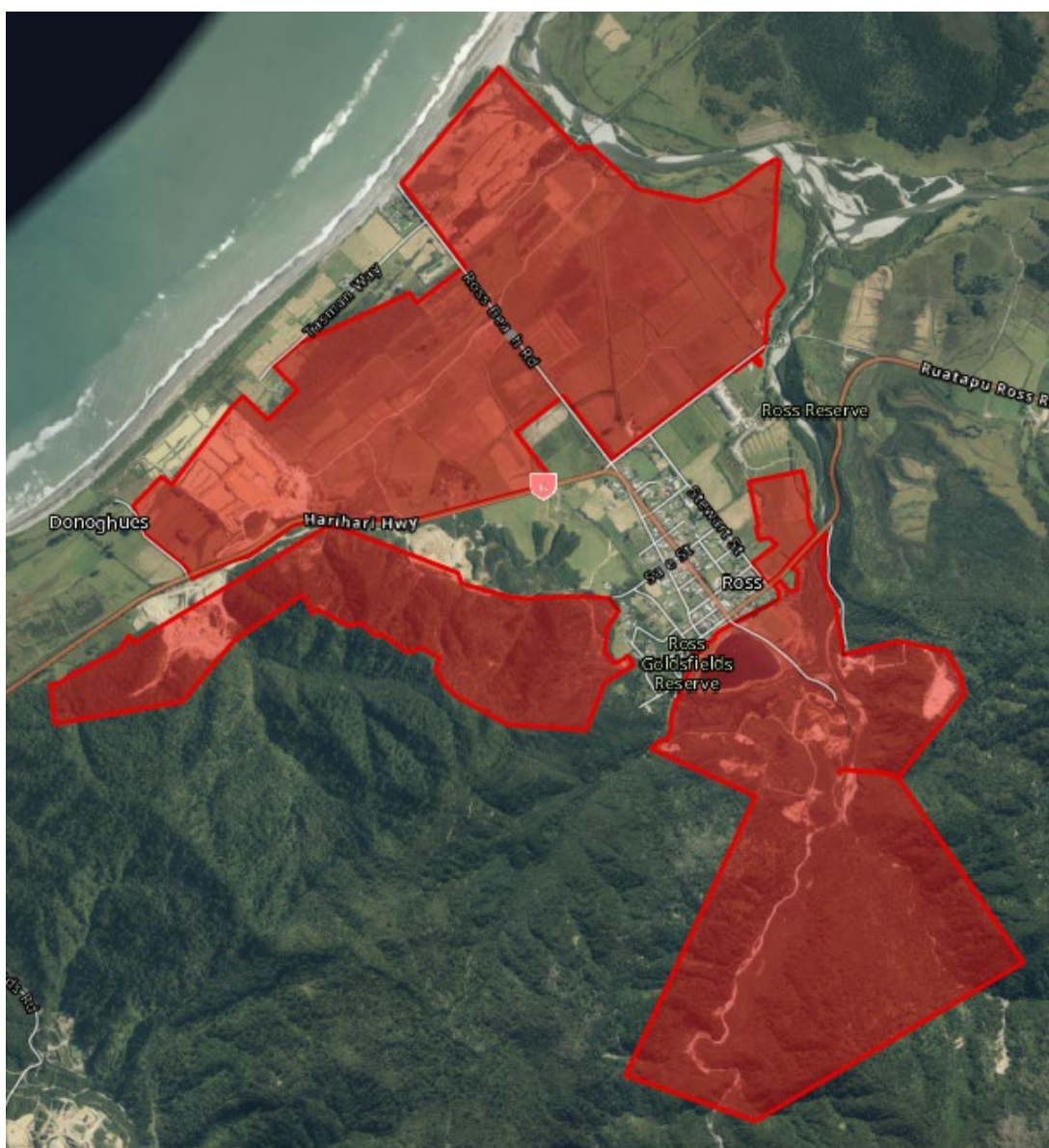


Date: 29 November 2024

Re: Mineral Extraction Zone 12: Ross Gold Fields

## 1.0 Notified MINZ

A map of the notified Mineral Extraction Zone (MINZ) at Ross Gold Fields is included in **Figure 1** below and attached in **Appendix 1**.



**Figure 1: Notified Mineral Extraction Area at Ross Gold Fields.**

## 2.0 Submissions

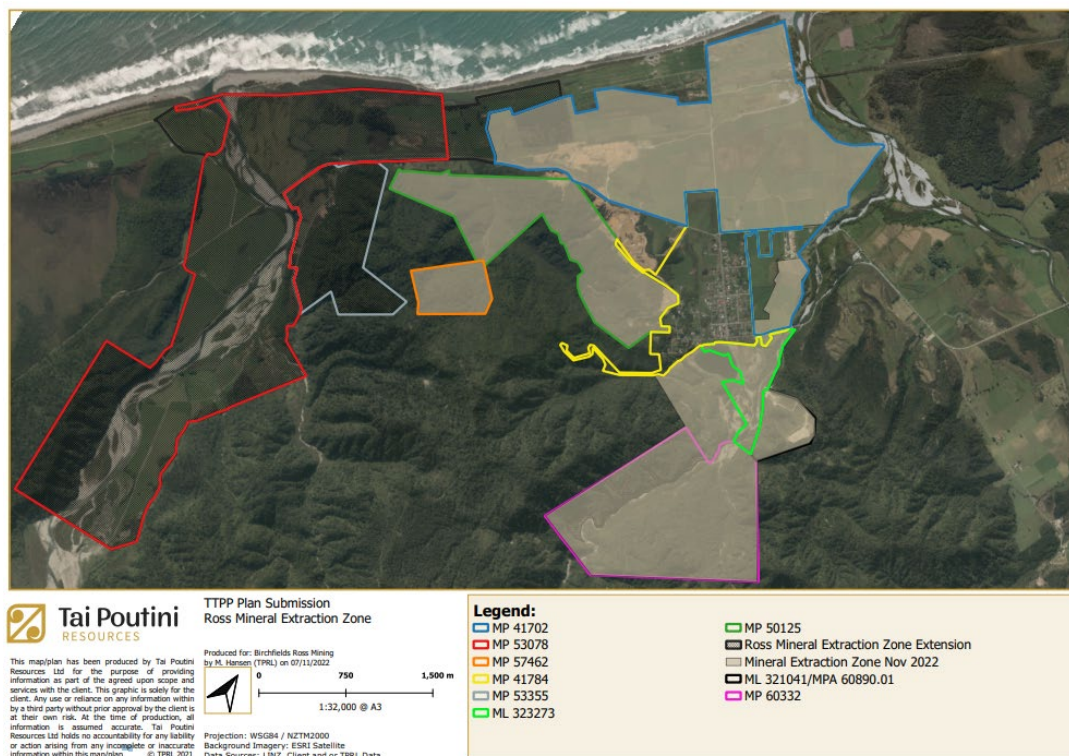
### 2.1 Oppose:

Lynley Hargreaves (S481.005) seeks to delete the MINZ at Ross. This is opposed by Birchfields Ross Ltd (FS150.039).

Brian Anderson (S576.022) seeks an amendment to provide for a Rural Lifestyle Zone surrounding the Ross township. This is opposed by Birchfields Ross Ltd (FS150.045).

### 2.2 Amend:

Birchfield Ross Mining Limited (S604.123) seeks to amend to include additional areas at Mikonui as shown in Attachment B of the submission (**Figure 2** below). Birchfields Ross Mining Limited hold a number of mining, exploration permits and resource consents across various parcels of land on the West Coast for the purpose of mining gold including Mineral Permit (**MP**) 41702 at Ross and MP 53078 at the Mikonui River.



**Figure 2: Attachment B from submission 604.123.**

## 3.0 Evidence

No evidence was received in relation to the notified MINZ at Ross Gold Fields.

## 4.0 Assessment of Information Provided by Council

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Information has been provided by the West Coast Regional Council. The following resource consents were identified as relative to the notified MINZ at Ross Gold Fields (**Figure 1** above).

### 4.1 West Coast Regional Consents

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#### 4.1.1 RC07195 - Lapsed

This resource consent grants three Land Use Consents, two Water Permits and two Discharge Permits relating to alluvial gold mining at Sailors Gully (Mont D'or). Condition 1.7 of the resource consent specifies that the Consent Holder shall only carry out earthworks associated with mining activities inside the consented area shaded in blue and labelled as "MP50125" on the attached location map titled "Annexure I - RC07195 - John Dunbier - Gold Mining Activities - Mont d'Or, Ross" (**Appendix 2**). This resource consent commenced on 03 June 2008 and has a duration of 20 years. However, condition 4.18 states that these consents shall expire at the end of the term specified in the consents or upon the expiry or surrender of MP 50125, whichever occurs first. A search on the New Zealand Petroleum and Minerals (**NZPM**) GIS database for Mineral Permits shows that MP 50125 is no longer active<sup>1</sup>. As such, it can be determined that the term under the consent has lapsed. As it is considered that the duration for this resource consent has lapsed, it can no longer provide for the authorisation of mining activity within the identified subject site.

#### 4.1.2 RC10070

This resource consent grants one Land Use consent, one Water Permit and one Discharge Permit relating to alluvial gold mining at Ross. Condition 1.6 of the resource consent specifies that the Consent Holder shall only carry out earthworks associated with mining activities within the area outlined in yellow and labelled "Area 1" on the attached aerial photograph titled "RC10070, Mining Area, Ross" (**Appendix 3**). This resource consent commenced on 23 August 2010 and has a duration of 20 years or upon the expiry or surrender of MP 41977, whichever comes first. A search on the NZPM GIS database for Mineral Permits shows that MP 41977 is currently active as a Mining Permit with an expiry of 09 August 2027. See **Figure 3** below for an approximation of the subject site (outlined in green) in relation to the notified MINZ at Ross Gold Fields.

#### 4.1.3 RC12233

This resource consent grants three Land Use consents, four Water Permits and one Discharge Permit relating to alluvial gold mining near Ross and within MP 50125. Condition 1.6 of the resource consent specifies that the Consent Holder shall only carry out earthworks associated with mining within the areas outlined in red on the attached aerial photograph titled "RC12233, Gold Mining Activities, Ross" (**Appendix 4**). This resource consent commenced on 17 December 2013 and shall expire on 4 December 2027. See **Figure 3** below for an approximation of the subject site (outlined in yellow) in relation to the notified MINZ at Ross Gold Fields.

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<sup>1</sup> Information sourced from New Zealand Petroleum and Minerals – Mineral Permit Webmaps which provides online maps using real-time data to show all current minerals permits and applications in New Zealand. Updated through their permit register system and GIS database. Last updated: 3 April 2024

#### 4.1.4 RC130072 - [Lapsed](#)

This resource consent grants a Land Use Consent to undertake mining and activities ancillary to mining within Section 1 Survey Office Plan 455415, Part Rural Section 4071, Lots 1 and 2 DP 2927, Lots 6, 7 and 8 DP 377632, and the legal road reserve. Condition 2 specifies that mining shall be permitted to be undertaken within Section 1 Survey Office Plan 455415 and condition 3 specifies activities ancillary to the mining shall be permitted to be undertaken within Part Rural Section 4071, Lots 1 and 2 DP 2927, Lots 6, 7 and 8 DP 377632, and legal road reserve. The approved plan provided with the resource consent application outlines the land under application (**Appendix 5**). This resource consent commenced on 17 January 2014 and has an expiry date of 4 December 2027 and is tied to the expiry of MP 50125. A search on the NZPM GIS database for Mineral Permits shows that MP 50125 is no longer active as a mining permit. As such, it can be determined that the term under the consent has lapsed. As it is considered that the duration for this resource consent has lapsed, it can no longer provide for the authorisation of mining activity within the identified subject site.

#### 4.1.5 RC-2017-0120 - [Lapsed](#)

This resource consent grants two Land Use consents, one Water Permit and two Discharge Permits relating to alluvial gold mining within MP 51686. Condition 10 of the resource consent specifies that the Consent Holder shall only carry out the alluvial gold mining activities within the area outlined in red, and outside of the area shaded green labelled “QEII Covenant”, on the attached aerial plan titled “Annexure 1 RC-2017-0120 Consented Area” (**Appendix 6**). This resource consent commenced on 26 March 2018 and has a duration of 10 years or upon the expiry or surrender of the MP 51686, whichever comes first. A search on the NZPM GIS database for Mineral Permits shows that MP 51686 is no longer active. As such, it can be determined that the term under the consent has lapsed. As it is considered that the duration for this resource consent has lapsed, it can no longer provide for the authorisation of mining activity within the identified subject site.

#### 4.1.6 RC-2019-0070 - [Lapsed](#)

This resource consents two Land Use consents, one Water Permit and one Discharge Permit relating to alluvial gold mining within Ross. Condition 15 cites that the Consent Holder shall only carry out earthworks associated with mining activities within the areas labelled, “Block 1” to “Block 5” within the consent application. No approved plans depicting “Block 1” to “Block 5” were included with the Resource Consent; however, a site plan was provided which outlines the “Application Area”/“Mining Area” (**Appendix 7**). This resource consent commenced on 16 January 2020 and has a duration of 2 years or upon the expiry or surrender of the MP 41784, whichever comes first. A search on the NZPM GIS database for Mineral Permits shows that MP 41784 is currently active as a mining permit and has an expiry of 29 January 2044. However, based on the 2 year term, the timeframe for this consent has lapsed and this Resource Consent can no longer provide for the authorisation of mining activity within the identified subject site.

#### 4.1.7 RC-2021-0037

This resource consent grants two Land Use consents, two Water Permits and two Discharge Permits relating to alluvial gold mining at 56 Woolhouse Road at Ross. Condition 23 of the resource consent states the Consent Holder shall only carry out the alluvial gold mining activities within the areas outlined in red as shown on the attached aerial photograph titled “Extension Area 1”. This aerial

image was not originally supplied with the resource consent. A request was made to the West Coast Regional Council for a copy of the plan cited in condition 23 and a further aerial map was provided (**Appendix 8**). See **Figure 3** below for an approximation of the subject site (outlined in pink) in relation to the notified MINZ at Ross Gold Fields. This resource consent commenced on 13 July 2021 and has a duration of 10 years.

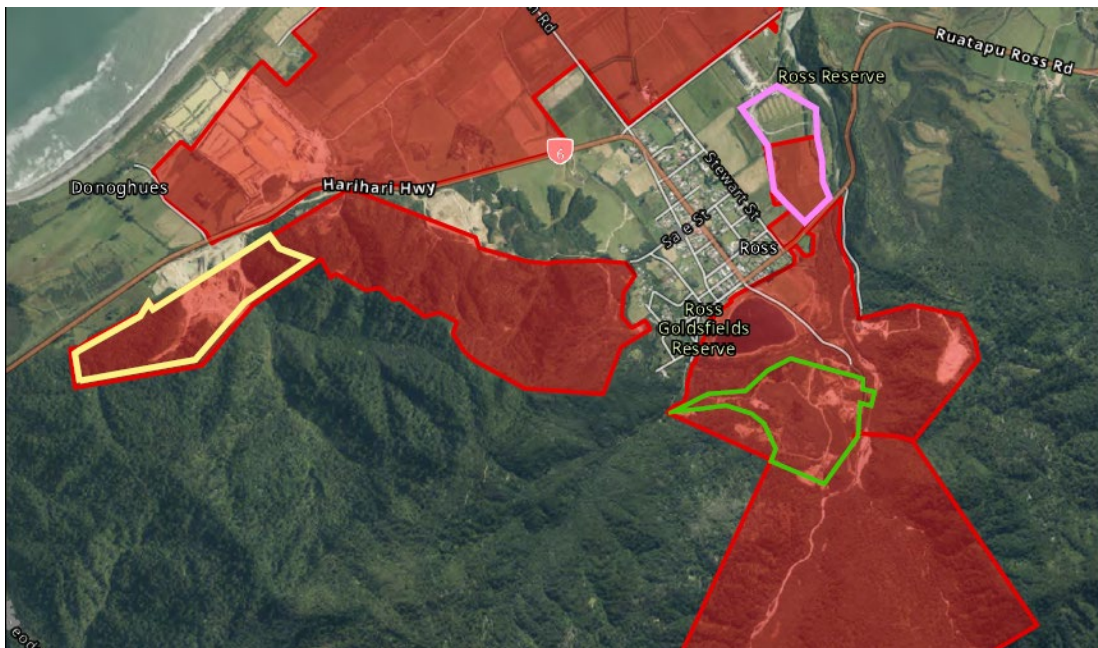
## 4.2 Summary

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It is noted that Schedule 9 of the proposed Te Tai o Poutini Plan, which identified lawfully established mineral extraction and processing areas by listing the authorisation mechanism that permitted the activity, identified the following Resource Consents in relation to the notified MINZ at Ross Gold Fields:

- **RC2019-0070:** As discussed above the term for this resource consent has lapsed.
- **RC10044:** this resource consent was provided by the West Coast Regional Council at request. However, a review of the documents identified that this Resource Consent does not relate to mining activities within the Ross area.

Based on an assessment of the available information, the resource consents provided confirm that there are three sites within the notified MINZ at Ross Gold Fields which have authorisation to operate a mining activity (**Figure 2** below). A full copy of the map depicting the sites with authorisation to operate a mining activity in relation to MINZ at Ross Gold Fields is provided at **Appendix 9**.



**Figure 3: Map of Authorised Mining Activities in relation to MINZ. The full map at Appendix 9.**

## 5.0 Recommendation

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The additional information provided by the resource consents listed above identifies three sites within and adjacent to the notified MINZ at Ross Gold Fields that have authorisation to operate a mining activity.

As we have not received a copy of a current Coal Mining Licence, Ancillary Coal Mining Licence or Resource Consent to confirm that the remaining land within the notified MINZ at Ross Gold Fields has authorisation to operate a mining activity, the following recommendation is made.

It is recommended that the notified MINZ at Ross Gold Fields is reduced, as outlined in **Figure 3** above and at **Appendix 9**, to only include the areas subject to the existing resource consents provided and discussed above.

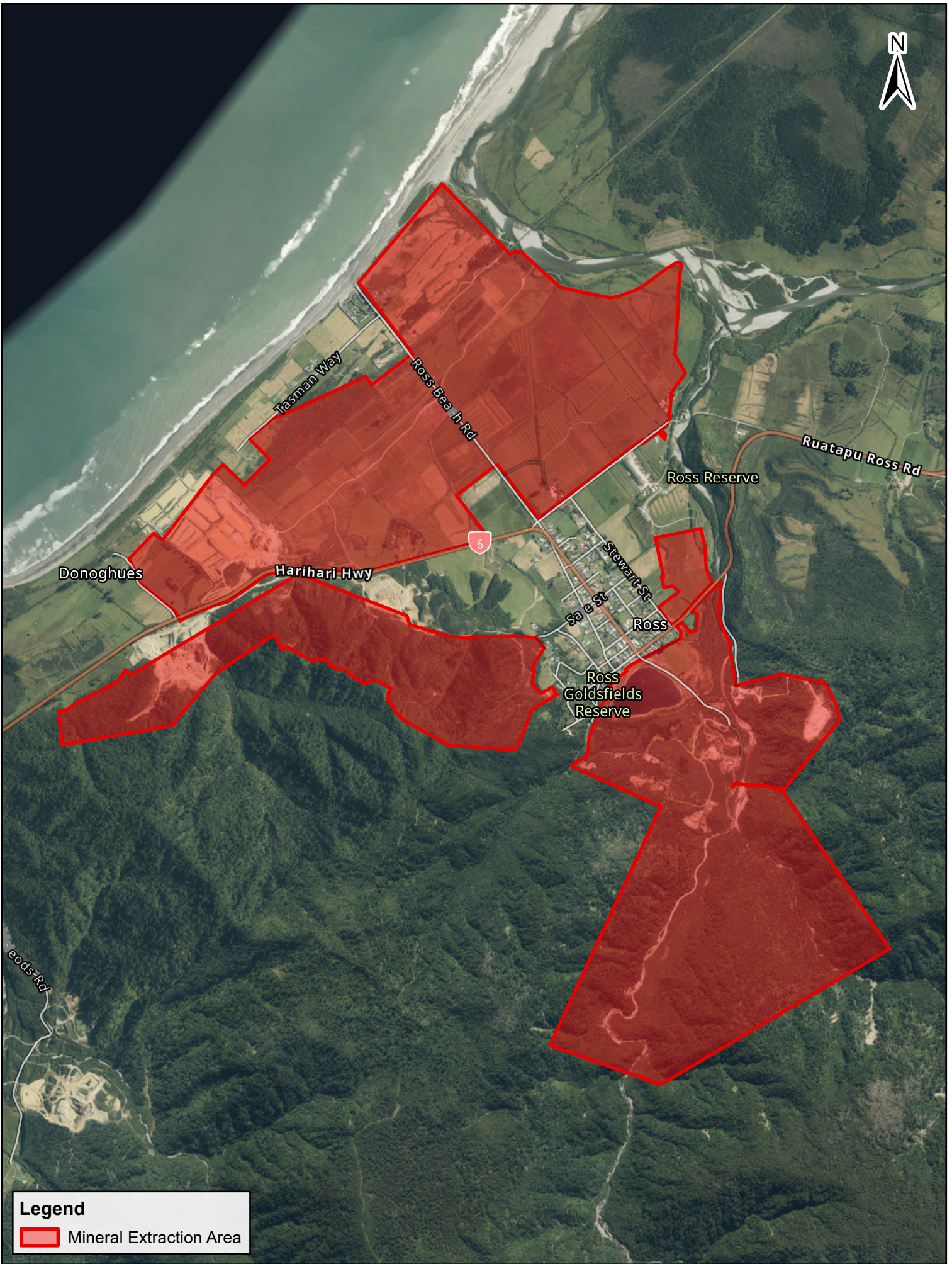
Appendix 1

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Notified MINZ Area



Urban & Environmental



**Legend**

 Mineral Extraction Area



Contains data sourced from LINZ Data Service licenced for reuse under CC BY 4.0, including imagery and property boundaries.  
 Property boundaries accuracy: +/-1m in urban areas, +/-30m in rural areas.  
 Datum: NZGD 2000  
 Coordinate System: NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator  
 This map was produced with ArcGIS Pro (Esri).

**Mineral Extraction Area**  
 Ross Gold Fields





Appendix 2

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RC07195



Urban & Environmental



Appendix 3

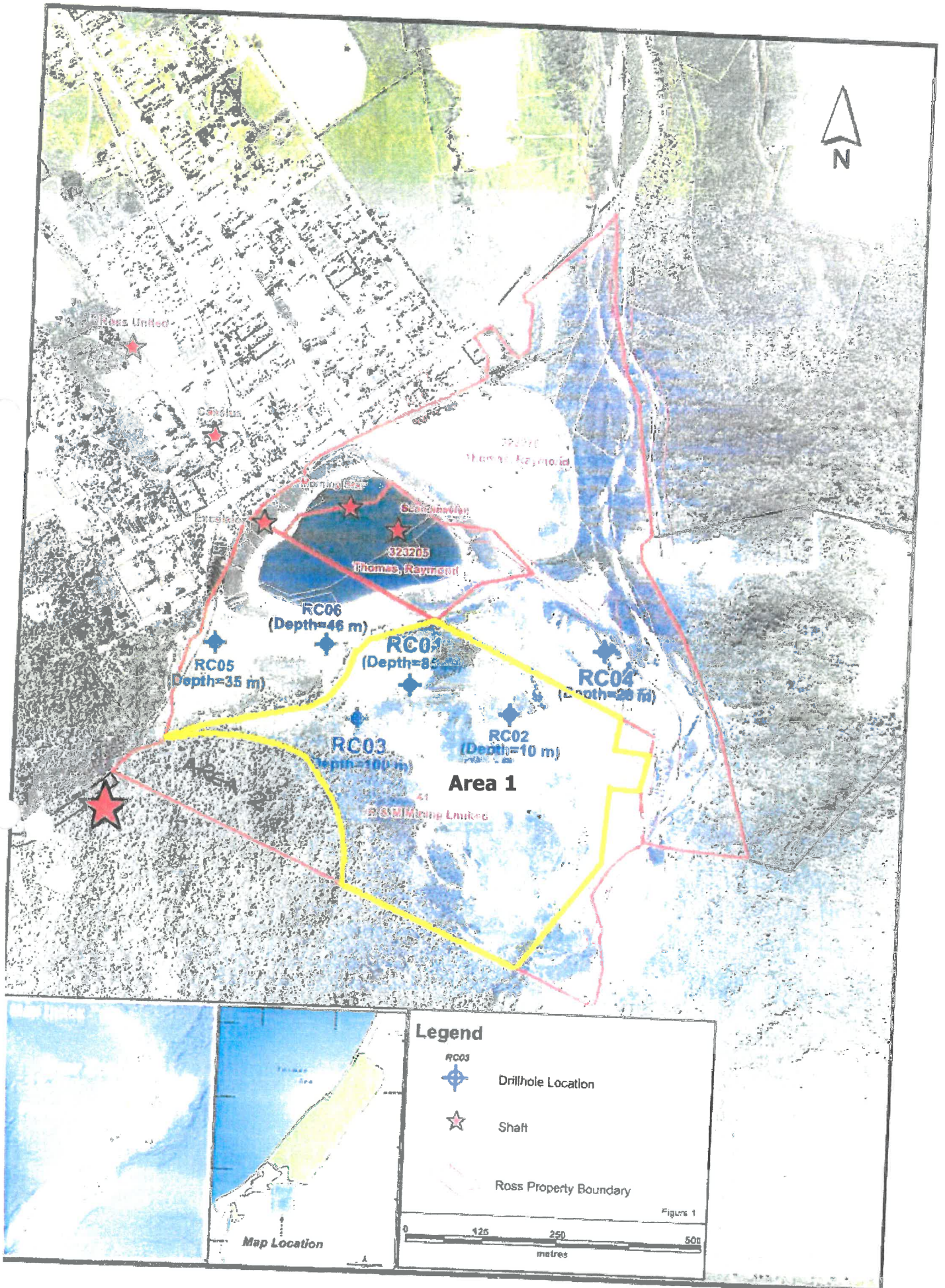
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RC10070 Map



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# RC10070, Mining Area, Ross



Appendix 4

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RC12233 Map






Urban & Environmental



0 75 150 300  
Metres

# RC12233, Gold Mining Activities, Ross

-  RC12233 Resource Consent Boundary
-  MP50125 Mining Permit Boundary
-  Property Boundaries

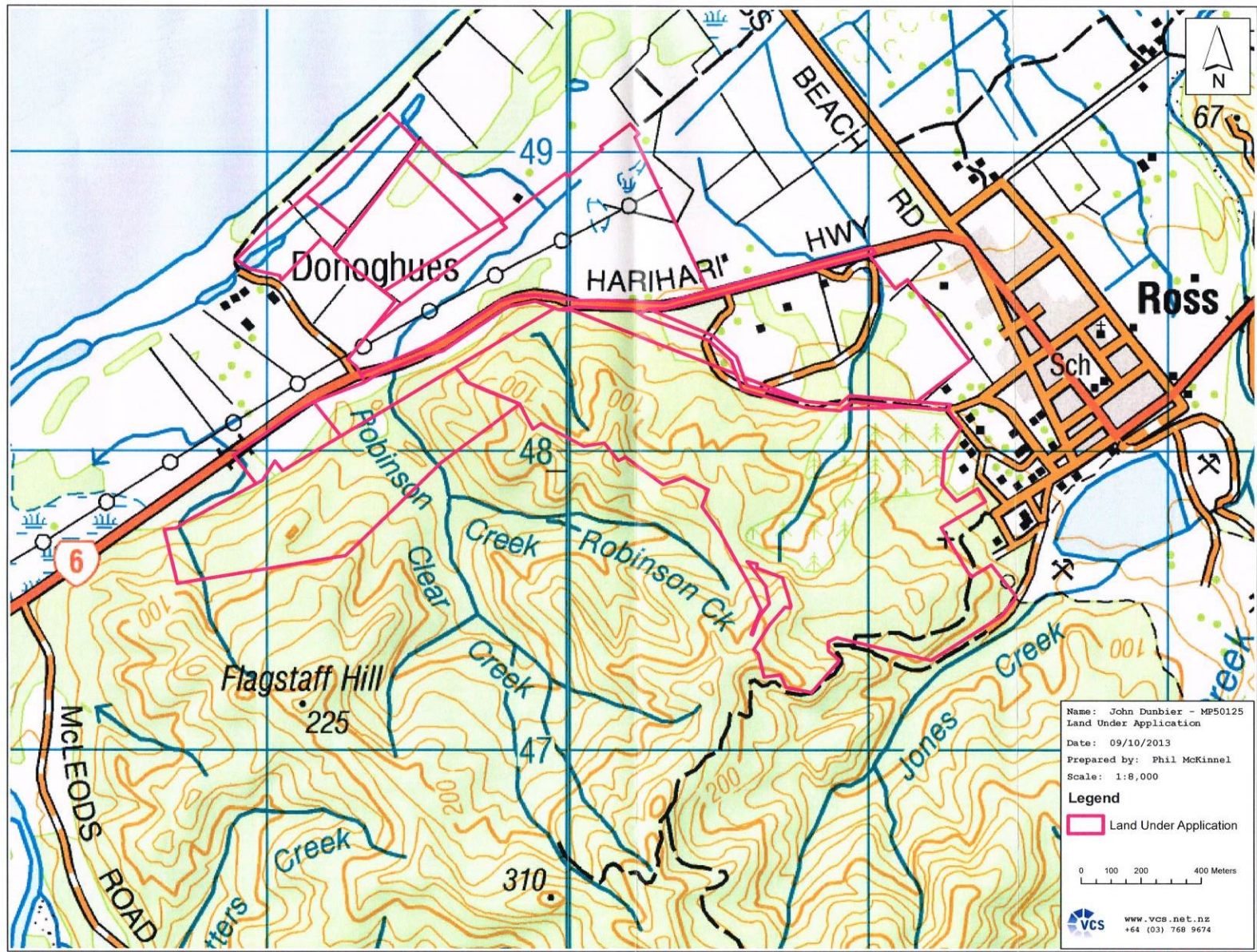
Appendix 5

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RC130072 Map



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APPROVED PLAN  
RC130072

B



Appendix 6

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RC-2017-1020



Urban & Environmental

Annexure 1 RC-2017-0120 Consented Area



Appendix 7

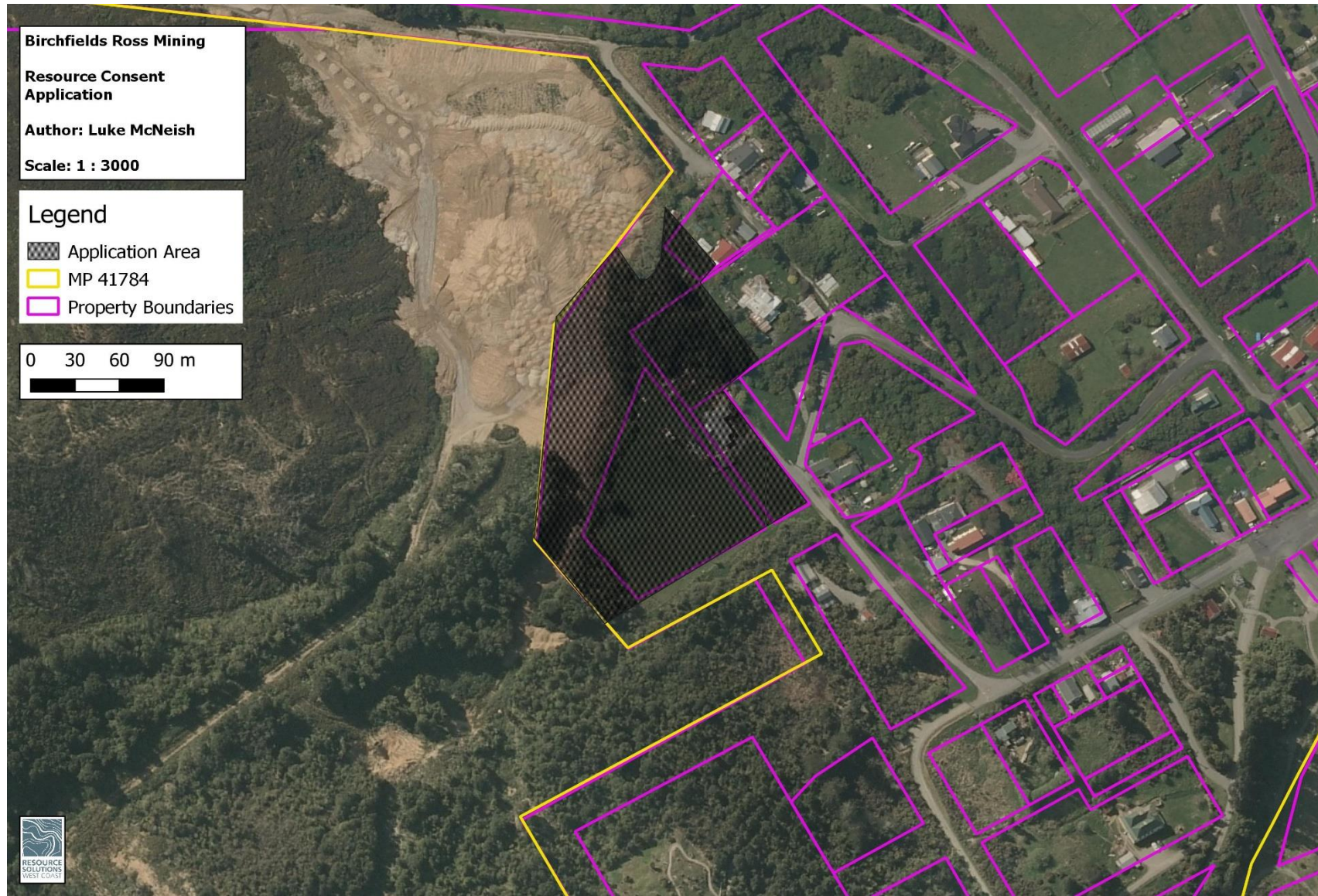
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RC-2019-0070 Map



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# Annexure One: RC-2019-0070 Mining Area



Appendix 8

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RC-2021-0037 Map

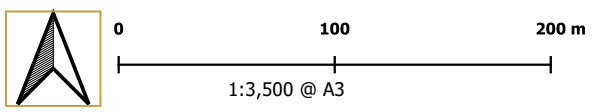


Urban & Environmental



MP 41702  
Mining Extension Area  
Produced for: Birchfields Ross Mining  
by Luke McNeish 29/04/2024

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Version: 1, Version Date: 13/06/2024



Projection: WSG84 / NZTM2000  
Background Imagery: ESRI Satellite  
Data Sources: LINZ, Client and/or TPRL Data

**Legend:**

- MP 41702
- Proposed Bund
- Extension Area 1
- Settling Ponds
- Current Wash Plant Location

## Appendix 9

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Map of Authorised Mining Activities in relation to MINZ

**B&A**

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