

# Acquisition of highly prospective lithium tenements at Southern Cross, WA

### **Highlights**

- 292km<sup>2</sup> land package acquisition in highly prospective Southern Cross greenstone belt, 63km from globally significant Mt Holland Lithium Project (189Mt at 1.50% Li<sub>2</sub>O<sup>1</sup>)
- Multiple large pegmatite swarms interpreted (16.5km<sup>2</sup>) from magnetic low features within Marvel Loch tenements
- Evaluation of previous drilling across SX-MVL Project areas underway to develop model of geometry of pegmatites
- Highly prospective addition to RGL's Tambourah Lithium Project in the Pilbara
- RGL aiming to become a significant Western Australian-based hard-rock lithium business
- Tenement package includes seven granted exploration licences giving fast access to ground
- Exploration to focus on discovery of large lithium-caesium-tantalum (LCT) systems



Figure 1: Location of SX-MVL Project relative to other major Lithium Mines (Greenbushes<sup>2</sup>, Mt Catlin<sup>3</sup>, Bald Hill<sup>4</sup> and Mt Marrion<sup>5</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See ASX announcement dated 19 March 2018 released by Kidman Resources Limited (Kidman) (ASX: KDR) for further information. See also ASX announcement dated 4 July 2019 table 2.3, page 218 attachment 1 Independent Expert's Report, AMC; Kidman Scheme Booklet.

Greenbushes, https://www.igo.com.au/site/operations/lithium-holdco-joint-venture, dated 8 Aug 2022.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Mt Cattlin, https://www.allkem.co/projects/mt-cattlin) dated 8 Aug 2022.
<sup>4</sup> Bald Hill, CSA Global Independent Technical Report, dated 9 Aug 2018.

Mount Marion, https://www.mining-technology.com/projects/mount-marion-lithium-project, dated 9 Aug 2018.



**Riversgold Limited (ASX: RGL, Riversgold** or **the Company)** is pleased to announce it has signed a Sale and Purchase Agreement (**SPA**) to acquire eight tenements highly prospective for lithium south of Southern Cross, near Marvel Loch in the Western Australian goldfields.

**Riversgold CEO, Julian Ford, said:** "This acquisition is the second significant transaction for RGL in 2022 as we move quickly to establish the Company as a serious player in the Australian lithium sector. The Southern Cross-Marvel Loch tenements (SX-MVL) were keenly sought after, given their strategic location in the Yilgarn Craton along the same geological trend as Covalent Lithium's Mt Holland Lithium Project and its 189Mt at 1.5% lithium oxide (Li<sub>2</sub>O) resource<sup>6</sup>. In our view, the new ground is highly prospective for lithium pegmatites and adds to our strategic lithium tenement holding in the Pilbara Craton. We are also pleased to announce that exploration efforts are targeted to commence in earnest within the coming weeks."

# Southern Cross-Marvel Loch Project, Overview

Covering an area of 292km<sup>2</sup>, the SX-MVL Project comprises seven granted Exploration Licences and one that remains an Exploration Licence Application.

Included in the package are four granted tenements in the Marvel Loch area, which cover 188km<sup>2</sup> including key greenstones west of the Ghooli Dome; a single tenement at Nevoria and three tenements in the Mt Hampton area south of Marvel Loch (see Figure 2, tenement details in Appendix 1).

The Yilgarn Craton currently hosts five hard rock lithium mines either in production or construction/commissioning, as detailed in Figure 1 above. In 2021, these mines accounted for an estimated 41% of global lithium production<sup>7</sup>. Production from the Yilgarn Craton region is forecast to expand by more than 80% by 2024 as the Greenbushes tailings retreatment project and the Mt Holland and Kathleen Valley developments come online.

The Southern Cross-Forrestania greenstone belt has recently been the focus of WA lithium exploration following the commercial success at Mt Holland which expects to reach full production by 2024 under Covalent Lithium, a 50:50 joint venture between Wesfarmers Limited (ASX:WES) and Chile's Sociedad Quimica y Minera de Chile S.A.

Other companies that have identified LCT systems in the Southern Cross-Forrestania greenstone belt include Zenith Minerals Limited (ASX:ZNC) and EV Metals Group JV project at Dulcie West/Split Rocks (locations detailed in Figure 2 and 3). Zenith/EV Metals Group plc's Dulcie West/Split Rocks prospects are located 30km to the south-southwest of RGL's SX-MVL tenements. Exploration activities at Split Rock involved the use of portable XRF analysis of surface samples, focusing on LCT-associated pathfinder elements, showing that this method works in the regional context. RGL will prioritise exploration activities based on the interpreted pegmatite intrusions shown in red in Figure 2. The interpretation pegmatites cover and area of 16.5km<sup>2</sup> and is based on recent work completed by geophysics consulting group, *Value Add Resources*.

www.publications.industry.gov.au/publications

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See ASX announcement dated 19 March 2018 released by Kidman Resources Limited (Kidman) (ASX: KDR) for further information. See also ASX announcement dated 4 July 2019 table 2.3, page 218 – attachment 1, Independent Expert's Report, AMC; Kidman (ASX: KDR) (Scheme Booklet).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> RGL inhouse calculations based on Statistica Global Lithium Production for 2021, and Resource and Energy, Australia, March 2022 Quarterly production



Several lithium prospects have been identified south of Mt Holland, including the Forrestania Lithium Rubelite, Mousetrap and Bannon prospects (Forrestania Resources Ltd ASX:FRS) and the South Iron Cap East prospect (IGO Limited ASX:IGO), adding to the prospectivity of the Southern Cross-Forrestania system.

# **Geology of the Marvel Loch**

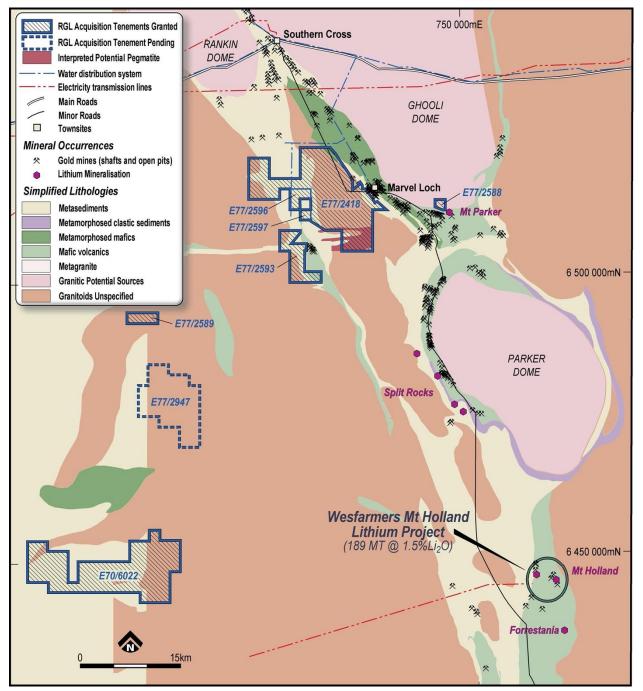


Figure 2: Location of tenements within Southern Cross Domain



The SX-MVL Project is located 360km east of Perth and 235km west of Kalgoorlie in Western Australia. The discovery of the Earl Grey deposit at Mt Holland 63km south-southeast of the SX-MVL tenements in 2016 highlighted the lithium potential of the district.

The Southern Cross greenstone is an arcuate belt of deformed and metamorphosed volcanic, intrusive and sedimentary lithologies with a strike length of approximately 300km. The greenstone belt is surrounded and intruded by granites, many of which are deformed and form gneissic belts. The region has been metamorphosed to the upper greenschist to amphibolite facies. The region has been subject to multiple phases of folding, shearing and faulting.

#### **Marvel Loch Tenements**

The Marvel Loch tenement suite consists of four granted exploration licences, covering an area of 188km<sup>2</sup>.

RGL has the right to acquire all tenements subject to regulatory approval. The Company will acquire all mineral rights for three of the four tenements. For the fourth, E77/2418, it will acquire all the mineral rights except for the gold rights, which will be retained by Blackwater Resources Pty Ltd.

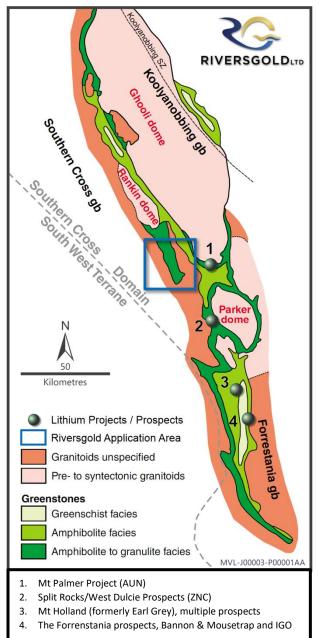
The area was specifically targeted by the vendors based on the presence of extensive pegmatites in historical drilling and through interpretation of highresolution magnetics.

The magnetics across the project area show multiple magnetic low features which are interpreted to correspond with late pegmatite intrusions. Those pegmatites can be of significant interest for their lithium bearing potential.

There are multiple occurrences of pegmatites intersected in drill holes, and spodumene found in the waste stockpiles at the Marvel Loch mill.

While there is no direct evidence of the source of this mineralisation, the area has also been identified as a potential lithium trap, in a Western Australian Geological Survey study published in July 2020<sup>8</sup>.

The Southern Cross-Forrestania greenstone belt benefits from its close proximity to the Ghooli, Rankin and Parker domes, granite intrusions that have the



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> "Rare-Element Pegmatites: A Mineral Systems Analysis"; P Duuring, Technical Report, July 2020, Geological Survey of Western Australia.



potential to be the source of LCT into pegmatites or at least the creation of the pegmatites.

RGL will be advancing a strategy of targeting LCT pegmatites at both the Marvel Loch and Nevoria Projects.

### **Acquisition terms**

As consideration for 100% ownership of the SX-MVL tenements, RGL has agreed to issue 14,705,882 new fully paid ordinary shares to the vendors, Mining Equities Pty Ltd (**Mining Equities**) and Bullfinch Metals Pty Ltd, 55% and 45% respectively (**Consideration Shares**). Each of the vendors are unrelated parties of the Company. There will be no change to the Board of RGL and the acquisition is expected to complete on Wednesday 10 August 2022.

The Consideration Shares will be issued pursuant the Company's available capacity under Listing Rule 7.1.

The gold rights for E77/2418 remain with Blackwater Resources Pty Ltd. Mining Equities will retain a 1% Net Smelter Royalty (**NSR**) on all minerals mined from the tenements, excluding the gold rights for E77/2418.

-ENDS-

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Board of Riversgold Ltd.

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#### **About Riversgold**

Riversgold Ltd is an ASX-listed exploration company with a lithium-focused strategy in the worldrenowned Pilbara and Yilgarn cratons in Western Australia. In 2022, the Company acquired a suite of four lithium-prospective exploration tenement applications covering 164km<sup>2</sup> in the Pilbara region. The key Tambourah Project is underexplored and has the potential to host a major lithium-caesiumtantalum system much like the nearby Pilgangoora and Wodgina deposits. The Riversgold portfolio also offers strong exposure to gold and nickel through its large landholding at the Kurnalpi Project in the Yilgarn.



### **Appendix 1: Tenement Schedule**

The following tenements are granted or the subject of applications for grant before the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety.

Tenement	Grant/ Application Date	Area (blocks)	Area km²	Status	Royalties
Marvel Loch Area					
E 77/2418	1/5/2018	64	173.2	Live	Gold Rights & Mining Equities NSR
E 77/2593	3/7/2019	12	2.9	Live	Mining Equities NSR
E 77/2596	14/1/2021	3	8.8	Live	Mining Equities NSR
E 77/2597	19/12/2019	1	2.9	Live	Mining Equities NSR
Nevoria					
E 77/2588	27/11/2019	1	2.6	Live	Mining Equities NSR
Mount Hampton Area					
E 70/6022	23/3/2022	59	171.6	Live	Mining Equities NSR
E 77/2947	23/5/2022	32	93.3	Application	Mining Equities NSR
E 77/2589	27/5/2019	3	8.8	Live	Mining Equities NSR

#### **Competent Person's Statement**

The geological information in this document has been reviewed by Mr Xavier Braud, a Competent Person who is a Member of The Australian Institute of Geoscientists (AIG). Mr Braud is Non-Executive Director of Riversgold Ltd and a consultant to the Company. Mr Braud holds shares and options in the Company. Mr Braud has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2012 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves'. Mr Braud consents to the inclusion in this announcement of the matters based on this information in the form and context in which it appears.