#### WESTERN AREAS LTD



### NEW WORLD METALS PRESENTATION

#### Dan Lougher

September 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.

Western Areas Registered Office: L2, 2 Kings Park Road, West Perth, 6005, Australia



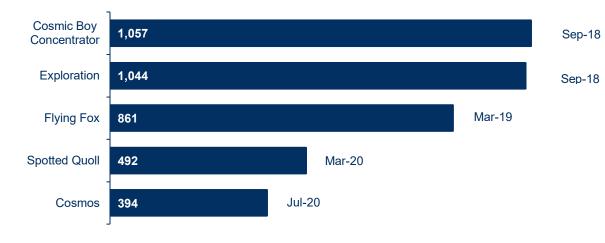
# CORPORATE



#### Western Areas, are safe areas



#### Days LTI free



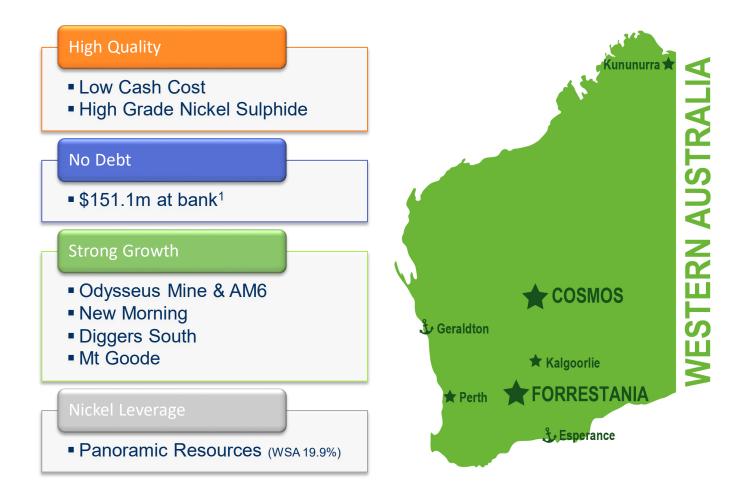
#### 12 month LTIFR moving average





#### **Corporate overview**

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





#### **Environment Social Governance**



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# NICKEL MARKET



### **Offtake contracts best in class**

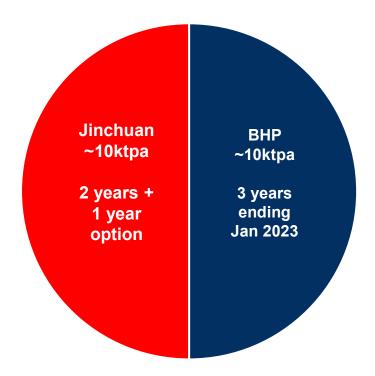
Current contracts executed with strategic partners "Best in Class"

Full benefit of improved commercial terms (compared to previous agreements) in FY21 onwards

Premium blending concentrate - superior commercial terms

#### **Our Partners:**

- BHP: 50%
  - ✓ Australia's largest nickel producer
  - ✓ Building a nickel sulphate plant in Kwinana Western Australia
- Jinchuan: 50%
  - ✓ China's largest nickel cathode producer
  - $\checkmark$  Direct feeder of the Chinese nickel sulphate market

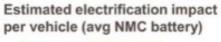


Discussion ongoing with offtake parties that are linked to the Electric Vehicle, battery pre-cursor sector for future MREP production of high grade, premium nickel sulphide and potential for Odysseus concentrate to feed this market.



### New Odysseus concentrate offtake – timing is good!

- Tender process commenced for the initial, uncontracted Odysseus concentrate
- Strong market environment for sustainable, nickel sulphide concentrates with OEM concerns on emerging nickel deficits (ie BHP and Tesla Inc deal)
- Korea and Japan moving "faster" to consolidate future offtake contracts. Potential to build new smelter and hydrometallurgical plants
- We may see changes in traditional "smelter short term" to LOM contracts, with improved commercial terms and potential downstream benefits
- Majors active in Ni assets M & A



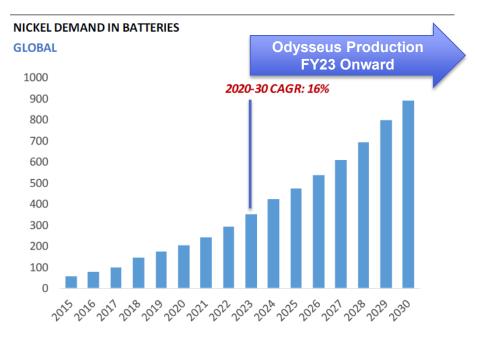




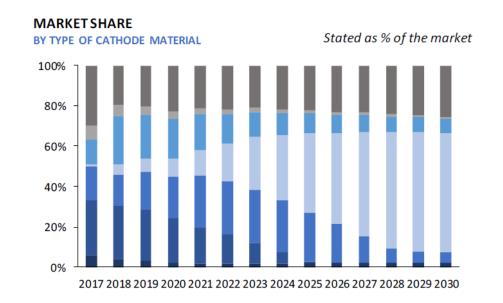


### What we are seeing

- BHP/Tesla Inc announce partnership for nickel
- Significant inbound battery producer interest, targeting nickel offtake to feed production lines
- Strong growth in EV production and demand, especially in Europe, with increasing Government incentives globally



- **Tsingshan laterite to nickel matte conversion,** this product is needed, but what is the carbon footprint?
- Jinchuan (largest nickel cathode producer in China) increasing nickel sulphate volumes. Believed to be investing in pre-cursor production lines



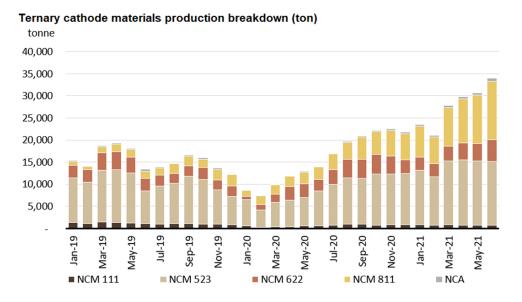
■ NCM 111 ■ NCM 532 ■ NCM 622 ■ NCM 811 ■ NCA ■ LMO ■ LFP Source: Trafigura Research, SMM

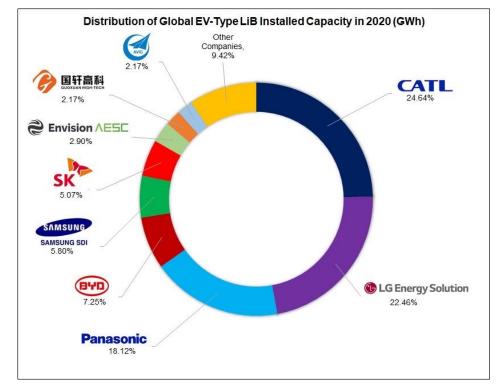
Source: Trafigura Research, SMM, CIAP – March 2020



### **Battery market**

- Battery producers currently dominated by China, Korea and Japan
- USA starting to positioning for supply Looking abroad to find critical battery metals
- **Technology change to NCM 811** which requires higher quantity of nickel, gaining market momentum



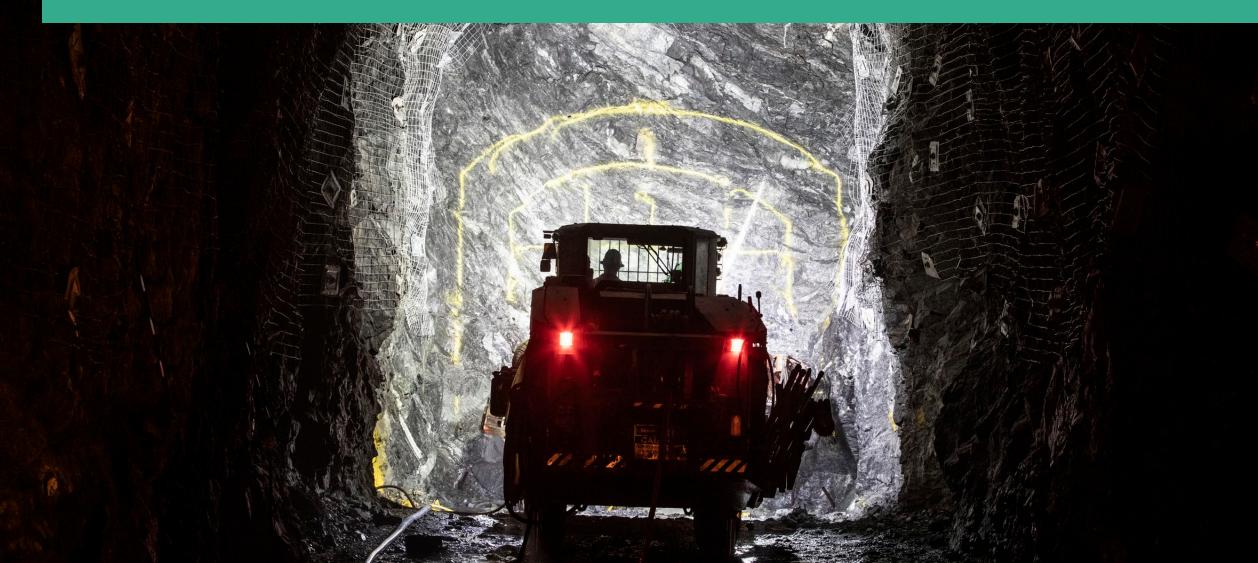


Source: Golden Dragon Capital Ltd

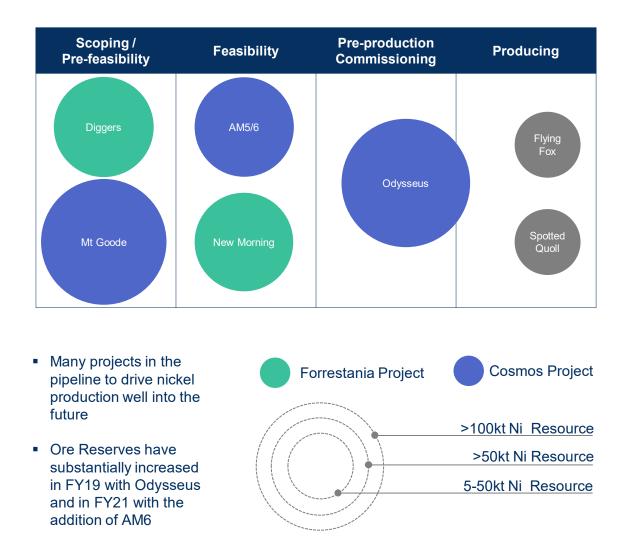
Source: ICCSINO



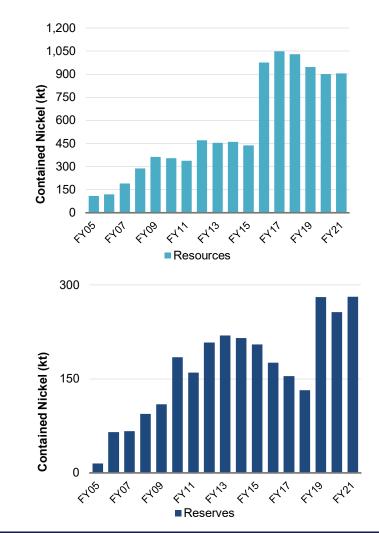
# GROWTH



### **Nickel growth pipeline**

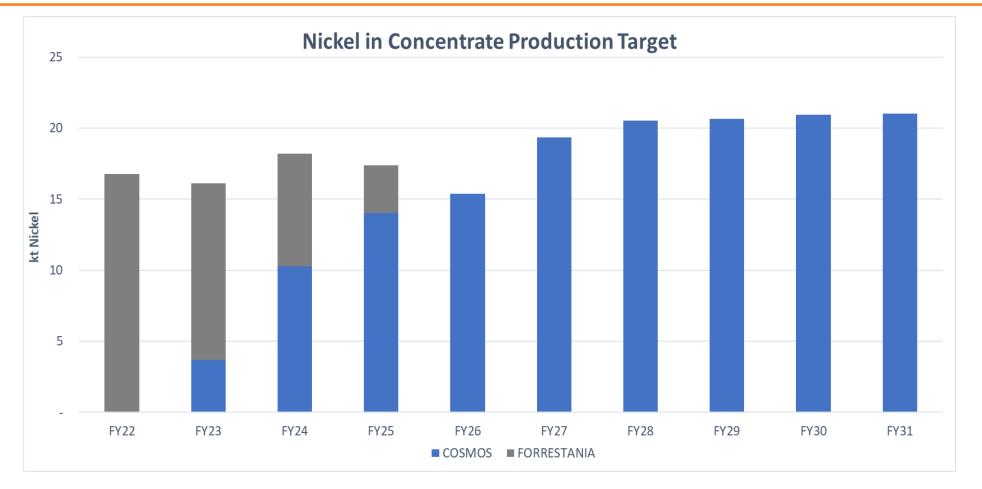


#### **Nickel Resources**





### **10yr production profile**



Graph data source:

Forrestania production targets based on Spotted Quoll and Flying Fox ore reserves. Refer to "June 2021 Quarterly Report" announcement

Cosmos production targets based on Odysseus and AM6 ore reserves. Refer to "Strong Odysseus DFS results in Decision to Mine," dated 22 October 2018 and "Maiden Ore Reserve at AM6 Boosts Odysseus Base Case," dated 2 September 2020 announcements Cosmos Mill upgraded to 1.1Mtpa from FY27 onwards



#### ODYSSEUS MINE DEVELOPMENT



And the second second

### **Cosmos nickel operation**

#### WESTERN AREAS' SECOND OPERATIONAL HUB:

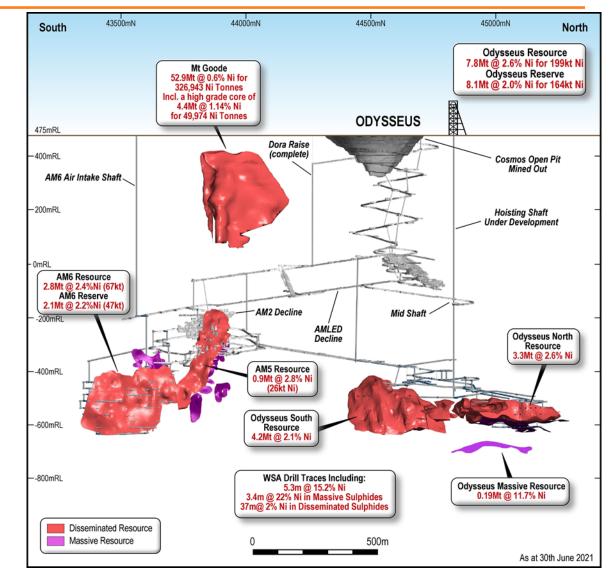
- Outstanding nickel address
- Total Ore Reserves of 211k tonnes of nickel
- Strategically located between Nickel West's Leinster and Mt Keith mines
- Established infrastructure





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

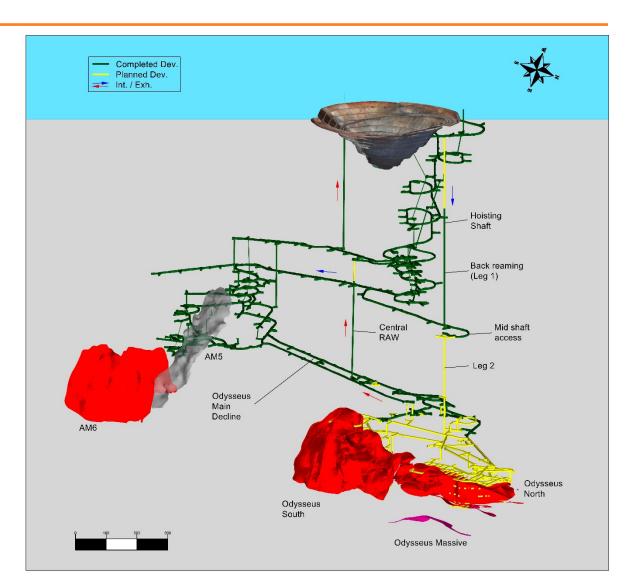
- Odysseus Long life, low cost project:
  - ✓ Ore Reserve 8.1mt @ 2.0% for 164kt nickel
  - ✓ Mine life > 10 years
  - ✓ Attractive AISC
  - Average nickel in concentrate production 14.5ktpa from FY24
- AM6 now a value add:
  - ✓ Ore Reserve 2.1mt @ 2.2% for 47kt nickel
  - ✓ Additional 5ktpa nickel in concentrate from FY27
  - ✓ 211kt of nickel in combined Ore Reserves, increasing mine life and capital efficiency
- Significant upside:
  - ✓ Record 22% Ni massive sulphide intersections in lenses below Odysseus



#### **Odysseus mine – underground development progress**

#### Pre-production Activities:

- Headframe and winder infrastructure assets at site
- ✓ Winder house construction well advanced
- ✓ Odysseus decline development advanced 3km, now above the Odysseus orebodies
- ✓ Hoisting shaft pilot hole completed for Leg 1 (630m). Back reaming (5.7m D) advanced 581m (92%)
- Pre-production mine development capex expenditure profile:
  - FY22 A\$160m; FY23 A\$55m
- ✓ WSA is fully funded with cash and agreed debt facilities





#### Infrastructure works gaining momentum



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### Infrastructure works gaining momentum





### Why a hoisting shaft?

- Significant economical and environmental benefits versus trucking
- Combined with renewable power = energy efficient site, 85% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub>
- Low, consistent opex and proven technology
- Cycle time: ~3 mins
- Save 1.5 ML diesel burnt pa (DPM)
- Remove 5 MW of heat generated from diesel engines
- Remove minimum 200m<sup>3</sup>/s of additional ventilation requirement

#### **Key Metrics:**

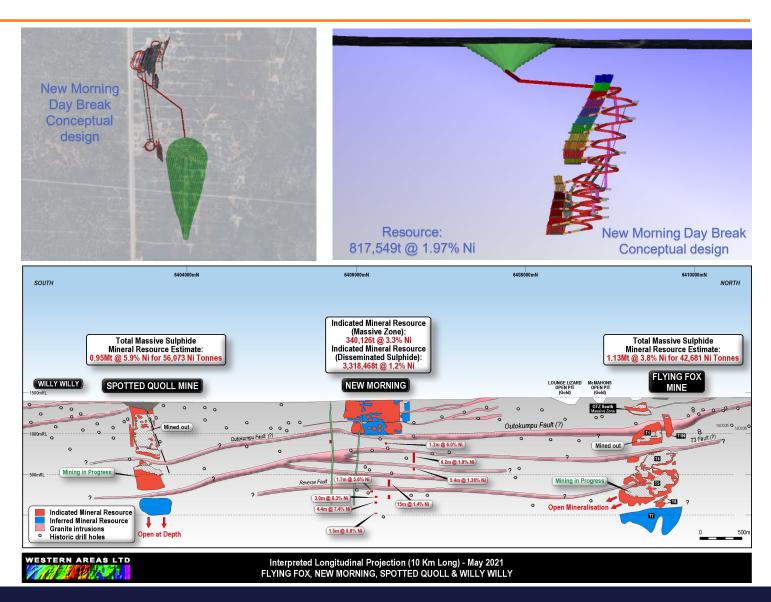
- 5.7m diam. raise bore
- 4 guide ropes per conveyance
- 1.27Mtpa (ore and waste)
- 12 t skips
- 1 truck required to feed shaft
- 4.5 MW peak power



#### 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





#### **MREP unlocks value – mill scats heap leach project**



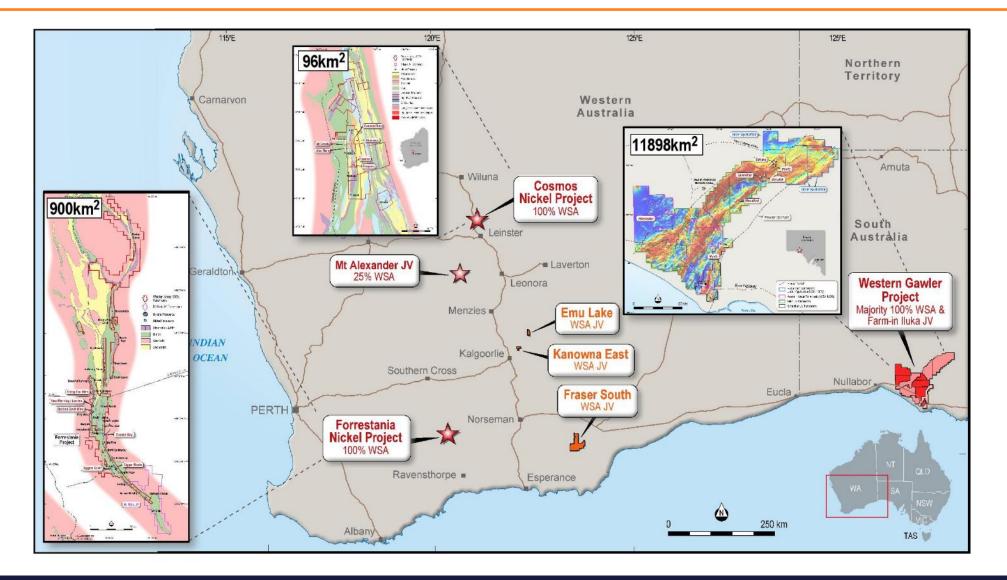




# EXPLORATION

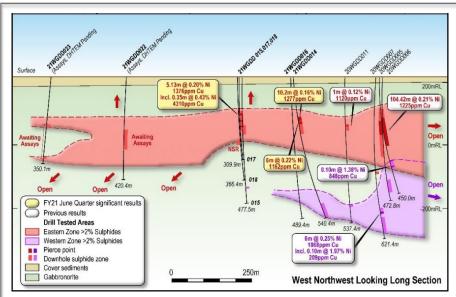


### **Exploration - key tenement holdings**





### **Diverse Exploration Portfolio**

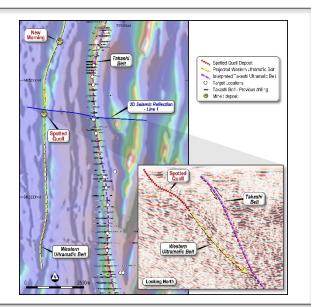


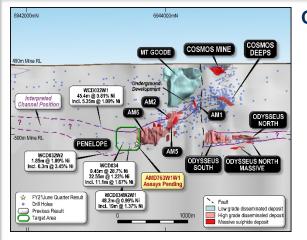
#### WESTERN GAWLER (ILUKA JV) - SAHARA

- Broad intervals of elevated nickel sulphides returned from maiden diamond hole (20WGDD005)
- 104.42m @ 0.21% Ni, 0.12% Cu
- Seven additional holes completed in 2021
- Elevated accumulations of disseminated (>2%) sulphide now intersected in excess 750m along strike
- More sulphides confirmed at regional targets (Firefly, F1-7 South and F1-7 North) with follow-up drilling planned

#### FORRESTANIA – NEW Target Space

- Series of 2D Seismic survey lines completed in September 2020 west and north of Spotted Quoll Mine
- New structural interpretation suggests the Takashi Belt represents a thrust repeat of the fertile Western Ultramafic Belt
- RC drilling completed (June July) testing this underexplored new target area, with numerous ultramafic intervals intersected and assays pending





#### COSMOS

- Centred within the prolific Leinster Wiluna Nickel corridor
- Significant exploration upside identified along 9km of prospective ultramafic host sequence
- Recent underground exploration drilling completed with mineralisation identified south of the Alec Mairs (AM6) resource confirmed
- Future underground drilling will aim to unlock the full potential south of AM6

# WESTERN AREAS LTD

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