

The McPhillamys Gold Project will deliver a major increase in habitat suitable for koalas and other native wildlife in the Blayney Shire and the NSW Central West.

Up to 100,000 trees will be planted

- If the McPhillamys Project is approved, Regis will plant up to 100,000 trees in the Blayney Shire as part of a long term habitat regeneration program.
- Regis has already commenced an extensive tree planting program within Regis-owned land, with approximately 6,500 native trees planted to date in corridors around the mine development project area.
- This tree planting program is part of the longer-term plan to provide visual screening and create wildlife corridors around the site. A further 8,000 trees are proposed to be planted in 2021.

Extensive surveys found one koala

- Extensive ecological surveys and investigations have been undertaken for the McPhillamys Gold Project since 2012, including both spotlighting and scat surveys for koalas.
- A total of 12 spotlighting surveys were undertaken across the mine development area, with 24 surveys undertaken for koala scats (droppings).
- These surveys exceed NSW and Commonwealth survey guidelines for the koala.
- Despite this extensive survey effort, only a single koala was identified in the mine project area. On this basis, there are likely to be very few koalas in the mine project area.

Habitat loss

- Of the total proposed disturbance footprint of 2,514 ha for the mine development, approximately 116 hectares is considered potential koala habitat under the recently updated *State Environmental Planning Policy (Koala Habitat Protection) 2019*.

Compensating for habitat loss

- Koala habitat loss will be offset in a number of ways, as outlined in the proposed offset strategy. As a part of this offset strategy, Regis has purchased a property near Blayney containing large areas of native vegetation for a future stewardship site (the Aziel property).

- The Aziel property is approximately 388 hectares and contains favourable habitat for koalas, including Box Gum Woodland. This land would be protected in perpetuity, under a stewardship arrangement.
- Under the offset plan, Regis will also rehabilitate and replant cleared areas within the offset property.
- Regis plans to secure the property under a Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement with the Biodiversity Conservation Trust.

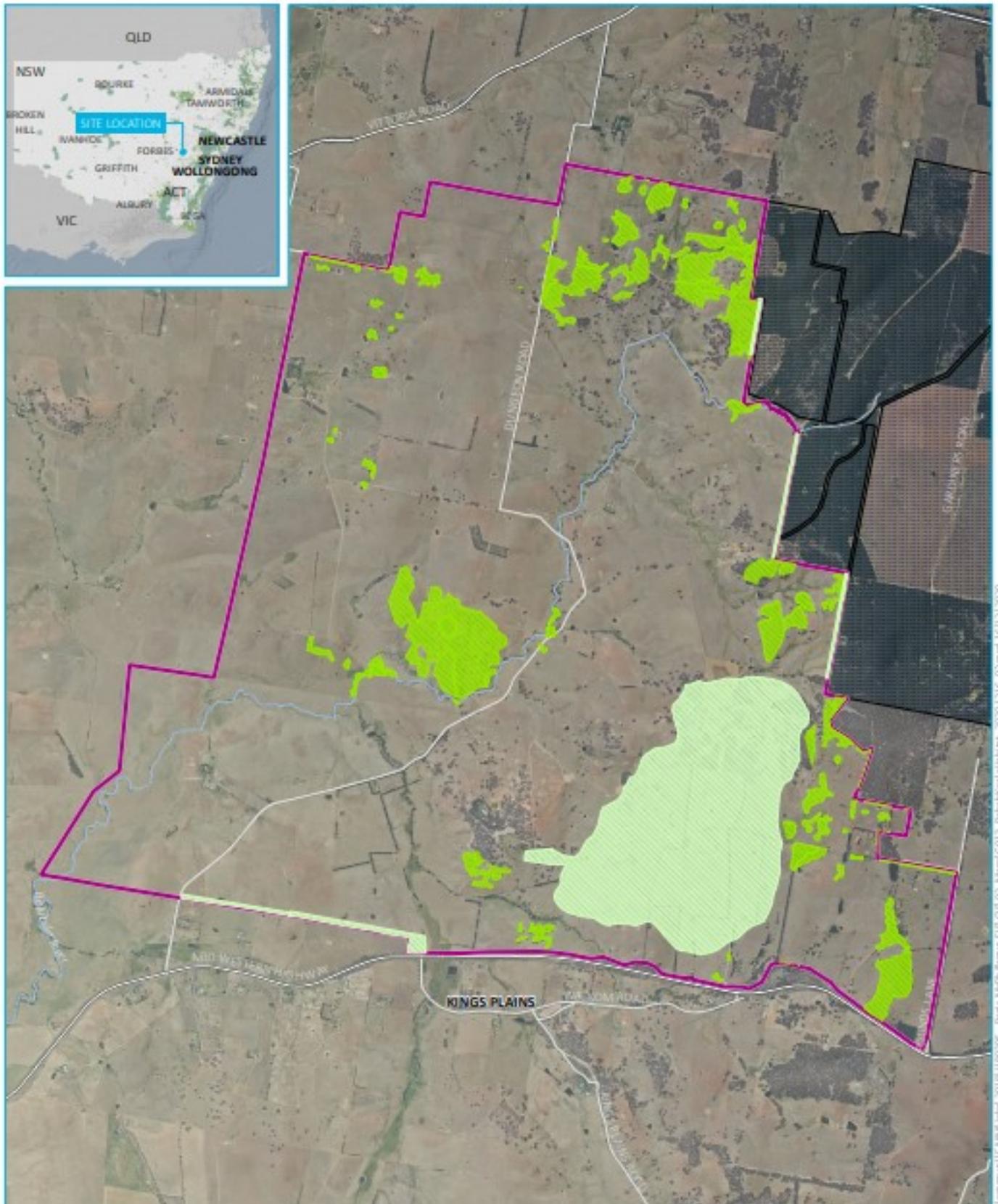
Caring for wildlife

- If McPhillamys is approved, pre-clearance inspections will be carried out to determine if koalas are present in areas of native vegetation before any clearing activities take place.
- In the unlikely event that koalas are found to be present, appropriate methods (such as staged clearing) will be followed to allow any koalas to move unassisted into adjacent retained vegetation.
- A koala revegetation project is proposed in areas of retained koala habitat.
- The revegetation project will aim to reconnect fragmented patches of koala habitat surrounding the mine and create corridors to link with larger areas of native vegetation to the north and east.



Above: Some of the 6,500 native trees already planted by Regis to improve corridor connections between wildlife habitat areas and create visual screening.

Below: Map showing proposed areas of koala habitat after the closure of McPhillamys.



Source: EMM (2020); Regis Resources (2020); Survey Graphics (2019); DFSI (2017); GA (2011); ASGC (2006)

KEY

- Mine development project area
- Remnant Koala habitat
- Regis Koala habitat planting

INSET KEY

- NPWS reserve
- State forest

Existing environment

- Major road
- Minor road
- Belubula River
- Vittoria State Forest

Post closure Koala habitat

McPhillamys Gold Project

