

REGIONAL INTERESTS DEVELOPMENT APPROVAL (RIDA)

RPI25/038: Rio Tinto – Carrier Project

(Given under section 53 of the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014*)

Date: 19 May 2026

Description of the land

Real property description: Lot 4 on GY805051, Lot 1 on UN7

Area of regional interest: Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area (SEA)

Local Government Area: Mount Isa City Council

Approved resource activities

The approved resource activities are set out in **Table 1** below.

This development approval authorises impacts on the SEA by the approved resource activities.

Table 1: Approved resource activities

Area of regional interest	Location	Components of Regulated Activity – Mineral Exploration	Area of disturbance (ha)
Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area	Lot 4 on GY805051 Lot 1 on UN7	4.5m wide access tracks	45.14
		Temporary exploration camp (70m x 70m)	0.49
		Drill sites (30m x 30m)	9.36
		Mapping and sampling, downhole geophysics, ground geophysics	0
Total area of disturbance:			54.99

Table 2: Description of approved resource activities

Resource activities	Definition
Mapping and sampling, downhole geophysics, ground geophysics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mapping, including surface and rock chip sampling, with soil/gravel samples collected from the natural land surface and limited to approximately 2-3 kilograms for each sample. Airborne and ground geophysical surveys (e.g., electromagnetic, magnetic and gravity)
Drill sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 104 drill pads, with each drill site being 30m x 30m in area, up to 1000m deep. Drilling to be undertaken using conventional reverse circulation or/and diamond drilling method.

Temporary exploration camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary exploration camp consisting of caravan-style accommodation units, ablution facilities, a designated laydown and storage area for equipment and consumables, and associated support infrastructure (including a greywater sump within the camp footprint). • All rubbish generated to be removed and disposed of at a licenced facility.
Access tracks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three new access tracks, approximately 35 kms long and 4.5m wide, cleared using the 'blade up' method wherever possible.

Regional interests conditions

A person who is the holder of, or is acting under, this RIDA must not contravene any of the conditions related to this approval.

No.	Conditions	Condition timing
1.	<p>(a) Carry out the approved resource activities and disturbance of land in the Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area generally in accordance with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the resource activities identified in Table 1: Approved resource activities. the resource activities as described in Table 2: Description of approved resource activities. Rio Tinto Exploration (RTX) Project Map, dated 1 May 2026 (Attachment 1). <p>(b) The resource activities are not permitted in the designated precinct within the SEA.</p>	At all times
2.	A single temporary exploration camp is permitted at any one time.	At all times
3.	<p>(a) All complaints received, and resulting actions taken about the impact of the approved resource activities on the environmental attributes in the Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area must be recorded. The record must include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> name, address and contact number of the complainant time and date of complaint reasons for the complaint investigations undertaken conclusions formed actions taken to resolve the complaint any abatement measures implemented person responsible for resolving the complaint. <p>(b) Provide records of any complaints received and recorded in accordance with this condition to the chief executive at RPIAct@dsdip.qld.gov.au</p> <p>Note: The record of complaint provided to the chief executive must state the application reference number, being RPI25/038.</p>	<p>(a) At all times.</p> <p>(b) Within 60 business days of receipt of a complaint.</p>

5.	<p>Retain records of the pre-disturbance, post-reinstatement and post-restoration condition of disturbance areas and provide these to the chief executive (RPIAct@dsdip.qld.gov.au application reference number RPI25/038), demonstrating that the impacted land within the Gulf Rivers Strategic Environmental Area has been returned to its pre-disturbance condition. Such records must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) photographs of the pre-disturbance site conditions b) photographs of the post-reinstatement site conditions c) photographs of the post-restoration site conditions d) evidence with the records (date and GPS stamped) required by parts (a) to (c) of this condition. <p>Note:</p> <p><i>'disturbance' means any impact to the landscape, vegetation, air quality, hydrology, habitat, or water quality that has been directly or indirectly caused by human activity associated with the resource activity.</i></p> <p><i>'pre-disturbance' - the condition of the land before any resource activities occurred.</i></p> <p><i>'post-reinstatement' - following the completion of the resource activity, being the return of the soil to its previous profile, topography and drainage</i></p> <p><i>'post-restoration' - this is the point at which the ground cover has been established and ponding, erosion, subsidence, etc has been dealt with (being a longer process than the reinstatement phase).</i></p>	Within three months of completing all post-restoration works.
6.	A full copy of the Regional Interests Development Approval must be kept on-site and available to any person(s) contracted to undertake the approved resource activities.	At all times.
7.	Implement measures to minimise the diversion of overland flow caused by the resource activities.	At all times
8.	Construct access tracks to allow for the natural passage of surface water.	At all times
9.	<p>Undertake works in a way that limits interference with watercourses and must avoid causing impacts such as erosion, sedimentation, diversion, or other degradation of creek or riverbanks and associated vegetation.</p> <p>Note: The applicant/holder is to refer to the document: <i>Riverine Protection Permit Exemption Requirements WSS/2013/726 V2.01 02/06/2023</i></p>	At all times
10.	Rehabilitate areas of disturbance to achieve stable landforms that perform in the same hydrological way as they did prior to disturbance.	As soon as reasonably practicable
11.	<p>Rehabilitate all drill holes to a standard that does not result in detrimental impacts to groundwater.</p> <p>Note: The applicant/holder is to refer to relevant sections in the documents:</p>	At the completion of each drill hole

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eligibility Criteria and standard conditions for exploration and mineral development projects ESR/2016/1985 Minimum Construction Requirements for Water Bores in Australia – National Uniform Drillers Licensing Committee 4th Ed 2020 	
12.	No resource activities are to be undertaken during the regional wet season (December to March).	At all times
13.	Existing access tracks must be utilised preferentially to the construction of new access tracks.	At all times
14.	All new access tracks should be co-located, minimised in width, and not exceed 4.5 metres in width.	At all times
15.	<p>Maintain a buffer zone of 100 metres between the extent of disturbance from the resource activities and riparian areas and the banks of a watercourse, lake, spring or wetland.</p> <p>Disturbance: means any impact to the landscape, vegetation, air quality, hydrology, habitat, or water quality that has been directly or indirectly caused by human activity associated with the resource activities.</p>	At all times
16.	Watercourse crossings should be used only when there is no water present or when there is no flow.	At all times
17.	Resource activities across watercourses must avoid causing impacts due to erosion, sedimentation, diversion, or otherwise degradation of beds and banks, and associated vegetation.	At all times
18.	<p>Clearing required for the resource activities must be conducted using a 'blade-up' method. Where this method is not practical, disturbance to groundcover must be minimised.</p> <p>Blade-up method: means the clearing of vegetation by a grader or dozer blade that is tilted back to prevent it from cutting the ground surface and in a way that keeps the rootstock, topsoil and seedbank in-tact.</p>	At all times
19.	No trees with a diameter at breast height (DBH) of greater than 20 centimetres (cm) are to be cleared.	At all times
20.	<p>Contaminants from the resource activities must not be directly or indirectly released to a watercourse, wetland, drainage feature or to the banks of a watercourse, wetland, drainage feature or to groundwater.</p> <p>Contaminants: means water contaminants as defined in Schedule 10 of the Environmental Protection Regulation 2019.</p>	At all times
21.	Stormwater from the resource activities must be managed in a manner that prevents release of contaminants to the receiving environment.	At all times

22.	<p>Develop and implement erosion and sediment controls in accordance with 'Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control International Erosion Control Association (Australasia)' which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) allows stormwater to pass through or around the site in a controlled manner and at non-erosive flow velocities; b) minimises soil erosion resulting from wind, rain and flowing water; c) minimises the duration that disturbed soils are exposed to the erosive forces of wind, rain and flowing water; d) minimises work-related soil erosion and sediment runoff; and e) minimises negative impacts to land adjacent to the resource activities. 	At all times
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General Advice

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure all relevant approvals and licenses are obtained from the applicable Local, State, and/or Federal Authorities prior to works commencing on site.

Attachment 1 – Approved Plan (intentionally blank)

PLANS AND DOCUMENTS referred to in the RIDA



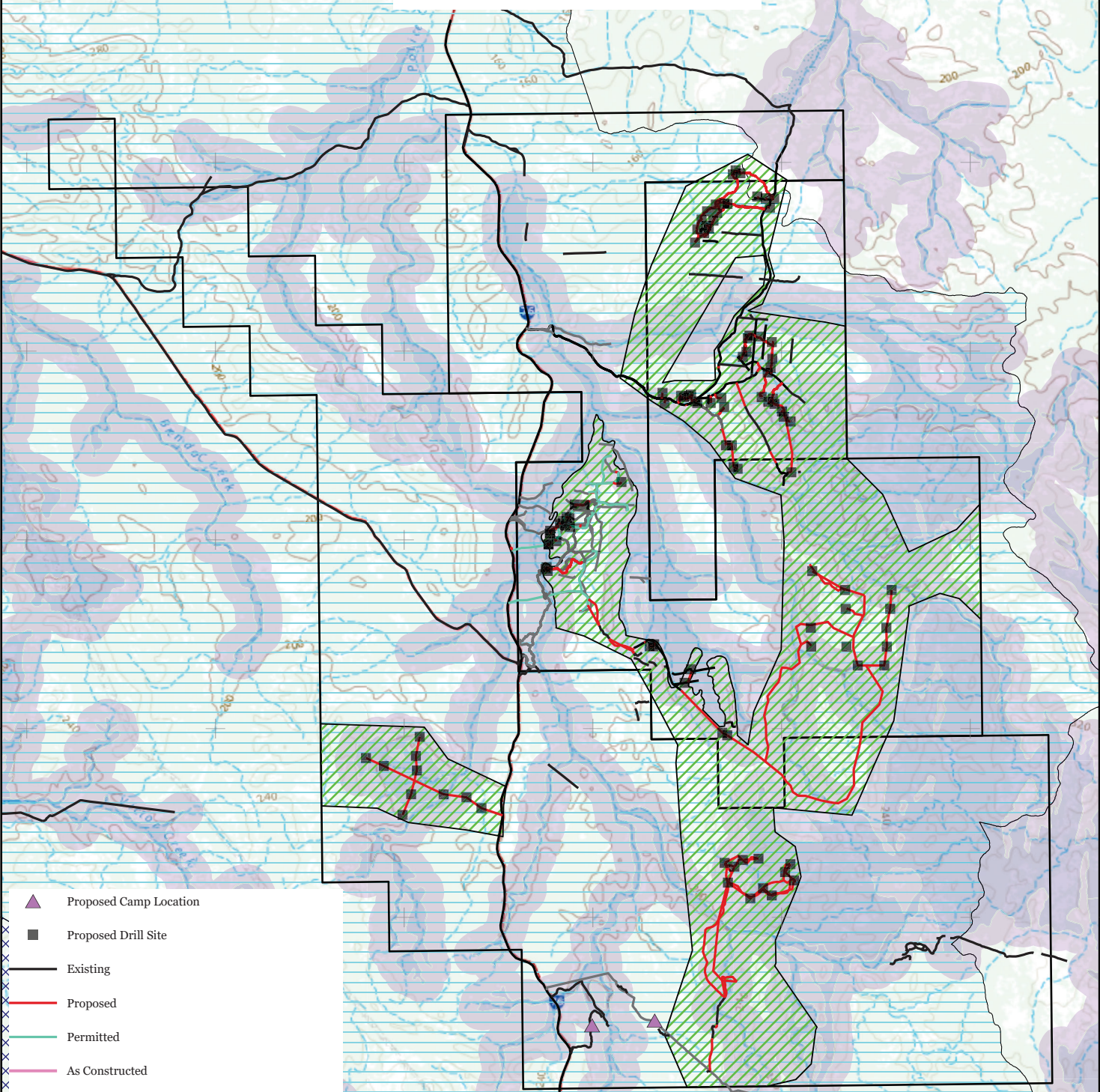
RIDA ref: RPI25/038














Date: 19 May 2026

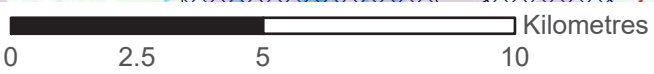


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-  Proposed Camp Location
-  Proposed Drill Site
-  Existing
-  Proposed
-  Permitted
-  As Constructed
-  All other values
-  Areas of Interest for Drilling
-  Endangered Regional Ecosystems
-  ERE Buffer 500m 254
-  Strategic Environmental Area
-  Strategic Environmental Area - Designated Precinct
-  Carrier Project EPMs



Rio Tinto Exploration (RTX)
Project Map

Growth and Innovation
Rio Tinto Exploration (RTX)

Publisher: Justin Ward
Date: 1/05/2026
Coordinate System:
Name: GDA2020 MGA Zone 54
Datum: GDA2020
Units: Meter
Scale: 1:150,000
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