

MINERAL PROSPECTIVITY

BACKGROUND

In 1996, the GMS conducted extensive consultation across industry, community and public sectors of the Gascoyne-Murchison region. The GMS Steering Committee developed issues that emerged from this consultative process into a series of recommendations. These recommendations were returned for ratification by the community prior to presentation to Cabinet. On 12 May 1997, Cabinet approved the GMS Report to Cabinet and directed that the GMS Action Plan be developed to address the recommendations.

Seven regional-scale development initiatives were a part of the GMS Action Plan formally approved by Cabinet on 1 December 1997. These initiatives were viewed as having potential to broaden the economic base of the Gascoyne Murchison region and included:

- Inland aquaculture
- Land and water for horticulture
- Tourism pathways
- **MINERAL PROSPECTIVITY**
- Enhanced road infrastructure
- Seed funding for regional-based alternatives
- Diversification advice.

The Mineral Prospectivity entry within the GMS Cabinet Action Plan reads:

The Department of Minerals and Energy in association with Department of Resources Development and the Gascoyne and Mid West Development Commissions support a mineral prospectivity analysis in the Gascoyne-Murchison region to stimulate on-going exploration activity by industry. The Gascoyne Murchison Strategy requires a new resource allocation of \$60,000 for these agencies to fund this initiative.

Task 1: Assess and report on the mineral and petroleum potential of the Study Area.

The Geological Survey will undertake this task and report on the geology and mineral resources, mineral and petroleum potential and mineral occurrences.

Task 2: Assess the demand and cost trends for minerals produced from the

Study Area.

Complete a desk study of the demand and cost trends for minerals produced within the Study Area. This should utilise easily available information and should be utilised as an input into the evaluation of infrastructure requirements and recommendations.