for rehabilitation and / or access to features or for recreation / conservation. Access tracks are left in an acceptable condition for potential recreation and conservation access.	As-constructed final landform plan and photos.
		Where applicable, necessary approvals are in place where buildings and infrastructure are to be retained as part of final land use.	Copy of any relevant approvals.
		Retained culverts and crossings are fit for purpose.	Engineering design and QA demonstrating structures are built to design. Locations marked on as on final landform plan
		Infrastructure retained is in a condition (e.g. structural, electrical, other hazards) that is suitable for the intended final land use.	Formal acceptance from the subsequent landowner that infrastructure is in a condition that is suitable for the intended final land use in accordance with formal agreement.

Category	Objective	Completion Criteria	Justification / Validation
		If any underground services remain, it does not pose a hazard or conflict with the intended final land use.	The location of the infrastructure has been marked on a plan and registered with the relevant local authority. Formal acceptance from the subsequent landowner that underground infrastructure has been left in a condition that is suitable for the intended final land use in accordance with formal agreement.
		Required legal heritage obligations have been met. Heritage elements are protected and accessible where appropriate in accordance with heritage report.	Copy of any relevant approval documentation. All archival recording and reports required are complete and submitted.
	There is no residual contamination on site that is incompatible with the final land use or that poses a threat of human or environmental harm.	There are no residual waste material and/or visible contamination areas on site surface.	Statement provided by qualified person and before/after photos.
		Where applicable, remediate any identified contamination in accordance with the appropriate guidelines for land use.	Contamination and Validation Report prepared by Land Contamination Consultant.
	Residual waste materials stored on site (e.g. coal fines) will be appropriately contained/ encapsulated so they do not pose any hazards or constraints for intended final land use.	Visual – verification that capping, type and placement consistent with design Visual – indication of capping performance on final landform – vegetation health Measured - Survey verifies that capping placement consistent with design and settlement and/or material loss is within predicted limits and will not compromise final landform drainage via differential settlement. Quality assurance records for the construction of the emplacement material including (where relevant) capping material, liner system, seepage control etc. Measured - groundwater and surface water monitoring verify adequate containment of waste materials and seepage/leachate is not contributing to land/groundwater contamination.	Photos, rehabilitation monitoring reports, as-constructed surveys, quality assurance records for construction, erosion surveys, independent geotechnical reports (where required), groundwater/surface water monitoring reports. The structural integrity of the infrastructure and capping has been inspected by a suitably qualified engineer and determined to be suitable and safe as part of the intended final land use and water material adequately contained.

Category	Objective	Completion Criteria	Justification / Validation
Landform	The final landform is stable for the long-term and does not present a risk of environmental harm downstream / downslope of the site or a safety risk to the public/native fauna. The final landform is commensurate with surrounding natural landscape.	High risk landforms (such as steep slopes, high walls) have been constructed in accordance with geotechnical design with an appropriate factor of safety. Visual - minimal erosion that would not require moderate to significant ongoing management and maintenance works. Visual - no signs of land instability such as mass movement. Visual - no evidence of active scour likely to compromise surface water management structure. Survey verifies final landform complies with final landform construction in accordance with the design of the ELFs. Survey verifies that settlement and/or material loss is within predicted limits and will not compromise final landform drainage via differential settlement. Surface water management structures (e.g. spillways, drop structures, major drains and creek diversions) have been constructed in accordance with hydrological design.	Before and after photos, rehabilitation monitoring reports, as-constructed surveys, erosion surveys, and independent geotechnical reports (where required) that indicate long-term stability of the rehabilitated landform. Construction QA/QC records for ELFs, including encapsulation of PAF materials, demonstrate that design specifications (e.g. material placement, encapsulation thickness, compaction and drainage controls) have been achieved. An engineering assessment undertaken by a suitably qualified person concludes that significant surface water management structures (e.g. spillways, drop structures, major drains and creek diversions) have been constructed in accordance with hydrological design.
Rehabilitated Highwall	The final landform is stable for the long-term and does not present a risk of environmental harm downstream / downslope of the site or a safety risk to the public/native fauna.	High risk landforms (such as steep slopes, high walls) have been constructed in accordance with geotechnical design with an appropriate factor of safety. Survey verifies that settlement and/or material loss is within predicted limits and will not compromise final landform drainage via differential settlement. Visual - minimal erosion that would not require moderate to significant ongoing management and maintenance works. Visual - no signs of land instability such as mass movement. Visual - no evidence of active scour likely to compromise surface water management structure.	Before and after photos, rehabilitation monitoring reports, as- constructed surveys, erosion surveys, independent geotechnical reports (where required) and or erosion modelling reports (where required) that indicate long-term stability of rehabilitated landform. Depending on the nature, scale and risks associated with a specific site, stability will need to be evaluated over a number of years. An engineering assessment undertaken by a suitably qualified person concludes that significant surface water management structures (e.g. spillways, drop structures, major drains and creek diversions) have been constructed in accordance with hydrological design.
Native Ecosystem	The composition of the rehabilitated vegetation includes species that are typical	Variation in drainage, slope and topography achieved as part of ELF construction. Key species present at target	Before and after photos, rehabilitation monitoring reports, independent ecological reports (where

Category	Objective	Completion Criteria	Justification / Validation
	of the local area and commensurate with the appropriate vegetation type including: 1) Tall forest – beech dominated 2) Tall forest – other (podocarp / kamahi / rata dominated) 3) Shrubland – manuka dominated 4) Shrubland – flax dominated 5) Pākihi – manuka and tussock / rush dominated	densities. Species diversity and dominance as expected for early stage of each vegetation type. Maintenance of threatened and at-risk species in rehabilitated vegetation, including bryophytes. Presence of bare soil less than target levels. Minimum vegetation cover targets achieved. Presence of wetland vegetation and small tarns within appropriate vegetation types. Provision of habitat for fauna achieved (e.g. rock stacks, log piles, cavities). = Additional detail is provided in the Rehabilitation Management Plan.	required) that validate rehabilitation completion criteria have been met.
	Levels of ecosystem function have been established that demonstrate the rehabilitation is self- sustainable.	Presence of indigenous species that have not been planted (adventives). Presence of woody weeds and Juncus squarossus below target levels. Presence of keystone species including fauna. Additional detail is provided in the Rehabilitation Management Plan.	Rehabilitation monitoring reports, environmental monitoring including fauna demonstrates that completion criteria have been met.
Rockfield Rehabilitation	Levels of ecosystem function have been established that demonstrate the rehabilitation is self- sustainable.	Minimum vegetation and rock/boulder cover targets achieved. Presence of woody weeds and Juncus squarossus below target levels. Presence of bare soil less than target levels. Hydrological integration is achieved (e.g., appropriate overland flow pathways through rockfield areas). Fauna habitat features are incorporated where appropriate (e.g., crevices, ledges, shelters, tarn and wetland edges). Additional detail is provided in the Rehabilitation Management Plan.	Before and after photos, rehabilitation monitoring reports, independent ecological reports (where required) that validate rehabilitation completion criteria have been met.
Surface Water	Runoff surface water quality from mine site meets the requirements of the relevant compliance limits and demonstrates improvement in stream ecology health overtime, consistent with modelled long-term outcomes.	Water quality discharged from rehabilitated mining operation meets site specific compliance limits for specific stream site compliance sites.	Water quality monitoring reports. Independent hydrological assessment report. Annual compliance and trend analysis against the improvement targets to councils and Crown. Periodic (e.g. five-yearly) review of long-term water quality and ecological performance targets

Category	Objective	Completion Criteria	Justification / Validation
			to confirm assumptions, update models where required and demonstrate targets remain appropriate and achievable.
	To prevent, minimise, and manage the generation and release of AMD from mine affected areas, ensuring the protection of downstream water quality, human health, and ecological values.	Water quality discharged from rehabilitated mining operation meets site specific compliance limits for specific stream site compliance sites Completion will be demonstrated when seepage acidity is reduced and passive treatment maintains compliance with water quality criteria in accordance with the AMD Management Plan.	Water quality monitoring reports. Annual reporting to councils and Crown related to capping / rehabilitation as per schedule in the annual AMD management plan requiring approval from Councils and Crown on an annual basis.
	Sumps or voids that are retained as lakes to support AMD treatment maintain long-term water quality that is physically and chemically stable, non-toxic to aquatic life, and protective of downstream receiving environments.	Retained sumps or voids that discharge to AMD treatment systems will be considered complete when water quality remains stable and within the design input parameters of the treatment system, requiring no operational adjustments or upgrades. The water is to be predictable, treatable and support ongoing compliance with downstream water quality limits.	Water quality monitoring reports. Independent hydrological assessment report. Annual compliance and tracking to 80-year improvement targets to councils and Treasury.
	Water bodies that are retained as lakes, wetlands and tarns maintain long-term water quality that is physically and chemically stable, non-toxic to aquatic life, and protective of downstream receiving environments.	Water quality is demonstrated to be physically and chemically stable and meeting compliance limits, with monitored parameters remaining within site-specific ecosystem protection thresholds.	Water quality monitoring reports. Independent hydrological assessment report. Aquatic ecology assessment report.
Groundwater	Groundwater quality from mine site meets the requirements of the relevant compliance limits.	Water quality is demonstrated to be physically and chemically stable and meeting compliance limits, with monitored parameters remaining within site-specific ecosystem protection thresholds.	Water quality monitoring reports. Independent hydrological assessment report. Aquatic ecology assessment report.

Table 10: MFS and ESE Closure Objectives and Completion Criteria

Category	Objective	Completion Criteria	Justification / Validation
Infrastructure	Removal - All infrastructure that is not to be used as part of the final land use is removed so that the site is safe and free of hazardous materials.	Removal of all services (power, water, communications) that have been connected on the site as part of the operation.	Statement provided, utility service disconnection record / notification.
		All haul roads not required for management or monitoring are rehabilitated.	As-constructed final landform plan and photos.
		Required legal heritage obligations have been met.	Copy of any relevant approval documentation.
		Removal of all plant, equipment and associated infrastructure including processing facilities, stockpile areas, loading facilities, underground hydrocarbon storage tanks, office complex, portable offices, exploration core samples, camp facilities, storage racks, samples.	As-constructed final landform plan, photos, decommissioning reports.
	Retention - All infrastructure that is to remain as part of the final land use is safe, does not pose any hazard to the community or the environment. Infrastructure to be retained is agreed to and adopted by the landowner.	Potential hazards (e.g. electrical, mechanical) have been effectively isolated and secured.	Statement provided by suitably qualified engineer.
		Selected roads remain as one-way tracks where necessary for rehabilitation and / or access to features or for recreation / conservation. Access tracks and bridges are left in an acceptable condition for potential recreation and conservation access.	As-built constructed final landform plan and photos. Engineering design and quality assurance demonstrating bridges are built to design.
		Where applicable, necessary approvals are in place where buildings and infrastructure are to be retained as part of final land use.	Copy of any relevant approvals.
		Retained culverts and crossings are fit for purpose.	Engineering design and QA demonstrating structures are built to design. Locations marked on as on final landform plan.
		Infrastructure retained is in a condition (e.g. structural, electrical, other hazards) that is suitable for the intended final land use.	Formal acceptance from the subsequent landowner that infrastructure is in a condition that is suitable for the intended final land use in accordance with formal agreement.

Category	Objective	Completion Criteria	Justification / Validation
		If any underground services remain, it does not pose a hazard or conflict with the intended final land use.	The location of the infrastructure has been marked on a plan and registered with the relevant local authority. Formal acceptance from the subsequent landowner that underground infrastructure has been left in a condition that is suitable for the intended final land use in accordance with formal agreement.
		Required legal heritage obligations have been met. Heritage elements are protected and accessible where appropriate in accordance with heritage report.	Copy of any relevant approval documentation. All archival reports required are complete and submitted.
	There is no residual contamination on site that is incompatible with the final land use or that poses a threat of human or environmental harm.	Waste material and/or visible contamination areas on site surface.	Statement provided by a qualified person and before/after photos.
		Where applicable, remediate any identified contamination in accordance with the appropriate guidelines for land use.	Contamination and Validation Report prepared by Land Contamination Consultant.
Landform	The final landform is stable for the long-term and does not present a risk of environmental harm downstream / downslope of the site or a safety risk to the public/native fauna. The final landform is commensurate with surrounding natural landscape.	High risk landforms (such as steep slopes, high walls) have been constructed in accordance with geotechnical design with an appropriate factor of safety. Survey verifies final landform complies with final landform construction in accordance with the design of the ELFs. Survey verifies that settlement and/or material loss is within predicted limits and will not compromise final landform drainage via differential settlement. Surface water management structures (e.g. spillways, drop structures, major drains and creek diversions) have been constructed in accordance with hydrological design. Visual - minimal erosion that would not require moderate to significant ongoing management and maintenance works. Visual - no signs of land instability such as mass movement. Visual - no evidence of active scour likely to compromise surface water management structure.	Before and after photos, rehabilitation monitoring reports, as- constructed surveys, erosion surveys, and independent geotechnical reports (where required) that indicate long-term stability of the rehabilitated landform. Construction QA/QC records for ELFs, including encapsulation of PAF materials, demonstrate that design specifications (e.g. material placement, encapsulation thickness, compaction and drainage controls) have been achieved. An engineering assessment undertaken by a suitably qualified person concludes that significant surface water management structures (e.g. spillways, drop structures, major drains and creek diversions) have been constructed in accordance with hydrological design.

Category	Objective	Completion Criteria	Justification / Validation
Rehabilitated Highwall	The final landform is stable for the long-term and does not present a risk of environmental harm downstream / downslope of the site or a safety risk to the public/native fauna.	High risk landforms (such as steep slopes, high walls) have been constructed in accordance with geotechnical design with an appropriate factor of safety. Survey verifies that settlement and/or material loss is within predicted limits and will not compromise final landform drainage via differential settlement. Visual - minimal erosion that would not require moderate to significant ongoing management and maintenance works. Visual - no signs of land instability such as mass movement. Visual - no evidence of active scour likely to compromise surface water management structure.	Before and after photos, rehabilitation monitoring reports, as-built constructed surveys, erosion surveys, independent geotechnical reports (where required) and or erosion modelling reports (where required) that indicate long-term stability of rehabilitated landform. An engineering assessment undertaken by a suitably qualified person concludes that significant surface water management structures (e.g. spillways, drop structures, major drains and creek diversions) have been constructed in accordance with hydrological design.
Native Ecosystem	The composition of the rehabilitated vegetation includes species that are typical of the local area and commensurate with the appropriate vegetation type including: 1) Tall forest – beech dominated 2) Tall forest – other (podocarp / kamahi / rata dominated) 3) Shrubland – manuka dominated 4) Shrubland – flax dominated 5) Pākihi – manuka and tussock / rush dominated	Variation in drainage, slope and topography achieved as part of ELF construction. Key species present at target densities. Species diversity and dominance as expected for early seral stage of each vegetation type. Maintenance of threatened and at-risk species in rehabilitated vegetation, including bryophytes. Presence of bare soil less than target levels. Minimum vegetation cover targets achieved. Presence of wetland vegetation and small tarns within appropriate vegetation types. Provision of habitat for fauna achieved (e.g. rock stacks, log piles, cavities). Additional detail is provided in the Rehabilitation Management Plan.	Before and after photos, rehabilitation monitoring reports, independent ecological reports (where required) that validate rehabilitation completion criteria have been met.
	Levels of ecosystem function have been established that demonstrate the rehabilitation is self- sustainable.	Presence of indigenous species that have not been planted (adventives). Presence of woody weeds and Juncus squarossus below target levels. Presence of keystone species including fauna. Additional detail is provided in the Rehabilitation Management Plan.	Rehabilitation monitoring reports, environmental monitoring including fauna demonstrates that completion criteria have been met.

Category	Objective	Completion Criteria	Justification / Validation
Rockfield Rehabilitation	Levels of ecosystem function have been established that demonstrate the rehabilitation is self- sustainable.	Minimum vegetation and rock/boulder cover targets achieved. Presence of woody weeds and Juncus squarossus below target levels. Presence of bare soil less than target levels. Hydrological integration is achieved (e.g., appropriate overland flow pathways through rockfield areas). Fauna habitat features are incorporated where appropriate (e.g., crevices, ledges, shelters, tarn and wetland edges). Additional detail is provided in the Rehabilitation Management Plan.	Before and after photos, rehabilitation monitoring reports, independent ecological reports (where required) that validate rehabilitation completion criteria have been met.
Surface Water	Surface water quality from mine site meets the requirements of the relevant compliance limits.	Water quality discharged from approved discharge points / compliance monitoring sites during the post-closure phase meets Water Quality Objectives.	Water quality monitoring reports. Water quality performance and compliance monitoring data. Independent assessment report.
	To prevent and minimise the oxidation of sulfide minerals (e.g., pyrite) and minimise the mobilisation of pyrite oxidation products (i.e., control water flow) such that management of AMD impacted waters can transition to passive treatment technologies	Seepage acidity loads achieve < 2.7 t/ha/yr thereby triggering the use of passive treatment technologies enabling long term compliance with Water Quality Objectives. Consistently meeting water quality and quantity objectives at all water compliance monitoring locations. Completion will be demonstrated when seepage acidity is reduced and passive treatment maintains compliance with water quality criteria in accordance with the AMD Management Plan.	ELF models and ELF design philosophy report. Water quality monitoring reports. Water quality performance and compliance monitoring data.
	Post closure water management infrastructure must be safe, stable and fit for purpose in the intended post mining land use.	Water quality of treated AMD remains stable for two (2) years after transition to the Post Closure Phase. Road cuttings and pit voids (water management infrastructure and ecosystem services) are geotechnically stable and safe. Water management infrastructure is meeting design criteria for effluent water quality.	Water quality performance data. Water quality monitoring reports. The following performance monitoring is required to demonstrate the closure criteria has been achieved: • Highwall and pit void geotechnically stability is signed off by the engineer of record as being acceptable.

Category	Objective	Completion Criteria	Justification / Validation
		All unnecessary water management infrastructure removed.	• Monitoring of passive treatment system influent and effluent water quality/quantity. • Water Management and water treatment systems signed off by a suitably qualified person.
	The long-term characteristics of retained surface water features (such as wetlands, tarns etc) maintain physical and chemical stability, are non-toxic to aquatic life, and are consistent with the post mining land use(s) of each feature.	Consistently meeting water quality and quantity objectives at all water compliance monitoring locations. Stability of treated AMD discharges.	Water quality monitoring reports. Water quality performance and compliance monitoring data. Independent hydrological assessment report. Aquatic ecology assessment report.
Groundwater	Groundwater quality from mine site meets the requirements of the relevant compliance limits.	Water quality is demonstrated to be physically and chemically stable, with monitored parameters remaining within site-specific ecosystem protection thresholds.	Independent hydrological assessment report. Depending on the nature, scale and risks associated with a specific site, achievement of criteria may need to be evaluated over a number of years.

Table 11: UWHR Closure Objectives and Completion Criteria

Category	Objective	Completion Criteria	Justification / Validation
Infrastructure	Removal - All infrastructure that is not to be used as part of the final land use is removed so that the site is safe and free of hazardous materials.	Removal of all services (power, water, communications) that have been connected on the site as part of the operation.	Statement provided, utility service disconnection record / notification.
	Retention - All infrastructure that is to remain as part of the final land use is safe, does not pose any hazard to the community.	Potential hazards (e.g. electrical, mechanical) have been effectively isolated and secured.	Statement provided by suitably qualified engineer.
		Damage to access tracks have been repaired and stabilised.	As-built constructed final landform plan and photos.
		The structural integrity of the infrastructure is suitable and safe for use as part of the intended final land use.	Engineering report/statement, photos, risk assessment verifying modes of failure are adequately addressed to minimise risks to public safety or the environment.

Category	Objective	Completion Criteria	Justification / Validation
		Retained bridges, culverts and crossings are fit for purpose.	Engineering design and QA demonstrating structures are built to design. Locations marked on as on final landform plan
		Required legal heritage obligations have been met. Heritage elements are protected and accessible where appropriate in accordance with heritage report.	Copy of any relevant approval documentation. All archival reports required are complete and submitted.
	There is no residual contamination on site that is incompatible with the final land use or that poses a threat of human or environmental harm.	Waste material and/or visible contamination areas on site surface.	Statement provided and before/after photos.
		Where applicable, remediate any identified contamination in accordance with the appropriate guidelines for land use.	Contamination and Validation Report prepared by Land Contamination Consultant
Landform	The final landform is stable for the long-term and does not present a risk of environmental harm downstream / downslope of the site or a safety risk to the public/native fauna. The final landform is commensurate with surrounding natural landscape.	Visual - minimal erosion that would not require moderate to significant ongoing management and maintenance works. Visual - no signs of land instability such as mass movement. Visual - no evidence of active scour likely to compromise surface water management structure. Survey verifies that settlement and/or material loss is within predicted limits and will not compromise final landform drainage via differential settlement. Surface water management structures (e.g. spillways, drop structures, major drains and creek diversions) have been constructed in accordance with hydrological design.	Before and after photos, rehabilitation monitoring reports, as- constructed surveys, erosion surveys, independent geotechnical reports (where required) and or erosion modelling reports (where required) that indicate long-term stability of rehabilitated landform. An engineering assessment undertaken by a suitably qualified person concludes that significant surface water management structures (e.g. spillways, drop structures, major drains and creek diversions) have been constructed in accordance with hydrological design.
Surface Water	Surface water quality from mine site meets the requirements of the relevant compliance limits.	Water quality discharged from approved discharge points / compliance monitoring sites during the post-closure phase meets Water Quality Objectives.	Water quality monitoring reports. Water quality performance and compliance monitoring data. Independent assessment report.
Native Ecosystem	The composition of the rehabilitated vegetation includes species that are typical of the local area and commensurate with the appropriate vegetation type including:	Key species present at target densities. Species diversity and dominance as expected for early seral stage of each vegetation type. Maintenance of threatened and at-risk species in rehabilitated vegetation, including bryophytes.	Before and after photos, rehabilitation monitoring reports, independent ecological reports (where required) that validate rehabilitation completion criteria have been met.

Category	Objective	Completion Criteria	Justification / Validation
	1) Tall forest – beech dominated 2) Tall forest – other (podocarp / kamahi / rata dominated) 3) Shrubland – manuka dominated 4) Shrubland – flax dominated 5) Pākihi – manuka and tussock / rush dominated	Presence of bare soil less than target levels. Minimum vegetation cover targets achieved. Presence of wetland vegetation and small tarns within appropriate vegetation types. Provision of habitat for fauna achieved (e.g. rock stacks, log piles, cavities). Additional detail is provided in the Rehabilitation Management Plan.	
	Levels of ecosystem function have been established that demonstrate the rehabilitation is self- sustainable.	Presence of indigenous species that have not been planted (adventives). Presence of woody weeds and Juncus squarossus below target levels. Presence of keystone species including fauna. Additional detail is provided in the Rehabilitation Management Plan.	Rehabilitation monitoring reports, environmental monitoring including fauna demonstrates that completion criteria have been met.