



## Leading environmental research to support continuous improvement in forest health

**Alcoa’s Forest Research Centre builds on some 50 years of research and development that has guided us in the continuous improvement of the ways we manage and restore the areas where we mine.**

The establishment of the new centre provides the opportunity to expand our long-running program and enhance collaborative research opportunities with institutions and individuals. The ongoing development of our understanding of forest management will continue to inform the ways that we and others protect the environment, rehabilitate mining areas and restore functioning ecosystems, with the ultimate aim of improving forest health.

We are upgrading facilities across our WA locations and bolstering our research team to deliver a broader range of research projects. We have access to unmined forest, rehabilitated areas and cleared land targeted for rehabilitation that serves as a “living laboratory” in which to carry out research and development.

The Forest Research Centre will contribute to balancing evolving environmental, social and economic objectives as the resources sector strives to deliver the materials needed for a more sustainable future.

It will also enable further development of the collective understanding that comes from combining existing experience, further collaboration with leading researchers, and Traditional Owner knowledge, leading to continuous improvement in enhancing forest values and improving outcomes across many industries and communities.

### AT A GLANCE

Alcoa has committed **\$15m of research funding** for the next five years

Internal research team to be **more than doubled** to support research efforts

**Increases capacity for collaboration** with external stakeholders

**Builds on existing research programs** covering fauna management, biodiversity enhancement, rehabilitation delivery and water stewardship

**Incorporates Traditional Owner knowledge** to guide “two-way” science

# Research pillars

## Fauna protection and return

Understanding and enhancing fauna management through improved surveys and monitoring, use of technology and feral species control.



1



## Enhancing forest flora knowledge

Developing knowledge of rehabilitated ecosystems, ecological communities, and impacts of climate, fire and dieback on forest plants.

2



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3



## Leading practice rehabilitation

Building understanding of landscaping practice, topsoil management, seed germination and growth, and plant cultivation.

4



## Water stewardship

Ongoing protection of waterways and drinking water catchments, and furthering research of long-term trends in stream flow and climate impacts on surface and groundwater.

5



## First Nations two-way science

Partnering to enhance understanding of forest management, fire, culturally significant species, and health and wellbeing benefits found in the forest.

Since 1975 Alcoa has delivered, contributed to and supported a broad range of research including:

260 refereed journal papers and book chapters | 80 technical studies | 60 higher-degree research theses

This science has played an important role in the continuous improvement of Alcoa's rehabilitation and forest management programs.