



Tutunup South Wetland Transplantation

Wetlands nursery progress after year five

Iluka Resources is involved in an innovative approach to native vegetation rehabilitation at its Tutunup South mine in Western Australia. Part of the mine path involved disturbance of a wetland area.

While a typical approach may entail disturbance of the area and subsequent replanting, Iluka's environmental and rehabilitation personnel initiated a proactive approach to store the wetland vegetation, such that it could be re-instated in its original site at the completion of mining and rehabilitation activities.

The method employed with success has been the transplantation of two hectares of paluslope wetland community from the mine path to a prepared and irrigated nursery area. Transplanting occurred in November and December 2010 and will be returned in approximately 2017. A number of recalcitrant species, that are difficult to propagate, occur in the wetlands and since removal they are surviving and flourishing after five years in the nursery environment. Some of the species include *Leucopogon australis* from the *Ericaceae* family and *Cyathochaeta teretifolia* from the *Cyperaceae* family.

Tutunup South

The Tutunup South mine in the South West of Western Australia commenced production in June 2011. The mine produces chloride ilmenite used as a feed source for Iluka's synthetic rutile operations.



Left:
A modified back hoe used to extract the wetland and soil. The plants were bagged in hessian and moved to the nursery area.



Left:
Plants are pruned and watered with automatic reticulation system and monitored for health