LOWELL RESOURCES FUNDS MANAGEMENT

MONTHLY UPDATE

Lowell Resources Funds Management Ltd. ABN 36 006 769 982 AFSL 345674

August 2026

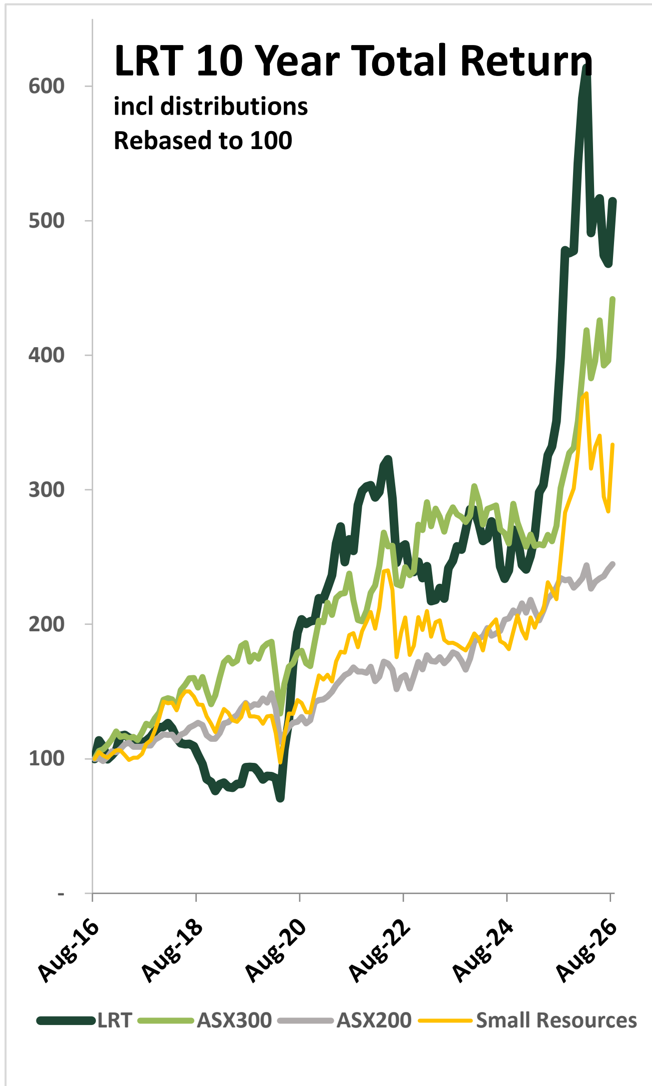
August 2026 Performance Summary: Lowell Resources Fund (ASX: LRT)

The Lowell Resources Fund's estimated net asset value ('NAV') at the end of August 2026 was approximately $127.7m, compared to AUD$102.2m at the end of July 2026.

The NAV per unit finished the month of August at 2.5984 vs $2.3633 at 31st July 2026, an increase of 10.0% over the month.

An additional 5,910,823 units in the Fund were issued in an equity placement at a price of $2.01/unit.

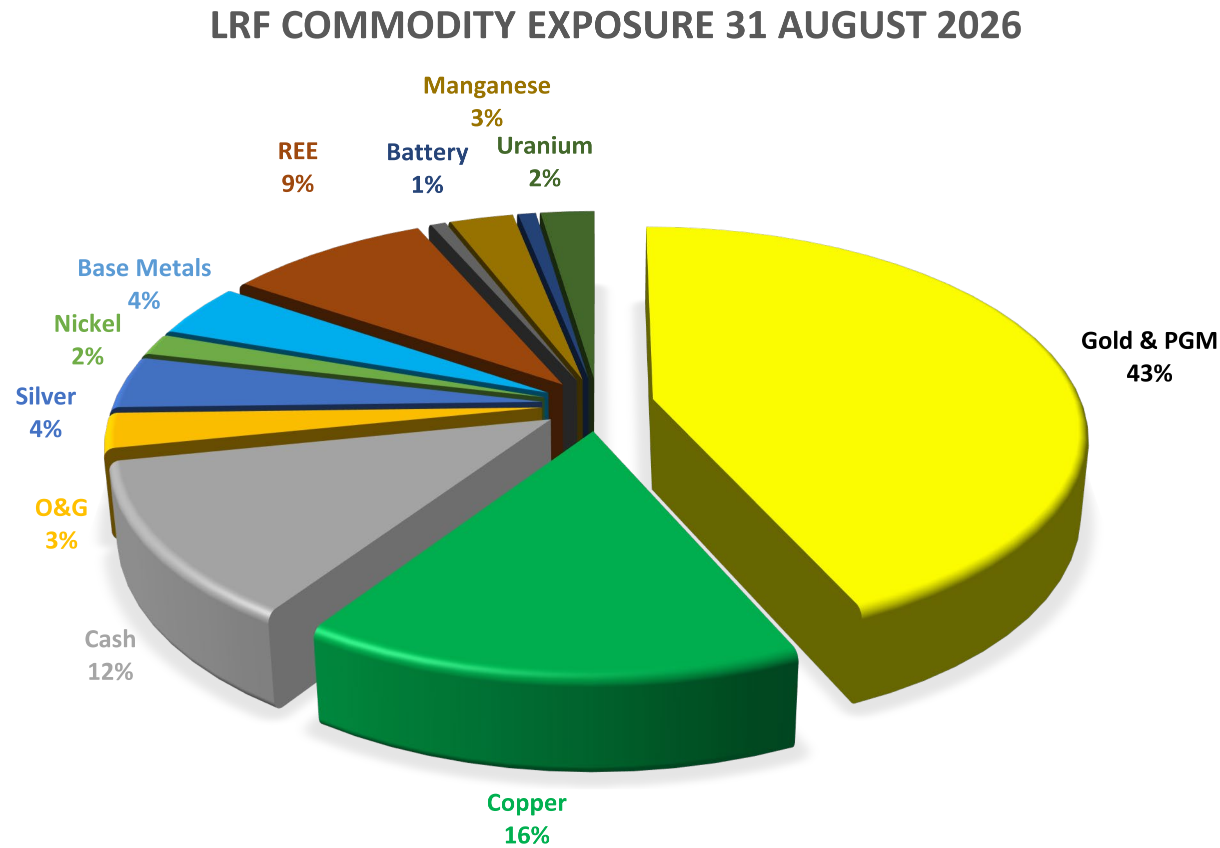
The last traded unit price of the ASX listed LRT units at month end was $2.055/unit.



Fund Top Performer

VBX Pty Ltd (Market Cap $70m VBX.ASX) share price rose 88% over the month of August.

In July 2026, VBX signed a bauxite offtake and investment framework agreement with an arm of a "major Chinese aluminium industry group". VBX's Wuudagu bauxite project in the Kimberley of WA formed the basis for the 2025 PFS to produce a high grade, low silica beneficiated bauxite product of 45.4% Al_2O_3 and 3.6% SiO_2. The in-situ Measured and Indicated bauxite resource at Wuudagu is 131.9Mt.



Fund Investment Actions – August 2026

In energy, the Fund participated in a placement by Canadian uranium company U92 Energy Corp, which is focused on Guyana.

In precious metals, the Fund added to its holding in Hamelin Gold, while selling out of Canadian-listed Sanu Gold.

In other metals, the Fund made a seed investment in Argentina-focused tungsten explorer Alvear Tungsten, and acquired shares in NSW tin explorer Caspin Resources.

FUND SNAPSHOT 31st August 2026

NAV per unit	$2.5984	FY 26 Distribution paid	14.32 cents per unit
No. of Units on issue	49,141,984	Market Capitalisation	AUD $100.9m
Market Price (ASX)	$2.055/unit	Responsible Entity	Cremorne Capital Limited
Estimated NAV	AUD $127.7m	Fund Manager	Lowell Resources Funds Management Ltd

Fund Top Holdings

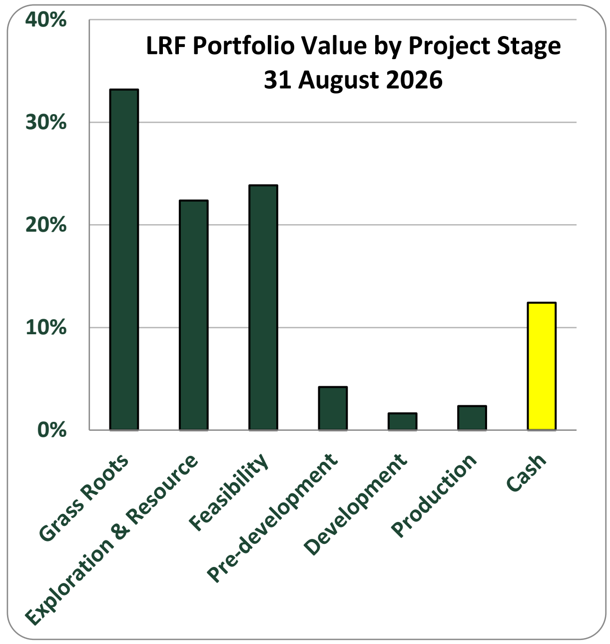
Brazilian Critical Minerals (Market Cap $183m BCM.ASX) appointed Altris Engineering as Lead Design Engineer for the Ema REE Project FEED phase to refine plant engineering and costs with a 24 week timeline. Based on the 2026 DFS, the Ema project in Brazil has a headline capital cost of US$74m and a post-tax NPV8 of US$1.47 billion

Astral Resources Ltd (Market Cap $361m AAR.ASX) announced high-grade gold assays from the Theia Deeps (Mandilla) drilling program, with a highlight of 53m @ 4.7g/t Au from 445m (beneath the current MRE pit outline). Separately the Think Big deposit (Feysville) drilling, returned 11m @ 7.3g/t Au from 38m and 12m @ 5.9g/t Au from 30m. The Greater Mandilla and Feysville Projects near Kalgoorlie, WA, have a combined MRE of 62Mt @ 1.0g/t Au for 2.1Moz. AAR also executed a Land Use Agreement with the native title claim group. A DFS for the Project is currently underway.

Southern Palladium (Market Cap $255m SPD.ASX) announced the grant of the Mining Right at the 70% owned Bengwenyama PGM-Chrome Project by the South African Government for an initial period of 30-years. This grant supports the DFS currently underway with targeted completion in Q1 2027. The project ore reserve is 6.3 million ounces grading at 6.17 g/t PGM (6E) plus chromite.

Andina Copper (Market Cap C$331m ANDC.TSXV) announced results from 2 more holes drilled at the Cobrasco Cu-Mo Project in Colombia, returning intercepts of 504m @ 0.48% Cu including 264m @ 0.63% Cu from 36m, and 400m @ 0.46% Cu including 40m @ 0.87% Cu from 32m and 54m @ 0.76% Cu from 184m.

Black Canyon (Market Cap $52m BCA.ASX) released the final assays from the Wandanya Project drilling program, including potential DSO intercepts of 7m @ 40.7% Mn from 5m and 18m @ 56.9% Fe from 1m. The 'Base Case' strike length at Wandanya has been extended to 3.4km, all of which is to be included in the maiden MRE expected in September 2026. A follow-up 5,000m RC drilling program was commenced to test an additional 3.2km of strike north and south of the main Wandanya deposit.



Company	Commodity	% of Gross Investments
Cash	Cash	12.4%
Brazilian Critical Minerals	BCM	6.9%
Kingfisher Metals	Gold-Copper	4.4%
Astral Resources	Gold	4.0%
Southern Palladium	PGM	3.9%
Andina Copper	Copper	3.8%
Unico Silver	Silver	3.2%
Black Canyon	Manganese	2.7%
Freegold Ventures	Gold	2.5%
Unity Metals	Gold	2.5%
Saturn Metals	Gold	2.3%

Performance Comparison – August 2026

Over the past 10 years, the Lowell Resources Fund's change in underlying estimated net asset value per unit (inclusive of reinvested distributions, and after fees and expenses) was 17.8%pa. The Fund has outperformed its benchmark S&P/ASX Small Resources Accumulation Index (XSRAI), and the ASX Resources 300 Index (Total Return) and ASX 200 Index (Total Return) over two, three, five and ten years.

Total Portfolio Performance to 31 August 2026	LRT Change in NAV per unit incl distributions	S&P/ASX Small Resources Accumulation Index (XSRAI)	ASX Resources 300 Index (Total Return)	ASX 200 Index (Total Return)
12 months	**31.4%**	34.2%	46.6%	4.4%
2 years p.a.	**47.9%**	35.6%	30.4%	9.5%
3 years p.a.	**27.5%**	21.8%	16.2%	11.2%
5 years p.a.	**15.9%**	11.5%	15.2%	7.8%
10 years p.a.	**17.8%**	12.8%	16.0%	9.4%
20 yrs pa. to 30 June 2026	**17.5%**			

The LRT ASX traded unit price at the end of August was $2.055/unit, compared to $2.03/unit at the end of July.

Market Notes

Economics

- The **US national debt** hit a record $US40tn. It has grown by US$3tn over the past year. Since 2006, US gross federal debt has increased by US$32 trillion while the annual level of nominal GDP has increased by US$19 trillion, pushing the debt-to-GDP ratio towards an all-time high.
- The US paid the highest **borrowing costs** to sell 30-year bonds since 2001. A US$25bn Treasury auction of 30-year bonds on 13th August drew yields as high as 5.22 per cent, according to the US Treasury department. It marked the highest yield since the 5.52 per cent paid in August 2001, after which 30-year auctions were suspended for almost five years. The yield compares with 5.06 per cent at the previous 30-year sale in July, and 4.91 per cent just before Trump's second term began in January 2025.
- Subsequently, the US Treasury said it would "at least double" purchases of long-term **government debt** to try to contain a sell-off that has sent borrowing costs soaring. The US dollar fell sharply while Bitcoin and gold jumped in the days afterwards.
- In remarks at the US Federal Reserve's annual conference in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, new chairman **Kevin Warsh** said, "We must be confident that underlying inflation is moving to our

objective [of 2%], clearly and at sufficient speed. Otherwise, we have work to do. That's our job." Warsh added that financial conditions are not currently restrictive and interest rates are the Fed's "predominant tool" for achieving its mandate. Following the speech, odds of an interest rate hike by the Federal Reserve in September jumped to 62% from 35% the previous day.

- The RBA Board decided to leave the **Australian cash interest** rate target unchanged at 4.35 per cent, before data showed headline **inflation** at 3.5 per cent for the year to July, above expectations of 3.3 per cent. Trimmed mean inflation, which strips out volatile price increases and is the preferred measure of the Reserve Bank of Australia, also topped forecasts at 3.6 per cent in July.
- The annual **inflation** rate in the US slowed for a second consecutive month to 3.4% in July 2026, from 3.5% in June, in line with expectations.
- **China** July economic data missed expectations. Industrial output grew 4.5% year on year versus FactSet consensus of 4.9%; retail sales grew 0.6% versus consensus 1.5%; fixed asset investment contracted by more than expected 6.7% including a 24% contraction in property investment; and unemployment ticked higher. Separate data showed July average house prices fell another 3.4% year on year.
- **Iran** threatened dozens of ships with fines or confiscation in an escalation of its efforts to assert control over the Strait of Hormuz. The Persian Gulf Strait Authority, which was set up by Iran, said that 46 ships had violated "Iranian protocols" for transiting the waterway.

Metals

- The US$ **gold** price was on track for the biggest monthly gain since 1999, in response to the US Treasury's buyback of Treasury securities maturing in 10 to 20 years and 20 to 30 years increase from US$2bn to "at least" US$4bn. However, the US$ gold price subsequently fell by 3% (and the silver price by 4%) after Kevin Warsh's "hawkish" comments on inflation at Jackson Hole.
- **Gold** ETFs added more than 28t in a week, the biggest inflow since January, while mine supply hit a record in 1H26, despite lower production from majors Newmont, Agnico Eagle and Barrick, according to the World Gold Council.
- Tether, the world's leading stablecoin issuer, published its second-quarter financial report, reporting US$1.5 billion in net operating profit and revealing that it added 14 tonnes of **physical gold** during the quarter. The purchase brought the company's total bullion holdings to more than 146 tonnes, valued at approximately US$18.8 billion, making Tether one of the world's largest private holders of physical gold.
- China consumed 511.4t of **gold** in 1H 2026, up 1.2% year on year. Bar and coin buying jumped 28.4% to 339.3t, while jewellery fell 34% on high prices. Mine output fell 14.6% to 1,531t after inspections stopped work at some mines. The PBoC added 40t, a 20th straight month of buying as it moves reserves away from the US dollar.
- **Central banks** bought 51t of **gold** in June with Poland and China continuing to lead gold accumulation. Buyers for the month included Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Jordan, Czech Republic, Ghana and Georgia, while net sellers this month were Russia and Turkey. As of H1 2026, reported central bank buying reached 102t, with purchases spread across a broad cohort of emerging market central banks.

Metals

- Bloomberg News reported that South Korea's central bank bought **gold**-related assets for the first time in 13 years. Also, recently, Bank of Namibia officials said the central bank plans to triple gold's share of its foreign-exchange reserves by next year.
- Global **gold backed ETF's** added US$3bn in July, reversing two consecutive months of outflows. Inflows were broad-based in July, with all regions contributing, led by European-listed funds. Positive flows, together with a higher gold price, lifted global gold ETF assets under management by 1% to US$530bn. Collective holdings rose by 23t to 4,068t, remaining below the record high of 4,176t reached on 27 February 2026.
- Year to date, global **gold ETF inflows** amounted to US$11bn, equivalent to a 39t increase in holdings. Asian-listed funds remained the largest contributor to global inflows over the period, followed by Europe. North America, meanwhile, remains in net outflow territory.
- More than 200,000 metric tons of **copper** arrived in the USA in July, the biggest monthly inflow on record in IHS Markit shipping data going back to 2014. The import surge add to large US stockpiles that have accumulated over the past year, with combined Comex and London Metal Exchange inventories exceeding 740,000 tons. The influx is being built at the expense of supplies in the rest of the world. Inventories in LME warehouses outside the US have fallen sharply this year as traders diverted metal to American ports to capture higher prices. The flows have accelerated even after a June 30 deadline for Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick to recommend action on tariffs passed without an announcement.
- **Copper** approached recent all-time highs reached earlier this year as stockpiling continued. Glencore CEO Gary Nagle warned that copper prices would be likely to fall in the wake of a US announcement regarding tariffs on raw copper. The US imposed a tariff on semi-finished copper in 2025 and opened the door to broader copper tariffs, which would make raw copper more expensive for domestic buyers. "It's likely to have some sort of pullback in pricing because the market then will have better knowledge of the situation," Nagle said. The arbitrage "will close and you'll have these high stockpiles in the US, which over time will be drawn down for use in the US."
- The Democratic Republic of Congo banned exports of **copper** concentrate and **cobalt** concentrate as it escalated efforts to force domestic processing and retain more value from its mineral resources, a government order reviewed by Reuters showed. Congo is seeking to leverage its position as the world's largest cobalt supplier and a major source of other energy-transition minerals, including copper, to build domestic processing capacity and retain a greater share of the wealth flowing from its mines.
- Chile will reinvest all profits of the state-owned copper miner **Codelco's** in 2025 into the company, Mining Minister Daniel Mas said, boosting funding for a producer grappling with a heavy debt load and the job of overhauling aging mines. Codelco reported a net profit of US$2.4 billion in 2025, helped by stronger copper prices and income from its lithium partnership with SQM. Despite the improved results, the company ended the year with net debt of US$25.1 billion.
- Codelco's own-mine **copper** production fell 11% in the first half, dragged down by declines at the flagship El Teniente and Chuquicamata mines. Direct costs rose 6.7% as lower production combined with higher energy, fuel and peso- denominated expenses. Implied second-quarter output was down 14%.

- Chile as a country produced 403,424 tonnes of **copper** in July, down 9.4% from a year earlier and 9.8% below June, the weakest July for the world's biggest producer since 2011. The national statistics agency blamed weather in the north of the country that hindered normal production, along with maintenance at major sites
- Global **silver** demand from the solar industry is set to drop in 2026 for a second straight year, according to estimates by BloombergNEF. Silver now accounts for about a fifth of a solar module's production cost, according to the latest data from BNEF. While that's down from a peak seen during a price spike in January, it's well above the 3% to 5% that prevailed before 2024. The push to economize on the metal comes as a prolonged price war in China has impacted margins and pushed weaker solar panel producers out of business. With silver having rallied 115% over the past 18 months, manufacturers are incentivised to use less of it. JPMorgan expects solar demand for silver to fall by about 30% this year, equivalent to around 60 million ounces. That would be enough to push the silver market, excluding inventory and ETF flows, back into balance after five years of deficits, the bank estimated.
- Albemarle reported global **lithium** demand rose 45% in the first five months of 2026 from a year earlier, more than its 15-40% growth forecast. Its 2026 forecast for stationary grid and data centre storage batteries rose 11%. Lithium inventories have fallen to near historic lows, while some conversion plants in China have reportedly shut down or reduced production because of limited spodumene availability, the company said.
- Albemarle said EV demand strengthened in the second quarter after a weaker start to the year, while stationary-storage demand was "off the charts." Albemarle said global lithium consumption is running ahead of its expectations and outpacing supply, driven by surging demand for stationary batteries and a recovery in electric-vehicle sales. "**Lithium** demand growth continues to outstrip supply growth," Chief Executive Officer Kent Masters said. "The physical market is very tight." The comments underscore how rapid growth in battery demand is tightening the lithium market despite new supply expected from mine expansions and restarted operations.
- Chinese battery maker CATL's Jianxiawo **lithium** mine remained closed pending environmental approval, state media reported. The mine is also undergoing maintenance, and no ore transportation or crushing is taking place, Shanghai Securities News reported, citing the Yifeng County Ecology and Environment Bureau. CATL has been asked to complete environmental impact assessment approval procedures as soon as possible. The project's mineral designation was changed to lithium ore from ceramic clay containing lithium, requiring CATL to prepare a new environmental impact assessment report, which was published for public consultation in July. CATL suspended operations at Jianxiawo in August 2025 after its mining licence expired.
- For the first time, a large-scale primary scandium development is now potentially funded. The Trump Administration, through the U.S. 'Department of War', announced a US$400 million conditional loan commitment to Sunrise Energy Metals to develop its Syerston **Scandium** Project in New South Wales. The funding is intended to help establish a U.S.-aligned mine-to-metal scandium supply chain, with the Department also receiving a right of first offer over Sunrise production.
- Zinc hit a four year high. Among key **zinc** producers, Glencore reported a 21% annual decline in production in the first half of 2026, though it maintained its full-year output guidance. Boliden's zinc concentrate production dropped 16.8% quarter-on-quarter, while MMG's output fell 1% year-on-year in the second quarter. Heavy rainfall and flooding across parts of China, the world's largest zinc producer, have threatened mining and smelting operations.

- Indonesia's biggest **nickel** producers were reported by Bloomberg to have discussed cutting output. Tsingshan, GEM, Lygend and Huayou met in late August to discuss cutting output at their Indonesian HPAL plants. One idea was a 30% cut each, though nothing had been agreed.
- China's state **iron ore** buyer directed some steel mills to halt negotiations with Rio Tinto for shipments from September, Reuters reported, escalating pressure on the world's top iron ore producer during annual supply talks.
- Chinese **iron ore** port inventory increased by 640kt (+0.4%) over the week to 7th August to 157.1Mt according to Steelhome. This compares to 130.1Mt a year ago, the peak last year of 148.8Mt in late December 2025, and the record high of 166.9Mt in March 2026.
- **BHP** insisted shipping operations at the world's largest bulk export port were not disrupted after more than 120 employees walked off the job. But the walkout prompted the mining lobby to renew warnings that prolonged action could deter investment in the sector. A planned 24-hour ship-loading ban at BHP's operations in Port Hedland, Western Australia, descended into a full-scale strike.
- **Chinese steel** production tumbled in July, putting the industry on track for the lowest annual total this decade as mills adjust to much weaker demand
- China's **rare earth exports** fell 17% month on month, and 30% year on year, to 4,223t in July, according to data released by the General Administration of Customs.
- The US Government is putting US$85.5 million into Guyana's **bauxite** industry as Washington seeks to diversify its refractory-grade bauxite supply and reduce reliance on China and Chinese-owned sources. In H1 2026, China imported 121 million tonnes of bauxite, up from 103 million tonnes in H1 2025, a rise of 17.5 per cent.
- AUD$1.14 billion was spent **exploring** for copper, gold and other minerals in Australia in the three months to June 2026. This was 17 per cent higher than the same time last year and the highest on record, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics. But higher costs for labour, fuel and drill rigs have hit productivity, with spending rising faster than the number of metres drilled. Explorers drilled 3.1 million metres in the period, below the 3.37 million metres drilled in the June quarter of 2021, when spending was 22 per cent lower, the ABS data showed.

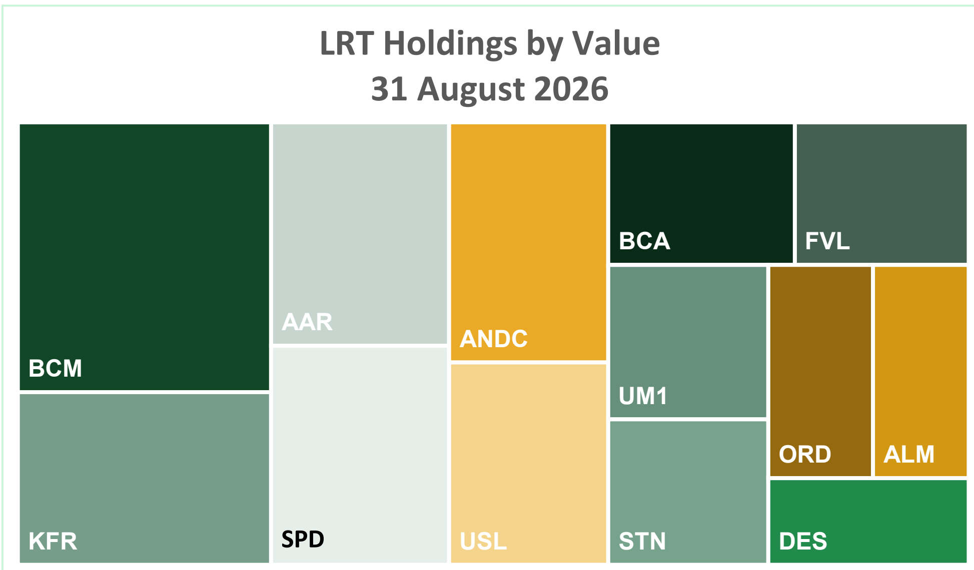
Energy

- Global **oil stocks** fell by 5.1 million barrels per day in the second quarter and were forecast to decline by a further 2.2 million bpd in the third quarter, according to U.S. Energy Information Administration estimates. Rebuilding inventories of diesel, jet fuel and gasoline is likely to take years, creating persistent demand.
- The seven members of **OPEC+** undertaking voluntary output cuts (Saudi Arabia, Russia, Iraq, Kuwait, Algeria, Kazakhstan and Oman) agreed to increase production by 188,000 barrels per day (bpd) for September. This completes the phased rollback of a 1.65 million bpd supply cut originally agreed in 2023. The eight members of OPEC with quotas pumped 20 million bpd in June, which was 6.3 million bpd below the agreed target. Russia, the main non-OPEC member of the wider OPEC+ group, had production of 8.9 million bpd in June, according to OPEC data, which was almost 1 million bpd below its agreed quota.
- Another tanker operated by Abu Dhabi National Oil Co. was targeted in **Hormuz**, while Iran-backed Houthi militants in Yemen claimed an attack on Saudi Arabia's Jazan refinery. Oil flows through Strait of Hormuz fell to a 3 month low of 5m bpd (vs 20 m bpd pre war).
- **Iran** threatened dozens of ships with fines or confiscation in an escalation of its efforts to assert control over the Strait of Hormuz after the US said it would unleash an "economic D-Day" against Tehran. The Persian Gulf Strait Authority, which was set up by Iran, said on 'X' that 46 ships had violated "Iranian protocols" for transiting the waterway.
- Trump urged Americans to accept higher **petrol prices** while the conflict with Iran continues.
- **China** unveiled a strategic plan for its oil and gas sector through to 2030, setting targets for an expansion of domestic production, pipeline infrastructure and storage capacity as Beijing seeks to bolster energy security. China's National Development and Reform Commission released the 15th Five-Year Plan for Oil and Gas Development. This blueprint highlights two priorities: reducing exposure to global supply disruptions, while preparing for a peak in oil consumption and a gradual integration of lower-carbon alternatives. By 2030, authorities aim to raise domestic oil and gas supply to 440 million tons of oil equivalent and add 20,000 kilometres of long-distance pipelines, bringing the national total to 220,000 km. The plan also calls for increasing natural gas storage capacity to more than 13% of annual consumption, expanding liquefied natural gas receiving capacity to 200 million tons a year and lifting onshore pipeline import capacity to 114 billion cubic meters annually.
- **Venezuela** President Rodriguez said the country had agreed a deal with the US which calls for the development of 17 Venezuelan oil fields with a proven potential of 65 billion barrels in the Orinoco Belt and Lake Maracaibo producing regions, as well as "an investment of more than US$100bn and more than US$209bn in taxes". A US official cited by the BBC said the US government will retain 55% control of a joint venture with an "experienced private operator in Venezuela." The US official said Rodríguez gave the venture a 100-year concession to operate in the oil fields. Venezuela has the largest proven oil reserves in the world - an estimated 303 billion barrels - but production has plummeted since its peak in the late 1990s, in part due to a tightening of controls over its state-run oil firm and US sanctions targeting its main economic lifeline.
- In refined products markets, the margin for making **diesel** from crude oil known as the diesel 'crack spread' topped US$100 a barrel, marking a fresh record amid a global fuel-making crunch.

- The West Australian government will maintain its ban on **uranium** mining, despite growing global demand and a landmark export deal with India. The state's uranium policy, in place since Labor's election in 2017, allowed projects approved by the previous Liberal-National government to proceed, but banned all others. None of those projects have reached production.
- Kazatomprom's C1 operating costs were up 37% to US$24.48/lb in H1 2026. This was driven by three main factors: higher taxes, currency and acid costs. A delay in construction of the TQZ acid plant is going to add to acid cost pressure in 2027. CEO Meirzhan Yussupov said, "New realities are signalling that the era of "cheap" **uranium** is fading away."
- Chinese **coking coal** prices surged to the biggest monthly gain on record as output disruptions and tougher safety checks squeezed supplies of the crucial steelmaking raw material. Futures in Dalian climbed 46% in August, the most since the contract was launched in March 2013. The latest advance accelerated, as the effects of China's worst coal-mining disaster since 2009 began to ripple through the market.
- Europe installed 8.8GW of new **wind** capacity in H1 2026, up 30% year on year, across the EU plus 13 other countries including Turkey, Ukraine, and the UK, with the region on track for a potentially record 24.1GW of total 2026 expansion if policy conditions hold.

What is the Lowell Resources Fund? (ASX: LRT)

ASX-listed Lowell Resources Fund is focused on generating strong absolute returns from the junior resources sector. Our team of fund managers has many years of experience in this high risk, high reward sector. Lowell Resources Fund Management (LRFM) manages the portfolio of exploration and development companies operating in precious and base metals, specialty metals and the oil and gas space. LRFM has a successful 20-plus year track record managing LRT. An investment in LRT provides investors with exposure to an actively-managed portfolio focused squarely on one of the most rewarding sectors of the Australian, as well as global, share market.



Characteristics of the Fund

Number of Investments: 79

Unlisted Investments by value: 5.7%

Nature of Fund	Long only, absolute return fund
Investee companies	Junior resource companies, including gold, base and specialty metals, and energy
Investment type	Focus on global listed and unlisted resource equities
Distribution policy	100% of taxable profits distributed annually

WARNING

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This release has been approved by the Responsible Entity’s Board of Directors