

# Report aims to improve best practice in mine rehabilitation

August 29 2019, by Simone Hewett

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A first-of-its-kind report led by the Western Australian Biodiversity Science Institute aims to improve mining industry practice of how to define and measure successful mine-site rehabilitation criteria.

Dr. Marit Kragt, from the University of Western Australia's School of Agriculture and Environment, co-authored the report, "A framework for developing mine-site completion criteria in Western Australia."

Dr. Kragt said the report provided a framework for developing site-specific, risk-based criteria that mine operators could use to demonstrate they had successfully rehabilitated the site after mining.

The project responded to an industry need to understand how to best measure rehabilitation success, set achievable and measurable outcomes and appropriate completion criteria that were accepted by all stakeholders involved, according to Dr. Kragt.

"During the study we identified several bottle-necks to developing acceptable mine completion criteria," she said.

"These included making mine closure planning an integral part throughout the life of a mine, rather than investing in rehabilitation towards the end of [mining](#); and developing a consistent, coordinated approach to completion criteria across the various government departments involved in mine closure approvals."

WA Mines and Petroleum Minister Bill Johnston said the report was a great example of government and industry working together to deliver better [rehabilitation](#) outcomes for the State.

"It provides industry with greater clarity and consistency in the development of mine closure plans across different locations and commodities," Mr Johnston said. "Effective mine closure is critical to ensure the long-term environmental sustainability of the industry."

**More information:** A framework for developing mine-site completion criteria in Western Australia: project report: [apo.org.au/node/254276](https://apo.org.au/node/254276)

Provided by University of Western Australia

Citation: Report aims to improve best practice in mine rehabilitation (2019, August 29) retrieved 25 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2019-08-aims.html>

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