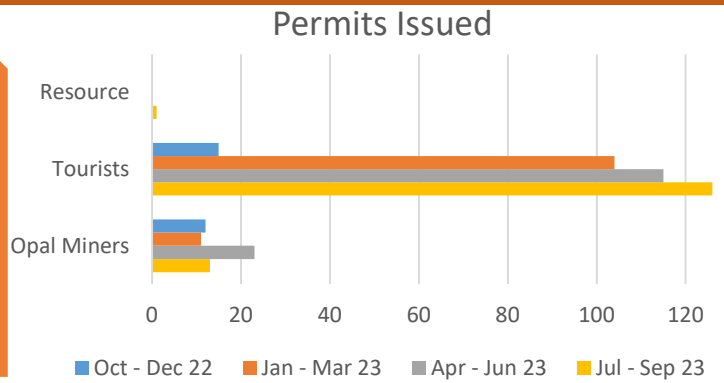
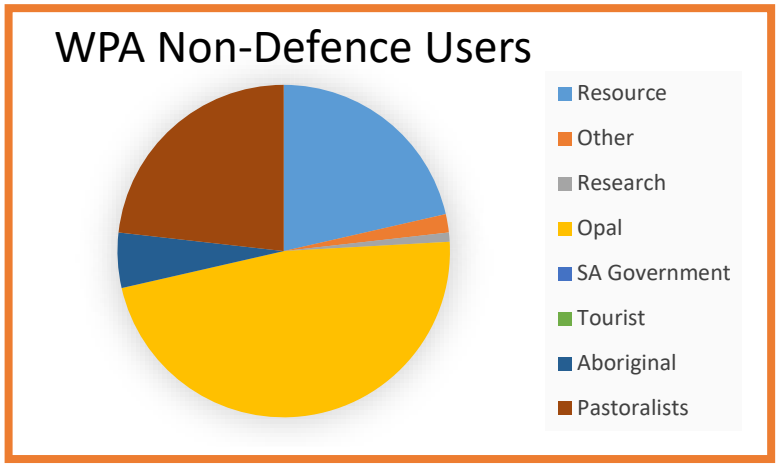
Woomera Prohibited Area Advisory Board Dashboard Report – April 2023 to September 2023

In Review: April 2023 to September 2023

- ✓ 24 Exploration Licences granted, mostly for copper, gold, and rare earths.
- ✓ World-leading Hydrogen and Renewable Energy Bill was introduced in the SA Parliament in September 2023.
- ✓ Rio Tinto Exploration Pty Ltd entered into a Farm-in agreement over White Tiger Resources' Mt Brady copper-nickel exploration project giving Rio Tinto exclusive right to earn 75% interest over five years. The Mt Brady project is the result of a successful bid under the South Australian Government's (SAG) Advanced Discovery Initiative.
- ✓ SAG commissioned a review of geological and geophysical data from the 2018-2023 Gawler Phase 2 survey.
  - ✓ The goal was to deliver an updated prospectivity report and economic assessment potential of the WPA.
  - ✓ The updated report is one of the deliverables for the 2018 WPA Review and is being presented at the Dec 2023 meeting.
- ✓ Air Force conducted training and remediation activities, Operational Test and Evaluation (OT&E) events and compliance patrols.

Royalties of approximately ~ $53m received by SA Govt in FY 22/23. >$430m since WPA Rule



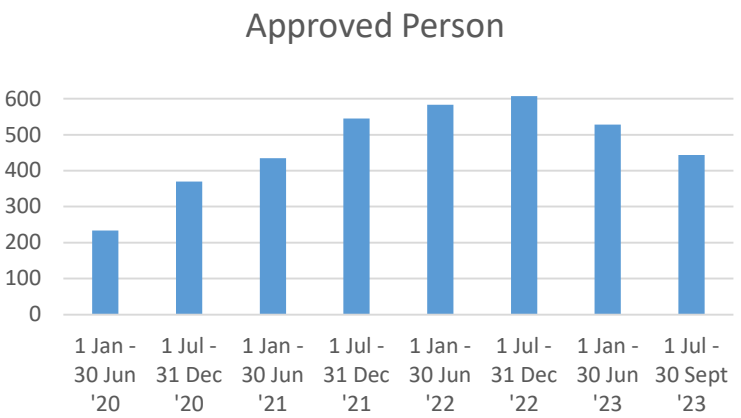


169 Active SA Government exploration licences as at 30 Sept 2023

Defence Trial Days

Trial days Jan – Sept – 407*

* concurrent



Performance Indicators

- ✓ **444 Approved Person applications processed.**
  - ✓ Decrease from last reporting period of 29.1% mainly due to ~90% drop in applications from Cairn Hill mine, which entered care and maintenance.
- ✓ **390 Tourist permits** issued, **covering 714 people.**
  - ✓ Increase of over 200% in permits and 319% in people from last reporting period.
  - ✓ Tourist numbers have now begun to exceed pre-Covid 19 levels.
- ✓ **36 permits** issued under the streamlined Opal mining permit system.
- ✓ 40 Minister's Permissions processed.
  - ✓ 17% increase from the last reporting period.
  - ✓ Result of elevated mining activity and requests to deploy notifiable equipment, particularly Unmanned Aerial Vehicles.
- ✓ Case Management meetings with Resource and Research permit holders are being organised.

Defence use of the WPA

- ✓ One Amber Zone 2 **exclusion period** of 28 days was revoked in this reporting period.