



Background

The Pro-Force pilot project site is a former small scale gold processing plant located approximately two kilometres south east of Coolgardie on the Coolgardie-Esperance Highway. The plant was previously operated by Pro-Force Mining Contractors Pty Ltd from 1996 to 2004.

The site is located adjacent to a public use area and water reserve, locally known as 'the Gorge', which is regularly visited by locals and tourists particularly when full of water. The old processing plant had been in place for more than a decade and had been a public safety concern for the Shire of Coolgardie and the local community.

To address these concerns the site was selected as a pilot project under the Abandoned Mines Program.

Approach

To address public safety concerns relating to the infrastructure on site, the department held an auction in November 2015 for the sale and subsequent removal of the plant and equipment. Items auctioned included hoppers, processing tank, walkways, stairs and earthmoving equipment.

Following the removal of the processing plant in early 2016, the scope of the remaining works was determined in collaboration with key stakeholders including the Shire of Coolgardie and underlying tenement holders.

A community workshop was held in August 2016 at the Coolgardie Recreation Centre to provide members of the local community an opportunity to offer input into the proposed rehabilitation plans for the site.

Works to clean up the site were carried out in December 2016 including the removal of 25 earthmoving tyres, 21 car and track tyres and 9.75 tonnes of scrap materials.

Additional works to fence an open mine shaft, install signage and remove remaining waste material around the settlement pond were completed in February 2019.

Conclusion

The project successfully met its objective by addressing key safety concerns associated with abandoned infrastructure at the site. As such, the declaration of Pro-Force as an abandoned mine site under the *Mining Rehabilitation Fund Act 2012* was revoked on 26 July 2019 signalling project completion.



Processing plant prior to removal



Plant area following infrastructure removal



Rubbish pile pre site clean-up works



Rubbish pile removed

How to find out more

For further information on the Abandoned Mines Program, please contact the Abandoned Mines Branch by phone (08) 9222 3402 or email abandonedmines@dmirs.wa.gov.au. For all media queries please call 9222 6102