



# RIDA Application - SUPPORTING INFORMATION

GOLD ALPHA INVESTMENTS PTY LTD

MAY 2025

Document Name: Galloway Project HSE Management Plan (Working Document)	
<b>Revision Dates</b>	<b>Document Writer</b>
Revision Date: 08/10/2024	Harrison Robinson (Environmental Advisor)

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## 1. Introduction

Gold Alpha Investments Pty Ltd, a Gold Road Resources Limited (Gold Road) company, proposes to undertake low-impact exploration activities on its Exploration Permit for Minerals (EPM) 28150, which intersects the Strategic Environmental Area (SEA) ‘Gulf Rivers’.

The proposed program involves soil sampling and associated activities, as detailed in the ‘proposed activities’ section. Gold Road engaged in a pre-application meeting regarding the proposal on Wednesday the 16<sup>th</sup> of April 2025 with the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning (DSDIP), the Department of Local Government, Water and Volunteers (DLGWV), and the Department of Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation (DETSI). The Department of Resources is also an assessing agency under schedule 1, column 3 of the *Regional Planning Interests Regulation 2014* (RPI Regulation).

The proposal falls within Gold Road’s broader Galloway project area (Figure 1), located in Far North Queensland, near the town of Georgetown in the Etheridge Shire. Georgetown is a rural town situated along the Etheridge River and Gulf Developmental Rd, approximately 280 km SW of Cairns and 270 km ESE of Normanton. Gold Road is also planning low-impact exploration activities across the remaining Galloway project which do not lie within the SEA, consisting of the EPMs in Table 1.

*Table 1 Exploration Permits in the Galloway Project.*

Exploration Permits	
<b>EPM 28142</b>	EPM 28143
<b>EPM 28145</b>	EPM 28146
<b>EPM 28147</b>	EPM 28148
<b>EPM 28150</b>	EPM 28151
<b>EPM 28225</b>	EPM 28229
<b>EPM 28231</b>	EPM 28655

Pursuant to section 34(2) of the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014* (RPI Act) and Section 13 of the RPI Regulation, this assessment application is not notifiable, as the proposed activities are not prescribed as requiring public notification under the RPI Act. However, in accordance with Section 34(4) of the RPI Act, the assessment application may become notifiable if the Chief Executive issues Gold Road with a notice requiring the application to be notifiable.

The supporting information document outlines if there are any potential environmental impacts that relate to the Gulf Rivers SEA environmental attributes.

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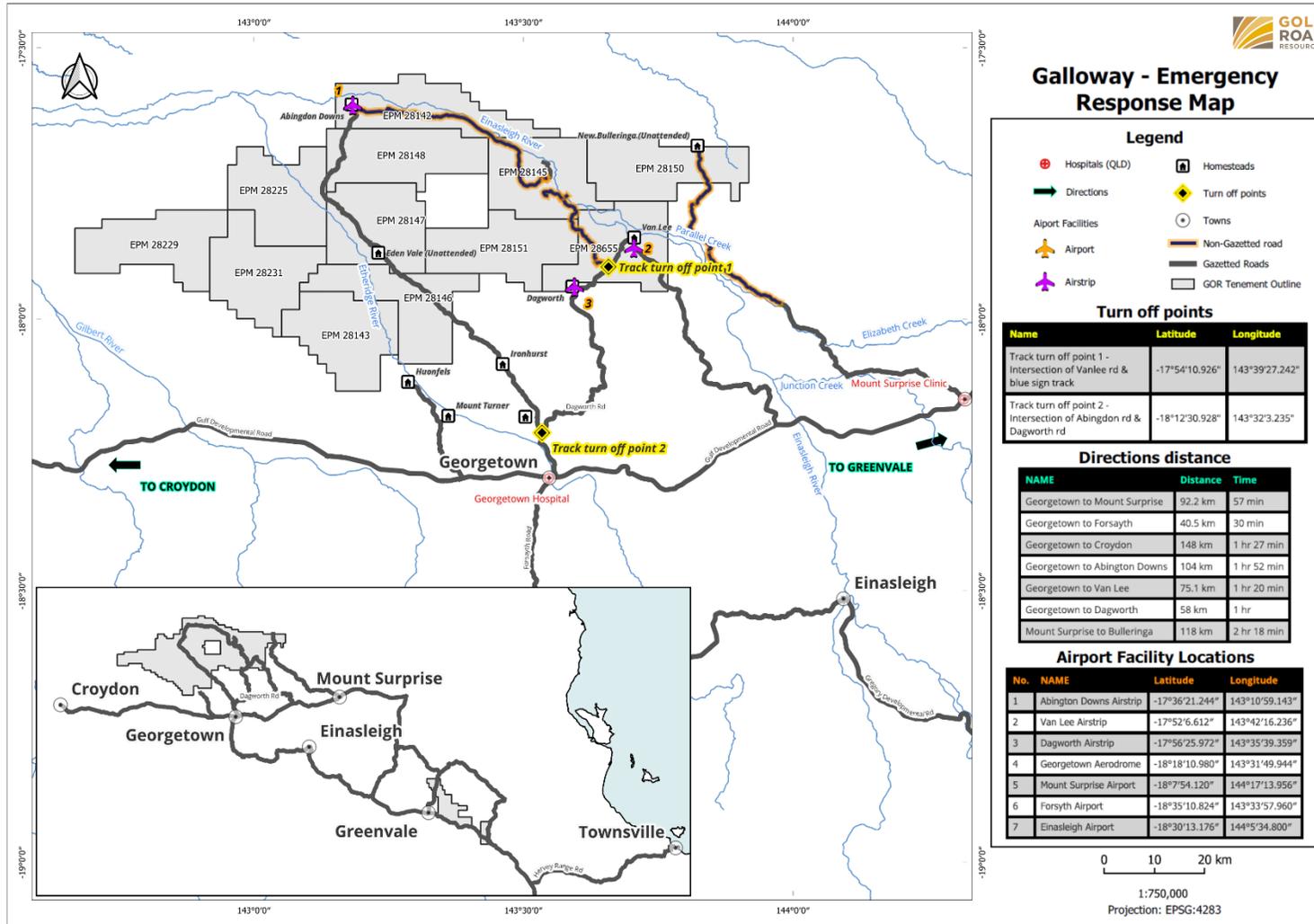


Figure 1. Map of Galloway project location from emergency response map.

## 2. Proposed Activities

The following activities are proposed within EPM 28150 and intersect the Gulf Rivers SEA, outside of the SEA designated precinct (see attached maps provided). These activities include:

- Soil sampling.
- Use of existing access tracks.
- Geological reconnaissance.
- Environmental and heritage Surveys.

### (a) Soil Sampling

Soil sampling is the primary activity proposed within the SEA under EPM 28150. This activity involves minimal ground disturbance, with up to one kilogram of soil collected per sample using hand tools. Each sampling hole will be backfilled immediately upon collection. A total of 190 soil sampling points is proposed, with precise locations provided in the attached shapefile. Sampling points are spaced approximately 400 to 450 metres apart in a grid pattern.

### (b) Access tracks

Existing tracks will be utilised for site access. No new tracks will be created within the SEA. Access will be contingent on weather conditions and track accessibility at the time of activities.

### (c) Geological Reconnaissance

Geological reconnaissance and mapping may be undertaken on foot within the SEA. Small rock samples may be collected for further analysis as required.

### (d) Temporary camp

No temporary campsites will be established within the SEA. Temporary campsites may be set up outside the SEA, within other areas of Gold Road's EPMs.

### (e) Heritage Surveys

Subject to the results of the soil sampling program, heritage surveys may be conducted within the SEA. These surveys will involve on-foot inspections for culturally significant sites and will utilise existing tracks. No vegetation clearing will be required.

### (f) Environmental Surveys

Subject to the results of the soil sampling program, environmental surveys may be conducted within the SEA. These surveys will involve traversing proposed geological targets to assess for the presence of conservation significant flora and fauna. Access will be via existing tracks and on foot, with no new disturbance proposed.

### (g) Timing of activities

Exploration activities are generally scheduled during the dry season due to increased accessibility and to minimise impacts to pastoral tracks. However, due to the very low-impact nature of the disturbance, activities may occur at any time of the year subject to weather conditions.

## 3. Environmental Attributes

The environmental attributes of the Gulf Rivers SEA will not be adversely affected by the proposed activities, given their minimal and low-impact nature.

The attributes of the Gulf Rivers SEA, as outlined in Part 3, Section 9 of the RPI Regulation, include:

- The natural hydrologic process of the area.
- The natural geomorphic processes of the area.
- The functioning riparian processes of the area characterised by native riparian vegetation associated with watercourses, estuaries, lakes, floodplains and wetlands.
- The functioning wildlife corridors of the area.
- The natural quality in the watercourse channels and aquifers and on flood plains in the area characterised by physical, chemical and biological attributes that support and maintain natural aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.

During the pre-lodgement meeting, potential environmental concerns associated with the proposed activities were discussed. The DETSI advised that no major issues were identified but emphasised that Gold Road must ensure ongoing compliance with the requirements of its Environmental Authority (EA).

Gold Road commits to compliance with all relevant environmental legislation, and will adhere to the eligibility criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development of its EA.

The DLGWV also raised no major concerns, provided that hydrological flows are not impacted flows such as access tracks over watercourses and changes in ground cover. As the proposal involves the use of existing pastoral tracks and on foot access, and no creation of new tracks, there will be no adverse impact to hydrological flows.

### (a) Matters of State Environmental Significance and Environmentally Sensitive Areas

No known Matters of State Environmental Significance are located the Gulf Rivers SEA area intersected by the proposal.

Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) have been mapped across the Galloway project in Gold Road's spatial system, including:

- Abingdon Nature Refuge.
- Regional Endangered Ecosystems.
- Bulleringa National Park buffer
- Flora Trigger Map Areas.

Gold Road will ensure all exploration activities comply with the associated legislative requirements and specific exploration conditions applicable to these ESAs.

### (b) Climate

The climate of the Galloway project area, like much of Northeast Queensland, is tropical and characterised by two distinct seasons, with warm temperatures and a low rainfall during the dry season (May to October), with higher rainfall and warmer temperatures during the wet season

(November to April) (Table 3). The Etheridge local government area is classified as climate zone 1, Tropical - hot and humid (Queensland Government, 2022b).

Table 2. Average climate conditions for the dry and wet season in Georgetown, data derived from the Georgetown Airport weather station from 2005-2023 (Bureau of Meteorology, 2024).

Season	Max Temp (°c)	Min Temp (°c)	Rainfall (mm)
Dry Season (May to October)	31.4	15.9	1.1
Wet Season (November to April)	34.4	22.4	106

The climate graph below illustrates the median maximum and minimum temperature, and rainfall of the Galloway project. Rainfall has been calculated from median monthly data, and temperature from median monthly minimum and maximum data derived from the Georgetown Airport weather station (Bureau of Meteorology, 2024).

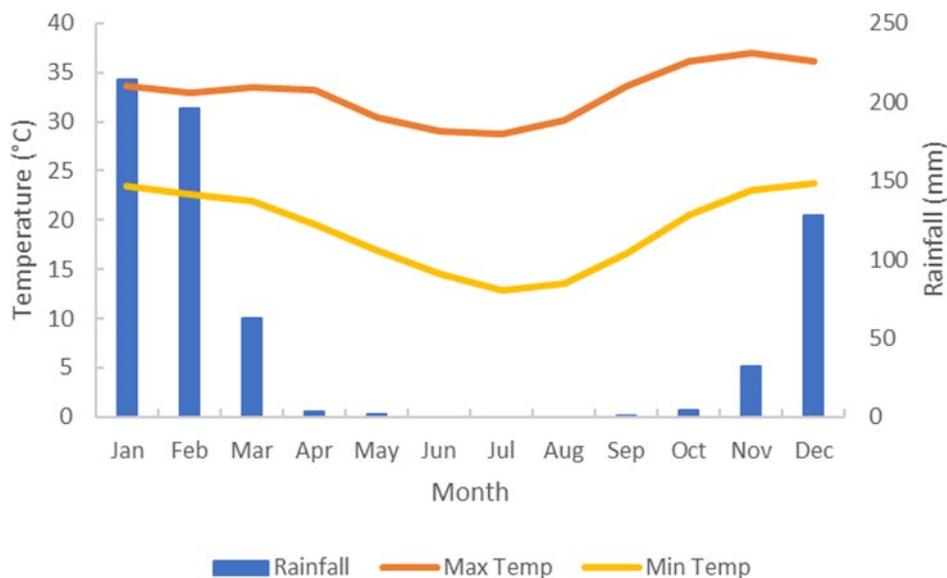


Figure 2. Climate data for the Galloway project.

## 4. Conclusion

Given the minimal nature of the proposed soil sampling program and associated activities, Gold Road will achieve the required outcome under section 14 of the RPI Regulation, which states:

- *'The activity will not result in a widespread or irreversible impact on an environmental attribute of a strategic environmental area.'*