## RIU EXPLORERS CONFERENCE

**18 February 2021** 



# **AGENDA**



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The information within this PowerPoint presentation was compiled by Western Areas management, but the information as it relates to exploration results, mineral resources or ore reserves was prepared by Mr Graeme Gribbin, Mr Andre Wulfse or Mr Marco Orunesu-Preiata respectively. Mr Gribbin, Mr Wulfse and Mr Orunesu-Preiata are full time employees of Western Areas Ltd. Mr Gribbin is a member of Australian Institute of Geoscientists (AIG). Mr Wulfse is a Fellow of Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM) and Mr Orunesu-Preiata is a member of Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM) and have sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which they are undertaking to qualify as Competent Persons as defined in the 2012 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves' (2012 JORC Code). Mr Gribbin, Mr Wulfse and Mr Orunesu-Preiata consent to the inclusion in this presentation of the matters based on the information in the form and context in which it appears.

This announcement is authorised for market release by Western Areas Limited Managing Director and CEO, Daniel Lougher.

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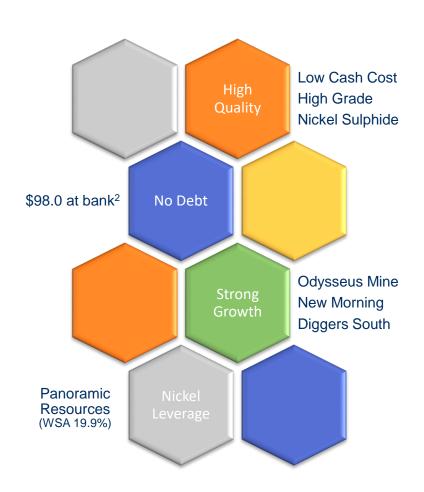


# CORPORATE



### **Corporate overview**

## The Company aims to be a sustainable and profitable, nickel focused, base metal miner, building value and scale while maintaining financial strength



ASX code	WSA
Share price	2.50
Shares outstanding (m)	275.1
Market Cap (A\$m) <sup>1</sup>	687.7
Cash (A\$m) <sup>2</sup>	98.0

#### **COSMOS**

#### **Odysseus**

164kt Ni Ore Reserves 265kt Ni Mineral Resource First Production CY2022

#### AM6

47kt Ni Ore Reserves 67kt Ni Mineral Resource

#### **FORRESTANIA**

#### **Spotted Quoll**

43.1kt Ni Ore Reserves 59.5kt Ni Mineral Resource

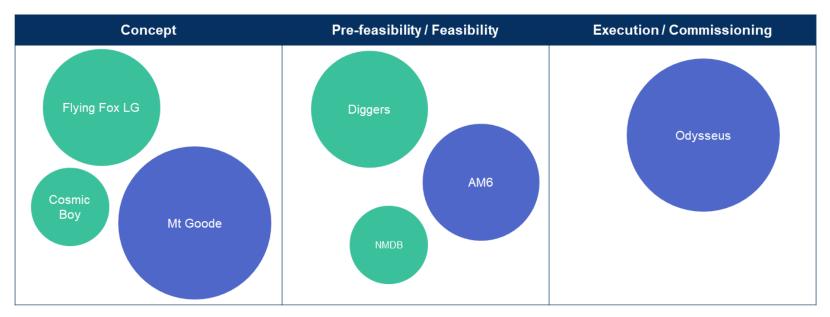
#### Flying Fox

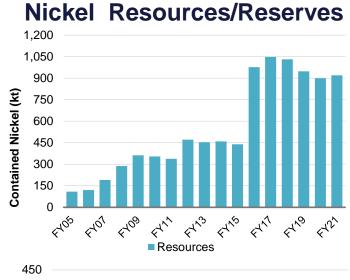
10.5kt Ni Ore Reserves 43.8kt Ni Mineral Resource



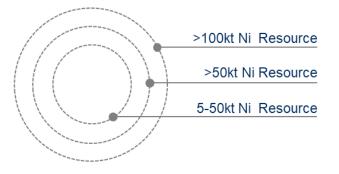


## Nickel growth pipeline

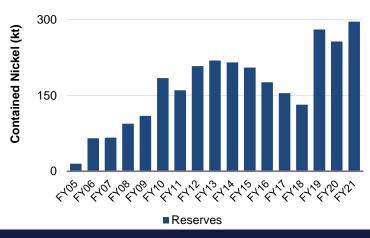




- Many projects in the pipeline to drive nickel production well into the future
- Ore Reserves have substantially increased in FY19 with Odysseus and in FY21 with the addition of AM6





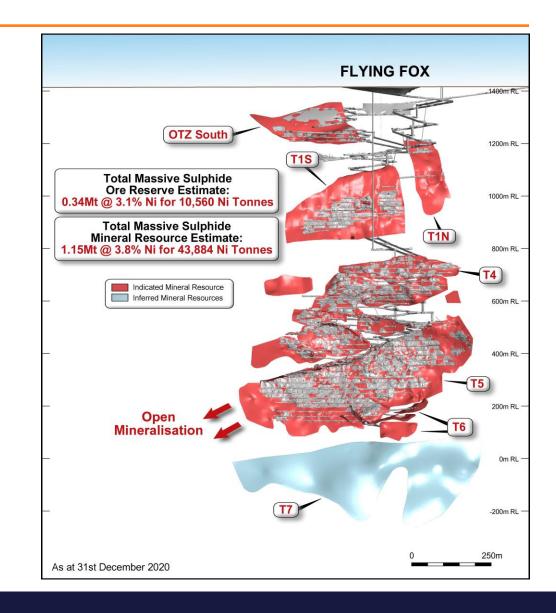


## Flying Fox mine

Reserve	0.34Mt @ 3.1%
Contained nickel	10,560 Ni tonnes
Resource	1.15Mt @ 3.8%
Contained nickel	43,884 Ni tonnes
Mine life (on reserves)	2 years

### **Key points:**

- FY20 production 10.1k Ni tonnes
- Has been operating for over 15 years
- Significant low grade disseminated resource

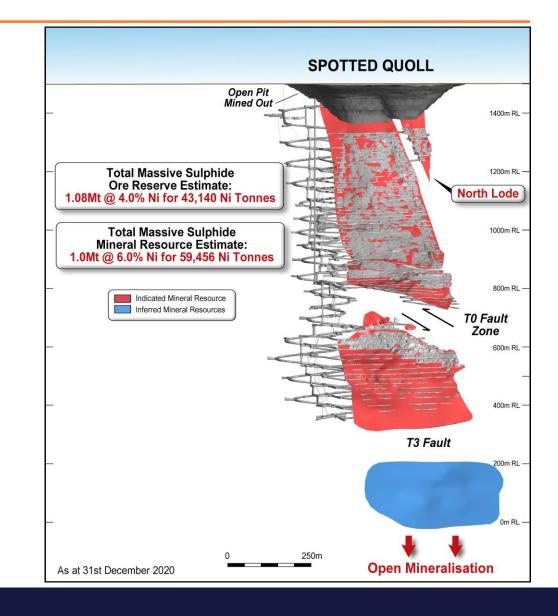


### **Spotted Quoll mine**

Reserve	1.08Mt @ 4.0%
Contained nickel	43,140 Ni tonnes
Resource	1.0Mt @ 6.0%
Contained nickel	59,456 Ni tonnes
Mine life (on reserves)	5 years

### **Key points:**

- FY20 production 13.3k Ni tonnes
- Production has outperformed reserve tonnes and grade consistently
- Top down mining with paste fill
- Resource extension drilling on going nickel tonnes being added to Resource
- Exploration Programs underway at Spotted Quoll North



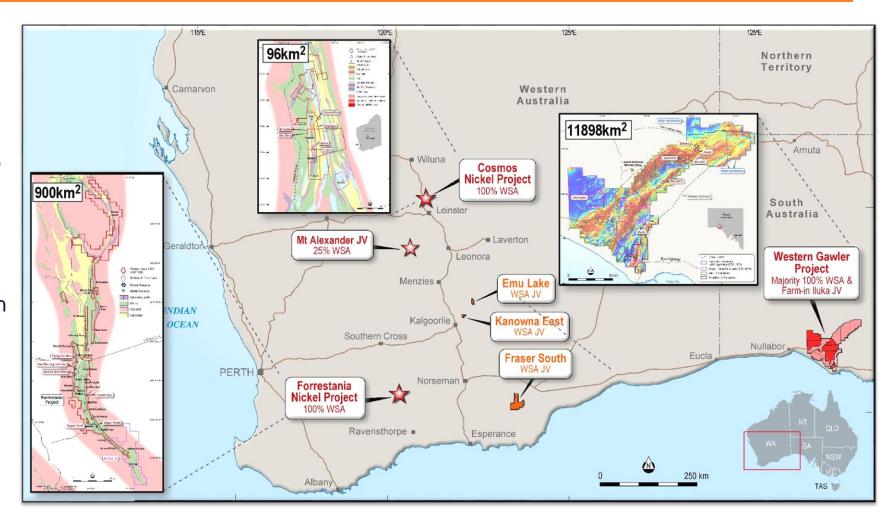


# **GROWTH AND EXPLORATION**



### **Exploration Projects**

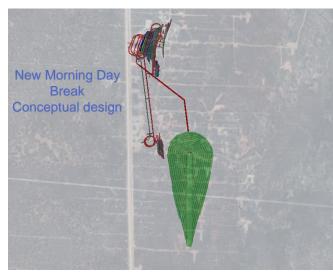
- Dominant land holding covering the Forrestania Nickel Belt.
- Expanded tenure at Cosmos incorporating key leases within the Kathleen Valley acquired in late FY20.
- Emerging prospectivity within the Western Gawler Project including both WSA 100% and Iluka JV (WSA 75%)
- Formation of new FIJV with Metal Hawk (Sept 2020).

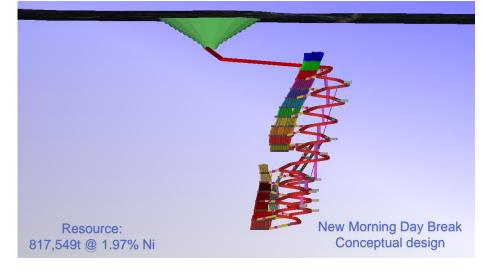


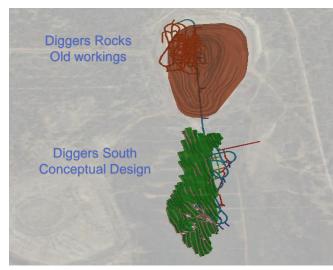
### Forrestania nickel operation – opportunities

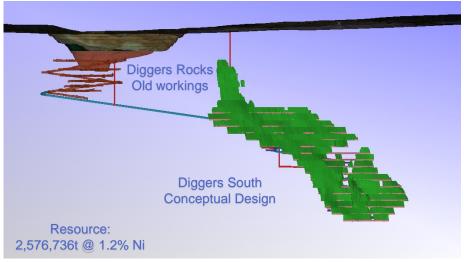
## WESTERN AREAS' CURRENT OPERATIONAL HUB:

- Outstanding nickel address
- Total Resources of 307k tonnes of nickel
- Mining since 2005
- Established infrastructure
- Two operating mines Flying Fox and Spotted Quoll
- New projects developing:
  - Scats Heap Leach
- Strong upside potential:
  - New Morning Daybreak
  - Diggers South









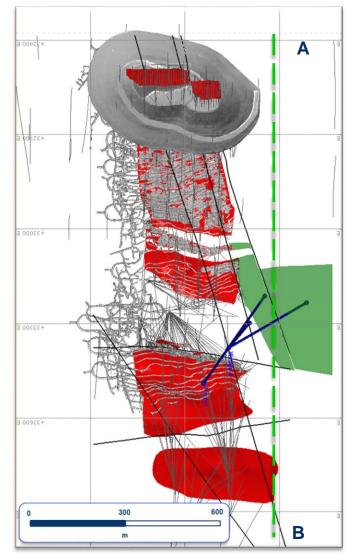


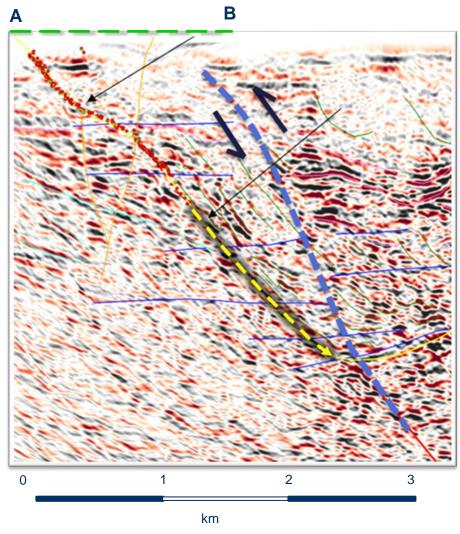
### **Spotted Quoll North**

### 2D Seismic Structural Targets

- Completion of three 2D seismic lines extending north from Spotted Quoll
- Recent re-interpretation of structural setting north of Spotted Quoll Mine
- Several targets identified with drill testing underway from surface.

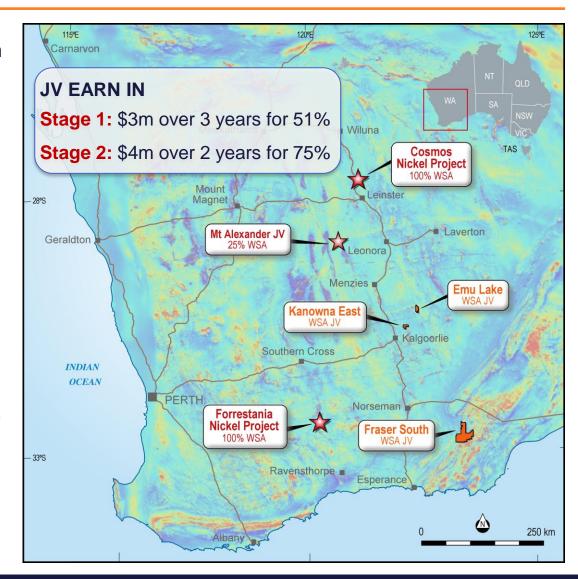






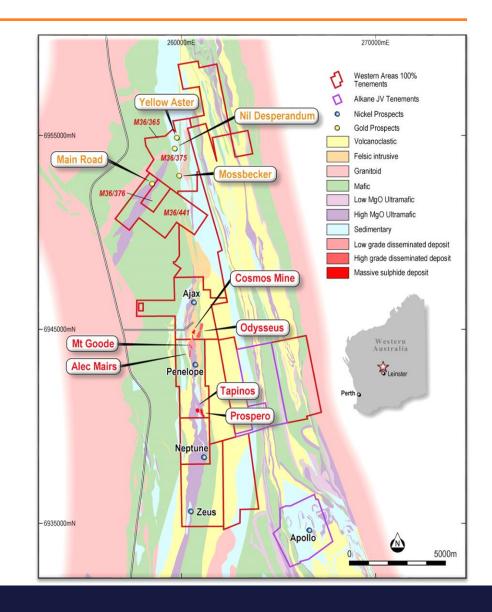
### **Metal Hawk JV**

- Western Areas has entered into a strategic partnership with Metal Hawk Ltd on highly prospective base metals tenure within both the Eastern Goldfields and Albany – Fraser
- Kanowna East (earning in to all non-gold rights)
  - ✓ 10km south of high-tenor Silver Swan complex
- Emu Lake (earning in to all non-gold rights)
  - ✓ Along strike from Binti Binti Nickel prospect
- Fraser South (earning in to all mineral rights)
  - ✓ Southern, underexplored structural continuation of Albany-Fraser
- Early geological reconnaissance air-core drilling (total of 49 holes) completed in the December quarter at Kanowna East



### Cosmos

- Highly endowed and prospective 9km belt of nickel bearing ultramafic cumulate host rocks extending from Neptune through to north of Odysseus
- Significant focus over the past 12 months on drill testing the Neptune and Penelope prospects.
- The Penelope prospect is located within 500m of the Alec Mairs (AM6) resource (2.8Mt @ 2.4% Ni).
  - Potential for significant additional accumulations of nickel sulphide to be delineated within close proximity to existing underground infrastructure.
- Ongoing assessment of gold potential within the newly acquired Kathleen Valley tenement group, with significant Au results reported in the December 2020 quarter.



### Odysseus mine – a long life, low cost project, 10yrs + +

### Odysseus - Long life, low cost project:

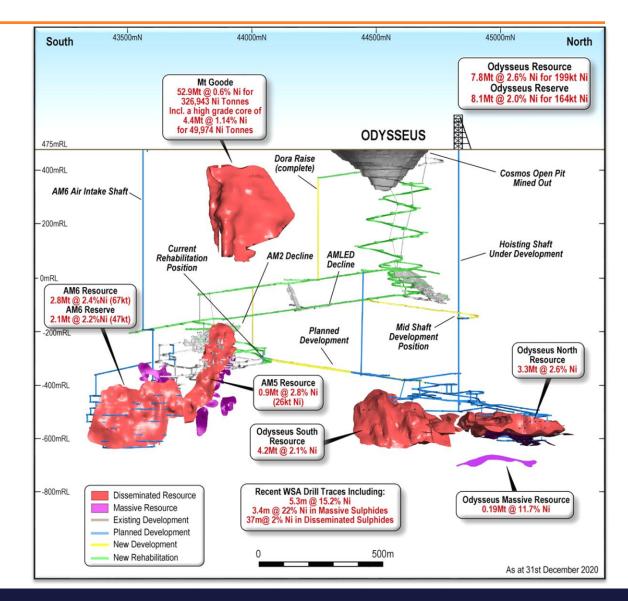
- ✓ Ore Reserve 8.1mt @ 2.0% for 164kt nickel
- √ Mine life > 10 years
- ✓ AISC A\$3.50/lb (DFS)
- ✓ Average nickel in concentrate production 14.5ktpa from FY24

### • AM6 now a value add:

- ✓ Ore Reserve 2.1mt @ 2.2% for 47kt nickel
- ✓ Increasing mine life and capital efficiency

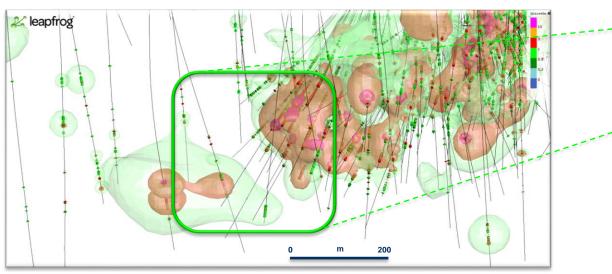
### Significant upside:

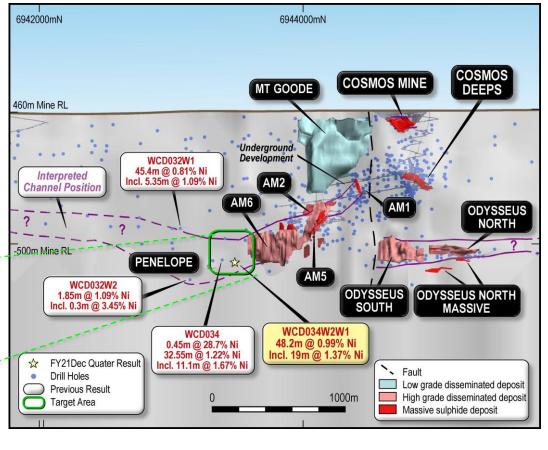
✓ Record 22% Ni massive sulphide intersections in lenses below Odysseus



### **Cosmos Near Mine**

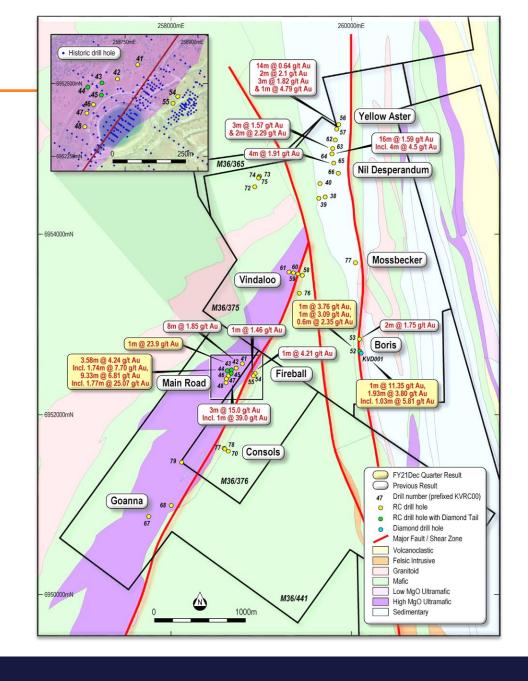
- Significant recent nickel sulphide accumulations, including
  - ✓ 48.2m @ 0.99% Ni, incl 19m @ 1.37% Ni (WCD034W2W1)
- Potential for mineralisation to extend south from Alec Mairs (AM6) to Penelope.
- Additional holes planned over the coming months (from underground) to test the extension of Penelope north towards AM6.





## Kathleen Valley (Au)

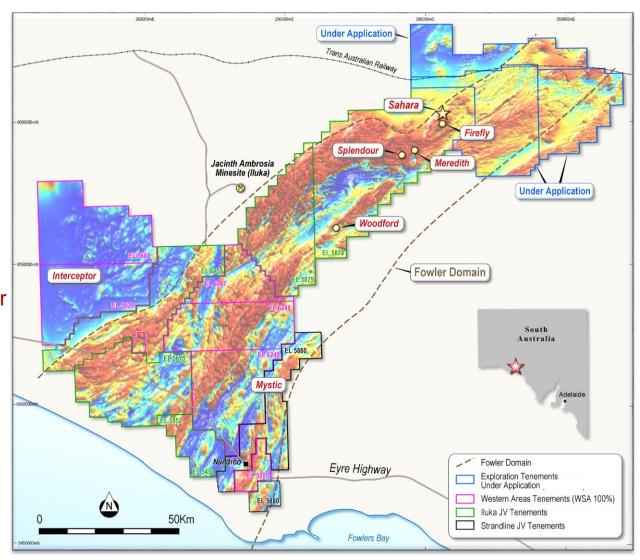
- Acquisition of an additional 4 tenements from Ramelius Resources
   Ltd in 2020 (8km north of Cosmos Nickel Mine)
- Focused Reverse Circulation (RC) and Diamond drilling programs executed throughout 2020, testing
  - Immediate extensions to historic and more recent open pit operations (including Main Road, Yellow Aster, and Mossbecker prospects).
  - Near-mine structural targets
- Best intervals were returned beneath Main Road Pit, including
  - √ 9.33m @ 6.81g/t Au (incl. 1.77m @ 25.07g/t)
  - √ 3.00m @ 15.0g/t Au (incl. 1m @ 39g/t Au)



Exploring within the highly prospective (Ni – Cu)
 Fowler Domain, with geological setting similar to districts hosting Nova-Bollinger and Nebo-Babel and Eagle Deposit (Michigan).

#### **DISCOVERY**

- ✓ Significant accumulations (over 250m) of nickel and copper bearing sulphides intersected within first diamond drill hole at the Sahara prospect (Iluka JV with WSA earning up to 75%).
- ✓ Major Exploration Milestone within the Western Gawler
- An additional three tenements (2378km²) are under application, allowing the company the ability to explore across a total 11,898km² of contiguous prospective Fowler Domain tenure.
- WSA has now successfully achieved Stage 2 JV earn-in, achieving 75% interest in the project.



### SAHARA (ILUKA JV) EARLY RESULTS

Exploration success at Sahara has been a cumulation of systematic exploration spanning over 7 years.

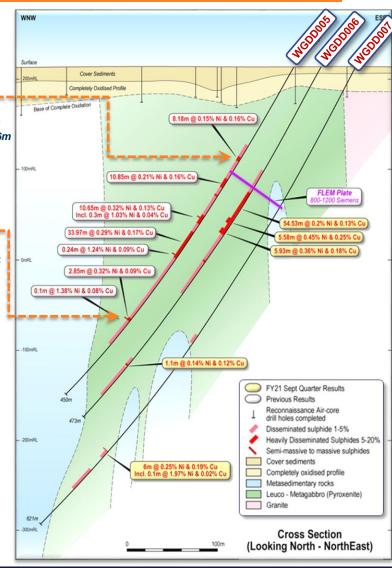
- 2014-2016: VTEM target and follow-up Ground EM (Iluka)
- Air-core Drill testing (Iluka)
- 2018 WSA JV with Iluka
- 2019 SkyTem airborne EM (March) followed by ground EM (July 2019) refining existing conductor.
- Maiden diamond hole test June 2020.
- Broad intervals of elevated nickel sulphides returned from maiden diamond hole.
  - √ 104.42m @ 0.21% Ni, 0.12% Cu including 33.97m @ 0.29% Ni, 0.17% Cu
    (within WGDD0005)
- Additional Ni-Cu accumulations from follow-up drill holes including
  - √ 5.58m @ 0.45% Ni and 0.25% Cu (within WGDD0006);



Late – stage pyrrhotite – chalcopyrite vein set with disseminated sulphide at 121.6m @ 121.6m

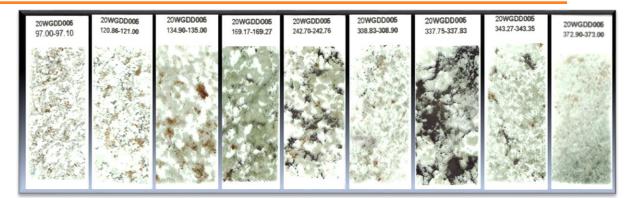


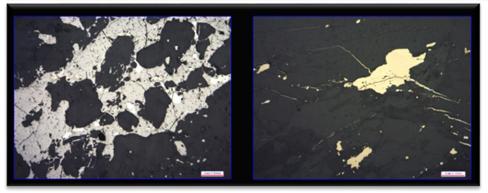
Massive sulphide intersected in 20WGDD0005 (340.4 – 340.5m) grading 1.38% Ni



### SAHARA (ILUKA JV) EARLY RESULTS

- Total of three diamond holes completed "on section" to assist in interpreting the host stratigraphy and nature of intrusive body.
- Detailed litho-geochemistry and petrogeological work completed by Barbara Duggan (CSA Global) and Tony Crawford (CODES)
  - Host sequence a gabbro to gabbro-norite intruding metapelite country rocks.
  - Variably textured from disseminated to patchy nettextured and locally (rare) semi-massive
- Micro XRF completed on several samples from maiden diamond hole 20WGDD0005.
  - Delineate spatial setting of Ni and Cu bearing sulphides.





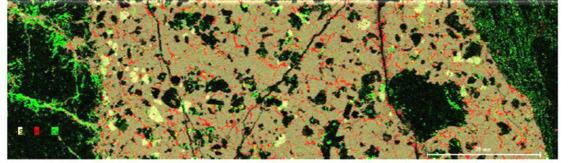
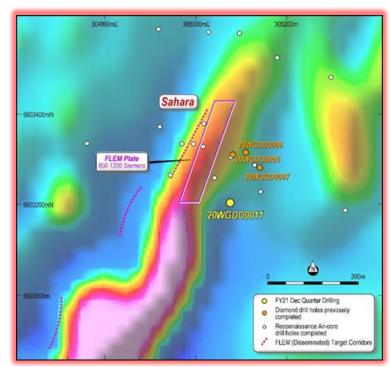


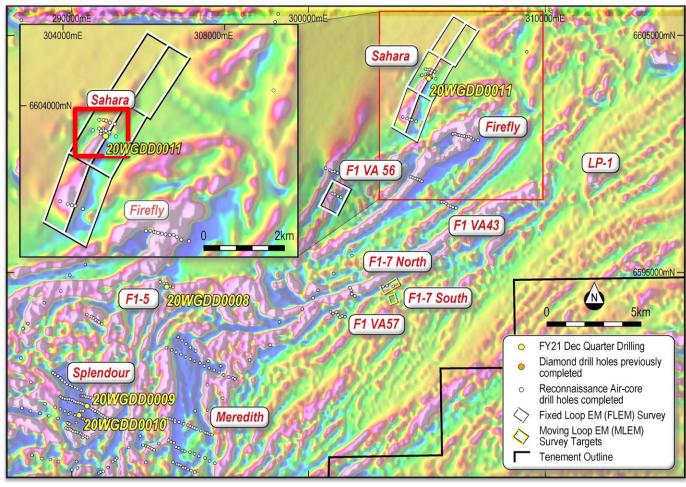
Figure A: Micro-XRF element map for the distribution of sulfur (yellow), nickel (red) and copper (green).



### SAHARA (ILUKA JV) EARLY RESULTS

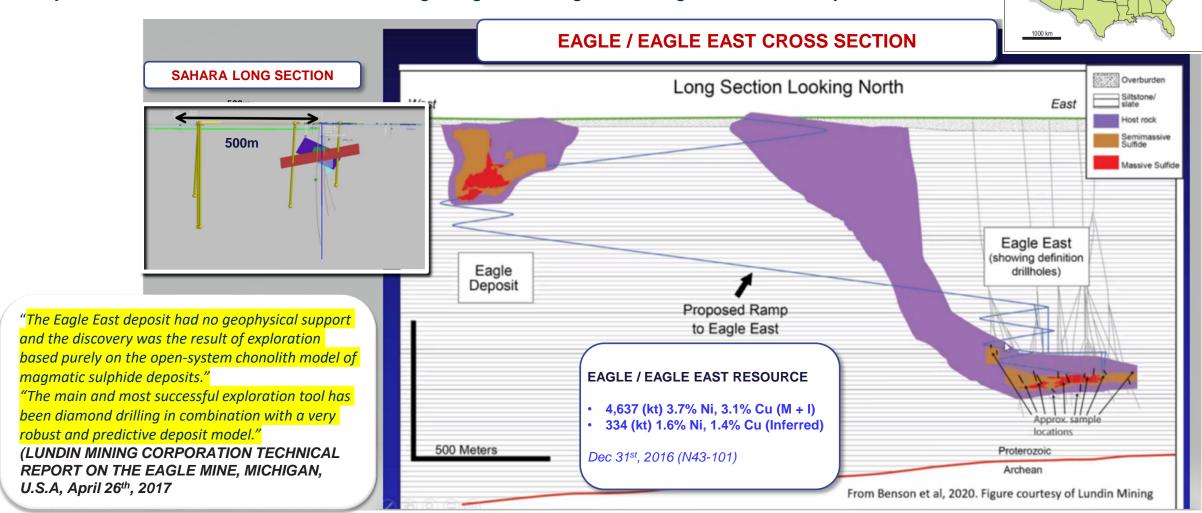
 A regionally extensive Fixed Loop EM survey was completed at Sahara in September 2020, with the survey confirming the presence of a 250m strike-length conductor (800 – 1200 Siemens).





## SAHARA analogue – EAGLE DEPOSIT

■ Early observations at Sahara show similar geological setting to the Eagle Ni-Cu-PGE system

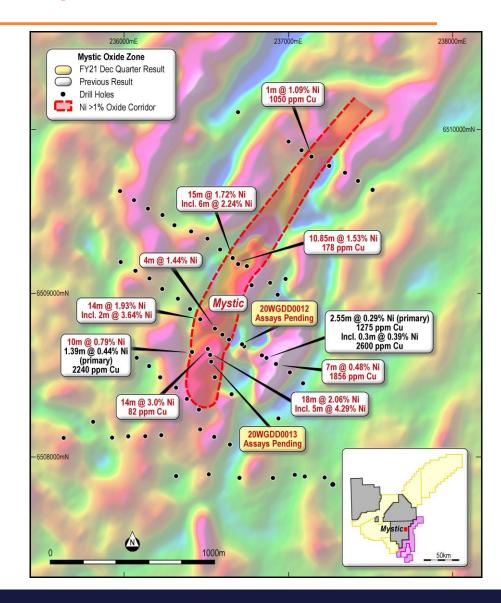


**UNITED STATES** 

### **MYSTIC PROJECT (WSA 100%)**

Twofold exploration opportunity to

- 1. Delineate and define an emerging near-surface, high-grade nickel oxide zone; and
- Explore the potential for accumulations of primary nickel sulphide mineralisation at depth.
- 1.5km northeast trending nickel oxide has now been identified with highly elevated values including
  - ✓ 18m @ 2.06% Ni (oxide), incl 5m @ 4.29% Ni (oxide)
  - ✓ 14m @ 1.93% Ni (oxide), incl 2m @ 3.64% Ni (oxide)



#### **FORWARD PLAN**

Elevated drilling program to commence before the end of the March quarter FY21 focused on:

- Advancement of geological understanding of mineralisation controls at Sahara, through detailed structural / lithological logging and petrographic analysis
  - ✓ evidence for dynamic magmatic processes vectoring towards Ni-sulphide accumulations
- Drill test Sahara mineralisation extensions along strike to the north-east and south-west guided by ground EM.
- Progress highest priority 100% WSA held advanced target at Mystic Prospect











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