



BACK RIVER PROJECT

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

This Annual Report (“the Report”) is a requirement of Project Certificate No. 007 issued by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) to Sabina Gold & Silver Corp., which was purchased by B2Gold Corp. and is now referred to as B2Gold Back River Corp. (B2Gold Nunavut) as of April 2023, outlining the terms and conditions for construction and operation of the Back River Project. This Report provides information on how B2Gold Nunavut is addressing the terms and conditions of the Project Certificate and its performance against them.

Back River Project

The Back River Project (“the Project”) is an approved gold mine owned by B2Gold Corp. in the eastern Kitikmeot region of Nunavut (**See Appendix A Figure 1**). It is situated approximately 400 kilometres (km) southwest of Cambridge Bay, 95 km southeast of the southern end of Bathurst Inlet (Kingaok), and 520 km northeast of Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. The Project is located predominantly within the Queen Maud Gulf Watershed (Nunavut Water Regulations, Schedule 4).

The Project is comprised of two main areas with an interconnecting winter ice road (WIR): Goose Property and the Marine Laydown Area (MLA) situated along the western shore of southern Bathurst Inlet. The majority of annual resupply between February and April will be completed using the MLA, and an approximately 160 km long WIR will interconnect these sites.

The Project consists of a combination of four open pit and four underground mining operations at several gold deposits located at the Goose Property (Umwelt, Llama, Echo, and Goose Main).

In April 2018, B2Gold Nunavut and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA) entered into 20-year benefit and land tenure agreements under a Framework Agreement, setting out rights and obligations across a 80 km belt with respect to surface land access on Inuit Owned Land (IOL) at the Back River Project. These agreements provide Inuit of the Kitikmeot Region with financial and socio-economic benefits including, training, jobs, formation of an Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee (IEAC), investments in community infrastructure projects with the objective of supporting regional wealth creation initiatives within Kitikmeot communities, share ownership in B2Gold, and a 1% net smelter royalty on future production from the approved mine on the Goose Property.

Community Engagement

Various Inuit and KIA engagement activities occurred in 2023. For example, the Presidents of B2Gold Nunavut and KIA met in March and several IIBA Implementation Committee meetings were held throughout the year. Many community events were also held or participated in throughout the year including Nunavut Day celebrations in Cambridge Bay, an in-person Kitikmeot Region community tour in June, and other meetings with local and regional stakeholders and organizations (e.g. Hamlets, HTOs). \$66,000 in community donations were additionally made in 2023.

Highlights and Challenges

2023 was a positive year at the Back River Project which saw an ownership change, historic levels of Inuit employment, growth in project expenditures with Kitikmeot Qualified Businesses, and a community tour

with incredible attendance across the Kitikmeot region. The project remains on target for First Gold in Q1 2025.

In April 2023, B2Gold Corp. completed the acquisition of Sabina Gold & Silver Corp. acquiring the Back River Project. B2Gold is a senior gold producer headquartered in Vancouver, Canada. Founded in 2007, today, B2Gold has operating gold mines in Mali, Namibia and the Philippines, a mine under construction at Back River and numerous development and exploration projects in various countries including Mali, Colombia and Finland.

In June, the B2Gold Nunavut team, departed on its annual Kitikmeot Community tour. The team visited Gjoa Haven, Kugaaruk, Taloyoak, Cambridge Bay and Kugluktuk to engage each community with project update presentations on the Back River Project, share career opportunities, provide resume writing support, and facilitate an open forum question and answer with Kitikmeot residents. A total of 405 Kitikmeot residents attended the sessions nearly doubling attendance from 2022. I would like to extend a sincere thank you to everyone that warmly welcomed the B2Gold Nunavut team into their community.

This year also the creation and successfully launch of the Back River Project Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee, which is a requirement of the Back River Project Inuit Impact & Benefit Agreement. Seven Kitikmeot Inuit were appointment to the Committee by the Kitikmeot Inuit Association and B2Gold Nunavut and had a successful first meeting and site visit in July 2023.

B2Gold Nunavut's Back River Project continues to make many positive contributions to Nunavut's economy. Over 2.4 million hours of Project labour have been performed to-date, of which 328,000+ hours have been performed by Inuit. \$68.5 million in payroll has additionally been provided to Project personnel and \$947.0 million in Project business expenditures have been made, with \$227.1 million spent on Kitikmeot Qualified Businesses alone. \$49 million in taxes have also been paid to the federal and territorial governments.

Environmental Monitoring Programs

In 2023 our environmental monitoring activities continued at the Back River Project in alignment with B2Gold Nunavut's Construction Phase and related activities. Environmental fieldwork targeted the disciplines of Archaeology, Atmospheric, Hydrology, Fisheries, Vegetation, Geochemistry, Terrestrial and Marine Wildlife, Freshwater and Marine Water and Sediment Quality studies at the Back River Project. Dust mitigation and management measures are implemented to limit the amount generated at Back River, and we calculate our GHG emissions in accordance with the Environment and Climate Change (ECCC) GHG Emission Reporting Program. Quarry and aggregate materials generated for the construction related earthworks are evaluated on an ongoing basis for geochemical suitability characteristics.

B2Gold Nunavut is committed to ensuring wildlife remain safe through the successful implementation of the Project's mitigation, monitoring, and adaptive management measures related to wildlife. In late 2022 and throughout 2023, B2Gold Nunavut collaborated with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, and the Government of Nunavut, in a Caribou Technical Advisory Group providing technical oversight of the Project's monitoring and seeking to test and evaluate the Project's measures for reducing disturbance to caribou. With the key activity of B2Gold Nunavut's Winter Ice Road (WIR) occurring in Q1 2023, heavy focus was put on caribou monitoring; B2Gold Nunavut had a dedicated Inuit transiting the road monitoring for caribou whom was supported by wildlife biologists performing behaviour monitoring of caribou in proximity to the Project, establishing remotely activated caribou monitoring cameras along the road route,

and ensuring all other wildlife mitigation measures are also in place such as limiting road bank heights, monitoring caribou collar data for the herd's approach, and personnel travelling the WIR are briefed on the Project's wildlife requirements.

In accordance with B2Gold Nunavut's approved Fish Out Plan, which was reviewed with communities and Fisheries and Oceans Canada, B2Gold Nunavut completed a successful fish out exercise of both Llama and Umwelt Lakes. Archaeology field programs consisting of in-depth mapping of any new or revised development areas proposed outside of the existing footprint and/or previously surveyed areas were completed. Spring migration stand-watch surveys were completed to assess spring bird migration around the Project site, nesting surveys were completed throughout the Project sites, and vegetation sampling was completed in the summertime along B2Gold Nunavut's winter ice road route.

In addition, over the last few years Sabina has been working to conduct environmental baseline data collection and generate an impact assessment as we explore a Back River Project hybrid energy system aimed at offsetting diesel-based power generation with renewable wind energy. In 2023, the project advanced through the NIRB Regulatory System with a Pre-Hearing Conference and Technical Meetings occurring in October 2023, with a planned Final Public Hearing scheduled for March 2024.

Employment and Training

B2Gold Nunavut established a Human Resources (HR) team with a focus on recruiting and enhancing existing policies and protocols to enable B2Gold Nunavut's successful development as a constructor and ultimately into a producer. The HR team has been successful in adding key personnel to the Company roster, with 609 construction and operations employees working for the Company in 2023 (a further 770 individuals worked as contractors on the Project). The HR team was also instrumental in working internally and with B2Gold Nunavut's business partners to increase Inuit employment to 167 Inuit Project personnel throughout 2023.

In 2023, a total of 27 cross-cultural training sessions were delivered by the Company's Senior Coordinator, Indigenous Affairs to staff at B2Gold Nunavut's Goose Camp, Marine Laydown Area (MLA) and corporate offices in Vancouver, BC. This training was conducted in English and had 397 participants, 24 of whom were Inuit. The training program was previously shared with KIA and their feedback was incorporated into revised training materials. A draft outline of a new training program/video (mentioned above) was also shared with KIA for comment. B2Gold Nunavut will continue to engage KIA on cross-cultural training initiatives at the Project.

A total of 20,144 hours of training were completed in 2023, of which 5,617 hours were completed by Inuit. Inuit training opportunities at the Project reflect the commitments B2Gold Nunavut has made to Kitikmeot Inuit through the IIBA and elsewhere, while also reflecting the current early stage of development the Project is in (i.e. construction).

The Year Ahead

2024 promises to be an incredibly busy and rewarding year at the Back River Project. A busy construction year is planned, as well as ongoing community engagement, and the development of new programming to support Kitikmeot Communities. Monitoring programs are continually being enhanced to ensure that construction activities conform to B2Gold Nunavut's licenses and authorizations. All this work will ensure that the target for First Gold in Q1 2025 remains on track.

The Company's efforts on Inuit hiring, retention, and training are also set to continually be enhanced throughout 2024. Updated Management Plans will be distributed for use, enhanced programming will be rolled out, and partnerships created or enhanced with Kitikmeot Region partners.

The Human Resources team will continue its focus on maximizing Inuit employment across the Project. Another community information and employment tour will be held in summer 2024. Detailed work will also be advanced to design and develop a comprehensive Inuit training program for areas of the Project. A new Cultural Awareness Training video will be finalized to aid B2Gold Nunavut as it works to develop a culturally diverse workforce.

Construction activities will see the second phase of the Goose Site accommodations complex completed, work on the primary pond will complete, and process plant site components moved from active construction to commissioning.

All of this will be accomplished as B2Gold Nunavut continues to enhance safety in all areas of work and strives to ensure the Project is developed in an environmentally and socially responsible manner.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY INUINNAQTUN

Kangiqhipkaidjutit

Una Ukiuq Tamaat Unniutjutinik (Unniudjuti) pitqujahimajuq havaakhamik Naunaitkutimik No. 007 tunijauhijajuq uumannga Nunavunmi Avatilirinirmut Katimajiit (NIRB) uumunga Sabina Gold Silver Corp., niuviqtauhijajuq uumannga B2Gold Corp. tadjala taijahimajuq uumunga B2Gold Back River Corp. (B2Gold) talvanga April 2023, naunaijaqhugit maliktahangit qanuriliurutikhallu nappaqtirnikkut aulapkaikkullu Kuugaup Havaktaujukhami. Una Unniudjuti tunivaktuq ilitturipkaidjutinik qanuqtun B2Gold kiunikkut maliktahainnik qanuriliurutikhaniklu uumani Havaktakhami Naunaitkutimi havagutainnilu taapkununga.

Back Rivermi Havaaqhaq

Tamna Back Rivermi Havaaqhangit ("tamna Havaaqhaq") angirutiqahimayuq goldmik uyaraqhiuqtunik nanminigiyaingit talvanga B2Gold Corpkut talvani kivataani Kitikmeotmi Nunavunmi (**takulugu Naunaitkut A Titirauyaaq 1**). Inilik qanituani 400 kilaamitat (km) nigiani Ikaluktutiak, 95 kilaamitat nigiani kivataani hivuraani nungunianut Qingauk (Kingaok), tamnalu 520 kilaamitat ungalaata kivataani Yalunaimi, Nunatsiaq. Tamna Havaaqhaq nayugaqaqtuq talvani Queen Maud Gulfmi Imarmik (Nunavunmi Imaliqiyunik Malikhautikharnik, Naunaitkutmi 4mi).

Tamna Havaaqhaq piqaqtun malrunnik hanigainik katitirutikharnik ukiumi hikungit ("WIR"): Goose Property unalu Tariurmi Laydown Nayugaa (MLA) nayugaqaqtuq talvani uataani hinaani hivuraani Qingaukmi. Amigainiqhat aipagutuaraagata agyaqtauniginik akungani lidjirurvia Qitiqqautiyuqlu iniqtauniaqtuq atuqlugu MALIGALIUQTI, qanituani 160 km takiyumik WIR-mik ilaliutiniaqtut ukua inigiyauyut.

Tamna Havaaqhaq piqaqtun qaffiuyunik 4nik angmaumayunik iluqharnik 4niklu nunami uyaraqhiuqtunik auladjutikharnik qaffiuyunik goldmik iliugaqtauhimayunik talvani Goose Property (Umwelt, Llama, Echo, unalu Goose Main).

Qitiqqautijuq 2018-mi, B2Gold-mi Qitiqmiunilu Inuit Katiqatigiit (KIA) ilauliqtut 20-nik ukiunik ikayuunmik nunaniklu havaaginnik agiqatiriigutininik ilagani Qanuriningani Agiqatiriigunmi, ihuaqhiyaagani ihumaqhuutainik aturiaqaqtainiklu humiliqaa 80km-nik ahivariagani qaagani nunanik aturiagani Inuit Nanminiinik Nunamik ("IOL") talvani Back River-mi Havaami. Hapkua angirutit tunihiyut Inuinnarnun Kitikmeoni maniliqinikkut uvalu inungnun-maniliungnikkut ikayuutit ilauyut, ayuiqhautikharnik, havaaqharnik, talvuuna Inuit Avatiliqiyitkut Uqaudjiyut Katimayiit ("IEAC"), maniliurutikharnik nunalaani iglukpakharnik havaaqhangit hivunikhangit ikayuutikharnik avikturvingmi pidjutikharnik auladjutikharnik hanaqidjutikharnik talvani Kitikmeotmi nunalaangitni, iliqatigiiktukharnik nanminikharnik talvani B2Goldmi, unalu 1 pusanmik katitiqhimayunik royaltynik hivunirmi auladjutikharnik talvanga angirutiqahimayuq uyaraqhiurnikkut Nanminigiyaanik.

Nunallaami Ilaumatigiingnikkut

Aalatqiit Inuit KIA-kulu ilaupkainigit hulijutit atuqhimayut 2023-mi. Una uuktuutigillaklugu, Atan'nguyaq B2Gold Nunavut unalu KIA katimayut March-mi qaffillu IIBA Atulirnikhanut Katimayiit katimangmata ukiuq tamaat. Amigaitut nunallaat hulidjutait katimapkaiblutik uvaluuniin ilaiblutik atuqtillugu ukiuq ilauyut Nunavut Ublua quviahuutit Ikaluktutiami, upautiblutik Kitikmeoni nunallaani pulaaqhutik uvani

Imaruqtirvia, uvalu aalat katimadjutit nunamingni uvalu aviktuqniini tigumidjutiaqtut uvalu katimayit (imaa Haamlat, HTOkut). \$66,000 nunallaani aittuqtauyut ilaliutihimayut 2023mi.

Uqagiyauvikhat Akhuurutigiyauvaktutlu

2023-mi nakuuyuq ukiuq talvani Back River-mi Havaaghanit takuhimayut nanminik aallannguqtunik, ingilraarnitanik inuinnait havaktut, amigaiqpalliyut havaaghanut akiliqtaghat Qitiqmiuni Ayungittut Nanminiit, nunallaaqmilu pulaaqpaktut quvianaqpiaqhutik ilihariaqtuqpauhikhanut tamanit Qitiqmiuni. Tamna havaaqhaq aulahimaanginaqtuq hivunikhangit talvuuna Hivuliuyuq Goldmi Q1 2025mi.

Qitiqqautiluq 2023-mi, B2Gold Corp-kut iniqhiyut niuviqhimayainik Sabina Gold Silver Corp-kut. B2Gold angayukhiq gold-mik hanahimayut ataniqarviupluni Vancouver-mi, Kanatami. Naniyauyuq 2007-mi, ublumi, B2Gold-guyuq aulahimayut kuulmik uyaraktaqviknik Mali-mi, Namibia-mi Philippines-milu, uyaraktaqviknik ilagani hanayaunigani Back River-mi amigaitulu pivaliajutit qiniqhiavlutiklu havaanik aalatqiini ataniqtuivikni unalu Mali, Colombia-mi Finland-milu.

June-mi, una B2Gold Nunavut havaqatigiiktut, aullaqtiqtuq ukiuq tamaat Kitikmeoni Nunallaami takujaqtuqhutik. Havaqatigiiktut pulaaqpaktut Uqhuqtuuq, Kugaaruk, Taloyoak, Iqaluktuutiami Kugluktumilu ilaupkailutik tamainni nunallaani havaakhamut nutannguqtiutainik katimapkaiplutik talvani Back River-mi Havaakhaq, uqautigilugit havaakharhimavaktarnik, tunihilutik havaarihimaavaktarnik titiraqhimayumik ikayuutikhanik, imaalu katimapkailutik angmaumayumik katimadjutikhanik apiqqutikhamik kiulutiklu Kitikmeot nunaqaqtut. Attautimun 405 Kitikmeoni inuit upautihimayut katimadjutini naamavyaktut upautiyut hamanga 2022min. Quyagiyumayatka tamaita tungahuktitiyut haffuminnga B2Gold iligiit nunamingnun.

Uvani ukiumi piliuqniq uvalu nakuuyumik aulagutaa haffuma Back Rivermi Havaaghat Inuit Avatiliqinikkut Uqaudjinikkut Katimayit, kitut piyakhat hapkununga Back Rivermi Havaaghat Inuit Aktuumattaqtunit Ikayuutikhanut Angirut. 7-guyut Qitiqmiuni Inuit tikuaqtauhimayut Kamitiuyumut Kitikmeot Inuit Katimayinit B2Gold-milu aulaniqatiaqhutiklu hivuliqmi katimaniqmik inikhamiklu pulaaqhutik Taaqhivalirvia 2023-mi.

B2Gold Nunavutim Back Rivermi Havaaqhangit aulahimaaqtun amigaitunik ihuaqtumik ikayuutikharnik Nunavutim maniliurutikharnik. Avatqumayut 2.4 million ikaangniit Havaaghat havaktut ublumimun, kitut 328,000 ikaangniit havaktauyut Inuinnarnin. \$68.5 milliat taalamik akiliuhiakhamut aadlamik tuniyauyuq Havauhikhamut havaktinginnut unalu \$947.0 milliat taalamik Havauhikhaq havakvinganit akiliutiit piliuqtauyut, \$227.1 milliat taalamik atuqtauyut Kitingmeonmi Qualified Nanminiaqtunut avalittumik. \$49 miliataala taaksit akiliqtauyut kanatami uvalu aviktuqhimayuni kavamat.

Avatiliqinikkut Munaqhinikkut Pinahuarutit

2023-mi avatiliqinikut amirijutit hulijutit atuqhimaqtut Talvani Back River-mi Havaami nalaumayumik B2Gold-mik Nunavumi Hanayaunigani Pigiarutitik pijutiqaqtuniklu hulijutitik. Avatiliqinikkut havaktakhainik havaktakhainik havakhikhimayunik nallautakgutauvaktunik huaktuivaktunik tahapkunani Ingilgaaktangnik nirgitinik, Atmospherics, Imakakvit, Ingniukvit Ingnikutilingnik, Ingngianik Havakhautikhanik, Nunaulyukhimayunik Apkutainik Havakhautikhanik. Pujuulaitkutikhat tutquumadjutikhangit munaqhidjutikhangitlu maliqatqujauhimajut atuqtauliqtut ikiglinahuarutikhanik aktilanganik piliuqtauhimajut talvani Back River-mi, imaalu naunaijaqtavut GHG puyuit maliqaplugit Avatiliqijikkut hilaup Aalannguqtirninga (ECCC) GHG Puyunnit Unniudjutikhat Pinahuaruti. Uyagaktaqvut

uvalu katitighugit hunat havaktauyut igluqpinikkut ilauiyut nunaquyumi havauhiit ihivgiuqtauyut aulahimaaqtumik pihimayut haffumunga nunap qanuriniit.

B2Gold Nunavut havakhimaarniaqtun naunaiyaiyaangat uumayunik qayangnairutikharnik talvuuna ihuaqtumik auladjutikharnik talvani Havaaqhangit ihuaqhaidjutikharnik, munagidjutikharnik, unalu atugiangani munagidjutikharnik uuktuutikharnik aulahimayut uumayunik. Nunguliqtulugu 2022 uvalu tamaini 2023, B2Gold Nunavunmi havaqatigiblugit Kitikmeot Inuit Katimayit, ukualu Kavamatkut Nunavunmi, Tuktunik Ayungnaqtutigit Uqaudjinikkut Katimayit tunihiyut ayungnaqtunik munaridjutinik Havaaghap munaridjutainun uvalu qiniqhiablutik uuktuqlugit ihivriuqlugitlu Havaaghat aktilaangit ikiliyuumiriangani ayuqhautit tuktun. Huliluarutauluaqtuq B2Gold-mik Ukiumi Hikumi (WIR) atuqhimayut Q1-mi 2023-mi, uqumaitut tuktut munariniganik; B2Gold Nunavut havakpiakpaktut Inuinnanik aullapkaiplutik apqutunik munaqhiplutik tuktunut ikajuqtauvaktut uumajunik uumayulijjinit munaqhiplutik munaqhiplutik tuktunik qanittuani Havaakhamut, havaklugit ungahiktukkut aulayut tuktut munagidjutikkut piksalitit apqutini, uvalu piyaangini tamaita aalat hugadhat ihuaqhaidjutikhat atuqtauyut imaatun kikliqaqlugit apqutit angikliyuumiutait, munagiblugit tuktut qunguhiqtautiqaaqtunik naunaiyautit amihuaquyut upautidjutait, uvalu havaktut tingmiyut WIR naittumik titiraqhimayut uvani Havaaghap hugadhatigit piyakhat.

Malikhugit ukuat B2Gold Nunavutim angiqtauhimajut Iqalukhiurnikkut Upalungaijautikhat, ihivriuqtauhimajuq nunallaani Iqalukhiuqtit Tariuliqijullu Kanadami, B2Gold Nunavut iniqhijut ihuaqtumik iqalukhiurnirmik tamangnik Llama unalu Umwelt Lakes. Inituqlituqat havagutit havagutit piqartuq atuqpakniqhat nunauiyut kitutliqak nutat uvaluniit ihuaqhihimayuq pivaliatitni inait aturumani hilataani tatya atuqtut itigat tamnalu/uvaluniit hivuani naunaiyaqtauni inait iniqtauyut. Upin'ngaami aulaviit naunaiyaqtauhimayut ihivriuqhugit upingaami tingmiat aulaniit haniani Havaaghap nayugaani, ubluni naunaiyautit iniqtauyut tamaini Havaaghani nayugaini, nauhimayunilu uuktuutit iniqtauyut auyami hapkualu B2Gold's ukiumi hikup apqutaani.

Unaluttauq, kingulirni ukiuni Sabina havaktuq hanaqiplutik avatiliqinikkut naunaijautikhanik katititqtauhimajut imaalu piliuqhutik aktuutaujunik naunaijautikhanik qiniqhiapluta Back River Project hybrid pauwaliurutikhat turrangajut ahikkuurutikhanik uqhurjuaqtuqtunit pauwaliurutikhat pauwaliurutikhat pauwaliurutikhat. 2023-mi, havauhikhaq hivumuuqtuq ukunuuna NIRB-kut Maliktakhangit Qanuriliurutingit uumunnga Hivuagut-Hearing Katimaniq unalu Nutaanguqtiriniqmut Katimaniq piyuq October 2023mi, ihumaliurhimayuq Kingulliqaq Inungnut Tuhaqtipkainiq ihuarhaqtuuyut March 2024mi.

Havaatigit uvalu Ilihaidjutit

B2Gold Nunavut piliuqtait Havaktuliqijitkut (HR) havaqatigiiktut ihumagiplugit havaktikhaqhiurnikkut imaalu ihuaqhiyuumiutikhanik tadjat atugakhat maliqajakhangitlu pillahijanginni B2Gold Nunavutim ihuaqtumik pivallidjutikhanik nappaqtiuvlutik imaalu hanajiunirmik. HR-kut havaqatigiiktut ihuaqtumik ilaujut havaktingit Havagviujumut roster-mut, imaatut 609 nappaqtirnikkut aulapkaikkullu havaktit havaktut Havagvingmi 2023-mi (aallat 770-ngujut inuit havaktut kantraqatuiplutik Havaakhamut). HR-kut havaqatigiiktut ikajuutaujut havaktut iluani imaalu B2Gold Nunavutim nanminirijaujut havaqatigiiktut amigaigjuumidjutikhanik Inuit havaakhainnik 167-nik Inuit Havaakhat havaktingit tamainni 2023-mi.

Uvani 2023mi, attautimun 27nik avatingnun-pitquhikkut ilihaidjutit tuniyauyut hapkunanga Havagviup Angayukhiq Aulapkaiyimin, Nunaqaqaqtut Kavamaliqidjutait havaktinun uvani B2Gold Nunavutip Goose

Camp, Tariumi Laydown Area (MLA) uvalu kuapaliisit havagviit Vancouvermi, BCmi. Una ilihaidjut pihimayug Qablunaatut uvalu piquatut 397nik ilaayunik, 24nguyut kitut Inuinnaublutik. Tamna ayuiqhautikhaq ilihairutikhaq kinguliuyuq iliqatigiikhimayug tapkuninga KIAkutni kiudjutikharniklu ilaувakhimayug nuutaanguqtiqhimayunik ayuiqhautikharnik ingilrutikharnik. Iniqhimaitug naunaiyaqhimayug nutaaq ilihaidjutit/piksasiug (titiraqhimayug qulaani) uqautaubluni hapkununga KIAkunun uqagahainun. B2Gold Nunavut aulahimaarniaqtun ilaayukharnik KIAkut talvuuna pitquhiliqinikkut ayuiqhautikharnik hanaqidjutikharnik talvani Havaaqharmi.

Atautimut 20-talaayug,144-nik ikaaqniqnik ayuiqhaniqmik iniqhimayut 2023-mi, 5-ta,617-nik ikaaqniqnik iniqhimayut Inuinaqnit. Inuit ayuiqhanikut atuqtakhanik Havaami takuupkaiyug tuniqhimajutimik B2Gold-mik Nunavumi pihimayug Qitiqmiuni Inuit uvuuna IIBA-kut humiliqaalu, takuupkaivlutiklu taja qilamik pivalianiganik Havaaq (ila hanayauniganik).

Ukiug Hivun'nga

2024 uqariyaqhimayut havakyaqhutik uvalu aituqhutik ukiumi uvani Back Rivermi Havaaghani. Havakpiakpaktut nappaqtirinirmik ukiungani upalungaijaqtauliqtug, imaalu aullaranginnaqtumik nunamingni ilaupkaidjutikhanik, imaalu piliurnirmik nutaanik ilihautikhainnik ikajuutikhainnik Kitikmeoni Nunallaani. Munariblugit pinahuarutit aulahimaaqtumik ihuaqhiyuumiqtauyut piyaangini tapkua igluqpinikkut hulidjutit malikhugit ukua B2Gold Nunavunmi laisiit uvalu angirutit. Tamaita una havaaq piyaangani turaarutait hapkununga Hivuliit Gold uvani Q1 2025mi aulahimangitug.

Havagviup aghuurutait Inuinnarnik havaktitinirmun, pihimanikkut, uvalu ilihaidjutit ihuaqhaqtaublutik aulahimaaqtumik ihuaqhiyuumiqtaulutik atuqtilugu 2024. Nutaanguqtiqhimayut Munagidjutikkut Upalungaiyautit tuniyauniaqtut atugiangani, ihuaqhiyuumiqlugit hulidjutit atuqtauniaqtut, uvalu iligiinikkut havaktaulutik uvaluuniin ihuaqhiyuumiqlugit hapkununga Kitikmeoni havaqatigiit.

Havaktulijitkut havaqatigiitkut ihumagihimmaarniaqtait amigaigjuummirlugit Inuit havaakhat tamainni Havaakhami. Aallattaug nunallaani ilitturipkaidjutikhat havangnikkullu pulaaqtiit aujami 2024mi. Naunaijattiaqhimajut havaakhat hivumuuqpallianiaqtut qanurinnikhanik piliurlutiklu naunaijattiaqhimajut Inuit ajuiqharvikhanik ilihautikhainnik Havaakhainnik. Nutaaq Pitquhikkut Ilituqhaidjutit Ilihaidjutit piksasiug iniqtauniaqtug ikayuutighaq B2Gold Nunavunmi havaktug havaklutik pitquhikkut aalakiinik havagvingmik.

Nappaktirinirmun takuniaqtut tuglirmik pidjutimik Goose Miuyarvianni inikhait ayurnaahiyut iniqtauyut, havangniit tahirangmi iniktiriniaqtut, havangnialu pauwaqarviit ilanggit nuutiqauniaqtut aulayumik nappaktirinirmun.

Tamaita hapkua iniqtiqauniaqtut imaa B2Gold Nunavunmi aulahimaaqtumik ihuaqhiyuumiqlugit qayangnautit tamaini havaani uvalu aghuuqhutik piyaangini Havaaghat havaktauyut avatiinun uvalu inungnun munarittiaqtumik pihimalugit.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AQMMP	Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan
B2Gold Nunavut	B2Gold Back River Corp.
CanNor	Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency
CCME	Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment
CIRNAC	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
CTAG	Caribou Technical Advisory Group
DFO	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
ECCC	Environment and Climate Change Canada
EMS	Environmental Management System
FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
FDRP	Fugitive Dust Reduction Plan
GHGRP	Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program
GNDOE	Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
GNWT	Government of Northwest Territories
IEAC	Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee
IIBA	Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement
INAC	Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
IOL	Inuit Owned Land
KIA	Kitikmeot Inuit Association
KSEMC	Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee
MLA	Marine Laydown Area
NIRB	Nunavut Impact Review Board
NWB	Nunavut Water Board
OPEP	Oil Pollution Emergency Protection
OPPP	Oil Pollution Prevention Plan
PC	Project Certificate No. 007
Project	Back River Project
Report	NIRB Annual Report

Sabina	Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SEMWG	Socio-Economic Monitoring Working Group
TC	Terms and Conditions
TOR	Terms of Reference
TSF	Tailings Storage Facility
WIR	Winter Ice Road
WMMPP	Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Back River Project (the Project) is a gold project owned by B2Gold Corp. and operated by B2Gold Back River Corp. (B2Gold Nunavut, the Proponent and the Company) within the West Kitikmeot region of southwestern Nunavut (**Appendix A Figure 1**). It is situated approximately 400 kilometres (km) southwest of Cambridge Bay, 95 km southeast of the southern end of Bathurst Inlet (Kingaok), and 520 km northeast of Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. The Project is located predominantly within the Queen Maud Gulf Watershed (Nunavut Water Regulations, Schedule 4).

The Project is comprised of two main areas with interconnecting winter ice roads (WIR): Goose Property and the Marine Laydown Area (MLA) situated along the western shore of southern Bathurst Inlet. The majority of annual resupply will be completed using the MLA, and an approximately 160 km long WIR will interconnect these sites.

1.2 REGULATORY CONTEXT

B2Gold Nunavut must obtain and comply with requirements of various authorities including, land use planning, environmental assessment, Inuit water rights, and any other Federal, Territorial act, regulation or guideline applicable to the Project.

The Goose Property, WIR, and MLA are located predominately on Inuit Owned Land (IOL), with some infrastructure on Crown land (i.e., Tailings Storage Facility [TSF]). The lead authorizing agencies for the Project are the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB), Nunavut Water Board (NWB), Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA), and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC). The Project requires the authorization and consent for development, construction, operations, and closure of the Mine and is related facilities. Approvals are in the form of a land use leases, production lease, and Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement (IIBA), water compensation agreements, and other forms or approvals and authorizations. On December 6, 2017, the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, on behalf of the five responsible federal Ministers, accepted the NIRB's recommendation for the Project to proceed to the regulatory and licensing phase. Following the completion of a Project Certificate (PC) workshop held on December 14, 2017, the NIRB issued the final PC pursuant to Section 12.5.12 of Article 12 of the Nunavut Agreement. The Project received its final PC on December 19, 2017.

Sabina subsequently finalized an IIBA with the KIA, with an effective date of June 1, 2018. Furthermore, Sabina received the Project's Type A Water Licence from the NWB on November 14, 2018. In June of 2020, Sabina submitted proposed modifications to the Project to the Nunavut Planning Commission, the NIRB and the NWB outlining proposed modifications to the Project¹. On 9 June 2020², the Nunavut Planning Commission forwarded the 2020 Modification Package to the NIRB for assessment. The NIRB subsequently determined that the Back River Project 2020 Modification Package does not constitute a significant

¹ Sabina 2020. Back River Project 2020 Modification Package. June 2020.

² NPC's letter, "NPC file # 149378 [Back River 2020 Modification Package]" (P. Scholz to M. Pickard et. al, dated June 9, 2020)

modification that requires further assessment by the NIRB³ to identify and assess potential environmental and social effects resulting from the Package. In addition, the NIRB concluded that the Package submitted is consistent with the activities identified by Sabina under the NIRB Project Certificate No. 007. Sabina subsequently provided an application for amendment of the Project's Type A Water Licence to the NWB and received the approved amended licence August 2021.

In July 2022, B2Gold Nunavut submitted the Back River Energy Centre Modification Package to the NIRB for assessment. The NIRB subsequently determined that the Back River Project Modification Package was significant and required further assessment by the NIRB. The Modification Package proposal is currently under review.

A full list of Project permits and authorizations and their current status are provided in Table 1.2-1.

Table 1.2-1: Permit Registry

Authorization No.	Expiry (yr-mo-day)	Agency	Description
PC No. 007	N/A	NIRB	Back River Project NIRB Project Certificate
2AM-BRP1831	2031-12-31	NWB	Back River Type A Water License
N/A	2038-06-31	KIA	Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement
KTCL-18D001	2038-04-20	KIA	Commercial Lease - Goose
KTCL-18D002	2038-04-20	KIA	Commercial Lease - MLA
KTCL-18D003	2038-04-20	KIA	Commercial Lease – Winter Road
KTAEL-18C001	2024-04-20	KIA	Advanced Exploration Lease – George
LUL-XX	5 years from Effective Date	KIA	Land Use Licence as per KIA Framework Agreement
KTL312C004	<i>Renewal Pending</i>	KIA	Wishbone-Malley Exploration Activities
N2018F0021	2025-10-29	CIRNAC	CAT Train Beechy Lake Area
N2017F0016	2024-07-07	CIRNAC	CAT Train connecting Bathurst Inlet - Back River Project
N2016C0011	<i>Renewal Pending</i>	CIRNAC	Back River Exploration Activities
N2018F0017	2025-10-11	CIRNAC	Winter Ice Road Back River Project
Lease No. 76J/12-7-2	2048-08-14	CIRNAC	Marine environment land lease – adjacent to MLA
Lease No. 76J/9-1-2	2048-04-26	CIRNAC	Goose Lake Tailings Storage Facility
2BE-GOO2028	2028-02-18	NWB	Goose Water Licence (Type B)
2BE-GEO2025	2025-05-29	NWB	George Water Licence (Type B)
2BE-MLL2328	2028-05-08	NWB	Wishbone-Malley Water Licence (Type B)
12-HCAA-CA7-00007	2031-12-31	DFO	<i>Fisheries Act</i> Authorization – Back River Project
18-HCAA-00185	N/A	DFO	Letter of Authorization – Gander Culvert
18-HCAA-00971	N/A	DFO	Letter of Authorization – MLA
18-HCAA-01626	N/A	DFO	Letter of Authorization – Winter Ice Road
12-HCAA-CA7-00007	N/A	DFO	Letter of Authorization – Rascal Stream Diversion

³ NIRB's letter, "Direction Regarding the "Back River Project 2020 Modification Package" submitted by Sabina Gold & Silver Corp. in relation to the Back River Project (K. Kaluraq to M. Pickard, dated August 11, 2020, NIRB File No. 12MN036)

Table 1.2-1: Permit Registry

Authorization No.	Expiry (yr-mo-day)	Agency	Description
2012-600767-002	N/A	TC	<i>Navigation Protection Act</i> – MLA Discharge Pipeline Authorization
2012-600767-003	N/A	TC	<i>Navigation Protection Act</i> – MLA Intake Pipeline Authorization
2012-600767-006	N/A	TC	<i>Navigation Protection Act</i> – MLA Lightering Barge Authorization
12-HCAA-CA7-00007	N/A	ECCC	Amendment to Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations – Schedule 2

1.3 REPORT STRUCTURE

B2Gold Nunavut’s Annual NIRB Report is composed of the following sections:

- ◆ Section 1: provides an overview of the Project and the regulatory context in which this Report is being submitted.
- ◆ Section 2: highlights key activities and consultation efforts conducted with stakeholders for the Project, including the Kitikmeot communities the KIA, relevant regulatory agencies and the PC mandated Project working groups (Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee [IEAC] and the Back River Socio-Economic Monitoring Working Group [SEMWG]).
- ◆ Section 3: describes the Project’s operational context in 2023, provides an overview of operational successes, and discusses challenges B2Gold Nunavut faced with respect to meeting PC Terms and Conditions in 2023.
- ◆ Section 4: includes a ‘summary sheet’ detailing compliance for each of the 94 PC Conditions. The summary sheets provide an overview of the work completed towards meeting the requirements of all the PC conditions, and a status of compliance is assigned. This section also describes B2Gold Nunavut’s general approach to performance reporting as well as regulatory compliance.

2. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

2.1 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

B2Gold Nunavut is committed to acting as a steward of the environment and promoting sustainable development in Kitikmeot Region communities. To fulfill this responsibility B2Gold Nunavut has established management plans that commit the Company to open communication with employees, contractors, local stakeholders, governments, and the public on Project activities, environmental and social programs, and performance. The Company has also established a Community Engagement Plan to outline how the Company conducts its engagement activities. B2Gold Nunavut continues to be a member of and participates in the Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee (KSEMC) as well as the Back River Socio-Economic Monitoring Working Group (SEMWG). B2Gold Nunavut is additionally a member of the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG) and established a Back River Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee (IEAC) with KIA in 2023.

2.2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

B2Gold Nunavut continually strives for open and meaningful engagement with Kitikmeot Region residents, communities (Cambridge Bay, Gjoa Haven, Kugluktuk, Kugaaruk, Taloyoak, and Bathurst Inlet/Bay Chimo), and stakeholders to help ensure the Project is built and operated in an environmentally and socially responsible manner. B2Gold Nunavut remains committed to ongoing engagement throughout the life of the Project to ensure support for it continues well into the future.

Community engagement methods employed by B2Gold Nunavut are numerous and have included but are not limited to the following: presenting Project-related information in public and stakeholder meetings; community newsletters; the establishment of community relations offices staffed by Inuit employees in Cambridge Bay and Kugluktuk; and a community Donations Policy focused on supporting initiatives pertaining to 'education and training' and 'community wellness and traditional lifestyles' in the Kitikmeot Region, with an emphasis on women and youth.

Since 2012, B2Gold Nunavut has participated in approximately 330 meetings with community members in the north, not including other forms of engagement (e.g. written correspondence, meetings with non-community stakeholders). Of these meetings, approximately 265 have been in the Kitikmeot Region (Figure 2.2-1).

Figure 2.2-1: Number of Kitikmeot Region Community Meetings Conducted for the Project (as of December 31, 2023)

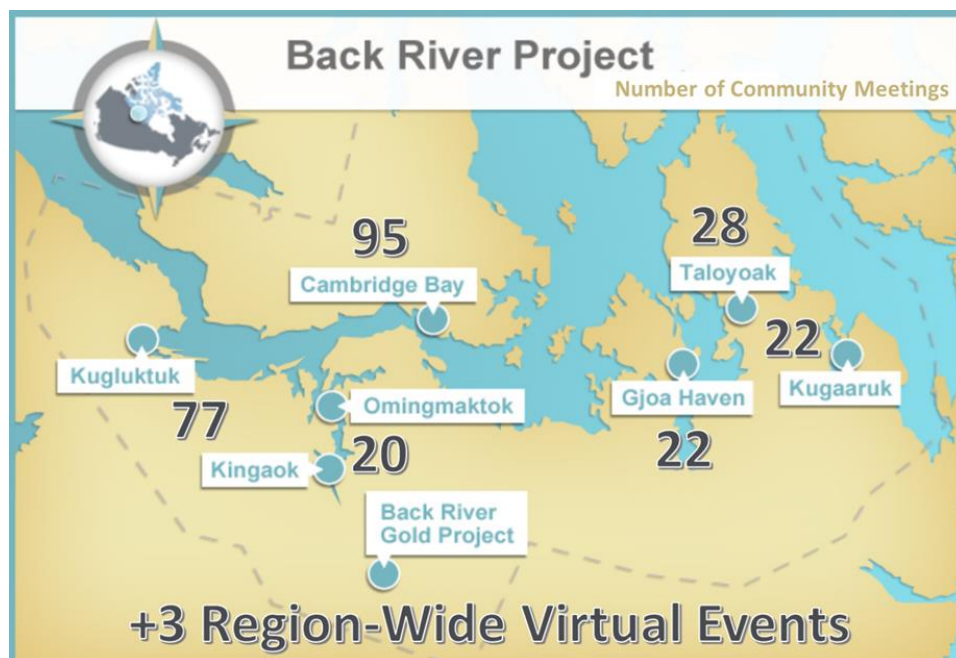


Table 2.2-1 provides a record of B2Gold Nunavut's 2023 community engagement activities. Many events were held or participated in throughout the year including a Kitikmeot Community Information and Human Resources Tour in June 2023, stakeholder site visits, and other meetings with local and regional stakeholders and organizations (e.g. HTOs, Hamlets).

Table 2.2-1: 2023 Community Engagement Log

2023				
Date	Community	Organization / Individual(s)	Type of Engagement	Description
January 16, 2023	Bathurst Inlet	Connie & Allen Kapolak	Correspondence	Requested participation in B2Gold Nunavut Cultural Awareness Training video
January 17, 2023	Kugluktuk	Hunters and Trappers Organization	Other (see 'Description')	Request to meet re: fish out 2023
January 31, 2023	Kugluktuk	Career Fair	Public meeting	Participation in a career fair organized by the Government of Nunavut's Career Services Department.
February 1, 2023	Taloyoak	Community Visit	Correspondence	Informed Hamlet Council and Mayor of upcoming community visit via email.
February 6, 2023	Other (see 'Description')	Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.	Other (see 'Description')	Sabina President and CEO provided remarks at the NTI luncheon during PDAC 2023
February 13, 2023	Cambridge Bay	Hamlet	Stakeholder meeting	Project update, and discussion of IIBA RWC Fund and potential for community-Project partnerships

Table 2.2-1: 2023 Community Engagement Log

2023				
Date	Community	Organization / Individual(s)	Type of Engagement	Description
February 13, 2023	Bathurst Inlet and Bay Chimo	Connie Kapolak	Stakeholder meeting	Planning discussion for potential Sabina Project update to Bathurst Inlet and Bay Chimo families
February 13, 2023	Bathurst Inlet	Sam Kapolak	Stakeholder meeting	Teleconference update on B2Gold announcement
February 15-17, 2023	Cambridge Bay	Kitikmeot Trade Show	Public meeting	Sabina participated in the Kitikmeot Trade Show with three staff at a tradeshow booth
February 19, 2023	Bathurst Inlet and Bay Chimo	Bathurst Inlet and Bay Chimo Families	Public meeting	Meeting in Cambridge Bay to provide Bathurst Inlet and Bay Chimo families with a Project update
February 20-21, 2023	Taloyoak	Community Visit	Other (see 'Description')	HR focused visit to meet with potential employment candidates. This was a makeup visit after missing Taloyoak during the 2022 Community Tour due to bad weather.
February 20, 2023	Taloyoak	Hamlet, Senior Administrative Officer	Stakeholder meeting	In-person meeting in Taloyoak to provide the SAO with an update on the Project, introduce the Indigenous & Northern Affairs team, and discuss the B2Gold/Sabina definitive agreement.
February 22, 2023	Bathurst Inlet	Sam, Suzie, and Shayne Kapolak	Stakeholder meeting	Dinner meeting in Yellowknife to provide a Project update, discuss the B2Gold announcement, and Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee
February 24, 2023	Cambridge Bay	Hamlet	Stakeholder meeting	Lunch meeting with Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and CAO to introduce members of the B2Gold team, and provide a Project update
February 24, 2023	Cambridge Bay	Public - Elders	Public meeting	Public meet and greet, and tea and bannock with Elders to introduce the B2Gold team and discuss the Back River Project
March 1, 2023	Kugluktuk	Kugluktuk HTO	Stakeholder meeting	Teleconference meeting to provide the Kugluktuk HTO with a general Project update, discuss plans for the 2023 fish out program, and update both parties on progress to move forward with Bernard Harbour project monitoring in 2023
March 2, 2023	Other (see 'Description')	Sam Kapolak	Other (see 'Description')	Joint KIA/Sabina teleconference to discuss potential candidacy on the IEAC.
March 9, 2023	Other (see 'Description')	George Hakongak	Other (see 'Description')	Joint KIA/Sabina teleconference to discuss potential candidacy on the IEAC.
March 9, 2023	Other (see 'Description')	Martina Kapolak	Other (see 'Description')	Joint KIA/Sabina teleconference to discuss potential candidacy on the IEAC.

Table 2.2-1: 2023 Community Engagement Log

2023				
Date	Community	Organization / Individual(s)	Type of Engagement	Description
March 9, 2023	Other (see 'Description')	Ryan Nivingalok	Other (see 'Description')	Joint KIA/Sabina teleconference to discuss potential candidacy on the IEAC.
March 10, 2023	Other (see 'Description')	Kevin Ongahak	Other (see 'Description')	Joint KIA/Sabina teleconference to discuss potential candidacy on the IEAC.
March 15, 2023	Other (see 'Description')	Alice Ayalik	Other (see 'Description')	Joint KIA/Sabina teleconference to discuss potential candidacy on the IEAC.
May 8, 2023	Cambridge Bay	Hon. Pamela Gross, MLA Cambridge Bay, Deputy Premier	Stakeholder meeting	Virtual meeting to provide an introduction to B2Gold Nunavut as well as an update on the Back River Project
May 13, 2023	Bathurst Inlet and Bay Chimo	Umingmaktok and Burnside HTO	Correspondence	Informing board members of B2Gold Nunavut and Sabina news
May 13, 2023	Multi-Community (see 'Description')	All Kitikmeot community Hamlets	Correspondence	Informing SAO/Council members of B2Gold Nunavut and Sabina news
May 13, 2023	Multi-Community (see 'Description')	All Kitikmeot HTAs/HTOs	Correspondence	Informing board members of B2Gold Nunavut and Sabina news
May 24, 2023	Kugluktuk	Hamlet of Kugluktuk	Stakeholder meeting	Project update meeting with Mayor Simon Kuliktana
May 24, 2023	Kugluktuk	Hamlet of Kugluktuk	Stakeholder meeting	Meeting to discuss IIBA Regional Wealth Creation with SAO
June 6, 2023	Cambridge Bay	Ekaluktutiak HTO	Stakeholder meeting	Virtual Back River Project update and introduction of 2023 fish out plan
June 12, 2023	Cambridge Bay	Multiple Participants (see 'Description')	Public meeting	NIRB hosted a Community Information Session to discuss the Back River Project Energy Centre
June 19, 2023	Kugaaruk	Community Tour 2023	Public meeting	Community Tour
June 19, 2023	Kugaaruk	Kugaaruk Hunters & Trappers Organization	Stakeholder meeting	In-person meeting to introduce the HTO to B2Gold Nunavut, provide a Project update, share information about the Back River Energy Centre, and discuss career opportunities at the Project
June 20, 2023	Taloyoak	Community Tour 2023	Public meeting	Community Tour
June 21, 2023	Gjoa Haven	Community Tour 2023	Public meeting	Community Tour
June 22, 2023	Kugluktuk	Community Tour 2023	Public meeting	Community Tour

Table 2.2-1: 2023 Community Engagement Log

2023				
Date	Community	Organization / Individual(s)	Type of Engagement	Description
June 23, 2023	Cambridge Bay	Community Tour 2023	Public meeting	Community Tour
July 9, 2023	Cambridge Bay	Nunavut Day BBQ	Other (see 'Description')	B2Gold Nunavut partnered with NTI to support and volunteer at Nunavut Day celebrations in Cambridge Bay
July 11, 2023	Other (see 'Description')	Back River Socio-Economic Monitoring Working Group	Stakeholder meeting	Annual Meeting of the SEMWG
July 15-17, 2023	Multi-Community (see 'Description')	Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee	Stakeholder meeting	Inaugural meeting and site visit with the IEAC
August 11, 2023	Bathurst Inlet	Families of Bathurst Inlet	Other (see 'Description')	Hosted families at MLA due to wildfires and evacuation order
August 12, 2023	Bathurst Inlet	Families of Bathurst Inlet	Other (see 'Description')	Meeting with families and Government of Nunavut to discuss wildfire situation
August 14, 2023	Multi-Community (see 'Description')	Kitikmeot Members of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut & Sen. Dennis Patterson	Stakeholder meeting	Project update meeting and safety orientation in Yellowknife, NWT prior to a Back River Project site visit
August 15, 2023	Multi-Community (see 'Description')	Kitikmeot Members of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut & Sen. Dennis Patterson	Stakeholder meeting	Back River Project site visit
October 3-5, 2023	Cambridge Bay	Multiple Participants (see 'Description')	Public meeting	NIRB Technical Meeting, Community Roundtable, and Pre-Hearing Conference for the Back River Energy Center
October 25, 2023	Multi-Community (see 'Description')	Kitikmeot Members of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut	Stakeholder meeting	In-person meeting in Iqaluit to provide an update on Back River Project activities
November 24, 2023	Bathurst Inlet	Sam Kapolak	Stakeholder meeting	Phone call to discuss the outcomes of the Technical Meeting and Community Roundtable on the Back River Renewable Energy Centre and comments raised by the Bathurst Inlet HTO

Table 2.2-1: 2023 Community Engagement Log

2023				
Date	Community	Organization / Individual(s)	Type of Engagement	Description
December 4, 2023	Kugluktuk	Kugluktuk Hunter & Trappers Organization	Stakeholder meeting	In-person meeting to provide a Project update, discuss the Bernard Harbour project, and discuss potential other opportunities for the Project and HTO to possibly collaborate on in future
December 5, 2023	Kugluktuk	Kugluktuk Hamlet Council	Stakeholder meeting	In person meeting to provide a Project update, discuss Project programming, and potential opportunities for the Project and Council to collaborate on in future
December 18, 2023	Kugluktuk	Kugluktuk Hunter & Trappers Organization	Stakeholder meeting	Discussion of potential partnership opportunities in future between B2Gold Nunavut and the Kugluktuk HTO
December 20, 2023	Cambridge Bay	Cambridge Bay HTO	Stakeholder meeting	Back River Renewable Energy Centre, Winter Ice Road, and fuel donations

A selection of photos from B2Gold Nunavut's community engagement activities in 2023, including its June 2023 Kitikmeot Community Information and Human Resources Tour, are included below.



Kugluktuk, Nunavut (June 2023)



Cambridge Bay, Nunavut (July 2023)



Bathurst Inlet and Bay Chimo Residents in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut (February 2023)



Gjoa Haven, Nunavut (June 2023)



Taloyoak, Nunavut (June 2023)



Kugaaruk, Nunavut (June 2023)

Community perspectives on the Project continue to be tracked by B2Gold Nunavut to inform the content, results, and management actions associated with B2Gold Nunavut's monitoring program. To this end, B2Gold Nunavut has developed the document *Guidance for Incorporating Community Perspectives and Traditional Knowledge in the Back River Project's Monitoring Programs* (see Appendix C of B2Gold Nunavut's Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan; NIRB PRI No. 338510). B2Gold Nunavut's annual Socio-Economic Monitoring Reports and Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Reports currently employ this guidance and present relevant information.

Likewise, Table 2.2-2 includes a summary of community feedback received on the Project in 2023, example comments, and B2Gold Nunavut's responses to key issues raised. Complete meeting notes from 2023 are included in **Appendix B**.

Table 2.2-2: 2023 Community Feedback

2023		
Issue or Topic	Example Comments	B2Gold Nunavut’s Response
Project operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">How much gold will be mined over the life of the mine?Is the Project operations all year round?What types of environmental monitoring programs happen at the sites?The life span of the current mine is 15 years; is B2Gold going to expand your exploration programs to expand the project life?Is there potential for the draft Nunavut Land Use Plan to affect the project?	B2Gold Nunavut continues to welcome community questions and comments on the Back River Project. Details on the Project can be found in our NIRB Annual Reports located on the NIRB Public Registry (https://www.nirb.ca/project/124149), through our Company website (https://www.b2gold.com/), our community staff and offices based in Cambridge Bay and Kugluktuk, and through the community engagement sessions we regularly host in the Kitikmeot Region. B2Gold Nunavut uses these engagement sessions to provide information and address community questions and concerns about the Project.
Training opportunities at the Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">My question is emphasising on training, specifically for your Inuit employees. We know that mines tend to hire Inuit for low level positions. Will you train your Inuit employees or build their training through a training plan.What training partnership opportunities for on the land activities exist?The welding program with Red Fish, will it involve participants from Kugluktuk? Would the Red Fish program offer red seal tickets during the program?Will B2Gold train Inuit in operating and maintaining wind turbines?Request for information about Inuit-specific training programs. Specifically for trades training.	Training opportunities for Inuit are an important benefit offered by the Project. Various types of training (certificate and non-certificate based) are currently offered by the Project and are reported on through our annual Socio-Economic Monitoring Reports to NIRB. As the Project advances into operations, we anticipate additional training opportunities will become available for Inuit, including apprenticeships. Inuit employees also have the option to pursue individual Career Development Plans, which will outline additional training opportunities and resources available to them.
Employment at the Project (general comments and questions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">I want to see more women working with the mine — and I want to know what B2Gold is doing to get more women into training and to work with the company.What are your rotations like?Although we don’t want to see any impact to caribou, we need jobs for our young people, and mining employment is an opportunity.Are you hiring for a bear monitors? Or wildlife monitors?Are your wages fair on site? With a lot of mining companies Inuit make lower wages than southern hires.	Inuit employment opportunities are an important benefit provided by the Project. B2Gold Nunavut is committed to maximizing Inuit employment opportunities during Project operations and has achieved significant progress in this area to-date. The Company has various management plans and policies in place to support these commitments, in addition to an IIBA with KIA that contains additional obligations in this area. Information on current employment opportunities is shared with communities through annual community tours, in-community and online advertising, and through our community staff/offices in Cambridge Bay and Kugluktuk.
Employment and advancement opportunities for Inuit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">We want to see your Inuit workforce coming from all Kitikmeot communities and not just Cambridge Bay and Kugluktuk. We don’t want the eastern communities left out.B2Gold must do better with respect to Inuit employment.Glad to see your Inuit employment is growing. That’s very important to KIA. We want you to always keep this at the front of your minds.On the presentation, it shows the employee numbers from Kugaaruk. Why is the employment numbers so low in Kugaaruk? In our tiny community it is hard to find employment.At former mines, it was a couple of years before shutting down that the employees were approached for higher position opportunities. What will Sabina do to ensure that apprenticeship and higher skilled opportunities happen much quicker for Inuit?	As the Project advances into operations, we anticipate additional Inuit employment opportunities will become available to build on our existing success in this area. B2Gold Nunavut has several Inuit employment initiatives currently in place, including a priority recruitment strategy, use of Career Development Plans, onsite Inuit Coordinators to support Inuit employees, obtaining employee feedback through our Inuit Personnel Survey, and by regularly monitoring and addressing issues pertaining to turnover. Details on these and other Inuit employment initiatives can be found in B2Gold Nunavut’s <i>Inuit Human Resources Plan</i> .
Employment eligibility and requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">What are my chances with employment if I had previously been employed by Sabina?Does B2Gold require their workers driving on-site to have the proper class of drivers’ licences required to operate the equipment off-site, or is their ability to drive the mine equipment limited to the mine site?What are the requirements to work at the mine? Age, vaccinations?A lot of time it is hard for Inuit without education to get work, but they are also the hardest workers out there.B2Gold require CRC from applicants? It is hard for Inuit to [be] employed if [there] is a CRC requirement.	Employment requirements will vary by job type and experience, but are addressed in the individual job advertisements and/or contracts for work that are signed between each employee and B2Gold Nunavut. However, B2Gold Nunavut’s goal is to provide competitive pay and benefits to our staff that are comparable to other metal mining operations in western and northern Canada. Generally, employment rotations will be 3 weeks-in/3 weeks-out, with Kitikmeot Inuit offered transport to/from the Project and their Kitikmeot Region community of residence. The Company attempts to plan direct flights from Kitikmeot communities to Project sites whenever possible.
Community benefits from the Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Are you able to support Gjoa Haven in getting an Elders center? We are also looking at getting a bus for Elders.Glad to hear you are willing to partner with communities on locally led projects. I’ll take that back to Kugaaruk and let the folks there know that is the case.I stress to the Elders in Nunavut that when you make agreements with mining companies, make sure they are committed to complying with those agreements. Make sure that their promises are being fulfilled. Make sure that training promises are kept and that your people can advance and meet the high cost of living.I support mining. You guys have more work to do to support Inuit and communities but I know everything around us is because of the success mining can bring.Community representatives are looking for ways mining companies can support small scale community events or activities.	The Project offers numerous benefits to Kitikmeot communities including employment and training opportunities, contract and business development opportunities, local donations, taxes paid to government, a Regional Wealth Creation Initiative designed to create long-term jobs outside of mining in Kitikmeot communities, and other benefits outlined in the IIBA. Additional information on the community benefits and programs offered by B2Gold Nunavut can be obtained by contacting either of our community offices in Cambridge Bay or Kugluktuk.

Table 2.2-2: 2023 Community Feedback

2023		
Issue or Topic	Example Comments	B2Gold Nunavut’s Response
Workplace cultural sensitivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You should make sure to serve country food on site for Inuk employees.Discussed importance of ensuring cultural programming is included in the design of the new camp facility.Traditional knowledge; we hear a lot about that, but proponents say they are comparing traditional knowledge and western science but I don’t think they are being considered on the same footing.Can unilingual speaking Inuit work at site?When B2Gold is doing exploration have you come across tent rings and other archaeological sites? Our communities have asked that when B2Gold is doing such work that the company should have to take a guide from the local HTOs with them when they are going out to do the work so that the HTO can report back to the community about what B2Gold did and what they saw.	B2Gold Nunavut has several policies in place to support the operation of a safe, respectful, and culturally informed workplace, and offers various training and programming to Project staff in this regard. For example, B2Gold Nunavut has developed initiatives specific to increasing Inuit employment at the Project, provides cultural awareness training to all staff, will establish permanent country food kitchens at Project sites, and regularly hosts Inuit cultural events for all staff to participate in.
Workplace and community health and well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none">What’s your drug policy?Do you have health inspections?Do you have safety policies on site?We are worried about employees who fly to Yellowknife and then site and same when they come home. Sometimes they are bringing alcohol and drugs home from NWT. Please watch out for this.4 weeks on / 2 weeks off puts too much strain on relationships. Within the rotation system, are you looking at having people that can work one-on-one with the workers, to see if they are coping with the workplace? Is Sabina with the new takeover considering that type of approach?	The health and safety of Project personnel is B2Gold Nunavut’s number one priority, at all times. We have numerous policies and procedures in place to ensure a safe working environment for all staff, and a dedicated health and safety team overseeing these matters on-site. We also offer our Inuit employees access to both an Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP) and Inuit Employee Assistance Program (IEAP), which provide support and assistance in several areas. Furthermore, B2Gold Nunavut regularly monitors workplace and community health and well-being indicators through its annual Socio-Economic Monitoring Reports submitted to NIRB.
B2Gold Nunavut’s community engagement process	<ul style="list-style-type: none">It is just as important to go to the high schools and colleges to speak about the potential for employment. But not everyone is cut out for mining; the rotations can be hinderance.Is the mine looking to inform us when they’re using heavy equipment and creating noise?Even if people aren’t present at the hearing can they still get their questions asked?There have been some incidents with Sabina that have occurred over the years, without much communication coming forward to the Burnside HTO that we are concerned about.If this project is approved the company needs to come into our communities to ensure the communities understand that caribou and birds are protected, and so this is a far better way of generating energy than relying on diesel. Communities need to have information so they can buy into this project as a good alternative to generating energy the old way.	B2Gold Nunavut continually strives for open and meaningful engagement with Kitikmeot Region residents, communities, and stakeholders to help ensure the Project is built and operated in an environmentally and socially responsible manner. B2Gold Nunavut remains committed to ongoing engagement throughout the life of the Project to ensure support for it continues well into the future. Community engagement methods employed by B2Gold Nunavut are numerous and have included but are not limited to the following: Presenting Project-related information in public and stakeholder meetings; community newsletters; the establishment of community relations offices staffed by Inuit employees in Cambridge Bay and Kugluktuk; and a community Donations Policy. B2Gold Nunavut and KIA have also created an Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee, consisting of knowledgeable local community members, to provide advice on a variety of Project-related matters.
Inuit role on Project-related advisory groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Would it be possible to start another [advisory] committee for Sabina? We lost 3 Elders in the last few years who worked with Sabina.Will the Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee be expanding to include other communities such as Gjoa Haven?Would B2Gold recommend that all Hunters and Trappers Organizations in the region join the CTAG?It is time to revisit the CTAG, because Inuit and Indigenous knowledge has been given to us for generations and this is why we are all here today and why we persist. What are your thoughts about which is more important to you Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit or the western science you have in front of you?At the HTO this summer we worked with B2Gold to do a fish out of two lakes that B2Gold is going to be making into two open pits. It was a successful operation, but it is important that the knowledge of land users is acknowledged and understood when these activities are undertaken.	B2Gold Nunavut currently participates in several Project-related advisory groups, all of which have significant Inuit representation. These include the Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee (IEAC; consisting of Kitikmeot Inuit with knowledge about wildlife, fisheries, traditional land use, archaeology, or water of the Project area, in addition to KIA), Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee (KSEMC; consisting of representatives from all Kitikmeot communities, in addition to KIA, government, and other agencies), and a Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG; consisting of KIA and GN representatives).

Table 2.2-2: 2023 Community Feedback

2023		
Issue or Topic	Example Comments	B2Gold Nunavut’s Response
Potential Project impacts on caribou	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Caribou are thinner, with less fat, and we think all the mining is the cause.• We treasure our wildlife as Nunavummiut. There is a concern about the caribou marrow becoming more liquid and less solid marrow. Perhaps this change is because of the environment changing, but we don’t know what the reason is for this change and we have concerns about anything that could have additional impacts on the caribou health.• We have concerns that the caribou may actually be attracted to the mine site (especially infrastructure) to avoid predators, to hang around where it is cooler, and to avoid insects. Has this “attractant effect” been considered by B2Gold?• We have some concerns about the use of the ice road to Goose camp, and local harvesters making use of the access road for “easy access” to caribou, and this isn’t right and not what our Elders taught us.• In Saskatchewan, the Beverly and Bathurst herds are very important to us and that is why we are here participating today. These herds connect us all. We have experienced the loss of the Bathurst herd in our territory completely and the Beverly herds are very limited in coming to our lands. We want to stress how important it is to have an on-going dialogue with B2Gold and all the parties who are stewards of the land and the caribou. We need to work together and understand one another. We are here to speak for the caribou and our livelihood.	B2Gold Nunavut has completed a comprehensive assessment of potential Project impacts on caribou through the NIRB’s multi-stakeholder review process. No significant effects on caribou were identified as a result. Supporting this conclusion is the Company’s Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program (WMMP), which outlines the many ways B2Gold Nunavut manages and monitors for potential impacts on caribou.
Caribou monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What does the caribou monitoring look like around the migration areas so that these effects will be identified before major problems arise?• How many caribou to date have been collared and will they continue to be collared throughout the life of the mine and beyond?• Communities in the Kitikmeot appreciate that B2Gold provides support to the Government of Nunavut with respect to various monitoring programs (grizzly bears, various caribou monitoring programs, etc.).• How does CIRNAC, Health Canada, and other regulators conduct monitoring of the caribou along the migration routes?• If the Government of Nunavut and Government of Northwest Territories do not continue the caribou collaring program for the entire life of the mine, would B2Gold step in to ensure that the collaring program would continue so that parties continue to receive comparable monitoring data from the caribou collar program?	B2Gold Nunavut’s Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program (WMMP) outlines the many ways B2Gold Nunavut manages and monitors for potential impacts on caribou. This document can be found on the NIRB Public Registry (https://www.nirb.ca/project/124149). Annual monitoring results applicable to caribou can also be found in B2Gold Nunavut’s NIRB Annual Reports located on the same registry. Furthermore, B2Gold Nunavut participates in two multi-stakeholder groups with responsibilities related to wildlife monitoring: The Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee (IEAC) and Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG).
Caribou calving and migration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mobile caribou protection areas are necessary because we have seen that various herds change their caribou calving areas every 20 years or so.• Would Sabina/B2Gold compensate people in the West Kitikmeot if the caribou migrations are being affected by their mining operations (especially when combined with the effects from this Proposal) and these communities have caribou quotas imposed on them?• When I was going to Baker Lake, I saw an abundance of caribou; but it seems like the caribou are changing their migration routes — the Ahiak caribou herd didn’t come into our area (Gjoa Haven) at all this year. When I was coming back from Baker Lake, I noticed that there was a helicopter overhead, and we noticed that the caribou were running around us in circles while the helicopter was hovering over us. The companies operating these helicopters should be notifying the communities and the mines that are contracting with them, so that helicopters are not present when the caribou are in the area. Helicopters should make way for our caribou when they are migrating. All helicopters and mining activity should stop when caribou are migrating through the area.• If we look at the B2Gold project area that is close to caribou migration areas, we need to ensure that those areas are protected.• We are concerned about ships and tankers going through Omingmaktok (Bay Chimo) as there is only one way into the Marine Laydown Area, we want to ensure that there are no spills or mishaps in that channel, and if there are any incidents that result in the release of oil or other fuels that these mishaps are reported to the community immediately. In particular, we are concerned that if B2Gold is not careful, the caribou herd whose migration includes swimming through the channel and to the islands in that area could be very negatively affected by any such release.	B2Gold Nunavut completed a comprehensive assessment of potential Project impacts on caribou through the NIRB’s multi-stakeholder review process. This included review of potential impacts on caribou calving and migration. No significant effects were identified through this process. Furthermore, B2Gold Nunavut’s Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program (WMMP) outlines the many ways B2Gold Nunavut manages and monitors for potential impacts on caribou. Adaptive management is central to the operation of the WMMP and allows B2Gold Nunavut to adjust its plans and respond to potential issues or unforeseen events that may arise.

Table 2.2-2: 2023 Community Feedback

2023		
Issue or Topic	Example Comments	B2Gold Nunavut’s Response
Project-related shipping	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion of shipping activities, spill response capability, and monitoring of invasive species from shipping activities.• Knowing that shipping causes a lot of risk to the ocean, so if you reduce the amount of shipping that’s a good thing. Reducing the amount of transportation of fuel on the ice road is also a good thing.• My issue remains with the shipping for the project. The Hunters and Trappers Organization has a ship monitoring program — we would like to see B2Gold working with the HTOs to monitor ship traffic associated with shipping for the Project.• When is the shipping season for the Project?• With the mine growth and expansion will you need bigger ships and barges as well?	B2Gold Nunavut completed a comprehensive assessment of potential Project impacts on the marine environment through the NIRB’s multi-stakeholder review process. This included review of potential impacts due to shipping. No significant effects were identified through this process. The Company also has several management and monitoring plans in place to address potential effects on the marine environment. In addition, annual letters are sent to local Hamlets and HTOs advising them of Project shipping schedules for the upcoming season, and opportunities are provided for feedback to be shared directly with the Company.
Environmental impact mitigation and monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When you talk about the environment, you’re talking about everything. We live close to the environment all the time. We’re always concerned about the disappearance of wildlife, and that’s not going to change. We use the land and animals every day. Nobody wants to see their surroundings disappear, and we’re the same way. We have to be careful about the environment.• It is our understanding that there was a vehicle left idling that went into the lake and the vehicle is going to be left in the lake until next spring. We are concerned about the potential for fuel to leak into the lake if it is left that long.• Can you explain the environmental management system?• What types of environmental monitoring programs happen at the sites?• Is the mine looking to inform us when they’re using heavy equipment and creating noise?	B2Gold Nunavut has several mitigation and monitoring plans in place for the Project, including those pertaining to the terrestrial, marine, freshwater, and socio-economic environments. Copies of these plans, in addition to annual monitoring reports, can be found on the NIRB Public Registry (https://www.nirb.ca/project/124149). B2Gold Nunavut also participates in several multi-stakeholder groups with responsibilities related to monitoring, including: Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee (IEAC); Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG); Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee (KSEMC); and Back River Socio-Economic Monitoring Working Group (SEMWG).
B2Gold Nunavut’s renewable energy project (general comments and questions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are they going to do with the turbines and batteries after the mine closes?• If the turbines aren’t working, will they go back to fuel?• Why are the windfarm turbines located 500 metres apart? If they were spaced closer together wouldn’t that reduce the footprint of the project?• If B2Gold gets the go ahead, how will you install the wind turbine generators — Will you use helicopters, and what time of year will you install the wind turbines?• I am a big supporter of renewable energy. There are still a lot of people in Nunavut who do not understand much about renewable energy. So, for example, I have seen these turbines in action in Ontario and they are very quiet, but we don’t know much about how the wildlife will react to the low hum and vibration, so we just need to be sure we are monitoring carefully once they are built.	B2Gold Nunavut continues to welcome community questions and comments on the proposed Back River Energy Center, which is currently under review by NIRB. Details on the proposal can be found on the NIRB Public Registry (https://www.nirb.ca/project/125740) and have also been provided to the pubic through several community engagements sessions to-date. B2Gold Nunavut uses these engagement sessions to provide information and address community questions and concerns about the renewable energy project.
Potential impacts of B2Gold Nunavut’s renewable energy project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• B2Gold indicated that with the Energy Center there will be a reduced likelihood of fuel spills and impacts on the roads. But the wind turbines will use some chemicals for maintenance and operation, has B2Gold considered and planned for what will happen if these chemicals are released from the wind turbines?• B2Gold talked about the noise being reduced, but I still think there will still be a lot of noise coming from the wind turbine generators.• Will the wind turbines affect the birds? Can they be hit by the blades?• We have concerns about the additional windmills creating additional incidents and further impacts that have not been predicted. How is Sabina/B2Gold going to ensure that the project is operated and monitored to prevent unforeseen impacts?• In Gjoa Haven, we are not opposed to renewable energy, very supportive of the project, but need to know that the vibration study is properly done and that the communities hear about the results of those studies. The wind turbine generators and solar array are very good ways to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases and reduce the effects of climate change, which we need.	B2Gold Nunavut has conducted a comprehensive assessment of potential Project impacts related to the Back River Project Energy Centre proposal. This proposal is currently under review by NIRB and other participating stakeholder groups. No significant effects on the environment have been identified by the Company through its analysis. Supporting this conclusion are the Company’s many mitigation and management plans, which outline the ways B2Gold Nunavut will manage and monitor for potential impacts on the environment. Additional details on the proposal can be found on the NIRB Public Registry (https://www.nirb.ca/project/125740).

Table 2.2-2: 2023 Community Feedback

2023		
Issue or Topic	Example Comments	B2Gold Nunavut’s Response
Potential impacts of B2Gold Nunavut’s renewable energy project on caribou (e.g. general impacts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">I wonder what the caribou behaviour and interactions with the wind turbine generators will be like, and how this might affect caribou migration in future.In the summertime, to the north of the mine site the caribou are in the calving ground; I am concerned about the effects on caribou and birds due to the wind turbine generators because wildlife is very sensitive to disturbance.We want to also be kept informed about the monitoring information once the wind turbines are built, especially if there are changes to the caribou behaviour as a result of the wind turbines.If this project is approved the company needs to come into our communities to ensure the communities understand that caribou and birds are protected, and so this is a far better way of generating energy than relying on diesel.I am in agreement with my colleagues around the table that this project may be the answer to our future. Wind turbines are not new to us in Cambridge Bay. We have had these in our area since the 1980s. However, my concerns are the same as others, that we have concerns about the potential for the Energy Center Proposal to have effects on the caribou.	B2Gold Nunavut has conducted a comprehensive assessment of potential Project impacts on caribou related to the Back River Project Energy Centre proposal, using both Traditional Knowledge (TK) from local communities and scientific information. This proposal is currently under review by NIRB and other participating stakeholder groups. No significant effects on caribou have been identified by the Company through its analysis. Supporting this conclusion is the Company’s Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program (WMMP), which outlines the various ways B2Gold Nunavut will manage and monitor for potential impacts on caribou. Adaptive management is also central to the operation of the WMMP and allows B2Gold Nunavut to adjust its plans and respond to potential issues or unforeseen events that may arise. Additional details on the proposal can be found on the NIRB Public Registry (https://www.nirb.ca/project/125740).
Potential impacts of noise and vibrations from wind turbines on caribou	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Is there potential for the caribou to feel the vibration and noise and be affected in that way? Have there been studies about what the vibration associated with the wind turbine generators will be like and how caribou react?Caribou have keen ears and sharp eyes and hunters know that they can hear snowmobiles and ATVs from quite a distance, and move away from us. The height of the wind turbine generators really concern me because if caribou see the wind turbines and/or feel the vibrations they are going to avoid the area.Have there been studies about what the vibration associated with the wind turbine generators will be like and how caribou react?The height of the wind turbine generators really concern me because if caribou see the wind turbines and/or feel the vibrations they are going to avoid the area.	B2Gold Nunavut has conducted a comprehensive assessment of potential Project impacts on caribou related to the Back River Project Energy Centre proposal, using both Traditional Knowledge (TK) from local communities and scientific information. A noise study was completed to determine the distance at which caribou may hear the wind turbines, as well as a literature review on the responses of caribou to windfarms and other disturbances. No significant effects on caribou have been identified by the Company through its analysis. Supporting this conclusion is the Company’s Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program (WMMP), which outlines the various ways B2Gold Nunavut will manage and monitor for potential impacts on caribou. B2Gold Nunavut has committed to completing several monitoring programs designed to evaluate effects of the Energy Centre on caribou, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">A collar monitoring program to evaluate caribou avoidance or disruption of movement at a large spatial scale;A camera program to evaluate caribou relative abundance at a medium scale;A behaviour program to evaluate caribou response at a local scale; andA stress hormone study to evaluate effects across scales.
Shutting down wind turbines during caribou migrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Are they proposing to shut down the turbines during calving and post-calving season?When the caribou are passing through you indicated that there is a set number of caribou that will trigger a shutdown of the wind turbine generators. What is that number?How does B2Gold shut down the wind turbine generators when caribou are in the areas near to the mine?Can you confirm what you mean by ramping down the turbines if animals are present? Does this mean shutting down?	B2Gold Nunavut’s Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program (WMMP) has multiple levels of protection for caribou based on season and group size, including shutting down (ramping down) during shifts in the calving and post-calving ranges. B2Gold Nunavut has committed to a group size threshold of 25 or more animals, and a trigger distance of 2 km. A trigger distance of 2 km has been decided upon based on discussion with the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), a noise study completed to determine the distance at which caribou may hear the wind turbines, and a literature review of the responses of caribou to windfarms and other disturbances.

2.3 ENGAGEMENT WITH THE KIA

Sabina and the KIA entered into a 20 year benefit and land tenure agreements under a Framework Agreement dated April 2018, setting out rights and obligations with respect to surface land access on IOL on the Back River Project. These agreements provide Kitikmeot Inuit with financial and socio-economic benefits including, training, jobs, formation of an IEAC, investments in community infrastructure projects with the objective of supporting regional wealth creation initiatives within Kitikmeot communities, share ownership in Sabina, and a 1% net smelter royalty on future production from the proposed mine on the Goose Property. In March 2023, Sabina, B2Gold and the KIA met in person for the annual Presidents Meeting to discuss project updates and IIBA Implementation. This meeting occurred shortly after the announcement of the proposed acquisition of Sabina and Back River by B2Gold Corp. As such, B2Gold's President and CEO was invited to attend the meeting to meet the President of the KIA. B2Gold Nunavut and KIA continued meetings of the IIBA Implementation Committee which was established in 2022. Four committee meetings were held in 2023.

2.4 ENGAGEMENT WITH GOVERNMENT AND REGULATORY AGENCIES

B2Gold Nunavut's government engagement program provides government officials with clear and comprehensive information regarding the Project and the various management and mitigation plans that support its development. B2Gold Nunavut has engaged several federal agencies about the Project, including the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor), Fisheries and Oceans and Canadian Coast Guard Canada (DFO), Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), Natural Resources Canada, and Transport Canada. B2Gold Nunavut also actively engages territorial governments), the Nunavut Water Board, the Nunavut Planning Commission, and other government bodies and agencies.

2.5 ENGAGEMENT WITH WORKING GROUPS

2.5.1 KITIKMEOT SOCIO-ECONOMIC MONITORING COMMITTEE & BACK RIVER SOCIO-ECONOMIC MONITORING WORKING GROUP

B2Gold Nunavut is actively involved in the Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee (KSEMC) and regularly participates in its meetings when they are organized. Unfortunately, the 2023 KSEMC meeting was again unable to be organized for reasons outside the control of the Project. . A meeting is scheduled for Q1 2024,

B2Gold Nunavut, in addition to the GN, the Government of Canada, and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA), is also a member of the Back River Socio-Economic Monitoring Working Group (SEMWG). The SEMWG Terms of Reference (TOR) provides guidance on B2Gold's socio-economic monitoring program. B2Gold Nunavut is actively involved in the SEMWG and regularly participates in its meetings. Most recently, B2Gold Nunavut hosted a videoconference meeting with the group in July 2023. Ongoing opportunities for SEMWG members to review and comment on B2Gold Nunavut's socio-economic submissions are also provided through the NIRB annual reporting process.

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to engage the KSEMC, SEMWG, and community stakeholders on its monitoring program as the Project advances.

2.5.2 INUIT ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Per the IIBA between B2Gold Nunavut and KIA, an Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee (IEAC) is required to be established for the Project. The IEAC will:

- ◆ Receive and consider Project information that relates to the environment and wildlife.
- ◆ Provide advice to B2Gold Nunavut and KIA on potential impacts of Project operations on the environment, wildlife, fisheries, TK, traditional land use, and archaeology.
- ◆ Provide advice to B2Gold Nunavut and KIA on mitigation of potential impacts of Project operations on the environment, wildlife, fisheries, TK, traditional land use, and archaeology.
- ◆ Hear and attempt to resolve concerns from community members related to environmental and wildlife aspects of the Project.

In 2023, the IIBA Implementation Committee appointed seven (7) Kitikmeot Inuit with knowledge of the Project area to be members of the IEAC. IEAC members have knowledge about wildlife, fisheries, traditional land use, archaeology, or water of the Project area. The IEAC held its inaugural meeting and a Project site visit in July 2023. Appendix A of the 2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (**Appendix C**) contains additional details on the IEAC's composition and activities in 2023.



IEAC Members and Participants (July 2023)

2.5.3 CARIBOU TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP

Per Project Certificate Term and Condition No. 51, a Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG) has been established by Sabina in collaboration with KIA and the GN. As part of its function, the group seeks to:

- ◆ Provide independent advice on study design(s) and analyses for the testing and evaluation of the Project's adaptive management measures for reducing disturbance to caribou.
- ◆ Undertake appropriate testing of caribou detection methods, group size thresholds, and distance thresholds employed as recommended by the advisory group.
- ◆ On the basis of these tests, and any other available evidence, provide analyses and a written evaluation of the caribou protection measures and where appropriate make necessary adjustments to those measures.
- ◆ Submit reports to NIRB, and other relevant parties, for review.

Sabina had its inaugural meeting with the CTAG in December 2019 and a follow up in December 2021. The CTAG meeting was not held in 2020 due to COVID restrictions. Additional details have been provided in relevant sections of the Annual Report.

In 2022 and early 2023, Sabina collaborated with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, and the Government of Nunavut, in a Caribou Technical Advisory Group providing technical oversight of the Project's monitoring and seeking to test and evaluate the Project's measures for reducing disturbance to caribou. With the key activity of Sabina's Winter Ice Road occurred in Q1 2023, heavy focus was put on caribou monitoring; Sabina had a dedicated Inuit transiting the road monitoring for caribou, whom was supported by wildlife biologists performing behavior monitoring of caribou in proximity to the Project, established remotely activated caribou monitoring cameras along the road route, completed drone monitoring, and ensured all other wildlife mitigation measures are also in place such as limiting road bank heights, monitored caribou collar data for the herd's approach, and ensured all operators were briefed on the Project's wildlife requirements.

2.6 NEXT STEPS

B2Gold Nunavut is committed to and heavily engaged in assisting Project contractors in an effort to aid their goals of attaining greater Inuit employment. B2Gold Nunavut continues to explore impactful ways in which we can be involved at a community level, as well as continued work with community members, stakeholders, working groups, government and the KIA.

3. OPERATIONS OVERVIEW

3.1 2023 HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES

In 2023, B2Gold Nunavut managed to complete several key initial construction activities at the site focused on advancing and de-risking future development:

The following activities were completed in 2023, in support of future Project construction:

- ◆ Ongoing construction of the plant site, mill, and truck shop at the Goose property.
- ◆ Phase 1 of the accommodations complex at the Goose property was completed in July 2023, including sleeping quarters and kitchen. This added 310 beds to the existing 150 beds of the exploration camp.
- ◆ The Goose mine camp sewage treatment plant was commissioned in Q3 of 2023.
- ◆ Initiation of construction of the primary pond at the Goose property.
- ◆ The concrete batch plant and a fully automated rebar cutting and bending machines became operational at the Goose property.
- ◆ Earthworks necessary to extend the Goose airstrip to 5,000 ft were completed.
- ◆ Echo Pit pre-stripping continued.
- ◆ Continuing advancement of the Vault Underground decline.
- ◆ The Rascal Stream upgrade crossing at the Goose property was completed to accommodate haul truck traffic.
- ◆ Llama and Umwelt lakes and upstream waterbodies were fished out in preparation for future dewatering.
- ◆ Over 800 loads were transported on the WIR in 2022/2023.
- ◆ The fuel tank containment area at the MLA was enlarged to facilitate additional storage.
- ◆ The MLA was reorganized to maximize space for the 2023 sealift unload.
- ◆ All major equipment and materials required for construction have been either procured, marshalled at our east and west transportation hubs, have been delivered or are in transit to the MLA.
- ◆ Environmental monitoring and baseline programs including: atmospheric, archaeology, water quality, fisheries, wildlife, geochemical/ geotechnical, and vegetation programs.

3.1.1 PERMITTING

Sabina and the KIA announced on April 23, 2018, that the parties have entered into 20 year benefit and land tenure agreements under a Framework Agreement setting out rights and obligations with respect to surface land access on IOL on the Back River Project.

On September 21, 2018, the Company received a copy of the NWBs recommendation to the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Northern Affairs and Internal Trade, the responsible Federal Minister (the Minister), that the Project's Type A Water Licence should be issued with proposed terms and conditions.

On November 14, 2018, Sabina received confirmation that the Minister has approved the Type A Water Licence with no changes to the terms and conditions.

Sabina also continued to advance and obtain the necessary Federal permits and authorizations for the Project in 2019. Sabina received the Back River Project *Fisheries Act* Authorization from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, as well as authorization from Transport Canada that Umwelt Lake and Llama Lake do not require exemption from the *Navigation Protection Act (NPA)*.

Since receipt of the NIRB Project Certificate (PC No. 007) and the NWB Type A Water Licence (2AM-BRP1831), Sabina has continued to advance Detailed Engineering and additional field work related to Construction, Operations, and Closure of the Back River Project (the Project). Through this Detailed Engineering and additional efforts, Sabina identified modifications that would optimize and de-risk the Project. In June of 2020, Sabina submitted proposed modifications to the Project to the Nunavut Planning Commission, the NIRB and the NWB outlining proposed modifications to the Project⁴. On 9 June 2020⁵, the Nunavut Planning Commission forwarded the 2020 Modification Package to the NIRB for assessment. The NIRB subsequently determined that the modifications were consistent with the activities identified by Sabina under the NIRB Project Certificate No. 007 and did not constitute a significant modification that requires further assessment by the NIRB⁶ given that appropriate mitigation and management measures as outlined in the Modification Package and Sabina's existing plans were implemented.

Following the NIRB's direction, Sabina subsequently provided an application for amendment of the Project's Type A Water Licence to the NWB. This application was successfully reviewed and the Type A Water Licence amended in 2021.

At end of 2023, B2Gold Nunavut was awaiting the Back River Project Energy Center final public hearing having completed the technical meeting and community round table in October 2023.

3.1.2 ENGINEERING

In 2023, B2Gold Nunavut continued its robust momentum in advancing detailed engineering programs, aimed at bolstering both site construction and mining operations. Significant focus was directed towards refining various aspects of the process plant design, particularly in enhancing Piping and Instrumentation Diagrams (P&IDs), upgrading Balance-of-Plant (BOP) facilities within the powerhouse, and facilitating ongoing Request for Information (RFI) processes essential for supporting construction field activities.

A necessary enhancement that has been identified is an increased power generation related to underground operations to ensure the safety of the underground team. To facilitate the increased power consumption, an additional bulk fuel tank will be constructed, and/or existing tanks will be modified, within the existing bulk fuel storage areas, within the already approved project development area at both Goose and MLA. B2Gold is committed to reducing the carbon footprint of the Project as evidenced by the ongoing process to permit, the Back River Renewable Energy Centre. Once up and running, the total fuel

⁴ Sabina 2020. Back River Project 2020 Modification Package. June 2020.

⁵ NPC's letter, "NPC file # 149378 [Back River 2020 Modification Package]" (P. Scholz to M. Pickard et. al, dated June 9, 2020)

⁶ NIRB's letter, "Direction Regarding the "Back River Project 2020 Modification Package" submitted by Sabina Gold & Silver Corp. in relation to the Back River Project (K. Kaluraq to M. Pickard, dated August 11, 2020, NIRB File No. 12MN036)

use and associated GHG emissions from the Back River Project will remain lower than projected in the original Back River Project FEIS.

Furthermore, mining engineering efforts advanced both open pit and underground mine planning initiatives. Concurrently, efforts are dedicated to updating the site-wide water balance model to align with the latest mining and processing designs. Notably, advancements have commenced in tailings facility designs with the development of detailed deposition plans, the design of tailings distribution infrastructure, and the integration of thermal modeling behavior. Overall Engineering teams persistently explored various design alternatives, striving to optimize overall performance across all operations.

3.1.3 EXPLORATION

B2Gold Nunavut's resource has continued to grow, through exploration drilling, the existing high impact targets at the Goose Property that include Llama Extension and Umwelt and through exploration drilling on the George Property at the Lone Cow Pond and Locale trends, GH, Tupiq, and Rainbow Road. A district wide LIDAR survey was completed in 2023. B2Gold Nunavut has plans to continue district-wide exploration in 2024 with additional geophysics, mapping, and sampling and will continue to grow resources at Goose through exploration drilling.

3.1.4 EMPLOYMENT

Increasing the Project's Inuit workforce is, and has always been, a key objective for B2Gold Nunavut. In 2023, a total of 1,379 personnel (i.e. employees and contractors) worked on the Project, 167 of which were Inuit (14.2% of the Project's workforce by hours worked). 158 Inuit personnel originated from within the Kitikmeot Region, while 9 originated from outside of Nunavut. All non-Inuit personnel originated from outside of Nunavut. We will continue to work with KIA and other relevant stakeholders to connect Inuit workers with available jobs at the Project.

3.1.5 TRAINING

A total of 20,144 hours of training were provided in 2023, of which 5,617 hours (27.9%) were completed by Inuit. Several types of training were offered in 2023 including certificate/licence-based and job-related programs. Certificate/licence-based programs included (among others) Mine ERT, first aid, and WSCC emergency response training. Job-related programs included (among others) training and competency checks on equipment specific to different Project departments (e.g. heavy equipment, safe operating procedures). Site orientation, underground orientation, peer-to-peer mentorship, and Inuit cultural awareness programs also occurred.

As the Project advances toward operations, it is expected that new training opportunities will be created with a focus on Inuit retention, and advancement.

3.1.6 CONTRACTING

In 2023, a total of \$481.4 million in expenditures were made to 745 businesses. Of this, \$131.2 million (27.3%) in expenditures were made to 91 northern businesses (including Kitikmeot Qualified Businesses, NTI Registered Inuit Firms, Nunavut Businesses, and other Northern Businesses). \$104.4 million (21.7%) in expenditures were made to 22 Kitikmeot Qualified Businesses.

3.2 NEXT STEPS

2024 promises to be an incredibly busy and rewarding year at the Back River Project. A busy construction year is planned, as well as ongoing community engagement, and the development of new programming to support Kitikmeot Communities. Monitoring programs are continually being enhanced to ensure that construction activities conform to B2Gold Nunavut's licenses and authorizations. All this work will ensure that the target for First Gold in Q1 2025 remains on track.

The Company's efforts on Inuit hiring, retention, and training are also set to continually be enhanced throughout 2024. Updated Management Plans will be distributed for use, enhanced programming will be rolled out, and partnerships created or enhanced with Kitikmeot Region partners.

The Human Resources team will continue its focus on maximizing Inuit employment across the Project. Another community information and employment tour will be held in summer 2024. Detailed work will also be advanced to design and develop a comprehensive Inuit training program for areas of the Project. A new Cultural Awareness Training video will be finalized to aid B2Gold Nunavut as it works to develop a culturally diverse workforce.

Construction activities will see the second phase of the Goose Site accommodations complex completed, work on the primary pond will complete, and process plant site components moved from active construction to commissioning.

All of this will be accomplished as B2Gold Nunavut continues to enhance safety in all areas of work and strives to ensure the Project is developed in an environmentally and socially responsible manner.

4. PERFORMANCE ON PROJECT CERTIFICATE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

4.1 APPROACH TO PERFORMANCE REPORTING

B2Gold Nunavut's Environmental Management System (EMS) provides a framework for the environmental and socio-economic monitoring activities to be implemented through the life of the Project. The system incorporates the strategies employed for adaptive management using the precautionary principle to pursue the goals of sustainable development. Within this framework, individual management plans have been drafted to address all aspects of the company's activities and contain the detailed mitigation measures and monitoring programs that will be implemented throughout the life of the Project to eliminate or minimize adverse effects. B2Gold Nunavut regularly reviews and revises these management plans to reflect site activities and phase, project modifications, stakeholder input, new monitoring results, and improvements in tools and technologies. Any plans which have completed the NWB approval process (if required) or which are otherwise updated are provided to the NIRB as they are generated or in these annual reports.

The EMS also verifies that standard operating procedures reflect legal requirements pertaining to the Project, and that conditions set at the time of the Project's authorizations, as well as requirements pertaining to the relevant laws, regulations, and permits are met. All Project employees and contractors are required to comply with these management plans. The reporting and documentation requirements, auditing, and processes for management review and revisions are all specified in the EMS. This system offers enough flexibility to respond to the monitoring results in a timely fashion to reduce or eliminate potential adverse residual effects to the natural and socio-economic environments.

The NIRB and B2Gold Nunavut have various administrative and regulatory obligations that support the efficient and effective implementation of Project Certificate No. 007, including responsibilities to ensure interested members of the public have reasonable access to information about the Project as it progresses.

On January 24, 2022, the NIRB confirmed appointment of the Back River Project Monitoring Officer:

Nunavut Impact Review Board
Attn: Kelli Gillard
Senior Impact Assessment Officer
PO Box 1360 (29 Mitik St.)
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0
Email: kgillard@nirb.ca

4.2 METHODOLOGY AND CRITERIA

An individual summary sheet for each of the ecosystemic, socio-economic and other terms and conditions has been provided starting in Section 4.5 of this NIRB Annual Report. The category and content of information provided in these summary sheets is outlined in Table 4.2-1.

Table 4.2-1: Layout of PC Condition Summary Sheets

Item	Summary of Content
Category	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category as defined in PC No. 007
Responsible Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responsible party as defined in PC No. 007
Project Phase(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase(s) of the Project the PC TC is applicable to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-construction Construction Operations Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance Closure Post-Closure
Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objective as defined in PC No. 007
Term or Condition (TC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TC as defined in PC No. 007
Reporting Requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting Requirement as defined in PC No. 007
Status of Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A self-assessed status of compliance in the PC TC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliant Partially-compliant Non-compliant
Stakeholder Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholders and other interested parties that participate in discussions and reviews related to aspects and implementation of regulatory submission of actions or documents relevant to the PC TC.
Reference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Description/title of relevant documents where supporting information related to PC TC status of compliance its available for review.²
Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The methods employed to complete work required to meet compliance in the PC TC. Summary of any adaptive management measures employed that year in support of achieving compliance to the PC TC.
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary of efforts or work that were completed in support of achieving PC TC compliance in previous reporting years, where applicable.
Trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary of notable trends from previous years.
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary of any operational changes undertaken or recommended for the future to achieve compliance or to further enhance environmental performance. Assessment of effectiveness of monitoring program and whether any changes to the scope of monitoring are appropriate. Identification of any challenges related to implementing mitigation measures, undertaking monitoring, or obtaining data from other sources.

4.3 SUMMARY OF 2023 COMPLIANCE WITH TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Table 4.3-1 outlines the status of compliance levels and describes the criteria related to each of these options. The proposed levels of compliance have been adopted from other Nunavut mining development projects subject to NIRB authority.

Table 4.3-1: Status of Compliance Terminology and Criteria

Status of Compliance	Criteria
Compliant	Term and Condition requirements have been met
Partially-Compliant	Term and Condition requirements have been partially met <i>*Demonstrable efforts towards meeting compliance requirements is evidenced.</i>
Non-Compliant	Term and Condition requirements have not been met <i>*Rationale for being unable to meet compliance requirements is provided.</i>

Sabina was issued Project Certificate No. 007 on December 19, 2017. Following receipt of the Project Certificate Sabina immediately began implementation where applicable. In general, Sabina believes they are in compliance with the Terms and Conditions of the Project Certificate. Refer to the individual summary sheet for each Term and Condition as follows:

- ◆ Section 4.5 Performance on Ecosystemic Terms and Conditions (No.1 to 65)
- ◆ Section 4.6 Performance on Socio-Economic Terms and Conditions (No.66 to 88)
- ◆ Section 4.7 Performance on Other Terms and Conditions (No. 89 to 94)

4.4 REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

4.4.1 AGENCY INSPECTIONS AND SITE VISITS

The following inspections of the Back River Project occurred in 2023:

KIA (August 2023): inspection of Goose Lake Camp, Marine Laydown Area, and George Lake Camp was conducted as per the KIA established inspection schedule. An inspection report was provided to B2Gold Nunavut and B2Gold Nunavut provided responses to the KIA on December 21, 2023. The KIA inspection report states that “Overall, the Goose Lake Camp and MLA are being maintained in good condition while furthering development of the mine site”. Any items identified in the inspection report were noted or addressed with some items being addressed by planned activities in 2024.

CIRNAC (March 2023, September 2023): inspection of the Goose Lake Camp, Marine Laydown Area, and George Lake Camp. These inspection reports are available on the NWB public registry. Three actions were identified in the March inspection report and 4 main topics that required action were identified in the September inspection. B2Gold Nunavut addressed the actions they could in 2023 and provided CIRNAC with a response on January 2, 2024, which included an action plan to address the remaining concerns and has hired a 3rd party engineer to assist with this.

NIRB: A 2023 NIRB inspection was postponed due to limited aircraft availability from Nunavut and NWT forest fires. In lieu of a Project inspection, the NIRB asked B2Gold Nunavut for a Project Update which was provided by B2Gold Nunavut to the NIRB on September 8, 2023, and is available on the NIRB public registry.

4.4.2 UNAUTHORIZED DISCHARGES AND SPILLS

A summary of unauthorized discharges and spills that occurred in 2023 are provided in the below Table 4.4-1.

Table 4.4-1: Unauthorized Discharges in 2023 (Reportable)

Date (M-DD-YYYY)	Product Spilled	Quantity	Spill Description	Site	Approximate Location	NT-NU Spill #	Mitigation (how was the spill cleaned up)
1/22/2023	Petroleum, lubricating oil	5 m3	other transporation, breakage	WIR	Geolocation is 65.632778, - 106.868889	2023023	snow recovered and incinerated; spill pads used to absorb free product
1/26/2023	Hydraulic Fluid	20 Litres	Blew Hydraulic hose off fitting, lost tank contents of hydraulic	MLA	Ice road KM 39	2023025	contaminated snow/ice cleaned up and incinerated
1/27/2023	Gear Oil	150 Litres	Valve Left open on Tote	Goose	North Quonset		snow shovelled up and incinerated.
2/7/2023	Fuel Oil	3 litres	other transporation, breakage	WIR	Geolocation is 65.681111, - 107.040556	2023044	snow shovelled up and incinerated.
2/9/2023	Hydraulic Fluid	12 litres	other transporation, breakage	WIR	Geolocation is 65.755556, - 107.167778	2023045	sorbent pads deployed; material shovelled and incinerated
3/13/2023	Transmission fluid	1 Litre	Case drain line came loose	MLA	Lake 27	2023095	contaminated snow/ice cleaned up and incinerated
3/14/2023	other	300 kg	breakage	WIR	Geolocation is 62.5375, - 106.4525	2023098	material cleaned up with equipment and hand tools; placed in lined megabags and dissposed of off-site.
3/14/2023	other	250 kg	breakage	WIR	Geolocation is 62.5375, - 106.4525	2023099	material cleaned up with equipment and hand tools; placed in lined megabags and dissposed of off-site.
3/15/2023	Hydraulic Fluid	4 litres	truck breakage	WIR	Geolocation is 65.894167, - 107.151944	2023101	material shovelled into megabag and incinerated
3/18/2023	Engine Oil	15 Litres	Crankcase pressure	MLA	19.8 Km on WIR	2023105	contaminated snow/ice cleaned up and incinerated
4/20/2023	Diesel	354 Litres	Tank vent on truck	MLA	Fuelling Station		contaminated snow/ice cleaned up and incinerated

Table 4.4-1: Unauthorized Discharges in 2023 (Reportable)

Date (M-DD-YYYY)	Product Spilled	Quantity	Spill Description	Site	Approximate Location	NT-NU Spill #	Mitigation (how was the spill cleaned up)
5/1/2023	Sediment	unknown	sedimentation occurred during the construction of the Rascal stream culvert	Goose	Rascal Stream		To mitigate potential effects, pump outlets were re-positioned to allow sediment to settle prior to entering Goose Lake, additional silt fences were installed, and heavy mobile equipment was moved to reduce sedimentation into the watercourse. However, construction was halted and commenced during late summer/fall when it was completed in the dry within the isolated sections of the watercourse.
6/10/2023	petroleum, lube, hydraulic	20 Litres	truck breakage	Goose	Goose Lake	2023251	material shovelled and incinerated
8/7/2023	Diesel	150 Litres	Fuel Tank Rupture	MLA	Quarry	2023342	contaminated soil/rock/snow shovelled into lined megabag; disposed off-site (KBL)
9/13/2023	hydrocarbons	<1 Litres	Major Drilling all-track exploration vehicle travelled unoccupied and drove itself from the exploration drill rig site and ultimately into Umwelt Lake and was subsequently retrieved. Possible contamination related to exposure to grease on equipment. No release from fuel tank.	Goose	Umwelt Lake	2023394	Samples were collected, containment boom was installed around the equipment, follow up samples indicated no detectable quantities of VOCs, oil and grease, or glycols (see analytical results in Appendix G)
9/17/2023	Ammonium Nitrate	0.25m3	Improperly secured megabag fell off trailer	Goose	Road around single lane	2023404	cleaned up what was recoverable; disposed of contaminated material off-site (KBL)
9/19/2023	Water with TSS	1100L	Improperly constructed sump dam	Goose	Major shop laydown		sump berm reinforced/rebuilt.
9/27/2023	Raw Sewage	3140 Litres	Equipment Failure causing overflow	Goose	Sewage Treatment Plant	2023419	material shovelled and incinerated
10/2/2023	Raw Sewage	110 Litres	Equipment Failure causing overflow	Goose	Sewage Treatment Plant	2023425	material shovelled and incinerated

4.4.3 WATER LICENCE COMPLIANCE

B2Gold Nunavut currently has one Type A water licence for the Back River Project:

- ◆ Type A - 2AM-BRP1831: for the mining undertaking ([Licence](#))

An amendment to this licence was issued on August 31, 2021, and modifications to Schedule I of the Licence were approved by the NWB on July 26, 2023. The water licence includes conditions on water use, wastewater management, and water quality monitoring, as well as the management of fuel and waste. B2Gold Nunavut reports on Water Licence compliance in Annual Reports which are provided directly to the NWB by March 31 annually for the previous calendar year, in accordance with the Regulations and as specified in the individual water licenses. For more information, refer to the Annual Reports posted to the NWB Public Registry for Type A Water Licence [2AM-BRP1831](#).

4.5 PERFORMANCE ON ECOSYSTEMIC TERMS AND CONDITIONS

4.5.1 AIR QUALITY (PC TCS 1 THROUGH 5)

Project Certificate Condition No. 1

Category	Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To provide parties with updated information on air quality baseline information and monitoring conducted on-site
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>The Proponent shall have in place an Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan, which shall include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Description of air monitoring stations including proposed timing of installation, location, and any factors considered with regards to planning for the installation; b. Plans for the collection of total suspended dust samples year round, including sampling for metals content relevant to the Project; c. Description of dustfall collectors; d. Description of lichen surveys; e. Identification of near field, far field and reference sites locations with demonstrated consideration for ambient wind conditions; f. Baseline data collected prior to significant construction activity; and g. A description of the proposed annual reporting mechanism and response framework. <p>Commentary: The term “year round” is intended to convey that samples are collected during various times of the year, but does not mean continuous monitoring every day of the year.</p>
Reporting Requirement	The plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 90 days prior to the start of construction, with results submitted annually thereafter or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	The Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan (December 2015) was reviewed in conjunction with NIRB Environmental Assessment
Reference	Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan (July 2019)

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut's Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan (AQMMP) was last updated in July 2019 and was provided to the NIRB on April 3, 2020. B2Gold Nunavut has confirmed that it is available on the NIRB Public Registry but has been filed with the annual reports rather than with the management plans. B2Gold Nunavut has reviewed this plan and confirms that it addresses all relevant PC T&C's, including T&C 1, 2, 3, 6 and 8, and provides suitable guidance for current and near future site activities.

The updated AQMMP (July 2019) specifically includes:

- ◆ Descriptions of air monitoring stations including proposed timing of installation, locations and methods;
- ◆ Description of dust monitoring methodology and inclusion of dust metals analysis;
- ◆ Identification of near field, far field and reference sites locations with demonstrated consideration for ambient wind conditions;
- ◆ Discussion of baseline data collected prior to significant construction activity; and
- ◆ A description of the proposed annual reporting mechanism and response framework.

The AQMMP includes:

- ◆ A Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan (PC T&C 6)
- ◆ A Fugitive Dust Reduction Plan (PC T&C 3) and
- ◆ Outlines the meteorological monitoring program (PC T&C 8).
- ◆ Lichen surveys are described in the Vegetation Monitoring Plan.

Results:

Not applicable.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

The Company completed on-site field inspections of existing monitoring equipment to ensure equipment is in proper working order prior to the Construction Phase. B2Gold Nunavut will continue to undertake air quality monitoring in 2023 and provide the results in the 2024 NIRB annual report.

During construction and operation of the Project, the AQMMP will monitor for and quantify Project air quality emissions and compliance with appropriate criteria and guidelines as specified in the AQMMP. Annual reporting will be completed for federal programs such as the National Pollutant Release Inventory (NPRI) and Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program (GHGRP) when applicable.

The AQMMP is a "living document", and will be updated accordingly if Mine plans, conditions, monitoring results, or other factors necessitate revisions.

Project Certificate Condition No. 2

Category	Air Quality Mitigation and Adaptive Management
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure that mitigation and adaptive management measures effectively mitigate impacts on-site.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall demonstrate through monitoring of air quality that all emissions remain within predicted levels and, where applicable, within limits established by all applicable guidelines and regulations. In cases where exceedances occur, the Proponent shall provide an explanation for the exceedance, a description of planned mitigation, and shall conduct additional monitoring to evaluate the effectiveness of mitigative measures.
Reporting Requirement	A summary of monitoring results and any exceedances noted shall be provided in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	The AQMMP (December 2015) was reviewed in conjunction with NIRB Environmental Assessment
Reference	Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan (July 2019)

Methods:

The Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan was reviewed by Stakeholders and the NIRB during the Final Environmental Assessment review process. The AQMMP was revised in July 2019 to capture stakeholder comments and Project Certificate requirements.

The revised AQMMP includes air quality monitoring and emissions quantification and sets out standards and guidelines against which air quality parameters will be screened. Monitoring results will also be compared to predicted levels in the annual reports. Section 8 of the AQMMP outlines mitigation and adaptive management approach should exceedances be observed.

Results:

B2Gold Nunavut retained WSP in 2023 to perform scheduled maintenance and calibrations on the Goose property meteorological stations and to initiate air quality monitoring stations for passive NO₂ and dustfall monitoring. The meteorological field work was performed in July 2023. A summary of the meteorological field work is as follows:

- ◆ Calibrated sensor-swaps were completed on the HMP155A temperature and humidity probe, and SPLITE2 solar radiometer.
- ◆ Instrument verifications were completed on the 05103 anemometer (wind sensor) and model TE525M tipping bucket rain gauge.
- ◆ Logger code changes for updated calibration constants, and other code updates.
- ◆ Mechanical and other general maintenance items on the tower.

- ◆ The 2-metre Goose Lake meteorological monitoring tripod was deployed in the shallow waters of Goose Lake with a calibrated model NRLITE2 net radiometer to support the hydrology program.
- ◆ Data from the Goose meteorological stations were downloaded and analyzed.

See Project Certificate Condition No. 8 for details on the site meteorological data analysis.

Air quality monitoring at Goose was conducted at the same five baseline, combination passive dustfall and passive nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) monitoring stations installed near Goose Lake Camp in 2021. A background station is located approximately six kilometres north-northwest of the camp and in the expected upwind direction of the major construction activities that are being undertaken at the property. A series of four more stations are orientated in a transect in the nominal downwind direction of the construction activities occurring at the Goose Plant Site. The stations are approximately located at the edge of the Goose Plant Site's construction pad (Station 1), 150 metres from the pad (Station 2), 300 metres from the pad (Station 3) and 600 metres from the pad (Station 4). Table 4.5.2-1 below summarizes the names and the location of each of the air quality stations used for air quality monitoring in 2023.

Table 4.5.2-1: 2023 Air Quality Station Locations

Air Quality Station Name	UTM Zone 13N	
	Easting (m)	Northing (m)
Background Station	428,746	7,275,188
Station 1	430,755	7,269,467
Station 2	430,860	7,269,361
Station 3	430,965	7,269,254
Station 4	431,176	7,269,040

"UTM" = Universal Transverse Mercator coordinate system; "13N" = zone 13 north; m = meter

Nitrogen dioxide can be released directly to air but is more commonly produced by the conversion of nitric oxide (NO) released from combustion processes. Together, NO₂ and NO are typically referred as oxides of nitrogen (NO_x). Fossil fuel combustion from mobile and stationary sources are the primary anthropogenic sources of NO_x emissions at Goose.

Passive NO₂ monitoring results from samples retrieved in 2023 are summarized in Table 4.5.2-2. Note that sampling results for some sampling periods were not available in time for the 2023 NIRB Annual Report due to data management issues.

As expected, the highest concentrations of NO₂ were measured at Station 1 which is located near the edge of the Goose Plant site's construction pad and the lowest concentrations were measured at the background station. There are no Nunavut ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for monthly NO₂ measurements (Government of Nunavut 2011); measured monthly NO₂ concentrations can be conservatively compared to the annual NAAQS of 32 part per billion volume-basis (ppbv). The maximum monthly NO₂ concentrations from the available NO₂ sampling results range from 0.1 ppbv at the Background Station to 1.6 ppbv at Station 1, which are well below the annual NAAQS of 32 ppbv for NO₂.

Table 4.5.2-2: 2023 NO₂ Passive Air Quality Monitoring Results

Sampling Period	Start Date	End Date	BK	Station			
				1	2	3	4
				Passive NO ₂ Sampling Results (ppbv) ^(a)			
1	2022-08-06	2023-03-18	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	— ^(b)
2	2023-03-18	2023-05-04	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
3	2023-05-04	2023-06-07	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
4	2023-06-07	2023-07-12	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
5	2023-07-12	2023-08-07	0.1	1.6	1.2	1.1 ^(c)	0.7
6	2023-08-07	2023-09-10	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
7	2023-09-10	2023-10-13	<0.1	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3
8	2023-10-13	2023-11-14	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
9	2023-11-14	2023-12-13	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Average ^(d)			0.1	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.5

(a) Duplicate samples were taken at stations 1, 2, and 3 for all sampling periods unless otherwise noted. The average value of the duplicate results is presented.

(b) No sample from Station 4 was retrieved for the first sampling period from August 6, 2022, to March 18, 2023.

(c) A duplicate was not sampled.

(d) Values below the detection limit of 0.1 were treated as one-half of the detection limit (i.e. 0.05 ppb) in the calculation of annual averages.

"BK" = Background Station; "NA" = sample result was unavailable in time for the 2023 NIRB Annual Report submission;

"ppbv" = parts per billion volume-basis; "—" = no data; "<" = less than.

The dustfall monitoring program measures quantities of dust deposited near the Goose Plant site. Total dustfall is defined as the amount of dried material deposited in the sample while fixed dustfall is the inorganic portion of the total dustfall that remains after the sample is combusted in the laboratory.

In the absence of dustfall standards/guidelines for Nunavut, the Alberta Ambient Air Quality Guideline (AAAQG) was used to assess dustfall measurements in 2023 (AEPA 2019). Guidelines for residential and recreational areas (53 milligrams per 100 square centimetres per 30 days [mg/100 cm²/30 d]), and commercial and industrial areas (158 mg/100 cm²/30 d) are provided in the AAAQG.

Dustfall monitoring results from samples retrieved in 2023 are summarized in Table 4.5.2-3. No dustfall measurements in 2023 were above the Alberta Ambient Air Guideline for commercial and industrial areas (158 mg/100 cm²/30 d). The maximum total dustfall measured was 87.4 mg/100 cm²/30 d during the ninth sampling period from November 14 to December 13 at Station 1. However, fixed dustfall for this sample was only 9.6 mg/100 cm²/30 d, which indicates that the measured dustfall was mostly organic and likely was not the result of on-site activities. The maximum fixed dustfall measured was 59 mg/100 cm²/30 d at Station 3 during the eighth sampling period from October 13 to November 14. Only two (2) out of the 43 total dustfall measurements exceeded the Alberta dustfall guideline for residential and recreational areas and only one exceedance of fixed dustfall was observed.

For most sampling periods in 2023, the station closest to the Goose Plant site's construction pad (Station 1) had the highest fixed dustfall results and the fixed dustfall results decreased with the increasing distances from construction activities.

Table 4.5.2-3: 2023 Dustfall Monitoring Results

Sampling Period	Start Date	End Date	BK	Station			
				1	2	3	4
				Total Dustfall (mg/100 cm²/30 d) ^(a)			
	2022-08-06	2023-03-18	1.2	15.4	9.5 ^(b)	3.6 ^(b)	— ^(c)
2	2023-03-18	2023-05-04	3.4	6.8	4.7 ^(b)	10.8	5.2
3	2023-05-04	2023-06-07	7.2 ^(d)	22.1	27.6	44.4	14.3
4	2023-06-07	2023-07-12		22.7	11.7	52.0	24.6
5	2023-07-12	2023-08-07	29.7	45.0	26.7	25.0	18.6
6	2023-08-07	2023-09-10	15.6	19.4	12.4	20.8	13.0
7	2023-09-10	2023-10-13	22.6	12.0 ^(e)	11.5	23.3	16.7
8	2023-10-13	2023-11-14	7.6	21.1	7.1	65.0	4.6
9	2023-11-14	2023-12-13	12.5	87.4	14.0	11.2	8.0
Sampling Period	Start Date	End Date	Fixed Dustfall (mg/100 cm²/30 d) ^(a)				
1	2022-08-06	2023-03-18	<0.1	14.3	8.4 ^(b)	2.5 ^(b)	— ^(c)
2	2023-03-18	2023-05-04	<0.1	2.4	1.4 ^(b)	3.3	2.8
3	2023-05-04	2023-06-07	2.5 ^(d)	7.1	6.8	6.5	3.9
4	2023-06-07	2023-07-12		11.7	6.0	7.6	<0.1
5	2023-07-12	2023-08-07	0.8	18.2	14.9	13.6	10.2
6	2023-08-07	2023-09-10	1.3	6.8	2.0	0.95	1.9
7	2023-09-10	2023-10-13	<0.2	6.0 ^(e)	5.0	2.4	<0.3
8	2023-10-13	2023-11-14	6.3	19.9	7.1	59	4.6
9	2023-11-14	2023-12-13	4.2	9.6	9.9	9.7	8.0
Alberta residential dustfall guideline (AEPA 2019)			53				
Alberta industrial dustfall guideline (AEPA 2019)			158				

(a) Duplicate samples were taken at stations 1, 2, and 3 for all sampling periods unless otherwise noted. The average value of the duplicate results is presented.

(b) A duplicate was not sampled.

(c) No sample from Station 4 was retrieved for the first sampling period from August 6, 2022, to March 18, 2023.

(d) The Background Station's third sample was deployed on for two sampling periods from May 4, 2023, to July 12, 2023.

(e) Result is based on just one of the duplicate samples as the other duplicate sample result appears to have been contaminated due to unrealistic results.

"BK" = Background Station; "mg/100 cm²/30 day" = milligram per 100 square centimetres per 30 days; "—" = no data; "<" = less than.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will undertake inspection of the existing monitoring equipment in 2024 to ensure equipment is in proper working. Moreover, B2Gold Nunavut will continue to undertake air quality monitoring in 2024 and provide the results in the 2024 NIRB annual report.

During construction and operation of the Project, the AQMMP will monitor for and quantify Project air quality emissions and compliance with appropriate criteria and guidelines as specified in the AQMMP. Annual reporting will be completed for federal programs such as the NPRI and GHGRP when applicable.

The AQMMP is a “living document”, and will be updated accordingly if Mine plans, conditions, monitoring results, or other factors necessitate revisions.

Reference:

AEPA (Alberta Environment and Protected Areas). 2019. Alberta Ambient Air Quality Objectives and Guidelines Summary. Prepared by the Air Policy Branch. Available at <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/9781460134856>.

Government of Nunavut. 2011. Environmental Guidelines for Ambient Air Quality. Department of Environment. Available at https://www.gov.nu.ca/sites/default/files/publications/2022-01/guideline_-_ambient_air_quality_2011.pdf.

Project Certificate Condition No. 3

Category	Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure that mitigation and adaptive management measures effectively mitigate dust impacts on-site
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>The Proponent shall have in place dust management and monitoring plans which address the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Reflect commitments made in the Final Environmental Impact Statement, the Final Environmental Impact Statement Addendum, and through the Nunavut Impact Review Board's impact assessment process; b. Verify commitments to use dust suppressants on-site, including a description of the type of suppressant to be used, as well as the frequency and timing of applications to be made throughout the periods of applicable use; c. Specify commitments to the use of appropriate dust suppression measures when conducting activities in the landfill such as topping or capping; d. Outline the specific adaptive management measures to be considered should monitoring indicate that dust deposition is higher than predicted, specifically where project-related traffic is greater than initially expected or where meteorological events have instigated additional deposition; and e. Demonstrate consideration for the implementation of alternative methods (e.g., windscreens) to limit the deposition of dust generated from the Project.
Reporting Requirement	The plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 90 days prior to commencement of construction activities. Information regarding updates to the management and monitoring plans and/or mitigation measures implemented by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and condition shall be provided in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	The AQMMP (December 2015) was reviewed in conjunction with NIRB Environmental Assessment
Reference	Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan (July 2019)

Methods:

The Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan (AQMMP) was reviewed by Stakeholders and the NIRB during the Final Environmental Assessment review process. The AQMMP was revised in July 2019 to capture stakeholder comments and Project Certificate requirements.

The AQMMP aligns with commitments made during environmental impact assessment process and includes a Fugitive Dust Reduction Plan which provides information on dust suppressant use and dust suppression measures. Section 8 of the AQMMP also outlines B2Gold Nunavut's mitigation and adaptive management approach, including possible responses to increased dust generation. These may include alterations to dust suppressant application rate, frequency, methodology or type, and/or modifications of road maintenance protocols, and/or reductions in road usage through personnel awareness or use of alternate vehicles. Adaptive management response will also be triggered in real-time, based on site observations.

Results:

Not applicable.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

The Fugitive Dust Reduction Plan (FDRP), has been implemented during construction activities and dust monitoring is being conducted. See Project Certificate Condition No. 2 for details on dust monitoring results.

Proposed updates to the FDRP and AQMMP are planned for Spring 2024 to align with advances to monitoring technologies and to reflect the current understanding of the project. Moreover, the updates will address issues that have been noted with current air quality monitoring program.

Information regarding updates to the management and monitoring plans and/or mitigation measures implemented by the Proponent in fulfillment of this T&C shall be provided in the Proponent's annual report to the NIRB.

Project Certificate Condition No. 4

Category	Incineration Management Plan
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure that waste management operations are conducted in line with regulatory guidelines.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall develop and implement an Incineration Management Plan that demonstrates consideration for the recommendations provided in Environment and Climate Change Canada's Technical Document for Batch Waste Incineration (2010).
Reporting Requirement	The initial Incineration Management Plan must be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board at least 60 days prior to the commencement of construction and must be tested within the first year of operations. Subsequently, unless otherwise directed by Environment and Climate Change Canada, every (3) three years the Proponent shall provide the Nunavut Impact Review Board with confirmation of any changes to the Proponent's Incineration Management Plan in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant.
Stakeholder Review	Type A Water Licence regulatory review process stakeholders/intervenors.
Reference	Incinerator Management Plan (June 2020)

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut's Incineration Management Plan (IMP) was last updated in June 2020. B2Gold Nunavut has confirmed that it is available on the NIRB Public Registry. The NWB approved the IMP with the issuance of the amended water licence, but B2Gold Nunavut notes the wrong version (July 2019) of the plan was referenced in the Licence and continues to address this error with the NWB. B2Gold Nunavut has reviewed this plan and confirms that it addresses relevant T&C's (PC T&C's 4 and 5) and provides suitable guidance for current and near future site activities.

The IMP (June 2020) includes descriptions of incinerator operation and maintenance protocols, and environmental protection measures to be employed. The IMP as well as the AQMMP note the requirement to test incinerators following installation within their first year of use.

Results:

Not applicable.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

The IMP is a “living document” and will be updated as necessary based on changes in Mine plans, conditions, monitoring results, or other factors.

Any revisions to the IMP will be submitted to the NIRB and the NWB, per Part B, Item 17 of the 2AM-BRP1831 Water Licence.

Project Certificate Condition No. 5

Category	Stack Monitoring
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To monitor waste management operations.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall provide the results of all stack testing conducted on temporary or permanent incinerators operated for the Project for the year in which testing was conducted.
Reporting Requirement	In years when a stack test occurs, results to be reported to the Nunavut Impact Review Board and to Environment and Climate Change Canada annually, or as may otherwise be required.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Impact Review Board and Environment Climate Change Canada
Reference	Incinerator Management Plan (June 2020)

Methods:

All incinerator stack testing results will be provided to the NIRB within the subsequently filed annual report. The collection and analysis of samples will be conducted in compliance with appropriate stack test methods and undertaken by an accredited laboratory. The stack testing report will include a description of the incinerator and how it was being operated at the time of the stack emissions testing program, the methods used for sampling and analysis and a discussion of the results, including comparison with the Canada Wide Standards for Dioxins and Furans (CCME 2000a) and the Canada Wide Standards for Mercury (CCME 2000b).

Results:

Not applicable.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

Complete stack emissions testing for all incinerators will occur upon commissioning when testing thresholds are met and as required thereafter based on the recommendations provided in Environment and Climate Change Canada's Technical Document for Batch Waste Incineration (2010) or discussions with the appropriate regulatory authorities. Results and will be compared to the Canada-wide Standards for Dioxins and Furans and the Canada-wide Standards for Mercury (CCME 2000, 2001)

In years when a stack test occurs, results to be reported to the NIRB and to ECCC annually, or as may otherwise be required.

4.5.2 CLIMATE AND METEOROLOGY (PC TCS 6 THROUGH 8)

Project Certificate Condition No. 6

Category	Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To monitor and reduce greenhouse gas emissions produced by the Project.
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>The Proponent shall maintain a Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) Reduction Plan which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. An estimate of the Project's GHG baseline emissions; b. A description of monitoring measures to be undertaken, including the methods, frequency, parameters, and a description of data analysis; and c. A description of mitigative and adaptive strategies planned, and taken, toward reducing the project-related emission of greenhouse gases over the Project's life. <p>Commentary: The term "baseline emissions" denotes the emissions as predicted by Proponent prior to project development, but reflecting the GHG emissions of existing Project infrastructure (i.e., existing exploration camp and associated infrastructure).</p>
Reporting Requirement	Results to be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	The current AQMMP (including the GHG Reduction Plan) was reviewed in conjunction with NIRB Environmental Assessment.
Reference	<p>Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan (July 2019)</p> <p>ECCC (2021). <i>National Inventory Report 1990 – 2019: Greenhouse Gas Sources and Sinks in Canada 2021</i>. Available at https://unfccc.int/documents/271493</p> <p>Environment Canada. <i>Metal Mining: Guidance Manual for Estimating Greenhouse Gas Emissions</i>. Available at https://publications.gc.ca/collections/Collection/En49-2-9-2E.pdf</p>

Methods:

The Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan (AQMMP) was reviewed by Stakeholders and the NIRB during the Final Environmental Assessment review process. The AQMMP was updated in 2019 to capture stakeholder comments and Project Certificate requirements.

The AQMMP includes an Emissions and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Plan (Section 6.1.1 of the AQMMP). This GHG Reduction Plan describes mitigative and adaptive strategies employed by B2Gold Nunavut to minimizing minimize Project GHG emissions. GHG generation is estimated based on fuel use by equipment type (including waste oil burner use), usage of explosives, and any other potential GHG sources which are quantified and converted to quantities of CO₂, CH₄, and N₂O based on established

conversion factors to determine relevant reporting requirements. Relative to T&C 6 commentary, B2Gold Nunavut has noted in the AQMMP that baseline GHG emissions from the existing exploration camp are insignificant in the context of Project GHG emissions during construction and operations, so are considered to be “nil” for the purposes of comparison of future results. Section 8 of the AQMMP also outlines B2Gold Nunavut’s mitigation and adaptive management approach. Any measures taken towards reducing Project GHG emissions will be described in the AQMMP annual reports.

Results:

WSP estimated greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for Project activities completed in 2023, including the construction activities and pit preparation based on the diesel fuel and ANFO explosive usage collected in 2023. Diesel fuel (mobile and stationary sources) and explosive usage for the Goose and MLA sites were provided by B2Gold Nunavut to form the initial GHG emissions estimates (see table below). The ANFO explosive usage was provided over all sites.

	Goose	MLA
Diesel Used – Stationary Sources (Litres)	6,419,822	1,176,800
Diesel Used – Mobile Sources (Litres)	1,283,964	882,600
ANFO Explosives – Project Wide (tonnes)	24	0

The emissions were estimated using methodology consistent with the Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) GHG Emissions Reporting Program (GHGRP), using emission factors as outlined in the *National Inventory Report 1990 – 2020: Greenhouse Gas Sources and Sinks in Canada 2022* for diesel fuel combustion. The emission factor for explosives was taken from the *Metal Mining: Guidance Manual for Estimating Greenhouse Gas Emissions* (Environment Canada, 2004).

The estimates GHG emissions across all sites for 2023 is shown in the following table.

Site	Emissions (tCO ₂ e)
Goose	20,432
MLA	9,055
Total*	29,487

Trends:

An increase in GHG emissions has been estimated between 2022 and 2023. This increase is largely attributed to an increase in diesel consumption as project construction and pit development was initiated in 2023.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to gather annual fuel usage to update the emission estimates through the Construction Phase of the Project. The Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan mitigative and adaptive strategies will continue to be implemented by B2Gold Nunavut. An evaluation of GHG emissions will continue to be carried out annually to determine whether reporting to the federal Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program (GHGRP) is required. If so, the applicable reporting will be performed and required information submitted to ECCC through the established national reporting systems and will be provided to the NIRB in the annual report. The annual report will also include any information on GHGs will be quantified and summarized on an annual basis using guidance provided by ECCC (ECCC 2022) and other appropriate published emissions factors.

Project Certificate Condition No. 7

Category	Mine Closure and Reclamation Plan
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure mitigation, monitoring, and adaptive management measures are in place for the long-term stability, containment, and integrity of project components and the protection of environmental features.
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>The Proponent shall maintain a Mine Closure and Reclamation Plan designed to: identify the processes that may act upon the mine components after closure and reclamation so that they can be factored within the design and operation of the mine; ensure physical and chemical stability of mine components that remain after closure; ensure mine components that remain after closure will not require long-term active care; and consider future use and aesthetics of the area with the surrounding lands. This plan should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. An adaptive management component that documents monitoring and mitigation measures to ensure long-term containment of the Tailings Storage Facility and Waste Rock Storage Areas; b. Details for monitoring the thermal condition and stability of storage facilities; c. Details on the triggers for implementing alternative mitigation options; d. Details pertaining to ongoing monitoring and research being conducted to supplement the adaptive management protocols; e. Details on the plans to maintain the integrity of the groundwater quality within and adjacent to the Project; and f. Details on how the Proponent will carry out continued analyses over time to confirm or update the approximate fill time for the mine pits
Reporting Requirement	The plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 60 days prior to the start of construction, with results submitted annually thereafter or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, Environment Climate Change Canada, Nunavut Water Board, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Reference	<p>Back River Project Interim and Closure Reclamation Plan (October 2017)</p> <p>Back River Project Interim and Closure Reclamation Plan (March 2021)</p> <p>Sabina Gold & Silver Corp. Final Submission for Back River Project Type A Water Licence Public Hearing (July 2018)</p>

Methods:

In conjunction with the Type A Water Licence Application, an updated Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan to the NWB in 2017 (ICRP; October 2017). The ICRP was updated to reflect NIRB PC Condition 7 requirements items a to f, to ensure mitigation, monitoring, and adaptive management measures are in place for the long-term stability, containment, and integrity of project components and the protection of environmental features. The NWB, in accordance with Water Licence 2AM-BRP1831, Part B, Item 14 g, approved the ICRP. The ICRP was further updated during the process of amending the Type A Water Licence (2AM-BRP1831). A final ICRP (July 2021) was developed based on consultation and discussion with KIA, and CIRNAC, in conjunction with oversight from NWB, to address any monetary and/or staging changes associated with this application. The ICRP (July 2021) reflects changes associated with the Back River Project 2020 Modification Package, as well as potential advancements in operation and technology.

Results:

The ICRP (July 2021) and included conceptual progressive revegetation program was approved by the NWB and was provided to the NIRB on December 13, 2021⁷. This ICRP was further updated in 2022/23 as part of the amendment application process and is currently under review by the NIRB. The ICRP addresses PC T&C's 7, 15, 35, and 36.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

This plan will be updated as needed to reflect Project phase or applications for Project modification. Should B2Gold Nunavut update this plan, once accepted by the KIA, CIRNAC, and the NWB, it will be provided to the NIRB. Monitoring results associated with this plan will be provided in annual reports to the NIRB.

⁷ Sabina. 2021. *Re: Sabina Response to NIRB re: The Nunavut Impact Review Board's 2020-2021 Annual Monitoring Report for the Back River Project and Board's Recommendations*. Sabina letter to NIRB, Dated December 13, 2021

Project Certificate Condition No. 8

Category	Weather Monitoring and Adaptive Management
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To monitor local weather and adaptively manage potential impacts from extreme or abnormal weather conditions.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall provide a summary report of meteorological conditions experienced within the project area including details related to temperature, wind velocities and patterns, precipitation, as well the onset of seasonal freeze and thaw cycles, and highlight extreme or outlying weather events.
Reporting Requirement	Results to be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	The AQMMP (December 2015) was reviewed in conjunction with NIRB Environmental Assessment.
Reference	Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan (July 2019)

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut's Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan referred to in Project Certificate T&C No.2, includes a meteorological monitoring program to monitor local weather and adaptively manage potential impacts from extreme and abnormal weather conditions.

B2Gold Nunavut retained WSP (*formerly* Golder) to perform maintenance and calibrations on the Goose property meteorological stations in 2022. Data was downloaded from the Goose meteorological station, reviewed, and anomalous data were removed for this summary. Overall data recovery in 2022 from the meteorological station was 99%. Data from the ECCC Bathurst Inlet station and Lupin A station climate normals (1981-2010) were also retrieved and analyzed (ECCC 2023a, 2023b). This summary includes available 2022 site and Bathurst Inlet meteorological data in comparison to long-term (1981-2010) climate normals at the Lupin A station.

Results:

Figure TC8-1 presents the monthly mean temperatures observed at the Goose station and Bathurst Inlet in 2023 compared to the 1981-2010 Lupin A climate normals. Average monthly temperatures recorded at the Goose Lake station in 2023 were warmer than the climate normal averages from Lupin A for all months except for February and March. May in particular was substantially warmer in 2023, with average Goose Lake observations being greater than 8°C higher than the Lupin A climate normal. The 2023 annual mean temperature at Goose Lake was -7.7°C, in comparison, the Lupin A 1981-2010 climate normal average is -10.9°C and the Bathurst Inlet 2023 annual mean temperature was -6.2°C. For all months in 2023, average temperatures at the Bathurst Inlet station were warmer than Goose Station but were generally still comparable (i.e., less than a 3.5°C difference for all months except for March and April).

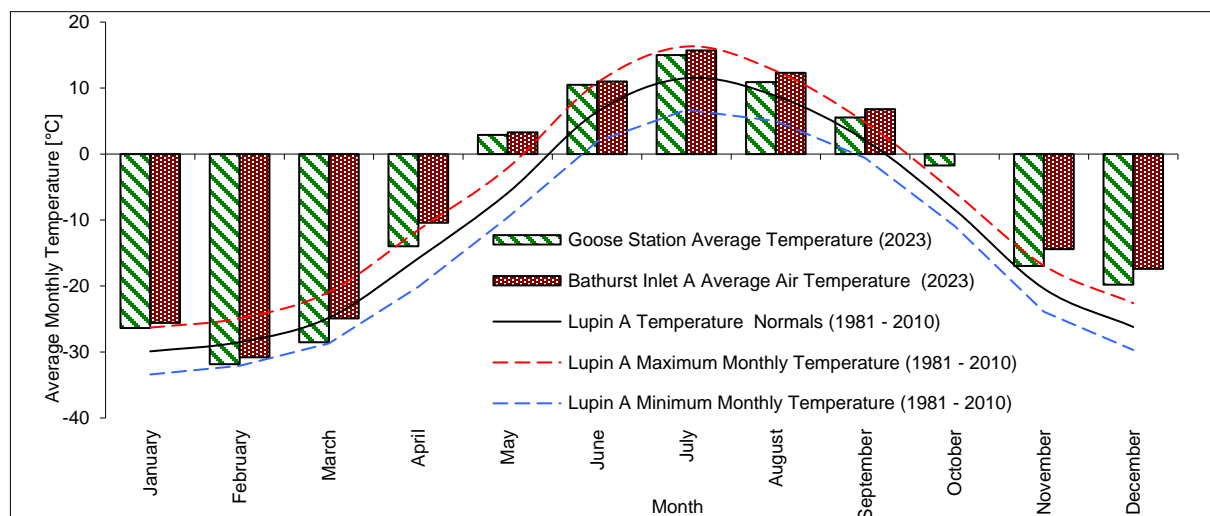


Figure TC8-1: Goose Station and Bathurst Inlet 2023 Monthly Temperature Summary

Solar Radiation

Average monthly total solar radiation at Goose station is presented in Figure TC8-2. Average monthly total solar radiation ranged from 1.4 watts per square metre (W/m^2) in December to 243.1 W/m^2 in July at Goose Lake. No solar data were available from the Bathurst Inlet station.

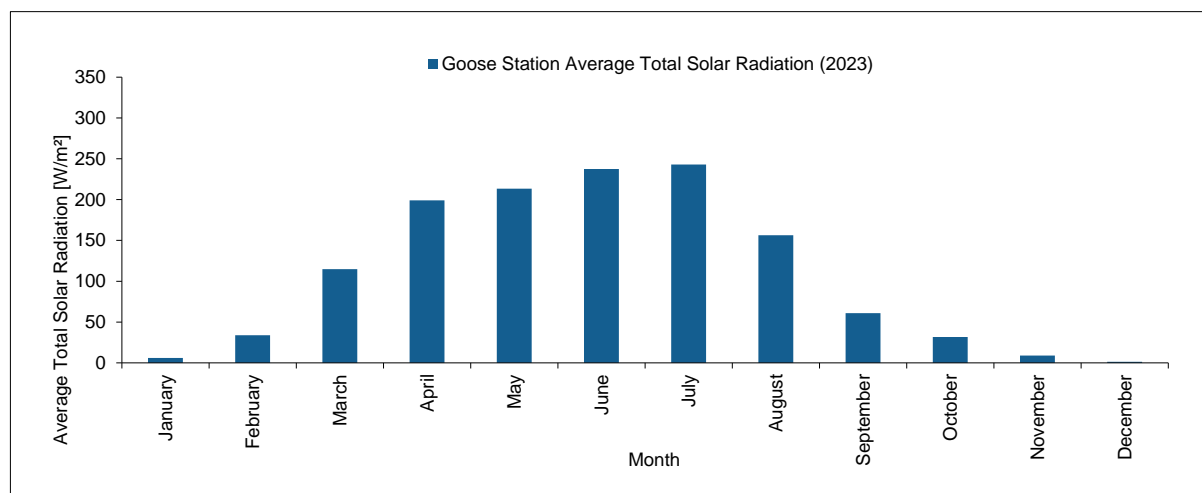


Figure TC8-2: Goose Station 2023 Monthly Average Total Solar Radiation Summary

Relative Humidity

Figure TC8-3 presents the 2023 monthly average relative humidity observed at the Goose station and Bathurst Inlet. The Goose station measured average monthly relative humidity ranging from 63% in July to 90% in October. Monthly average relative humidity at the Goose station was higher than at Bathurst Inlet for all months of 2023 except for July.

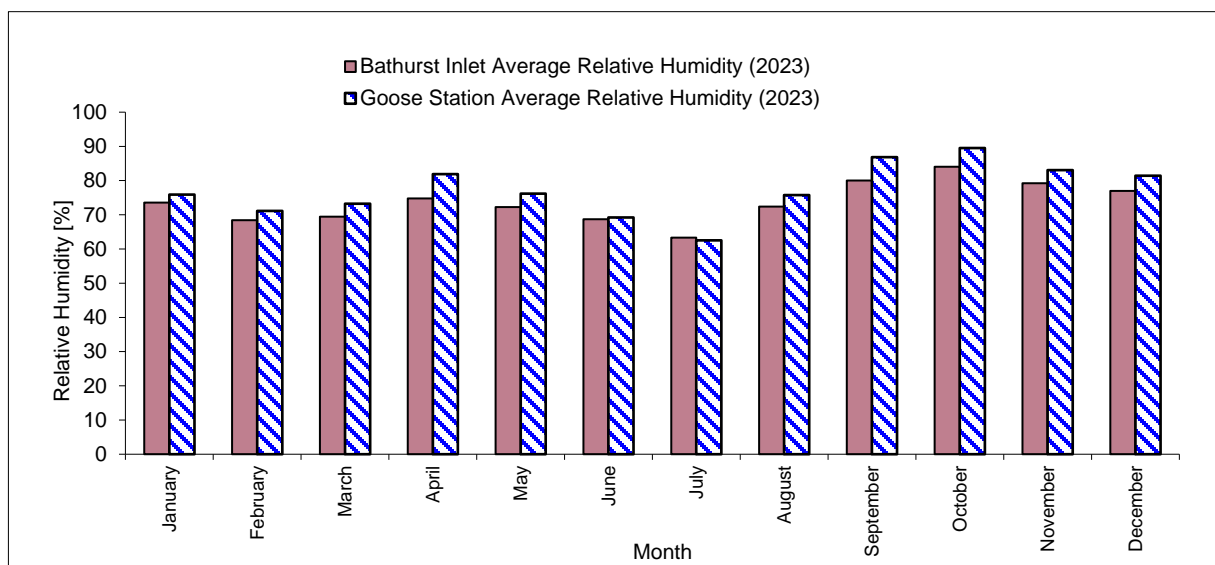


Figure TC8-3: Goose Station and Bathurst Inlet Station 2023 Monthly Average Relative Humidity Summary

Precipitation

Monthly rainfall observed at the Goose station in 2023 is compared to the Lupin A 1981-2010 climate normals in Figure TC8-4. Total Rainfall measured at the Goose station in 2023 (216.4 mm) is notably higher than the Lupin A climate normal for annual rainfall (160.5 mm). Daily total precipitation data was downloaded for Bathurst Inlet but due to low data recovery in 2023 (48%) comparisons to Goose station and Lupin A climate normals cannot be made.

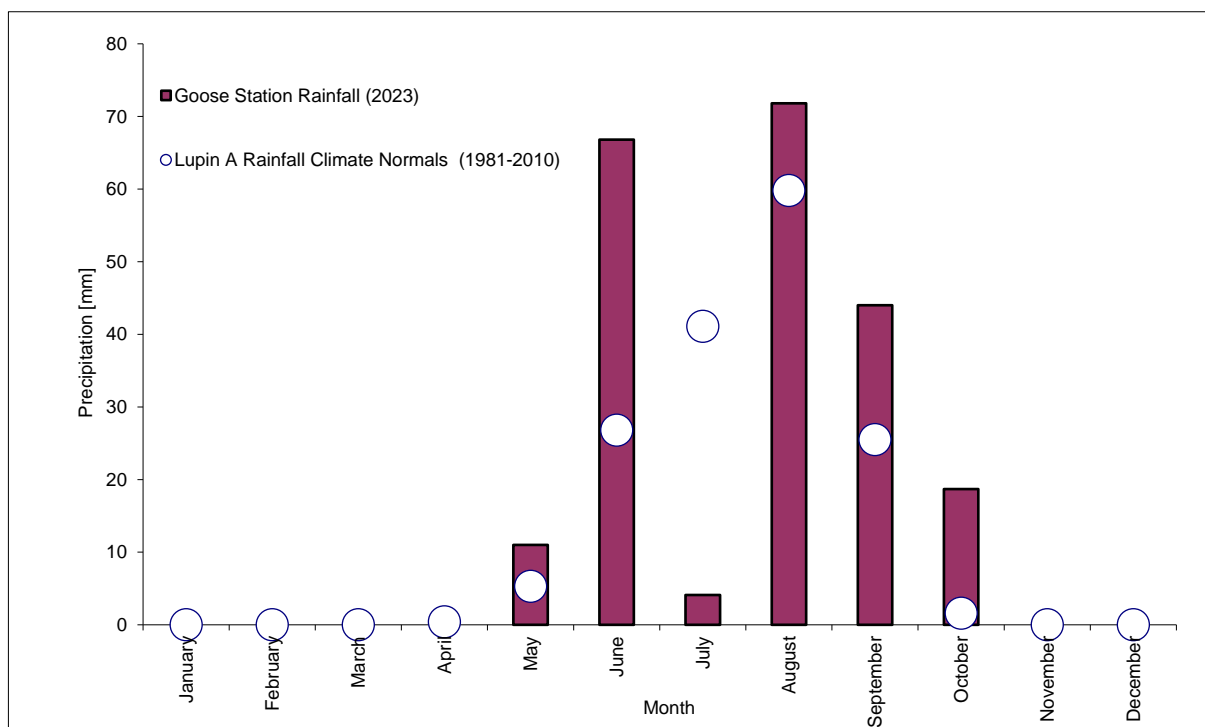


Figure TC8-4: Goose Station 2023 Monthly Rainfall Summary

Wind

Windroses that summarize the frequencies of wind directions and speeds observed at Bathurst Inlet and at the Goose station in 2023 are provided in Figures TC8-5 and TC8-6, respectively.

The predominant wind direction measured at the Bathurst Inlet station was from the west to northwest wind sectors. Strong winds (greater than 19.3 km/h) were frequent, at 30% of the 2023 recorded data. In 2023 the common wind directions observed at the Goose station were from the west, north-northwest, and south. Infrequently were winds observed from the northeast to southeast wind sector in 2023 at the Goose station. Strong winds at the Goose station were more frequent than at the Bathurst Inlet station; 39% of recorded winds in 2023 were strong at the Goose station.

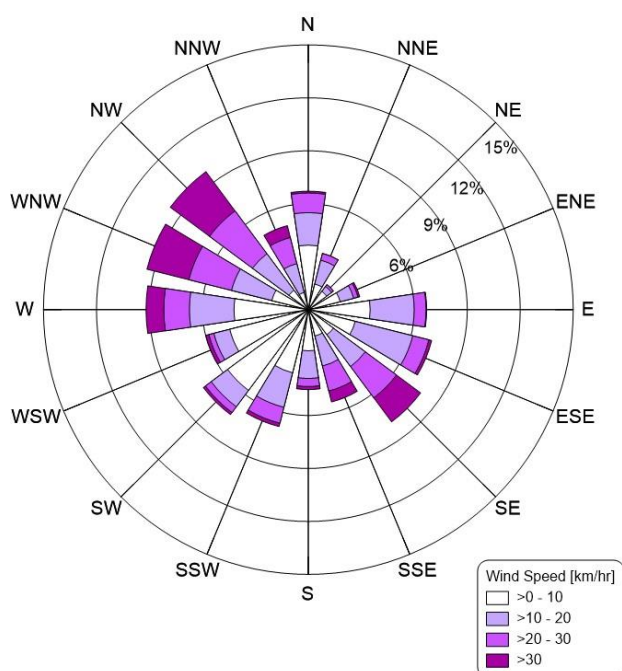


Figure TC8-5: Bathurst Inlet Station 2023 Windrose

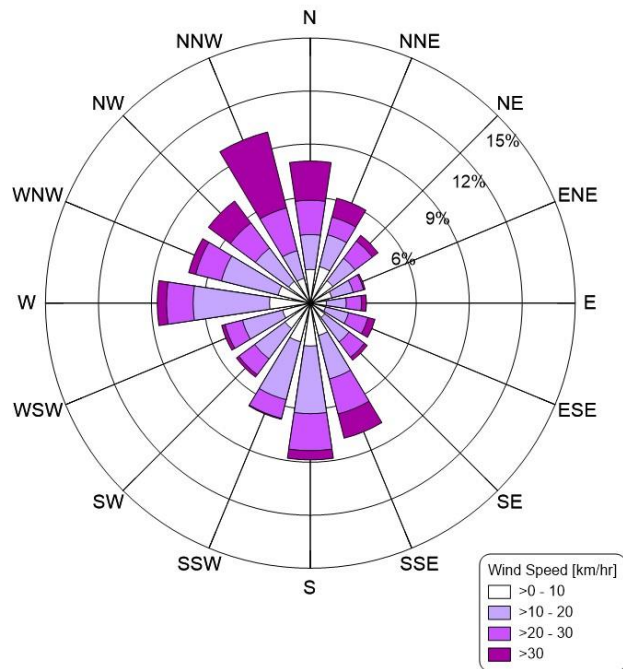


Figure TC8-6: Goose Station 2023 Windrose

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to perform annual on-site field inspections of existing monitoring equipment to verify equipment is in proper working order during the Construction Phase.

Monitoring will also continue-on from the Construction Phase and throughout Operations. Meteorology will be measured at on-site stations in accordance with the Meteorological Service of Canada meteorological station siting recommendations (MSC 2001), as per the AQMMP. Data will be recorded on an hourly basis. Supplemental data will be reviewed and included if relevant from appropriate publicly available stations such as ECCC weather stations.

Results from the monitoring programs will be reviewed annually and a summary report of meteorological conditions experienced within the project area including details related to temperature, wind velocities and patterns, precipitation, as well the onset of seasonal freeze and thaw cycles and highlight extreme or outlying weather reported to the NIRB in the annual report.

Reference:

ECCC (Environment and Climate Change Canada). 2023a. Bathurst Inlet (Climate ID: 2300551) Historical Data. Available here:
https://climate.weather.gc.ca/historical_data/search_historic_data_e.html.

ECCC. 2023b. 1981-2010 Climate Normals & Averages: Lupin A Station. Available here:
https://climate.weather.gc.ca/climate_normals/index_e.html.

MSC (Meteorological Service of Canada). 2001. MSC STDS 2 – 2001. Siting Standards for
Meteorological Observing Sites. June 2001.

4.5.3 NOISE AND VIBRATION (PC TCS 9 THROUGH 10)

Project Certificate Condition No. 9

Category	Noise Reduction
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Nunavut (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, and Final Closure
Objective	To ensure worker health and safety.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall demonstrate consideration for noise reduction measures when siting and constructing both the Goose Property and Marine Laydown Area camps. Further, the Proponent shall demonstrate that noise levels will remain within reasonable limits and no further mitigation (e.g. additional sound proofing) is required.
Reporting Requirement	During construction, the Proponent shall, on an annual basis, provide information regarding mitigation measures and monitoring undertaken in fulfillment of this Term and Condition in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. During operations, once the sound levels associated with operations become stable and predictable, the Proponent shall provide information regarding monitoring results and any updates to mitigation measures every 2 (two) years in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Noise Abatement Plan initial stakeholder review undertaken during the NIRB Environmental Assessment.
Reference	Back River Project Noise Abatement Plan, Revision G.1 (November 2015) (NIRB PRI: 301426) Back River Project FEIS Volume 4 Section 2: Noise and Vibration (November 2015)

Methods:

Noise reduction measures were incorporated into design and layout of the Goose Property and Marine Laydown Area. Additional operations measures implemented to minimize noise effects include purchase and use of equipment fitted with appropriate mufflers and silencers, identifying enclosures, berms, acoustic screening and shrouding where stationary sources of noise require control and ensuring equipment is well maintained.

Throughout the Project Construction and Operations phases, noise levels will be monitored in accordance with applicable legislation and guidelines. Additional details on noise monitoring methods are provided in the Noise Abatement Plan (November 2015) which B2Gold Nunavut is currently reviewing and updating. If monitoring data indicates noise levels in excess of reasonable limits and/or predictions from the FEIS, additional noise mitigation options will be considered.

Results:

Not Applicable.

Trends:

Not Applicable.

Next Steps:

In 2023, B2Gold Nunavut onboarded two in-house technical staff to develop and implement the industrial hygiene monitoring programs for air, noise, vibration, and exposure control. The monitoring programs will commence in 2024 and will mirror our current HSE document structure that has three tiers: 1) corporate standards, 2) regional standards (recently issued as draft); and 3) SOPs that our team is building now.

One example of an SOP is area sampling for noise. Another SOP is noise dosimetry. There is no separate/stand-alone "plan or program" at this time. These regular workplace assessments/audits will help to identify potential health hazards and align with the site Risk Registry and Nunavut legislation. Monitoring will include industrial hygiene sampling plans that will be updated annually. The results will be analyzed and monitored in accordance with applicable legislation and guidelines and communicated in annual reports to management and regulatory agencies as necessary. If monitoring data indicates noise levels over reasonable limits and/or predictions, additional noise mitigation options will be considered.

In addition, the two in-house technical staff have submitted a proposal and quotes for the purchase of industrial hygiene monitoring equipment to support measuring and monitoring activities.

Project Certificate Condition No. 10

Category	Noise Reduction
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Construction, Operations
Objective	To ensure worker health and safety.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall demonstrate its consideration of options to further mitigate noise generated from project activities, equipment, and components during normal operations as well as from project activities, equipment, and components that would remain operational during staged reduction events (e.g., noise barriers, acoustic insulation, exhaust silencers).
Reporting Requirement	During construction, the Proponent shall, on an annual basis, provide information regarding mitigation measures and monitoring undertaken in fulfillment of this Term and Condition in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. During operations, once the sound levels associated with operations become stable and predictable, the Proponent shall provide information regarding monitoring results and any updates to mitigation measures every 2 (two) years in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Noise Abatement Plan initial stakeholder review undertaken during the NIRB Environmental Assessment.
Reference	Back River Project Noise Abatement Plan, Revision G.1 (November 2015) (NIRB PRI: 301426)

Methods:

Throughout the Project Construction and Operations phases, noise levels will be monitored in accordance with applicable legislation and guidelines. Additional details on noise abatement measures are provided in the Noise Abatement Plan (November 2015) along with a monitoring overview. If monitoring data indicates noise levels in excess of reasonable limits and/or predictions from the FEIS, additional noise mitigation options will be considered.

Results:

Not Applicable.

Trends:

Not Applicable.

Next Steps:

In 2023, B2Gold Nunavut onboarded two in-house technical staff to develop and implement the industrial hygiene monitoring programs for air, noise, vibration, and exposure control. The monitoring programs will commence in 2024 and will mirror our current HSE document structure that has three

tiers: 1) corporate standards, 2) regional standards (recently issued as draft); and 3) SOPs that our team is building now.

One example of an SOP is area sampling for noise. Another SOP is noise dosimetry. There is no separate/stand-alone "plan or program" at this time. These regular workplace assessments/audits will help to identify potential health hazards and align with the site Risk Registry and Nunavut legislation. Monitoring will include industrial hygiene sampling plans that will be updated annually. The results will be analyzed and monitored in accordance with applicable legislation and guidelines and communicated in annual reports to management and regulatory agencies as necessary. If monitoring data indicates noise levels over reasonable limits and/or predictions, additional noise mitigation options will be considered.

In addition, the two in-house technical staff have submitted a proposal and quotes for the purchase of industrial hygiene monitoring equipment to support measuring and monitoring activities.

4.5.4 TERRESTRIAL ENVIRONMENT (PC TCS 11 THROUGH 15)

Project Certificate Condition No. 11

Category	Permafrost Mapping and Monitoring
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To monitor and plan for changing permafrost conditions.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall conduct further permafrost mapping to document permafrost temperature, thickness of seasonal thaw and amount of ground ice in the project development area. This information will be made available to inform the detailed design of project infrastructure.
Reporting Requirement	During construction, the Proponent shall, on an annual basis, provide additional permafrost mapping information documented in fulfillment of this Term and Condition in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. Subsequently, once monitoring has demonstrated that the area(s) assessed are stable, every two years the Proponent shall identify, in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board, any updates to the Proponent's previous permafrost mapping results.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Impact Review Board
Reference	Not applicable

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut shall conduct further permafrost mapping to document permafrost temperature, thickness of seasonal thaw, and amount of ground ice in the Project Development Area. This information will be made available to inform the detailed design of project infrastructure.

Results:

Not applicable.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut places high importance on ensuring that permafrost integrity is maintained. This is not only for environmental and flow path reasons, for monitoring and looking for potential changes in permafrost distribution, but also due to the fact that many of the infrastructure designs tie directly into the permafrost. For example, the Primary Pond, the first large water management structure being constructed, has a frozen foundation. The frozen foundation designs rely on a liner being keyed into the frozen permafrost foundation to achieve containment. The thermal design for these structures is based on passive heat transfer with the

atmosphere and includes sufficient thermal cover, or dam fill, to limit warming and thaw of the foundation. Detailed thermal analysis was required for these critical infrastructure components and cross-sections to ensure that the design intent could be upheld during operation.

As part of the 2023 scope of works, B2Gold Nunavut revisited the locations where past thermistors or Ground Temperature Cables (GTCs) have been installed, taking readings where possible, and generating an initial draft of Goose site Thermal Monitoring Plan. The Thermal Monitoring Plan is complete and provided in **Appendix D** of this report.

Project Certificate Condition No. 12

Category	Permafrost Monitoring
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To monitor and mitigate impacts from the Project on permafrost.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall monitor the effects of the Project on permafrost conditions relative to project infrastructure, including associated roads, waste rock stockpiles, trails, and quarries. Should permafrost degradation be observed, the Proponent shall report on measures implemented to restore and promote permafrost integrity.
Reporting Requirement	During construction, the Proponent shall, on an annual basis, provide information regarding the results of monitoring and identifying any mitigation measures undertaken in fulfillment of this Term and Condition in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. Subsequently, once monitoring has demonstrated that the area(s) assessed are stable, the Proponent shall provide information regarding monitoring results and any updates to mitigation measures every 2 (two) years in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Impact Review Board, Nunavut Water Board
Reference	Not applicable

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut shall monitor the effects of the Project on permafrost conditions relative to project infrastructure, including associated roads, waste rock stockpiles, trails, and quarries. Should permafrost degradation be observed, the Proponent shall report on measures implemented to restore and promote permafrost integrity.

Results:

Not applicable.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut places high importance on ensuring that permafrost integrity is maintained. This is not only for environmental and flow path reasons, for monitoring and looking for potential changes in permafrost distribution, but also due to the fact that many of the infrastructure designs tie directly into the permafrost. For example, the Primary Pond, the first large water management structure being constructed, has a frozen foundation. The frozen foundation designs rely on a liner being keyed into the

frozen permafrost foundation to achieve containment. The thermal design for these structures is based on passive heat transfer with the atmosphere and includes sufficient thermal cover, or dam fill, to limit warming and thaw of the foundation. Detailed thermal analysis was required for these critical infrastructure components and cross-sections to ensure that the design intent could be upheld during operation.

As part of the 2023 scope of works, B2Gold Nunavut revisited the locations where past thermistors or Ground Temperature Cables (GTCs) have been installed, taking readings where possible, and generating an initial draft of Goose site Thermal Monitoring Plan. Once a draft of the Thermal Monitoring Plan is complete B2Gold Nunavut will submit this to NIRB.

Project Certificate Condition No. 13

Category	Sensitive Landform Mitigation and Monitoring
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To mitigate project impacts on sensitive landforms.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall undertake additional geotechnical investigations as required to identify sensitive landforms, modify engineering design for project infrastructure (e.g., tailings storage facilities, waste rock piles, and landfill), and develop and implement mitigation and monitoring measures to prevent or minimize the impacts of the Project's activities and infrastructure on sensitive landforms. Plans for the investigations, mitigation, and monitoring measures are to be included within appropriate management plans.
Reporting Requirement	During construction, the Proponent shall, on an annual basis, provide information regarding the results of additional geotechnical investigations undertaken and any associated mitigation and monitoring measures implemented by the Proponent in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. Subsequently, once monitoring has demonstrated that the area(s) assessed are stable, the Proponent shall provide information regarding any updates to mitigation measures and monitoring every 2 (two) years in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Impact Review Board, Nunavut Water Board
Reference	Not applicable

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut shall undertake additional geotechnical investigations as required to identify sensitive landforms, modify engineering design for project infrastructure (e.g., tailings storage facilities, waste rock piles, and landfill), and develop and implement mitigation and monitoring measures to prevent or minimize the impacts of the Project's activities and infrastructure on sensitive landforms. Plans for the investigations, mitigation, and monitoring measures are to be included within appropriate management plans.

Results:

Not applicable.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut is required to have an annual geotechnical inspection completed by a Geotechnical Engineer of all major earthworks. The inspection must be conducted in accordance with the *Canadian Dam Safety Guidelines* where applicable. This is a requirement of the Back River Project Type A Water Licence 2AM-BRP1831 (Part I, Item 10). The annual geotechnical inspection was completed in 2023 and it is included in this NIRB Annual Report (**Appendix E**).

Project Certificate Condition No. 14

Category	Waste Management Plan
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure waste management is protective of the surrounding environment.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall provide a Waste Management Plan that describes how the local environment, including permafrost integrity and water quality, will not be harmed by wastes at project landfills. The Proponent shall demonstrate that the use of liners at waste management facilities has been considered and adopted, wherever feasible.
Reporting Requirement	The plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board at least 60 days prior to the start of construction, with updates provided as necessary.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Impact Review Board, Nunavut Water Board, CIRNAC, ECCC
Reference	Landfill and Waste Management Plan (2017) Landfill and Waste Management Plan (2022; Pending approval from the NWB)

Methods:

In conjunction with the Type A Water Licence Application, a Landfill and Waste Management Plan was submitted to the NWB (LWMP; October 2017). The LWMP was updated to reflect NIRB PC T&C's 7, 15, 35, and 36 and was approved by the NWB. The plan has since been reviewed and updated to reflect site activities during the construction phase and to clarify waste segregation and wildlife attractant management practices.

Results:

The Company provided the updated Landfill and Waste Management Plan (August 2022) to the NWB on September 1, 2022, for review and approval.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

Once approved by the NWB, the updated LWMP will be submitted to the NIRB in the following year's annual report. B2Gold Nunavut will re-engage the NWB on status of the management plan.

Project Certificate Condition No. 15

Category	Progressive Reclamation Plan
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure that project components, areas, and infrastructure are progressively reclaimed throughout the life of the Project.
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>The Proponent shall have in place a plan for the progressive reclamation of project components, areas, and infrastructure throughout the life of the Project. The plan shall detail:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. projected timelines for the reclamation of project features, methodologies for undertaking such activities, and monitoring measures to ensure the effectiveness of reclamation methods employed; b. specific measures for adaptive management and triggers for their application, should monitoring results reveal trends that could affect the reclamation and closure objectives; and, c. how Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and Traditional Knowledge was collected, and used to inform closure plans and the design of project components.
Reporting Requirement	The plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 90 days prior to the start of construction, with results and details submitted annually thereafter or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, Environment Climate Change Canada, Nunavut Water Board, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Reference	Back River Project Interim and Closure Reclamation Plan (July 2021)

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut has developed a Progressive Reclamation Plan for project components, areas, and infrastructure throughout the life of the Project. The Progressive Reclamation Plan was included with the Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan (July 2021), which has been approved by the NWB following consultation and discussion with the KIA and CIRNAC. The Progressive Reclamation Plan details:

- a. projected timelines for the reclamation of project features, methodologies for undertaking such activities, and monitoring measures to ensure the effectiveness of reclamation methods employed;
- b. specific measures for adaptive management and triggers for their application, should monitoring results reveal trends that could affect the reclamation and closure objectives; and
- c. how Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and Traditional Knowledge was collected and used to inform closure plans and the design of project components.

Results:

The Progressive Reclamation Plan was approved by the NWB with the issuance of the amended Licence, and was provided to the NIRB on Dec 13, 2021⁸.

No progressive reclamation activities have been undertaken to date, as no mining areas constructed are no longer in operation.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

Progressive reclamation results will be submitted annually, or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB.

⁸ Sabina. 2021. *Re: Sabina Response to NIRB re: The Nunavut Impact Review Board's 2020-2021 Annual Monitoring Report for the Back River Project and Board's Recommendations*. Sabina letter to NIRB, Dated December 13, 2021.

4.5.5 GEOLOGICAL FEATURES, SURFICIAL AND BEDROCK GEOLOGY, AND GEOCHEMISTRY (PC TCS 16 THROUGH 18)

Project Certificate Condition No. 16

Category	Aggregate Sources
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure
Objective	To inform parties on the quarry or borrow materials required for the development of project infrastructure.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall develop site-specific quarry operation and management plans in advance of the development of any potential quarry site or borrow pit.
Reporting Requirement	The plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association at least 30 days prior to the use of borrow or quarry sites for review. Information regarding the Proponent's fulfillment of this Term and Condition and identifying any amendments to existing site-specific quarry operation and management plans shall be provided annually in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Nunavut Impact Review Board, CIRNAC
Reference	Back River Project Quarry Management Plan (November 2020)

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut develops site-specific quarry operation and management plans in advance of the development of any potential quarry site or borrow pit.

The Borrow Pits and Quarry Management Plan (QMP) was updated in 2020 for inclusion in Sabina's application for amendment of Water Licence 2AM-BRP1831. B2Gold Nunavut has confirmed that the 2020 QMP continues to appropriately addresses PC T&C's 16 and 23 and provides suitable guidance for current and near future site activities.

Results:

The QMP (November 2020) was approved by the NWB with the issuance of the amended Licence 2AM-BRP1831 and was provided to the NIRB on Dec 13, 2021⁹.

Trends:

Not applicable.

⁹ Sabina. 2021. *Re: Sabina Response to NIRB re: The Nunavut Impact Review Board's 2020-2021 Annual Monitoring Report for the Back River Project and Board's Recommendations*. Sabina letter to NIRB, Dated December 13, 2021.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will provide any further updates to the Borrow Pits and Quarry Management Plan to the NIRB once approved by the NWB. B2Gold Nunavut will continue to provide site-specific quarry operation and management plans to the NIRB and the KIA at least 30 days prior to the use of borrow or quarry sites for review. Any amendments to existing site-specific quarry operation and management plans shall be provided in B2Gold Nunavut's annual report to the NIRB.

Project Certificate Condition No. 17

Category	Monitoring of Tailings and Treatment Sludges
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.)
Project Phase(s)	Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance
Objective	To mitigate potential impacts to the receiving environment caused by remobilization of arsenic.
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>The Proponent shall conduct tests of the tailings and treatment sludges as they are produced to evaluate the potential for remobilization of arsenic from these materials.</p> <p>Commentary: For clarity, the Proponent's testing is limited to grab sampling only and does not impose an obligation for continuous testing of tailings and treatment sludge. The parties also acknowledge that the reporting requirements apply to any remobilization of arsenic beyond levels predicted in the FEIS and FEIS Addendum.</p>
Reporting Requirement	The results of the tests should be submitted the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB), the Kitikmeot Inuit Association and other interested parties annually or as may otherwise rascal stream be required by the NIRB.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Nunavut Impact Review Board, Nunavut Water Board, Crown Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
Reference	<p>Tailings Management Plan (November 2020)</p> <p>Tailings Management Plan (April 2022; Pending approval from the NWB)</p>

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut will conduct tests of the tailings and treatment sludges as they are produced to evaluate the potential for remobilization of arsenic from these materials. An updated Back River Project Tailings Management Plan (TMP) was included with the 2020 application for amendment of Water Licence 2AM-BRP1831. This TMP addressed the commitment to evaluate the potential for remobilization of arsenic in tailings and treatment sludges, and was approved by the NWB with the issuance of the amended Licence 2AM-BRP1831 and a copy was provided to the NIRB. Sabina has subsequently reviewed and updated the TMP and provided an April 2022 TMP to the NWB for review and approval.

Results:

The TMP (April 2022) is pending NWB approval.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

Once approved by the NWB, the TMP (April 2022) will be provided to the NIRB in the annual report. When tailings and treatment sludges are produced and available for testing, B2Gold Nunavut will conduct analysis, and provide analytical results, in accordance with the Annual reporting requirements of the Project Certificate and/or Type A Water Licence requirements, which includes submission of results to the NIRB and KIA. B2Gold Nunavut will re-engage the NWB on status of the management plan.

Project Certificate Condition No. 18

Category	Geotechnical Characterization Program
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Nunavut (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations
Objective	To minimize the impacts of contaminated water to the groundwater and receiving environment.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall undertake an infill geotechnical characterization program to determine the extent of the fractured bedrock contact zone and apply proposed mitigation measures as necessary. The program should include permeability testing, seepage analysis and planning for thermal monitoring of the western ridge, where appropriate.
Reporting Requirement	During construction, the Proponent shall, on an annual basis, provide information regarding the results of the infill geotechnical characterization program and any required mitigation measures in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. Subsequently, once monitoring has demonstrated that the area(s) assessed are stable, the Proponent shall provide information regarding any updates to the infill geotechnical characterization program and any required mitigation measures every 2 (two) years in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Impact Review Board, Nunavut Water Board
Reference	Not applicable

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut will undertake an infill geotechnical characterization program to determine the extent of the fractured bedrock contact zone and apply proposed mitigation measures as necessary. The program will include permeability testing, seepage analysis and planning for thermal monitoring of the western ridge, where appropriate.

Results:

Sabina completed an initial infill geotechnical drill program at the Goose Property in March and April of 2018. Drilling was focused on understanding proposed water management infrastructure foundations and included drill holes targeting the western ridge and the TSF Containment Dam. Field permeability (packer testing) was also completed on a subset of the drill holes. Initial results of drilling at the western ridge suggest the area does not have high permeability, with few joints and fractures present, as well as clay infilling and no visible ice within the drill hole.

Further geotechnical drilling was undertaken in 2021 however the program did not focus on the TSF Containment Dam but other key infrastructure locations. Going forward, Sabina will complete the remaining infill geotechnical drill program as part of further characterization carried out immediately

prior to TSF Dam construction if constructed. It's noted that B2Gold Nunavut's currently approved mine plan no longer contains a TSF structure and its associated dam.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

During Construction, B2Gold Nunavut, on an annual basis, will provide information regarding the results of the infill geotechnical characterization program and any required mitigation measures in B2Gold Nunavut's annual report to the NIRB. Subsequently, once monitoring has demonstrated that the area(s) assessed are stable, B2Gold Nunavut will provide information regarding any updates to the infill geotechnical characterization program and any required mitigation measures every two years in B2Gold Nunavut's annual report to the NIRB.

Note, for waste disposal/management facilities defined in the Type A Water Licence 2AM-BRP1831, B2Gold Nunavut will include final design and construction drawing accompanied by a detailed report that will include results of the infill geotechnical characterization program and a description of necessary monitoring instrumentation to confirm performance of the TSF Dam (refer to Part D, Item 4 of the Water Licence) 60 days prior to construction. In addition, earthworks will be inspected for stability in accordance with Geotechnical Inspection referred to in Project Certificate T&C No.12.

4.5.6 HYDROLOGICAL FEATURES AND HYDROGEOLOGY (PC TCS 19 THROUGH 20)

Project Certificate Condition No. 19

Category	Saline Water
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Nunavut (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To manage saline groundwater and minimize the impacts to permafrost, soil, surface water, vegetation and wildlife.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall, reflecting any direction from the Nunavut Water Board, maintain a saline water management plan which includes monitoring of thermal conditions, monitoring of saline water at the Goose site, and mitigation measures designed to address the potential for higher-than-predicted volumes of saline water inflows into the open pits and the underground mine, treatment and disposal methods. The plan should include accurate characterization of saline water inflows into the underground mine workings.
Reporting Requirement	The plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 60 days prior to the commencement of operations, with results submitted annually thereafter or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Water Board, Nunavut Impact Review Board, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Reference	Water Management Plan (October 2020) Water Management Plan (April 2022; Pending approval from the NWB) Type A Water Licence 2AM-BRP1831 Technical Meeting Commitment Responses (June 2018)

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut maintains a saline water management plan which includes monitoring of saline water at the Goose site and mitigation measures designed to address the potential for higher-than- predicted volumes of saline water inflows into the open pits and the underground mine and treatment and disposal methods. The plan includes the accurate characterization of saline water inflows into the underground mine workings.

B2Gold Nunavut's Water Management Plan (WMP) addresses PC T&C's 22, 28, and 19 and includes a Saline Water Management Plan as Appendix C of the WMP. The WMP was updated in October 2020 for the purposes of Water Licence amendment and to address Part E, Item 2 of the Back River Project 2AM-BRP1831 Water Licence. This WMP (October 2020) and associated Saline Water Management Plan were

approved by the NWB with the issuance of the amended Licence and a copy of this plan was provided to the NIRB on December 13, 2021¹⁰.

Results:

As a requirement of the amended water licence, the WMP (and associated Saline Water Management Plan) was further revised and an updated. An April 2022 WMP was provided to the NWB in April of 2022 for review and approval.

At this time there are no saline water inflows requiring monitoring at the Back River Project.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will provide the updated version of the WMP, which contains a Saline Water Management Plan, to the NIRB once NWB review has been completed and the WMP approved. B2Gold Nunavut will re-engage the NWB on status of the management plan.

¹⁰ Sabina. 2021. *Re: Sabina Response to NIRB re: The Nunavut Impact Review Board's 2020-2021 Annual Monitoring Report for the Back River Project and Board's Recommendations*. Sabina letter to NIRB, Dated December 13, 2021.

Project Certificate Condition No. 20

Category	Thermal Monitoring
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Nunavut (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To minimize the impacts of contaminated water to the groundwater and receiving environment.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall develop a thermal monitoring plan to address the potential changes in permafrost/talik distribution, flow distribution and flow paths that may be directly or indirectly affected by the Project facilities and activities. Thermal monitoring should be considered at a minimum for the critical cross sections of the Main Dam, Llama Pit, and Umwelt Pit.
Reporting Requirement	The plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 60 days prior to the start of construction, with results submitted annually thereafter or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Impact Review Board, Nunavut Water Board
Reference	Not applicable

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut will develop a thermal monitoring plan to address the potential changes in permafrost/talik distribution, flow distribution, and flow paths that may be directly or indirectly affected by the Project facilities and activities. Thermal monitoring shall be considered at a minimum for the critical cross sections of the Main Dam, Llama Pit, and Umwelt Pit.

Results:

Not applicable.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut places high importance on ensuring that permafrost integrity is maintained. This is not only for environmental and flow path reasons, for monitoring and looking for potential changes in permafrost distribution, but also due to the fact that many of the infrastructure designs tie directly into the permafrost. For example, the Primary Pond, the first large water management structure being constructed, has a frozen foundation. The frozen foundation designs rely on a liner being keyed into the frozen permafrost foundation to achieve containment. The thermal design for these structures is based on passive heat transfer with the atmosphere and includes sufficient thermal cover, or dam fill, to limit warming and thaw of the foundation. Detailed thermal analysis was required for these critical

infrastructure components and cross-sections to ensure that the design intent could be upheld during operation.

As part of the 2023 scope of works, B2Gold Nunavut revisited the locations where past thermistors or Ground Temperature Cables (GTCs) have been installed, taking readings where possible, and generating an initial draft of Goose site Thermal Monitoring Plan. Once a draft of the Thermal Monitoring Plan is complete B2Gold Nunavut will submit this to NIRB.

4.5.7 GROUNDWATER AND SURFACE WATER QUALITY (PC TCS 21 THROUGH 22)

Project Certificate Condition No. 21

Category	Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To mitigate potential impacts to groundwater and surface waters.
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>The Proponent shall, reflecting any direction from the Nunavut Water Board, maintain an Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan (AEMP) designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ determine the short and long-term effects in the aquatic environment resulting from the Project; ◆ evaluate the accuracy of Project effect predictions; ◆ assess the effectiveness of mitigation and management measures on Project effects; ◆ identify additional mitigation measures to avert or reduce environmental effects due to Project activities; and ◆ comply with Metal Mining Effluent Regulations requirements, should an Environmental Effects Monitoring program be triggered. <p>The AEMP should include sufficient sampling and monitoring programs to appropriately characterize the receiving environment to ensure that adequate data is available to assess impact predictions made within the Final Environmental Impact Statement.</p>
Reporting Requirement	The plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 90 days prior to the start of construction, with results submitted annually thereafter or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Water Board, Environment Climate Change Canada, Nunavut Impact Review Board
Reference	Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan (October 2017)

Methods:

Additional baseline data collection was conducted in 2021 and 2022 to address commitments made in response to technical comments on the Aquatic Baseline Synthesis Report by Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA), Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), and Environment and Climate Change (ECCC), to support the next update to the Aquatic Effects Management Plan, and to support the hydrodynamic model (HD) model.

In 2021, the following field programs occurred:

- ◆ Ice-cover and open-water water quality in Goose Lake, Propeller Lake, and Reference B Lake;
- ◆ Open-water water quality in Goose Lake streams;
- ◆ Sediment and benthic invertebrate community in Propeller Lake;
- ◆ Fish health and fish tissue chemistry of Lake Trout (*Salvelinus namaycush*) in Goose and Propeller lakes; and,
- ◆ Fish health and fish tissue chemistry of Slimy Sculpin (*Cottus cognatus*) in Propeller Lake.

In 2022, the following field programs occurred:

- ◆ Ice-cover and open-water water quality sampling in Goose Lake, Propeller Lake, and Reference B Lake; and
- ◆ Open-water water quality sampling in outflow streams from Goose Lake, Propeller Lake, and Reference B Lake.

The methods and results of these field programs were presented in the 2021 Aquatic Baseline Report (Golder 2022) and the 2022 Aquatic Baseline Report (WSP 2023). The 2022 Aquatic Baseline Report was included as an appendix to the 2022 Annual Report, and reviewers provided comments, which were addressed on August 30, 2023 (Sabina 2023). A commitment was made to provide the 2021 Aquatic Baseline Report in this annual report; this is provided in **Appendix F1**. Collection of these data fulfill the commitments made by B2Gold Nunavut for additional baseline data collection to support the AEMP.

Field programs were also undertaken in 2023 to collect more baseline water quality data to support the HD model. It is also expected that the lake water quality data will support the normal range calculation for Goose Lake for the AEMP. The following field programs occurred:

- ◆ Open-water water quality sampling at multiple stations and water column depths in Goose Lake in July and September; and
- ◆ Open-water water quality sampling in the outflow of Goose Lake (Propeller Lake inflow) and various Goose Lake inflows in May, July, and September.

B2Gold Nunavut is currently updating the AEMP based on:

- ◆ commitments made with respect to submissions received during the Technical and Public Hearing process for the Type A Water Licence Application
- ◆ the terms and conditions of the Type A Water Licence
- ◆ re-align the AEMP with recent changes to the Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations (MDMER),
- ◆ update to the Project description according to the 2019 Modification Package,

- ◆ recommendations from the aquatic baseline synthesis report, and to refine details of the sampling design and response framework and
- ◆ updates to reflect updated mine plan alignment with additional modelling (water quality, groundwater and hydrodynamic) completed in 2022.

Results:

- ◆ The 2021 and 2022 baseline data supplemented the aquatic baseline dataset and filled in gaps as identified by the Aquatic Baseline Synthesis Report (Golder 2019). As stated above, a summary of the 2022 baseline data was provided in the 2022 Annual Report (Sabina 2023). A summary of the 2021 baseline data is provided in **Appendix F1**.
- ◆ In 2023, water quality in Goose Lake and streams was generally consistent with results from previous years (Golder 2019, 2022; WSP 2023). A summary of the 2023 baseline data is provided in **Appendix F2**.
- ◆ The 2023 data will be added to the baseline dataset and used in the first AEMP report to support the data analysis and calculation of normal ranges.
- ◆ The updated AEMP design plan will be submitted to NWB in 2024.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

The full AEMP will be implemented when discharge activities start, with results submitted annually thereafter or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB.

Project Certificate Condition No. 22

Category	Site Water Monitoring and Management Plan
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To minimize the use of natural waters as practicable and limit potential impacts to the receiving environment from contact (site) water.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall, reflecting any direction from the Nunavut Water Board, maintain a Site Water Monitoring and Management Plan designed to: minimize the amount of water that contacts mine ore and wastes; appropriately manage all contact water and discharges to protect local aquatic resources; and, implement water conservation and recycling to maximize water reuse and minimize the use of natural waters. The plan should include monitoring that demonstrates contact water (runoff and shallow groundwater) from the ore storage and waste rock storage areas is adequately captured and managed, as per the Mine Waste Rock Management Plan.
Reporting Requirement	The plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 90 days prior to the start of construction, with results submitted annually thereafter or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Water Board, Nunavut Impact Review Board, Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Crown- Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Reference	Water Management Plan (October 2020; Revision submitted to NWB for review) Water Management Plan (April 2022; pending NWB approval) Type A Water Licence 2AM-BRP1831

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut's Water Management Plan (WMP) addresses PC T&C's 22, 28, and 19 and includes a Saline Water Management Plan as Appendix C of the WMP. The WMP was updated in October 2020 for the purposes of Water Licence amendment and to address Part E, Item 2 of the Back River Project 2AM-BRP1831 Water Licence.

As part of the amendment application process to the Type A Water Licence (2AM-BRP1831) associated with the Back River Project 2020 Modification Package, Sabina updated the Water Management Plan to include:

- ◆ Saline Water Management Plan (Project Certificate T&C No.19);
- ◆ Further detail respecting potential management and treatment options related to water quality in the effluent discharged from flooded pits and the downstream receiving environment.

- ◆ Commitments made with respect to submissions received during the technical review of the Water Licence Application, as well as final submission and issues raised during the NWB Public Hearing process;
- ◆ 2017-2018 baseline data collections that take into account season variation; and
- ◆ An updated water and load balance model as well as a hydrodynamic model.
- ◆ This WMP (October 2020) also specifically addressed PC T&C's 22, 28, and 19.

The WMP (October 2020) and associated Saline Water Management Plan were approved by the NWB with the issuance of the amended Licence. A copy of the WMP (October 2020) was provided to the NIRB on December 13, 2021¹¹.

Results:

As a requirement of the amended water licence, the WMP was further revised, and an updated version (April 2022) was provided to the NWB for review and approval. There were no waste rock or ore storage areas in use during 2023, so no monitoring has yet been initiated.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will provide the updated version of the WMP to the NIRB once the NWB review has been completed and the WMP approved. All site water quality monitoring results are reported in the annual report to the NWB. B2Gold Nunavut will re-engage the NWB on status of the management plan.

¹¹ Sabina. 2021. *Re: Sabina Response to NIRB re: The Nunavut Impact Review Board's 2020-2021 Annual Monitoring Report for the Back River Project and Board's Recommendations*. Sabina letter to NIRB, Dated December 13, 2021.

4.5.8 FRESHWATER AQUATIC ENVIRONMENT (PC TCS 23 THROUGH 31)

Project Certificate Condition No. 23

Category	Setbacks
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure
Objective	To mitigate impacts of runoff/sedimentation into freshwater aquatic habitat.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall maintain an appropriate setback distance between project quarries and fish-bearing or permanent waterbodies, or implement appropriate mitigation measures, as required to prevent acid rock drainage or metal leaching into such waterbodies.
Reporting Requirement	Throughout quarry development and operation, the Proponent shall, on an annual basis, provide information regarding quarry setback distances maintained and/or mitigation measures implemented by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Impact Review Board, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Nunavut Water Board
Reference	Borrow Pits and Quarry Management Plan (November 2020)

Methods:

The Borrow Pits and Quarry Management Plan (QMP) was updated in 2020 for inclusion with the application for amendment of Water Licence 2AM-BRP1831. The 2020 QMP appropriately addresses PC T&C's 16 and 23 and provides suitable guidance for current and near future site activities. Specifically, the QMP stipulates a minimum setback for quarries of 31 m from the ordinary high water mark of any waterbody and outlined monitoring and mitigation to ensure effects on fish and waterbodies are minimized.

Results:

The QMP (November 2020) was approved by the NWB with the issuance of the amended Licence 2AM-BRP1831 and was provided to the NIRB on December 13, 2021. All quarries in use have been designed with appropriate setbacks for water and fish. All setbacks are described in the QMP and were adhered to in 2023 and no additional mitigations were required.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

Throughout quarry development and operation, B2Gold Nunavut will, on an annual basis, provide information regarding quarry setback distances maintained and/or mitigation measures implemented by Sabina in fulfillment of this T&C in B2Gold Nunavut's annual report to the NIRB. B2Gold Nunavut is additionally required, in accordance with the Back River Project Type A Water Licence 2AM-BRP1831 (Part D, Item 9), to conduct visual inspection for runoff/seepage, and conduct sampling where turbidity is observed, for all construction activities during spring freshet and during and after remarkable rainfall events. This information is provided in B2Gold Nunavut's annual reports to the NWB.

Project Certificate Condition No. 24

Category	Watercourses
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To prevent blockages or restrictions to fish passages.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall ensure that all project infrastructure in watercourses are designed and constructed in such a manner that they do not unduly prevent and limit the movement of water in fish bearing streams and rivers, unless otherwise authorized by Fisheries and Oceans Canada.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding design, construction and inspection measures implemented by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be provided in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Not Applicable
Reference	<p>DFO. 2018. Fisheries and Oceans Canada - Letter of Advice: Implementation of mitigation measures to avoid and mitigate serious harm to fish and fish habitat for the early development work activities at the Goose property for the Back River Project 18-HCAA-00185 (letter dated May 2, 2018)</p> <p>Golder 2018. Back River Project Early Works – Request for Review Application (submitted February 27, 2018)</p> <p>Golder. 2021. Sabina Back River Project – Goose Property Area: Supplemental Hydrology and Fish Habitat Data Report. 2021 Open-Water Period</p> <p>Sabina. 2017. Back River Project: Road Management Plan (October 2017).</p> <p>WSP. 2023a. 2022 Rascal Stream West Field Summary and Fish Passage Characterization. 21 February 2023. Reference No. 21505757-129-TM-Rev0.</p> <p>WSP. 2023b. B2Gold Back River Project - Rascal Stream West Culvert Installation Construction Monitoring Report (Appendix G). Submitted to DFO on 18 December 2023</p>

RASCAL STREAM WEST

The lower portion of Rascal Stream West (RSW) intersects a Goose Property all-weather road just upstream from its confluence with Goose Lake. RSW is a known Arctic Grayling spawning watercourse. Sabina (now B2Gold Nunavut) previously proposed (Sabina 2018, 2022) and received approval from DFO to install watercourse crossings in RSW (single-span bridge: DFO 2018; culverts: DFO 2022). Fish passage studies have been conducted on RSW to evaluate baseline conditions (e.g., WSP 2023a) and to inform the design of the crossing (Golder 2020a).

Methods:

In 2018, a clear-span bridge was installed above the high-water mark in the lower reach of Rascal Stream West (RSW), also referred to as Gander Pond Outflow. The bridge was constructed without any instream structures and without fording the stream. Since the installation of the single-span bridge did not involve any instream works or removal of materials from below the high-water mark, fish passage monitoring during construction activities was not required. However, sediment and erosion control measures were implemented as per condition 18 in Part E of the Type B Water Licence (No. 2BC-BRP1819). The use of a single-span bridge provides unrestricted flows for passage of fish and negated any potential of causing Serious Harm to fish and met the conditions of the Letter of Authorization from DFO (DFO File No. 18-HCAA-00185).

In 2023, as per Phase 1 of construction in the Water Management Plan, the RSW crossing upgrade was completed by replacing the bridge crossing on the primary and secondary RSW channels with culvert designs. B2Gold Nunavut submitted engineering drawing for the new culvert crossing to NWB and DFO in advance of the construction. A request for review application for the current design was submitted to DFO on 20 June 2022 which included the Issued for Construction (IFC) Engineer Drawings, Arctic Grayling Fish Passage Criteria, and the controls and mitigations that will be applied during construction to prevent harm to fish and fish habitat. DFO issued an approval for the culvert construction under a Letter of Advice (file #22-HCAA-00586) on July 15, 2022, and provided the following conditions, in combination with standard controls and mitigations, for proposed works to remain in compliance with the Fisheries Act:

- ◆ Plan in-water works, undertakings and activities to respect timing windows to protect fish, including their eggs, juveniles, spawning adults and/or the organisms upon which they feed and migrate.
- ◆ Limit impacts on riparian vegetation to those approved for the work, undertaking or activity.
- ◆ Follow the measures described in the Interim code of practice: Temporary cofferdams and diversion channels.
- ◆ Follow the measures described the Interim code of practice: End of pipe fish protection screens for small water intakes in freshwater, when using pumps.

Results:

Prior to culvert construction, a 2019 fish habitat study was completed at the lower reach of Rascal Stream West, where the bridge crossing was located, during spring flow conditions. Results of the field study illustrated the clear span was designed and constructed in such a manner to not unduly prevent or limit the movement of water in Rascal Stream West. Annual visual inspections (2019, 2020) of the bridge crossing were conducted during spring freshet conditions, which confirmed minimal buildup of ice and that the structure is not preventing or limiting the movement of water.

Follow-up surveys of Rascal Stream West were conducted during spring flow conditions in 2021 and 2022 (Golder 2021, WSP 2023a). Both surveys evaluated fish movement potential in the lower reach of Rascal Stream West and documented current habitat and substrate conditions. Photos of substrate and

hydraulic habitat were taken as well as a measurement of discharge and flow velocities at the bridge crossing. The following findings were noted:

- ◆ Geomorphic habitat at, and upstream from, the bridge crossing consisted of shallow riffles, cascades, runs, and a small section of chute habitat
- ◆ Stream discharge recorded on July 5, 2021, was 0.12 m³/s; stream discharge recorded daily from June 8 to 12, 2022, ranged from 0.38 to 0.57 m³/s
- ◆ Maximum flow velocity at the watercourse crossing was 0.94 m/s in 2021; and 0.69 m/s in 2022 during the period of measurements

Culverts were installed at the RSW crossing in 2023. Although the construction plan was to complete the installation of the crossings during frozen conditions in advance of the spring freshet, an early spring melt created flowing conditions and challenges for the installation, including the potential requirement for an isolation area for work to proceed and environmental monitoring to evaluate risks for fish. B2Gold Nunavut then secured WSP to provide immediate environmental support, including environmental technicians who arrived at site on May 10, 2023, to monitor turbidity and complete fish rescues at the construction work area, as needed. B2Gold Nunavut submitted the construction monitoring report (WSP 2023b) to DFO on December 12, 2023. A summary of findings during the construction monitoring are as follows:

- ◆ Construction on the secondary channel culvert was completed on May 15th and flow from the primary channel (i.e., upstream from the construction area) was directed into the secondary channel culvert by a diversion berm.
- ◆ High flows on May 16th resulted in surface water flowing over the diversion berm and into the isolated construction work area of the primary channel. Construction was subsequently paused on May 17th due to a combination of excessive seepage into the work area and the presence of spawning Arctic Grayling moving through the Project area. The diversion berm was left in place and surface flow was maintained through the secondary channel until the completion of the primary channel crossing.
- ◆ WSP remained on-site until May 25th to monitor turbidity and to collect additional fish and fish habitat information. During which time adult Arctic Grayling were observed moving from Goose Lake to upstream spawning habitat in Rascal Stream West. The observations suggest that adults were successful in navigating through the newly constructed secondary channel culvert and temporary diversion channel to upstream spawning habitat.
- ◆ Construction on the primary channel culvert resumed by the end of August during late summer baseflow conditions.
- ◆ A successful fish rescue was conducted on August 31st, prior to any instream work, in pool habitat in the primary channel located just upstream from the diversion berm.
- ◆ Young of year Arctic Grayling and Ninespine Stickleback were removed from the pool and relocated downstream from the construction area (near the confluence with Goose Lake). The primary channel culverts were then installed in the dry, within the isolated section of watercourse, in early September, and the diversion berm was removed.

Subsequent field studies are scheduled during the spring and summer of 2024 to assess the suitability of Arctic Grayling spawning and rearing habitat in RSW. Results from this study will also help determine if Arctic Grayling are able to access RSW habitat upstream from the culvert construction areas.

Trends:

There were no discernible changes in conditions for fish passage for the period of 2019 to 2022. There may have been a temporary effect on watercourse conditions during the crossing installation in spring 2023, however, effects of construction were mitigated by B2Gold Nunavut and their Contractor through the implementation of erosion and sediment control (ESC) measures, the installation of a temporary diversion channel (directing water from the primary channel to the secondary channel), the use of an isolation area at the new crossing location to manage risks related to erosion and sediment, and the implementation of fish salvage prior to completion of the new crossing.

Next Steps:

The Rascal Stream diversion construction project, associated with the Goose Property airstrip extension, is scheduled to be completed during frozen watercourse in 2024. DFO provided approval for the instream works under file # 12-HCAA-CA7-00007 (DFO 2020) after reviewing the Arctic Grayling monitoring plan and the conceptual erosion and sediment control plan issued by Golder (2020a,b). As such, a WSP field study is scheduled during the spring and summer of 2024 to assess the suitability of Arctic Grayling spawning and rearing habitat in RSW and the suitability of watercourse conditions for access to upstream habitats. Results from this study will, in part, help confirm that the productive capacity of habitat to support Arctic Grayling has remained unchanged.

Project Certificate Condition No. 25

Category	Blasting
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>), Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure
Objective	To mitigate impacts of explosives use on fish and fish habitat.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall engage with Fisheries and Oceans Canada in exploring possible project specific thresholds, mitigation and monitoring for blasting that would exceed the requirements of Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Guidelines for the Use of Explosives In or Near Canadian Fisheries Waters (D.G. Wright and G.E. 6", 1998).
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding the thresholds adopted, mitigation and/or monitoring measures associated with blasting developed and implemented by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be provided in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Not Applicable
Reference	Environmental Impact Assessment Statement Supporting Volume 10: Management Plans; 13. Explosives Management Plan (2013). Guidelines for the Use of Explosives In or Near Canadian Fisheries Waters (1998) Golder. 2021. Sabina Back River Blasting Plan for Plant Site and Portal Decline. Dated April 23, 2021. 10 pages. (Appendix D)

Methods:

Any blasting or use of explosives that occurs within the blasting setbacks, as outlined in the Guideline of the Use of Explosives In or Near Canadian Fisheries Waters (Wright and Hopkey 1998), will require consultation with DFO. Consultation with DFO will work to possibly identify project specific thresholds, mitigation and monitoring that would exceed the DFO guidelines. Current blasting activities have all taken place outside the DFO setbacks. Additional guidance for blasting at the Plant Site and Port Decline was provided by Golder (2021) to refine setback distances and identify mitigation, if required, to protect fish and fish habitat.

Results:

Any blasting or use of explosives that occurs within the blasting setbacks, as outlined in the Guideline of the Use of Explosives In or Near Canadian Fisheries Waters (Wright and Hopkey 1998), will require consultation with DFO. Consultation with DFO will work to possibly identify project specific thresholds, mitigation and monitoring that would exceed the DFO guidelines. Current blasting activities have all taken place outside the DFO setbacks. Additional guidance for blasting at the Plant Site and Port Decline

was provided by Golder (2021) to refine setback distances and identify mitigation, if required, to protect fish and fish habitat.

Trends:

No blasting occurred within or near required setbacks from fish bearing waters, as defined using DFO criteria.

Next Steps:

Consultation with DFO will commence specific to any blasting activities near fish bearing waters in 2024. Planned blasting activities will follow recommended blasting setbacks consistent with mitigation commitments made during the environmental assessment review of the Project (also see Golder 2021).

Project Certificate Condition No. 26

Category	Fish Passage
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To minimize potential impacts to the migration of Arctic Grayling.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall engage Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, and other interested parties during the regulatory phase on the design, construction, and operation of adequate fish passage to permit migration of Arctic Grayling from Goose Lake to natural spawning and rearing habitat located in upper Rascal Stream East, south of the planned airstrip. Any additional information required to ensure the design of the fish passage will be completed prior to significant construction activities at the Goose Property.
Reporting Requirement	The updated information should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 30 days prior to construction of the fish passage, with results submitted annually thereafter or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	<p>Draft Final Offsetting Plan was submitted to DFO for review on September 12, 2018</p> <p>A meeting with Tania Gordanier (DFO manager of major projects) was held in Ottawa to discuss the Draft Final Offsetting Plan on September 26, 2018</p> <p>Reply to DFO Questions on the Draft Final Offsetting Plan was submitted to DFO on October 23, 2018</p> <p>A meeting in DFO's Yellowknife office was held to discuss the offsetting plan on November 21, 2018</p> <p>DFO. 2019. Fisheries and Oceans Canada – <i>Fisheries Act Authorization</i> for the Sabina Back River Project. File #12-HCAA-CA7-00007 (letter dated November 22, 2019).</p> <p>DFO. 2022. Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Letter of Advice (DFO file #22-HCAA-00586): All-Weather Road Watercourse Crossing Upgrades within the Goose Property for the Back River Project – Implementation of Measures to Avoid and Mitigate the Potential Effects to Fish and Fish Habitat (letter dated July 15, 2022).</p>

Reference

Sabina. 2018. Rascal Stream Fishway Hydrotechnical Assessment (January 2018)

Sabina. 2019. Back River Project: Fish Offsetting Plan (June 2019)

Golder. 2021a. Rascal Stream West velocity mitigation – 2020 construction report. Dated 29 March 2021. 60 pages

Golder. 2021b. Sabina Back River Project – Goose Property Area: Supplemental Hydrology and Fish Habitat Data Report. 2021 Open-Water Period

Golder. 2020a. Rascal Stream Fishway Hydrotechnical Assessment. Submitted to Sabina Gold & Silver Corp., 30 June 2020. Reference No. 18114181-R-Rev0. 133 pages.

Golder. 2020b. Fish Passage Evaluation, Mitigation, and Monitoring for the Rascal Stream Diversion. Submitted to Sabina Gold & Silver Corp., 29 June 2020. Reference No. 18114181-062-TM-Rev0. 22 pages

Golder. 2020c. Rascal Stream Fish Passage Evaluation – Addendum. Submitted to Sabina Gold & Silver Corp. 11 August 2020. 2 pages.

The condition related to Arctic Grayling migration applies to both the Rascal Stream West Crossing and proposed ‘fishway’ (or diversion) to be constructed while the airstrip is extended to divert flows from Rascal Stream East to Rascal Stream West. For the report on the Rascal Stream West Crossing, please see the response provided under Condition No. 24, 29, and 30.

RASCAL STREAM FISHWAY

Methods:

In 2018, continued collaboration with DFO and stakeholders on ideal design for the Rascal Stream Fishway (i.e., diversion) was undertaken concurrent with regulatory review of the Project and the Offsetting Plan was updated to reflect feedback received. The final version of the Offsetting Plan was submitted in 2019, however, it did not include the final design of the Rascal Stream diversion under the proposed airstrip extension. Sabina (now B2Gold Nunavut) chose to defer the final design in the Offsetting Plan due to ongoing additional design, baseline data collection, and hydrological modelling underway.

The Back River mine development works potentially impacting fish and fish habitat (e.g., Rascal Stream West diversion) were initially proposed under the Fisheries Act Authorization Application for the Back River Project (Sabina 2019). Upon review, DFO requested additional information from B2Gold Nunavut to ensure that fish passage is maintained after the RSW diversion construction, including an Arctic Grayling monitoring plan (DFO 2019). As such, in 2020, design, evaluation, and monitoring reports were provided to DFO for their review (e.g., Golder 2020abc). Based on the guidance and conclusions provided in the above reports and feedback provided by DFO (August 5, 2020), the main concern related to the diversion of flows from Rascal Stream East to Rascal Stream West would be downstream effects on velocities, particularly during spring conditions when adult Arctic Grayling migrate to upstream spawning habitats in Rascal Stream. Within the hydrotechnical assessment, specific locations immediately upstream of the crossing (Rascal Stream West Reach 1) were flagged as having high velocities under a baseline case that may exceed fish passage criteria under a diverted flow scenario.

In fall 2020, a field program was conducted to construct instream structures to mitigate the potential effects of high velocities on upstream passage of Arctic Grayling upon construction of the diversion channel. Velocity mitigation included the addition of boulders to the stream, positioned to create small rock weirs as per the recommendations in Golder's technical memorandum. Flow and habitat measurements were collected before and after construction (Golder 2021a).

In 2021 and 2022, follow-up surveys were conducted during spring flows to evaluate the effectiveness of the rock weir structures to slow water velocities during the annual high-flow period (Golder 2021b, WSP 2023).

Results:

Although the construction of airstrip has not commenced, design and mitigation solutions have been proposed and the velocity mitigations in lower Rascal Stream West were installed September 2-5, 2020, prior to the diversion of flows. At selected locations, rock weir designs were field-fit to best address 'pinch points' and sections with high velocities, while considering stream morphology. Based on the field surveys, 14 in-stream rock weir structures were constructed. The rock weir structures reduced velocities, on average, by 34%, and increased depths by 19%. Additional details are provided in the report titled 'Rascal Stream West Velocity Mitigation – 2020 Construction Report' (Golder 2021a).

Trends:

Not applicable as the construction of airstrip and diversion of flows have not commenced.

Next Steps:

The installation of the Rascal Stream diversion channel would be the next step, followed by monitoring of flows and fish movements under spring flow conditions to evaluate the effectiveness of mitigations and determine whether additional velocity mitigation is required in Rascal Stream West. Collaboration with DFO, KIA, and other interested parties will continue into 2024. Detailed plans for construction and ongoing monitoring will be implemented in compliance with DFO/KIA requirements and any further commitments made by B2Gold Nunavut (if applicable). The final design and monitoring plans will be submitted to the NIRB at least 30 days prior to construction of the fish passage. If the diversion is constructed during frozen watercourse conditions in 2024, a comprehensive fish passage monitoring study will be conducted in June 2024. Results from the study will be presented as part of the NIRB annual Report in 2025.

Project Certificate Condition No. 27

Category	Water Withdrawal Sites
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Nunavut Water Board, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To minimize impacts to freshwater fish habitat that may be used for water withdrawal.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall provide bathymetry, depth, and location of proposed water withdrawal sites, volumes to be extracted, anticipated water level decreases, and fish habitat features within each waterbody proposed to be used for winter water withdrawal in support of the annual construction of the winter ice roads. If additional waterbodies are required the Proponent shall provide all required information on the additional proposed lakes prior to the use of the waterbodies.
Reporting Requirement	The information for each waterbody should be provided to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), and the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) during the regulatory phase. Information on additional waterbodies should be provided to the NIRB, the DFO, the NWB, and other interested parties at least 90 days prior to the start of water withdrawal or as otherwise directed by DFO or the NWB.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Water Board, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Reference	<p>DFO (Fisheries and Oceans Canada). 2018. Letter of Advice: Implementation of mitigation measures to avoid and mitigate serious harm to fish and fish habitat during the construction of the Winter Ice Road for the Back River Project 18-HCAA-01626 (letter dated December 20, 2018)</p> <p>Golder. 2018a. Technical Memorandum, Winter Ice Road Water Withdrawal Evaluation (November 2018)</p> <p>Golder 2018b. Winter Ice Road Request for Review Application (submitted November 2018).</p> <p>Golder. 2022a. Technical Memorandum, Supplementary Winter Ice Road Water Withdrawal Recommendations and Field Verification Methods (submitted November 2022)</p>

Methods:

Winter Ice Road:

In 2017, Sabina (now B2Gold Nunavut) completed an evaluation of potential water sources for winter ice road construction along the proposed 160-km long winter road corridor from the Goose Property at Goose Lake to the Marine Laydown Area at Bathurst Inlet. Bathymetric digital elevation models were generated for 118 waterbodies within the winter road corridor using imagery collected in August 2017. Detailed lakebed topography was identified to a depth of 30 m. Based on these bathymetric models, analysis of volume and area per depth could be completed to estimate available under-ice water volumes for ice road construction from each source lake (i.e., 10% of under ice volume).

Subsequent to the Environmental Assessment review process and receipt of Project Certificate, Sabina submitted a Request for Review for Winter Ice Road to DFO in February 2018. In November 2018 Sabina provided the NIRB, DFO, and NWB with a detailed Technical Memorandum (Golder 2018) for Water Withdrawal Evaluation for proposed water withdrawal planned for 2019. On December 20, 2018, DFO confirmed no serious harm to fish would occur (DFO 2018) and similarly on December 18, 2018, the NWB confirmed WIR tech memo met requirements of the Type A. Construction of the ice road took place in 2019.

Goose Lake:

In June 2020, Sabina issued the FEIS (Final Environmental Impact Statement) Modification Package for the

Back River Project that included an effects assessment on the proposed increase in Goose Lake water withdrawal on surface water hydrology and fish and fish habitat (Sabina 2020; Golder 2020). It was concluded that the additional increase in water withdrawal to the previously approved rate is expected to result in no significant residual effects to surface water hydrology and fish and fish habitat. Although DFO was confident that mitigation and measures can be used to minimize impacts to Arctic Grayling (*Thymallus arcticus*) and its habitat at the Back River Project, DFO identified a potential downstream risk of causing a HADD (harmful alteration, disruption, or destruction) to Arctic Grayling habitat at the Goose Lake Outlet channels (i.e., Goose Lake Outlet and Propeller Lake Inlet reaches) resulting from changes in channel flow conditions. As such, B2Gold Nunavut contracted WSP to evaluate the potential for residual effects to Arctic Grayling habitat within the Goose Lake Outlet channels from planned water withdrawal rate from Goose Lake.

The evaluation considered three main steps (i.e., work objectives). First, using methods consistent with the FEIS (Sabina 2015), hydrological conditions were modelled for two scenarios for the Goose Lake Outlet channels, including baseline and Project-related flow scenarios. The second step applied a one-dimensional model tool, Hydraulic Toolbox to model flow parameters for two cross-sections of the Goose Lake Outlet channels where detailed data on channel geometry and flows were collected in 2021. Hydraulic model outputs for select parameters from each flow scenario were then summarized and compared to inform the third step of the evaluation of changes to the quantity and quality (i.e., suitability) of habitat in the Goose Lake Outlet channels. The third step of the evaluation included the linkage of hydraulic parameter results to habitat suitability preferences for sensitive life cycle stages of Arctic Grayling (i.e., spawning and rearing)

Results:

Winter Ice Road:

Of the 118 waterbodies examined, 55 lakes were identified as being sufficient for under-ice withdrawal. No measurable effects are predicted for fish and fish habitat for the identified source lakes as the recommended under-ice volumes will be adhered to and have been acknowledged to be protective by DFO.

B2Gold Nunavut filed a technical memorandum with the NWB prior to the 2023 Winter Ice Road construction outlining the planned WIR route and water withdrawal sites. B2Gold Nunavut also followed guidance provided by DFO in their Letter of Advice in the withdrawal of water from these sites and adhered to the volumes assessed and agreed to by DFO (DFO 2018) and the NWB.

Goose Lake:

The downstream assessment of the Goose Lake water withdrawal increase on Arctic Grayling spawning and rearing habitat is provided in **Appendix H**. In general, the assessment concluded there is the potential for residual effects to fish habitat, but that effects to the local Arctic Grayling population would be low (likely non-measurable) in magnitude. Residual effects, if any, would be reversible during the closure phase of the Back River Mine once water withdrawals for milling are no longer required. These conclusions are consistent with those drawn in the assessment provided in the FEIS Project Modification (Sabina 2020).

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

Winter Ice Road:

B2Gold Nunavut is required to comply with Type A Water Licence 2AM-BRP1831, Part E, Item 5 for the use of freshwater from sources proximal to the WIR for the purpose of construction, maintenance and operation of the WIR. The current NWB Water Licence No. 2AM-BRP1831 – Amendment No. 1 that stipulates an annual under ice water withdrawal of 2,025 m³ per km for the construction and maintenance of the WIR each year. In addition, prior to annual construction, B2Gold Nunavut is required to submit a technical memorandum under Part E, Item 13 including projected routing, bathymetry, depth, potential location of water withdrawal, proposed volumes and anticipated water level decreases. This information is required for a scenario where the WIR alignment has shifted. New alignments will consider direction provided by Golder (2022) and through discussions with DFO.

Goose Lake:

B2Gold Nunavut will submit a Request for Review application to DFO in 2024, with findings from the Goose Lake outflow assessment summarized, prior to increasing water withdrawal from the lake.

Project Certificate Condition No. 28

Category	Winter Ice Road
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To mitigate impacts to fish and fish habitat.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall implement all applicable Fisheries and Oceans Canada best management practices to avoid and mitigate serious harm to fish as a result of the construction, operation, and decommissioning of winter ice roads, and from under ice water withdrawals. This includes adequately screening the water intakes pipes to prevent impingement and entrainment of fish.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding best management practices and/or mitigation measures implemented by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be provided in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Not Applicable
Reference	DFO. 2020. Interim code practice: end of pipe fish protection screens for small water intakes in freshwater. Modified 2020-02-06. Accessed March 3, 2022 at Interim code of practice: End-of-pipe fish protection screens for small water intakes in freshwater (dfo-mpo.gc.ca) Road Management Plan (October 2017).

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut implements all applicable Fisheries and Oceans Canada best management practices to avoid and mitigate serious harm to fish as a result of the construction, operation, and decommissioning of winter ice roads, and from under ice water withdrawals. This includes adequately screening the water intakes pipes to prevent impingement and entrainment of fish as per the guidance provided under DFO's interim code of practice: end of pipe fish protection screens for small water intakes in freshwater (DFO 2020). Overall, B2Gold Nunavut is committed to the mitigations and conditions associated with WIR works, including water withdrawal (DFO 2018 and 2019, Sabina 2018 and 2019).

B2Gold Nunavut has assessed all potential water withdrawal sites and established water withdrawal volumes for each that remain protective of fish. This information has been provided to DFO, the NIRB, KIA and NWB as part of the Project modification and amendment application. B2Gold Nunavut's Back River Project Road Management Plan also includes mitigation measures related to the WIR.

Results:

B2Gold Nunavut files a technical memorandum with the NWB at least sixty (60) days prior to the initiation of annual Winter Ice Road (WIR) construction which outlines the planned WIR route and water withdrawal sites. Post WIR use, additional information is provided to the NWB on any deviations in WIR construction or routing. This information is available on the NWB public registry. B2Gold Nunavut also

follows guidance provided by DFO in their Letter of Advice in the withdrawal of water from these sites and adhered to the volumes assessed and agreed to by DFO and the NWB. Due to an accident resulting in a fatality, 2021/2022 WIR construction was abandoned prior to any use of water. 2023/2024 WIR season is still to be determined as the WIR is still in operation at the time of writing of this report.

B2Gold Nunavut also remained in compliance with Type A Water Licence 2AM-BRP1831, Part E, Item 7, wherein, B2Gold Nunavut shall equip all water intake hoses with a screen of an appropriate mesh size to ensure that fish are not entrained and shall withdraw water at a rate such that fish do not become impinged on the screen. This is consistent with the DFO Interim Code Practice: End of Pipe Fish Protection Screens for Small Water Intakes in Freshwater (DFO 2020).

Trends:

Not Applicable.

Next Steps:

As required by Part E, Item 13, of Type A Water Licence 2AM-BRP1831 B2Gold Nunavut will file a technical memorandum to the NWB at least sixty (60) days prior to annual Interconnection Winter Ice Road construction outlining the planned WIR route and water withdrawal. B2Gold Nunavut will follow any guidance provided by DFO in their Letter of Advice in the withdrawal of water from these sites and will adhere to the volumes assessed and agreed to by DFO and the NWB. B2Gold Nunavut will also comply with Type A Water Licence 2AM-BRP1831, Part E, Item 7, wherein, the proponent shall equip all water intake hoses with a screen of an appropriate mesh size to ensure that fish are not entrained and shall withdraw water at a rate such that fish do not become impinged on the screen. The 2024/2025 WIR water use (in volumes per kilometre of WIR) will be provided in the 2024 Annual Reports to the NWB and NIRB.

Project Certificate Condition No. 29

Category	Water Crossings
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To mitigate impacts to fish and fish habitat.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall implement all applicable Fisheries and Oceans Canada best management practices to avoid and mitigate serious harm to fish as a result of water crossing construction, operation, and decommissioning for all fish-bearing water crossings. These measures should include, but are not limited to, appropriate design of water crossings to facilitate fish passage at both high and low flows, timing windows that incorporate spawning, incubation and hatch times for all species using watercourses, sediment and erosion control, protection of riparian vegetation, and other forms of bank stabilization
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding best management practices and/or mitigation measures implemented by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be provided in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Not Applicable
Reference	<p>Back River Project Rascal Stream West Culvert Installation – Request for Review Application (submitted June 20, 2022)</p> <p>Sabina. 2017. Back River Project – Road Management Plan (October 2017)</p> <p>Golder. 2018. Back River Project Early Works – Request for Review Application (submitted February 27, 2018).</p> <p>Golder. 2021. Sabina Back River Project – Goose Property Area: Supplemental Hydrology and Fish Habitat Data Report. 2021 Open-Water Period.</p> <p>DFO (Fisheries and Oceans Canada). 2018. Letter of Advice: Implementation of mitigation measures to avoid and mitigate serious harm to fish and fish habitat for the early development work activities at the Goose property for the Back River Project 18-HCAA-00185 (letter dated May 2, 2018)</p> <p>WSP. 2023a. Sabina Back River Project - 2022 Rascal Stream West Field Summary and Fish Passage Characterization.</p> <p>WSP. 2023b. B2Gold Back River Project - Rascal Stream West Culvert Installation Construction Monitoring Report (Appendix G). Submitted to DFO on 18 December 2023.</p>

Note that this condition and report is related to Condition No. 24. Please refer to the reply Condition No. 24.

Methods:

See Condition 24.

Results:

See Condition 24.

Trends:

See Condition 24.

Next Steps:

See Condition 24.

Project Certificate Condition No. 30

Category	Monitoring Program for Culverts
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To minimize the impacts to fish bearing watercourses.
Term or Condition (TC)	Unless otherwise directed by Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Proponent's monitoring program for culverts on fish bearing watercourses during the operations and closure phases shall include measures to ensure that barriers to fish passage do not form over time as a result of crossing damage due to ice blockage, flooding, or movement of debris; all of which may occur at freshet. Detailed design drawings and an updated monitoring program shall be produced prior to construction.
Reporting Requirement	The updated drawings and monitoring program should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) at least 30 days prior to the construction of the culverts, with results submitted annually thereafter or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB and DFO.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Reference	<p>Back River Project Rascal Stream West Culvert Installation – Request for Review Application (submitted June 20, 2022)</p> <p>Back River Project Early Works – Request for Review Application (submitted February 27, 2018)</p> <p>DFO. 2022. Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Letter of Advice (DFO file #22-HCAA-00586): All-Weather Road Watercourse Crossing Upgrades within the Goose Property for the Back River Project – Implementation of Measures to Avoid and Mitigate the Potential Effects to Fish and Fish Habitat (letter dated July 15, 2022).</p> <p>Fisheries and Oceans Canada - Letter of Advice: Implementation of mitigation measures to avoid and mitigate serious harm to fish and fish habitat for the early development work activities at the Goose property for the Back River Project 18-HCAA-00185 (letter dated May 2, 2018)</p> <p>WSP. 2022. 2022 Rascal Stream West Field Summary and Fish Passage Characterization. Prepared for Sabina Gold & Silver Corp. Project No. 21505757-129-TM-RevA.</p> <p>WSP. 2023a. 2022 Rascal Stream West Field Summary and Fish Passage Characterization. 21 February 2023. Reference No. 21505757-129-TM-Rev0.</p> <p>WSP. 2023b. B2Gold Back River Project – Rascal Stream West Culvert Installation Construction Monitoring Report (Appendix G). Submitted to DFO on 18 December 2023.</p>

Methods:

Note that this condition and report is related to Condition No. 24 and 29. In 2018, a clear-span bridge was installed for the crossing at lower Rascal Stream West (Gander Pond outflow) (DFO 2018; Sabina 2018) and in 2023 the bridge was replaced with culvert crossings (Sabina 2022, DFO 2022). The request for review application for the current design was submitted to DFO on 20 June 2022 which included the Issued for Construction (IFC) Engineer Drawings (Golder 2021a), Arctic Grayling Fish Passage Criteria, and the controls and mitigations that will be applied during construction to prevent harm to fish and fish habitat (Sabina 2022). Monitoring of the installation of the new culvert crossings is summarized in WSP (2023b).

Results:

See results summarized for Condition No. 24.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

See Condition No. 24.

Project Certificate Condition No. 31

Category	Monitoring Program for Culverts
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To minimize the impacts to fish and fish habitat.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent should provide annual monitoring updates regarding the Rascal Stream Fish Passage that enables parties to determine its effectiveness.
Reporting Requirement	Monitoring updates regarding the Rascal Stream Fish Passage shall be included in the annual report to the NIRB. In years when monitoring is not required by Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Proponent will include a statement in the annual report confirming no active monitoring has occurred.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Reference	Not Applicable

Methods:

Not applicable. Construction on the Rascal Stream 'Fishway' (diversion channel) has not occurred to date. See the reply to Project Certificate Condition No. 26 for more information.

Results:

Not applicable.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

See the reply to Project Certificate Condition No. 26 for more information.

4.5.9 VEGETATION (PC TCS 32 THROUGH 36)

Project Certificate Condition No. 32

Category	Site Footprint
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To minimize the impacts of the Project on vegetation.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall ensure that Project activities are planned and conducted in such a way as to minimize the Project footprint.
Reporting Requirement	In the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board, the Proponent shall provide information regarding the current Project footprint, taking into account construction and progressive reclamation activities, and including information regarding the loss or alteration of vegetation associated with Project activities (including identifying the type of any habitat losses resulting from these effects).
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	None
Reference	Vegetation Monitoring Plan (January 2020) Vegetation Monitoring Program (Golder 2019).

Methods:

The 2023 Project footprint was overlain with the LSA ecological mapping in a GIS environment to quantify the amount of loss or alteration of vegetation associated with Project activities.

Results:

Disturbance associated with current footprint for the Goose Property and the MLA totals 125.7 ha and is presented by ecosystem type in Table 4.5.9-1. To date, 162.7 ha (0.1% of the LSA) has been affected due to Goose Property development, of which 150.9 ha (0.1% of the LSA) are vegetated ecosystems and 5.1 ha (<0.1% of the LSA) are sparsely vegetated ecosystems and 6.7 ha (<0.1% of the LSA) are in non-vegetated ecosystems, associated with the Mine Camp area. Of the ecosystem types that are considered special landscape features, 17.81 ha (0.1% of the LSA) have been affected in the Goose Property.

Development activities associated with the MLA property has affected 41.1 ha (<0.1% of the LSA), of which 28.7 ha (<0.1% of the LSA) are vegetated ecosystems while 6.6 ha (<0.1% of the LSA) are sparsely vegetated ecosystems and 5.8 ha (<0.1% of the LSA) are in non-vegetated ecosystems. Of the ecosystem types which are considered special landscape features, 14.5 ha (<0.1% of the LSA) have been affected in the MLA property.

Table 4.5.9-1: Ecosystem/Vegetation Losses Associated with Current (2023) Footprint for the Goose Property and the Marine Laydown Area

ECOSYSTEM TYPE	TEM CODE	LSA		Predicted Losses FEIS (2015)		Goose Property			MLA Property				
		Area (ha)	% of Total LSA	Area (ha)	Area (ha) 2022	2023		Change from 2022 (ha)	2023		% of Total LSA	Change from 2022 (ha)	
						Area (ha) 2023	% of Total LSA		Area (ha) 2022	Area (ha) 2023			
Non-vegetated Ecosystems													
Lake	LA	18,140.90	12.5	461.90	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	-	-	-	-	
Mine Camp	DR	10	<0.1	6.80	5.6	6.3	0.0	0.7	-	-	-	-	
Pond	PD	6,436.10	4.5	273.70	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.2	-	-	-	-	
River	RI	329	0.2	3.70	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-	-	-	
Road surface	DZ	3.2	<0.1	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Saltwater	MW	6,170.10	4.3	0.00	-	-	-	-	5.8	5.8	0.0	0.00	
Subtotal		31,089.30	21.5	746.10	5.7	6.7	0.0	1.0	5.8	5.8	0.0	0.0	
Sparsely Vegetated Ecosystems													
Bedrock outcrop ^(a)	BR	3,428.80	2.4	155.10	1.8	3.5	0.0	1.7	-	-	-	-	
Bedrock-lichen veneer ^(a)	BL	6,882.80	4.8	52.00	1.2	1.5	0.0	0.3	-	-	-	-	
Blockfield	TB	195.5	0.1	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Cliff ^(a)	BC	10.9	<0.1	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Exposed soil	ES	176.7	0.1	0.30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Marine beach ^(a)	MB	59.5	<0.1	14.30	-	-	-	-	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	
Old beach heads ^(a)	MH	476.1	0.3	53.50	-	-	-	-	4.8	6.2	0.0	1.3	
Saline shallow open water ^(a)	MO	55.8	<0.1	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Shallow open water ^(a)	WO	81.1	0.1	4.50	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	-	-	-	-	
Sparsely vegetated esker ^(a)	EC	659.5	0.5	2.20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Talus	BT	4.5	<0.1	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal		12,031.20	8.3	281.90	3.0	5.1	0.0	2.1	5.2	6.6	0.0	1.3	
Vegetated Ecosystems													
Cottongrass-sedge fen ^(a)	WC	3,467.70	2.4	132.60	0.4	2.9	0.0	2.5	-	-	-	-	
Disturbed Vegetation	DV	0.7	<0.1	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Dry-sparse tundra	TH	23,458.20	16.2	574.30	9.4	18.4	0.0	9.0	-	-	-	-	
Dwarf shrub esker ^(a)	EH	629.7	0.4	8.60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Estuary marsh ^(a)	ME	4.22	0.7	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Low bench floodplain ^(a)	RL	36.5	<0.1	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Marine dwarf shrub tundra	MT	5,444.70	3.8	275.50	-	-	-	-	18.2	20.0	0.0	1.8	
Marine riparian shrub ^(a)	MR	439.4	0.3	89.80	-	-	-	-	4.8	4.9	0.0	0.1	
Marine shrubby tundra	MS	1,830.20	1.3	10.10	-	-	-	-	0.8	1.1	0.0	0.2	
Mesic dwarf-shrub tundra	TL	41,722.40	28.9	2338.80	55.3	92.8	0.1	37.4	-	-	-	-	
Mid bench floodplain ^(a)	RM	3.8	<0.1	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Raised bog complex ^(a)	WB	4,224.60	2.9	236.90	2.1	5.8	0.0	3.7	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	
Saline fen ^(a)	MF	993.08	0.1	73.30	-	-	-	-	2.1	2.2	0.0	0.0	
Saline marsh ^(a)	MM	252	0.2	13.70	-	-	-	-	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	
Shrubby esker ^(a)	EW	220.8	0.2	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Shrubby tundra	TS	11,853.90	8.2	910.60	10.5	27.0	0.0	16.5	-	-	-	-	
Tussock meadow ^(a)	WT	64.4	<0.1	3.60	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	-	-	-	-	
Undifferentiated fen ^(a)	WF	2,582.00	1.8	78.00	1.2	2.3	0.0	1.2	-	-	-	-	
Water sedge marsh ^(a)	WA	2,396.00	1.7	112.00	0.4	1.1	0.0	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.1	
Willow riparian ^(a)	RW	1,441.90	1	64.20	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.3	-	-	-	-	
Willow-sedge fen ^(a)	WS	418.3	0.3	23.20	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal		101,484.60	70.2	4945.20	79.5	150.9	0.1	71.4	26.4	28.7	0.0	2.3	
(a) = Total Special Landscape Features		28,828.90	20.10	1,117.50	7.21	17.81	0.01	10.60	12.55	14.19	0.01	1.64	
Grand Total		144,605.10	100	5973.20	88.3	162.7	0.1	74.4	37.4	41.1	0.0	3.7	

Figure 4.5.9-1 is a graphic representation of the 2023 footprint for the Goose Property and MLA

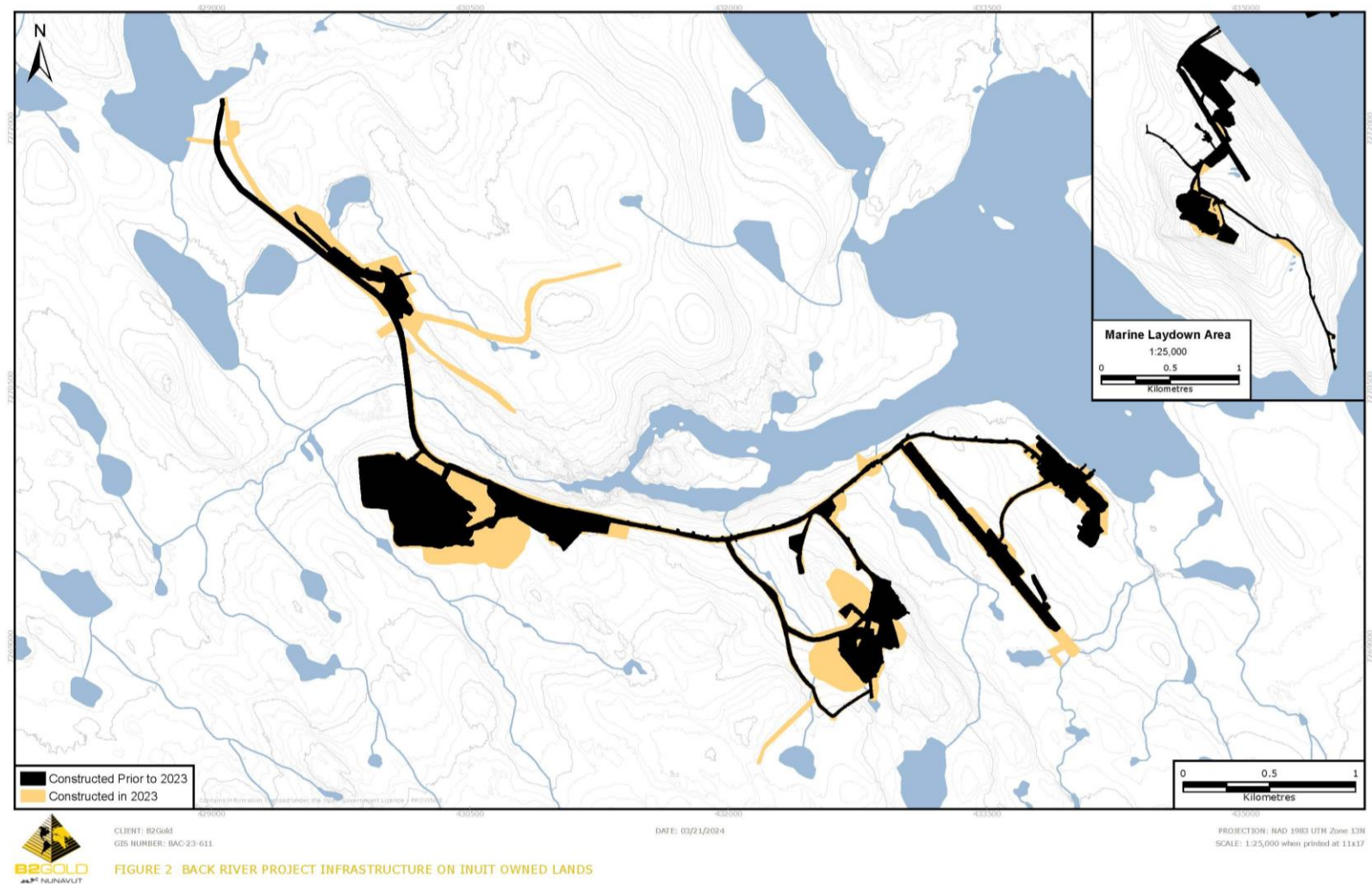
Trends:

Not applicable. On-going annual vegetation monitoring will continue.

Next Steps:

Annual vegetation monitoring will continue to identify any loss or alteration of vegetation associated with increases to the Back River Project footprint.

Figure 4.5.9-1: Back River Project Footprint (2023)



Project Certificate Condition No. 33

Category	Invasive Species
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To prevent the introduction of invasive species.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall ensure that equipment and supplies brought to the project sites are clean and free of soils that could contain plant seeds not naturally occurring in the area. Vehicle tires and treads in particular must be inspected prior to initial use in project areas. The Proponent shall also incorporate protocols for monitoring for the potential introduction of invasive vegetation species (e.g. surveys of plant populations in previously disturbed areas) into relevant monitoring and management plans for the terrestrial environment. Any introductions of non-indigenous plant species must be promptly reported to the Government of Nunavut Department of Environment.
Reporting Requirement	At least 30 days prior to first shipment of equipment and supplies to the site, the Proponent's mitigation plans, protocols, monitoring and inspection program required in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be provided to the Nunavut Impact Review Board for review. Subsequently, information regarding inspections, monitoring results and any reports to the Government of Nunavut Department of Environment as referenced above shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	None
Reference	Vegetation Monitoring Program (Golder 2022)

Methods:

On February 16, 2018, a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) was provided to the NIRB a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) which ensures all equipment and bulk supplies arriving at the Back River Project site are in a condition free of any soil or plant debris to minimize the risk of invasive plant introduction.

In 2020, an updated Back River Project Vegetation Monitoring Plan (VMP) was provided to the NIRB. This plan includes invasive plant species monitoring within the Goose Property, MLA, and WIR footprint and adjacent habitats.

B2Gold Nunavut will conduct invasive plant monitoring during the 2024 VMP field surveys following the commitment to conduct these surveys every 3 years.

Results:

Expediter verification forms confirm equipment and bulk supplies destined for the Back River Project were free of soil and plant debris.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to provide completed expediter verification forms confirming equipment and bulk supplies destined for the Back River Project are free of soil and plant debris upon shipment in the NIRB annual report (**Appendix I**).

Project Certificate Condition No. 34

Category	Vegetation Monitoring Plan
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the Government of Nunavut
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To minimize potential impacts to vegetation along the winter road/trail routings and around project sites.
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>The Proponent shall have in place a Vegetation Monitoring Plan that is designed to quantify the potential impacts on vegetation from the Project, including the annual construction/operation of the winter ice roads and trails. The plan should include all commitments discussed throughout the Review of the Project, including commitments to consult with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the Government of Nunavut, and other relevant parties, as well as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Establishment of pre-construction and post-operation vegetation conditions annually with supporting photographs to allow for long- term comparisons of vegetation conditions along winter ice road/trail routings and around project sites; b. Incorporation of measures to prevent or minimize potential destabilization and erosion along winter ice road/trail routings and around project sites; c. Details on the triggers for implementing adaptive management options if effects to vegetation are observed, including potential impacts from dust deposition; and, d. Discussion of how the findings from monitoring efforts would be used to inform reclamation planning.
Reporting Requirement	The plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 90 days prior to the start of construction, with results submitted annually thereafter or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	None
Reference	Vegetation Monitoring Plan (January 2020) Vegetation Monitoring Program (WSP Golder 2022)

Methods:

A Vegetation Monitoring Plan was provided to the NIRB on January 23, 2020, that is designed to quantify the potential impacts on vegetation from the Project, including the annual construction/operation of the winter ice roads and trails. The plan includes all commitments discussed throughout the Review of the Project, including commitments to consult with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, as well as the Project Certificate (No. 007) Term and Condition No. 34 requirements.

In addition, a Vegetation Monitoring Program (Golder 2019) was implemented in 2019 for the Winter Ice Road connecting the MLA and the Goose Property and results of this program were provided in the 2019 Annual report to the NIRB.

Results:

In 2023, the annual photographic monitoring component of the Vegetation Monitoring Plan was completed on previously established vegetation monitoring plots along the winter ice road (WIR) alignment. The vegetation monitoring plots were grouped in pairs, each pair containing a reference (non-impacted) and experimental (impacted) plot. Experimental plots have been established within the WIR footprint and associated reference plots have been established outside the WIR footprint but in proximity, and within the same ecosystem class, vegetation association and structural stage.

During 2023 program, out of 72 paired plots established in previous years, 20 paired plots were monitored (10 reference and 10 experimental). The rest of the plots was lost due to the WIR construction and a change of alignment. In the next year, missing plots will be newly established.

The results of the monitoring indicate that vegetation within experimental plots within the WIR alignment is similar in vigour to vegetation within the reference plots. The photos taken during 2023 are attached in **Appendix J**.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

During the 2024 vegetation monitoring program, new WIR monitoring plots will be established to replace those lost due to construction and to realign with the change in alignment of the WIR.

Project Certificate Condition No. 35

Category	Revegetation and Reclamation
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To maximize revegetation in reclaimed areas.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall develop a progressive revegetation program for disturbed areas that are no longer required for operations, such as a program to incorporate measures for the use of test plots, reseeding, and replanting of native plants as necessary. It is further recommended that this program be directly associated with the management plans for erosion control established for the Project.
Reporting Requirement	The program and associated revegetation results should be provided within the Proponent's annual report submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	None.
Reference	Incorporated within the Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan (July 2021).

Methods:

A progressive revegetation program was developed for disturbed areas that are no longer required for operations. It is noted that this progressive revegetation program, which is included in the Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan (ICRP), is not fully developed at this early phase of project construction. Further information regarding revegetation studies developed would be submitted within 3 years of the commencement of construction as required by T&C 36.

Results:

The ICRP (July 2021) and included conceptual progressive revegetation program was approved by the NWB and was provided to the NIRB on December 13, 2021¹². This ICRP was further updated in 2022/23 as part of the amendment application process and is currently under review by the NIRB. The ICRP addresses PC T&C's 7, 15, 35, and 36.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

In-line with Project Certificate T&C No.36, within three years from the commencement of Construction, information regarding the revegetation strategies developed and implemented by B2Gold Nunavut in fulfillment of this T&C will be included in B2Gold Nunavut's annual report to the NIRB. Subsequently, information regarding the Proponent's progress in fulfillment of this T&C will be provided annually in the Proponent's annual report to the NIRB.

¹² Sabina. 2021. *Re: Sabina Response to NIRB re: The Nunavut Impact Review Board's 2020-2021 Annual Monitoring Report for the Back River Project and Board's Recommendations*. Sabina letter to NIRB, Dated December 13, 2021

Project Certificate Condition No. 36

Category	Mine Closure and Reclamation Plan
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To maintain an up to date revegetation plan for the Project.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall include revegetation strategies within its Mine Closure and Reclamation Plan that support progressive reclamation, and promote natural revegetation and recovery of disturbed areas compatible with the surrounding natural environment. These strategies should include exploration of the feasibility and practicality of topsoil/organic matter salvage through Project development. The Closure and Reclamation Plan should be updated on an on-going basis as more information becomes available from similar reclamation efforts at other northern projects, as applicable.
Reporting Requirement	Within 3 (three) years from the commencement of construction, information regarding the revegetation strategies developed and implemented by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. Subsequently, information regarding the Proponent's progress in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be provided annually in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	None
Reference	Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan (July 2021). Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan (July 2022; In Review with the NWB).

Methods:

A conceptual progressive revegetation program was developed within the Back River Project Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan (ICRP; July 2021) which was finalized based on a review and input from the KIA and CIRNAC, with oversight by the NWB. This conceptual progressive revegetation program is not fully developed at this early phase of project construction. Further information regarding revegetation studies developed would be submitted within 3 years of the commencement of construction as required by this T&C.

Results:

The ICRP (July 2021) and included progressive revegetation program was approved by the NWB and was provided to the NIRB on December 13, 2021¹³. This ICRP was further updated in 2022 as part of the

¹³ Sabina. 2021. *Re: Sabina Response to NIRB re: The Nunavut Impact Review Board's 2020-2021 Annual Monitoring Report for the Back River Project and Board's Recommendations*. Sabina letter to NIRB, Dated December 13, 2021

amendment application process and is currently under review by the NWB (ICRP 2022). The ICRP addresses PC T&C's 7, 15, 35, and 36.

Trends:

Not applicable

Next Steps:

Within three years from the commencement of Construction, information regarding the revegetation strategies developed and implemented by B2Gold Nunavut in fulfillment of this T&C will be included in B2Gold Nunavut's annual report to the NIRB. Subsequently, information regarding the Proponent's progress in fulfillment of this T&C will be provided annually in the Proponent's annual report to the NIRB.

Once the NWB has approved the ICRP (July 2022) it will be submitted to the NIRB.

4.5.10 TERRESTRIAL WILDLIFE AND WILDLIFE HABITAT (PC TCS 37 THROUGH 52)

Project Certificate Condition No. 37

Category	Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Plan
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To mitigate, monitor, and adaptively manage potential impacts to wildlife.
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>The Proponent shall have in place a Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (WMMPP) throughout all phases of the Project. The plan shall include detailed monitoring, mitigation, and adaptive management measures for wildlife, and shall detail considerations for: species-specific sensitive wildlife periods and areas; activities known to affect wildlife; specific triggers for mitigation and adaptive management intervention; and implementation of all commitments made throughout the Nunavut Impact Review Board's (NIRB) assessment of the Project. The Proponent shall demonstrate appropriate refinements to the WMMPP's design throughout the life of the Project, as necessary to allow for the identification of long- term trends and cumulative effects where project interactions with wildlife are identified. Updates to the WMMPP may be triggered by significant changes in project development plans, monitoring results indicating biologically-meaningful changes, significant updates to the scientific understanding of management methods relevant to wildlife at the project site, Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, Traditional Knowledge, changes in climatic conditions that might subject wildlife to unexpected impacts, or as otherwise necessary.</p> <p>Commentary: Measures included in the WMMPP shall be inclusive of all commitments made by the Proponent throughout the Review of the Project. Further, the Proponent shall, throughout the duration of the Project, collaborate with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the Government of Nunavut, and other relevant parties to develop updated mitigation, monitoring, and adaptive management measures within the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan.</p>
Reporting Requirement	The plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 90 days prior to the start of construction, with revised versions submitted annually thereafter or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12, April 2023).

Methods:

The WMMPP was updated in 2018 to include the commitments made at the 2017 Final Hearing. The updated WMMPP (Version 9, September 2018) was circulated for review by the KIA and Government of Nunavut Department of Environment (GN DOE) in August 2018. Meetings were held with the KIA and GN DOE in September 2018 to discuss the updates.

The WMMPP was again updated in October 2019 to Version 10. Updates were made to address a commitment to the KIA to include information on spill response equipment contact information for community organizations. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN DOE during November 2019 and discussed at the December 2019 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was again updated in December 2022 to Version 11. Updates included additions to refer to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the December 2022 meeting.

The WMMPP was further updated in April 2023 to Version 12 (the current version). Updates in response to requests from NIRB in 2023 included additional updates throughout the Plan to ensure the Modification PDA and details from the Energy Centre Addendum are included in all sections and maps of the WMMP Plan. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the November 2023 meeting.

Results:

The WMMPP (Version 9, September 2018) was used during 2020, the WMMPP (Version 10, October 2019) in 2021 and 2022, and the WMMPP (Version 11, December 2022 and Version 12, April 2023) for 2023. The WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) will continue to be used to guide mitigation and monitoring in 2024. Mitigation and monitoring were effective in 2023.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Pre-construction and Construction Phases. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 38

Category	Wildlife Monitoring
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the Government of Nunavut
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To monitor wildlife in collaboration with other monitoring bodies.
Term or Condition (TC)	In consultation with the Government of Nunavut, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, and other relevant parties, the Proponent shall make efforts to contribute to existing and planned cumulative effects and regional monitoring programs for caribou, grizzly bear, wolverine, and muskox, as appropriate. Relevant details of coordination through data sharing arrangements or agreements should be highlighted.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding the Proponent's consultation, coordination and other contribution efforts undertaken in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be provided in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	WMMPP Section 7.2.2.7 Collaborative Herd-scale Monitoring Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023.

Methods:

Section 7.2.2.7 of the WMMPP discusses collaborative herd-scale monitoring for caribou, which includes 1) participation in meetings for the Draft Bathurst Caribou Range Plan, and 2) collaborative monitoring for caribou with the GNDOE and Government of Northwest Territories Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NWT ENR).

Results:

In 2018, a representative from the Proponent attended meetings for the Draft Bathurst Caribou Range Plan held in Yellowknife and via teleconference on 17 March 2017, 28 June 2017, and 21 January 2018.

In 2019, meetings were held with representatives of the KIA and GNDOE to review the WMMPP and discuss plans for monitoring in 2019.

In 2020, a representative from the Proponent attended and presented at meetings organized by the Government of Northwest Territories, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (GNWT ENR), to collaborate on methods for calculating and assessing Zone of Influence (ZOI) and road crossing by

caribou at mining projects in NWT and NU. Attendees included representatives from GNWT ENR, diamond mining companies, independent monitoring agencies and consultants to these groups.

In December 2021, 2022, and November 2023 meetings were held with representatives of the KIA and GN DOE as part of the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG) to discuss Project monitoring results from the previous year and plans for the upcoming year.

The November 2023 CTAG meeting included discussion of the acquisition of Sabina Gold and Silver by B2Gold Nunavut, the proposed Energy Centre Project, Version 12 of the WMMPP, and the proposed Fuel Modification Package. In 2023, B2Gold Nunavut hosted biologists from the GNWT Department of Environment and Climate Change (GNWT ECC, formerly NWT ENR) and the Government of Nunavut Department of Environment (GN DOE) at the Goose Lake camp, providing accommodation, logistics support and fuel to conduct wildlife surveys for caribou and grizzly bear.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to meet with representatives of the KIA and GNDOE during 2024 as part of the CTAG. Discussion of opportunities to collaborate and regional monitoring will continue through CTAG.

B2Gold Nunavut will also continue to liaise with biologists from the GN DOE and GNWT ECC about hosting government biologists at site when requested.

Project Certificate Condition No. 39

Category	Caribou Mitigation and Adaptive Management Measures
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To mitigate potential impacts to caribou throughout the life of the Project.
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>The Proponent shall provide, within its Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (WMMPP), measures for the staged reduction of project activities should caribou occur in proximity to the project site. The WMMPP will include a detailed description of all project activities, equipment, and components that would be managed during different phases of staged reduction mitigation events, including rapid and planned operational shutdowns should caribou calving or post-calving ranges overlap with the Project. Any planned activity restrictions/cessations should be of sufficient duration to take into account annual variation in the timing and distribution of calving and post-calving caribou interactions with the Project.</p> <p>Commentary: Additional details to be contained within the WMMPP shall include a quantitative description of the noise produced by all activities, equipment, and components that would be managed during the staged reduction events, in addition to an analysis of the zones over which continuous and instantaneous noise thresholds for caribou would be exceeded within the project area. The Proponent shall provide updated details throughout the life of the Project should activities, equipment, or components alter the zones of influence as originally assessed.</p>
Reporting Requirement	The finalized Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (WMMPP) shall be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board at least 90 days prior to construction. Subsequently, the Proponent shall provide include an annual summary of the measures taken and monitoring results under the WMMPP in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	<p>WMMPP 7.1.5.2 Levels of Management for Caribou during Normal Operations</p> <p>WMMPP Section 7.1.5.3 Management for Shifts in Calving Ranges</p> <p>Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023.</p> <p>The 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report is appended as Appendix K.</p>

Methods:

Section 7.1.5.2 of the WMMPP (Levels of Management for Caribou during Normal Operations) describes the triggers and activities for staged reductions in Project activities should caribou be observed near the Project site. Section 7.1.5.3 of the WMMPP (Management for Shifts in Calving Ranges) describes the triggers and activities to be undertaken in response to a shift in calving grounds – leading to a rapid or a planned operational shutdown.

The WMMPP was updated in 2018 with the commitments made at the 2017 Final Hearing, including additional details about reductions in project activities and project shutdowns. The updated WMMPP (Version 9, September 2018) was circulated for review by the KIA and GN DOE in August 2018. Meetings were then held with the KIA and GNDOE in September 2018 to discuss the updates.

The WMMPP was again updated in October 2019 to Version 10. Updates were made to address a commitment to the KIA to include information on spill response equipment contact information for community organizations. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN during November 2019 and discussed at the December 2019 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was again updated in December 2022 to Version 11 and April 2023 to Version 12. Updates included additions in reference to the proposed Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA and NIRB. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the November 2023 CTAG meeting.

Results:

The mitigation measures listed in the WMMPP each year from 2020 to 2023. (Version 11, November 2022 and Version 12, April 2023) were followed in 2023.

In 2023 there were no situations requiring implementation of the caribou management system above a Level 2 response (Section 7.1.5.2 of the WMMPP).

To mitigate for effects on caribou, the Environment Department monitored GNWT collar data daily during the calving, post-calving, and into the summer seasons (July – August).

Records of incidental observations, monitoring, and mitigation measures are reported in the 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report (**Appendix K**).

Trends:

In 2021, the caribou management system was implemented by responding to caribou presence with a Level 2, Level 3, and Level 4 response. In 2022 Level 2 and Level 3 responses were enacted. In 2023, there were no situations requiring implementation of the Caribou Management System above a Level 2 response.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Pre-construction Phase. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 40

Category	Caribou Monitoring
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the Government of Nunavut
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure that implementation of adaptive management is not unduly delayed by potential lag times associated with delayed access to collar data.
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>In consultation with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the Government of Nunavut, and relevant parties, the Proponent shall ensure that the utilization of satellite collar data as an early detection method for caribou takes into consideration an agreed-upon biological buffer, as well as potential lag times associated with delayed access to collar data, for the development of thresholds for monitoring and adaptive management triggers.</p> <p>Commentary: The term “agreed-upon biological buffer” references the biological buffer agreed to by the relevant parties at the Supplemental Final Hearing, but this buffer may be updated during the life of the Project to reflect any subsequent agreements by the Proponent, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the Government of Nunavut, and other relevant parties.</p>
Reporting Requirement	Within 1 (one) year of construction, information regarding the Proponent’s fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent’s annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. Subsequently, information regarding the Proponent’s in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included every 2 (two) years in the Proponent’s annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	<p>WMMPP 7.2.1.2 Near Real-time Collar Monitoring</p> <p>Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023.</p> <p>Document title: Back River Project Caribou Movement Rates, September 2018.</p> <p>Document title: The 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report is appended as Appendix K</p>

Methods:

The WMMPP in 2018 was updated to include the commitments made at the 2017 Final Hearing, including the biological buffer surrounding collar data. The updated WMMPP (Version 9, September 2018) was circulated for review by the KIA and GN DOE in August 2018. The most up to date WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) retains this buffer.

A memo *Back River Project Caribou Movement Rates, September 2018*, was prepared to address Condition 40 which was circulated for review by the KIA and GNDOE.

Meetings were then held with the KIA and GNDOE in September 2018 to discuss the updates and movement rate memo.

Results:

The Proponent, the KIA and the GNDOE met in September 2018 to discuss caribou movement rates and the updates to the WMMPP (Version 9, September 2018). The parties discussed data availability and calculation of movement rates from collared caribou.

From 2020 to 2023, the Proponent used the collar data plus the biological buffer listed in the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to monitor the need for caribou mitigation. Reduction of project activities did not occur for caribou in 2023, though a Level 2 Alert was issued (**Appendix K**).

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to use the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) that includes a biological buffer on collar data, as agreed to by the CTAG, on collar data for managing site mitigation. B2Gold Nunavut is meeting with representatives of the KIA and GN DOE during 2024 as part of the CTAG.

Project Certificate Condition No. 41

Category	Caribou Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To mitigate potential impacts to caribou during periods of heightened sensitivity.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall demonstrate consideration for the increased potential of caribou presence in the area when planning outdoor construction activities (including site clearing, blasting, and operation of heavy equipment) during the July 26 to August 31 period.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding the Proponent's fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	WMMPP 7.1.5.1 Management System to Reduce Disturbance to Caribou WMMPP 7.1.5.2 Levels of Management for Caribou during Normal Operations Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023.

Methods:

Section 7.1.5.1 of the WMMPP (Management System to Reduce Disturbance to Caribou) describes the monitoring and management of the Project site, including advising personnel of the heightened chance of encountering caribou during the summer months. Section 7.1.5.2 (Levels of Management for Caribou during Normal Operations) includes activities to be conducted during the summer months when there is a higher chance of observing caribou.

The Proponent updated the WMMPP in 2018 to include the commitments made at the 2017 Final Hearing, including consideration for caribou presence in summer. The updated WMMPP (Version 9, September 2018) was circulated for review by the KIA and GN DOE in August 2018.

The WMMPP was again updated in October 2019 to Version 10. Updates were made to address a commitment to the KIA to include information on spill response equipment contact information for community organizations. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN during November 2019 and discussed at the December 2019 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was again updated in December 2022 to Version 11. Updates included additions to refer to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the December 2022 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was further updated in April 2023 to Version 12. Updates included further reference to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA and NIRB. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the November 2023 CTAG meeting.

Additional information relating to the specific location and date of blasts was included in the 2023 WMMPP Report, as requested by the GN DOE (**Appendix K**).

Results:

In 2023, B2Gold Nunavut followed the mitigation measures listed in the WMMPP (Version 11, December 2022 and Version 12, April 2023).

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. This WMMPP includes planning and mitigation account for the higher likelihood of observing caribou during summer (July to August). The WMMPP will continue to be updated as needed, and caribou will continue to be adaptively managed as encountered.

Project Certificate Condition No. 42

Category	Caribou Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure that mitigation measures apply for all caribou.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall ensure that all caribou mitigation and monitoring measures (including mitigation for shifts in calving and post-calving ranges) included within the Wildlife Mitigation Monitoring Program Plan apply to all caribou, regardless of the herd.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding the Proponent's fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	WMMPP 7.1.5.1 Management System to Reduce Disturbance to Caribou WMMPP 7.1.5.2 Levels of Management for Caribou during Normal Operations WMMPP Section 7.1.5.3 Management for Shifts in Calving Ranges Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023.

Methods:

The Proponent updated the WMMPP in 2018 to include the commitments made at the 2017 Final Hearing including mitigation for all caribou, regardless of herd. Sections of the WMMPP that deal with mitigation and monitoring of caribou includes all caribou, not only the Bathurst herd, principally Sections 7.1.5.1, 7.1.5.2, and 7.1.5.3. The updated WMMPP (Version 9, September 2018) was circulated for review by the KIA and GN DOE in August 2018.

The WMMPP was again updated in October 2019 to Version 10. Updates were made to address a commitment to the KIA to include information on spill response equipment contact information for community organizations. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN during November 2019 and discussed at the December 2019 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was again updated in December 2022 to Version 11. Updates included additions to refer to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the December 2022 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was further updated in April 2023 to Version 12. Updates included further reference to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA and NIRB. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the November 2023 CTAG meeting.

Results:

During 2023, B2Gold Nunavut followed the mitigation measures listed in the WMMPP (Version 11, December 2022 and Version 12, April 2023).

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. The WMMPP will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 43

Category	Wildlife Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Government of Nunavut
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure that specific criteria and procedures are developed should wildlife be deemed project-tolerant.
Term or Condition (TC)	In consultation with the Government of Nunavut (GN) and other relevant authorities, the Proponent shall include criteria and procedures within its Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan governing the deterring of wildlife from blast zones and the relaxation of mitigation measures for animals deemed project-tolerant. Caribou shall be deterred using only agreed-upon deterrence measures established in consultation with the GN and only if their safety is deemed at risk.
Reporting Requirement	The information should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 90 days prior to the start of construction, further reporting to be determined following approval of the Project by the Minister.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	WMMPP Section 7.1.7 Mitigation and Management for Direct Mortality and Injury of Caribou Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023. Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Deterrence, September 2018. Document title: The 2023 Construction Wildlife Effects Monitoring Report is appended as Appendix K .

Methods:

The Proponent updated the WMMPP in 2018 to include the commitments made at the 2017 Final Hearing including deterrence of wildlife. The updated WMMPP (Version 9, September 2018) was circulated for review by the KIA and GN DOE in August 2018. The Proponent also prepared a memo *Back River Project Wildlife Deterrence, September 2018*, to address Condition 43 which was circulated for review by the KIA and GNDOE. Sabina then met with the KIA and GNDOE in September 2018 to discuss the updates and movement rate memo.

The WMMPP was again updated in October 2019 to Version 10. Updates were made to address a commitment to the KIA to include information on spill response equipment contact information for community organizations. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group

(CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN during November 2019 and discussed at the December 2019 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was again updated in December 2022 to Version 11. Updates included additions to refer to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the December 2022 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was further updated in April 2023 to Version 12. Updates included further reference to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA and NIRB. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the November 2023 CTAG meeting.

Results:

The Proponent, the KIA and the GNDOE met in September 2018 to discuss caribou deterrence and the updates to the WMMPP (Version 9, September 2018). The parties discussed conditions for deterring caribou. The Proponent met with the KIA and GNDOE in December 2019, and there were no further comments on the conditions for deterring caribou.

During 2019, a lone male caribou became acclimated to the Marine Laydown Area (MLA) camp. After approximately a month of continuous sightings of this caribou within the camp, and after consultation with the KIA, this caribou was gently deterred from the site. Camp personnel deterred the caribou by clapping their hands in a group and slowly moving closer to the caribou until it departed.

During 2020, a lone male caribou continued to be observed at the MLA; no caribou were deterred from Project sites.

During 2021, a lone male caribou continued to be observed at the MLA. During December 2021, Sabina met with the CTAG (which includes the KIA and GN DOE) and discussed deterring this caribou away from the MLA and what methods to use.

No project tolerant caribou were observed around the MLA or Goose camp in 2022 or 2023.

Trends:

A lone male caribou was continuously observed at the MLA in 2019 and 2021. This caribou was deterred in 2019 but returned in 2021. In 2021 a lone male caribou was predated near the camp, which was assumed to be the habituated caribou. No project tolerant caribou were observed around the MLA or Goose sites in 2022 or 2023.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, October 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. The WMMPP will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 44

Category	Muskox Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Government of Nunavut
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To mitigate potential impacts to muskox from project activities.
Term or Condition (TC)	In collaboration with the Government of Nunavut, the Proponent shall specify within its Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Plan specific mitigation measures, trigger distances, and group size thresholds for the protection of muskox in proximity to project activities (e.g., blasting, heavy truck traffic, and aircraft).
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding the Proponent's fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	WMMPP Section 8.1.3 Mitigation and Management for Disturbance of Muskox Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023. Document title: The 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report is appended as Appendix K.

Methods:

The Proponent updated the WMMPP in 2018 to include the commitments about muskox made at the 2017 Final Hearing. The updated WMMPP (Version 9, September 2018) was circulated for review by the KIA and GNDOE in August 2018. The Proponent then met with the KIA and GNDOE in September 2018 to discuss the updates.

The WMMPP was again updated in October 2019 to Version 10. Updates were made to address a commitment to the KIA to include information on spill response equipment contact information for community organizations. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN during November 2019 and discussed at the December 2019 CTAG meeting.

The Proponent, the KIA and the GNDOE met in September 2018 and December 2019 to discuss the updates to the WMMPP.

The WMMPP was again updated in December 2022 to Version 11. Updates included additions to refer to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from

the KIA. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the December 2022 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was further updated in April 2023 to Version 12. Updates included further reference to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA and NIRB. The WMMPP continues to include mitigation for muskox, unchanged from Version 9. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the November 2023 CTAG meeting.

Results:

B2Gold Nunavut used the WMMPP (Version 11, December 2022 and Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring in 2023 as summarized in the **Appendix K**. Muskox were not observed during Project activities (e.g., blasting) that required mitigation.

Trends:

Muskox were reported in 2020 by Project personnel (289 animals over 12 separate sightings) and were not reported incidentally in 2021. Muskox were observed in lower frequency in 2022 (111 animals over 5 sightings) and 2023 (5 animals over 5 sightings).

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 45

Category	Wildlife Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To mitigate potential disturbances to wildlife migration and movement from project infrastructure.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall ensure that safety barriers, berms, and designed crossings associated with project infrastructure, including site roads and the winter ice road, are constructed as necessary to allow for the safe passage of caribou and other terrestrial wildlife and do not interfere with wildlife denning sites.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding the Proponent's fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	Movement across the winter ice road is described in WMMPP Section 7.1.6 Mitigation and Management for Disruption of Movement of Caribou Management for dens in the ice road route is described in WMMPP Section 9.1.3.7 Winter Ice Road Management Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023.

Methods:

The Proponent updated the WMMPP in 2018 to include the commitments about road crossings and denning grizzly bears made at the 2017 Final Hearing. The updated WMMPP (Version 9, September 2018) was circulated for review by the KIA and GNDOE in August 2018. The Proponent then met with the KIA and GNDOE in September 2018 to discuss the updates.

The WMMPP was again updated in October 2019 to Version 10. Updates were made to address a commitment to the KIA to include information on spill response equipment contact information for community organizations. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN during November 2019 and discussed at the December 2019 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was again updated in December 2022 to Version 11. Updates included additions to refer to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the December 2022 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was further updated in April 2023 to Version 12. Updates included further reference to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA and NIRB. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the November 2023 CTAG meeting.

Results:

The Proponent, the KIA and the GNDOE met in September 2018 to discuss the updates to the WMMPP (Version 9, September 2018).

The Proponent followed the mitigation hierarchy (avoid, mitigate, manage) to avoid potential den sites. During the fall of 2018, The Proponent made adjustments to the route of the winter ice road (WIR) to avoid potential grizzly bear denning habitat identified from Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping.

During 2019, when the WIR was constructed, not all potential denning sites could be avoided and the WIR crossed the toe of a small number of esker systems. Prior to construction, during February 2019, The Proponent surveyed these sites to determine their suitability as denning habitat, using a thermal camera for potential dens. The sites were not determined to be good quality denning habitat and no dens were discovered.

During 2019, the WIR was constructed in such a way as to allow caribou and other animals to cross the road. An analysis was conducted comparing collar data from caribou in 2019 (WIR active) to 2017 and 2018 (no WIR), which reported no change or delay in caribou movement during 2019 when the WIR was active. This analysis was appended to the 2019 WMMP Report.

During summer 2020, Sabina conducted a study of all potential borrow sites along the WIR route to evaluate each site for existing dens and their potential support winter dens by grizzly bear. These data can be used in future when determining which borrow sites to use for construction of the WIR.

During 2021 and 2022, the WIR was not constructed.

In 2023, the WIR was constructed in such a way as to allow caribou and other animals to cross the road. The WIR route was planned using information from the surveys conducted in 2019 and 2020 to reduce potential for interaction with potential denning habitat through avoidance. Snowbank heights on the WIR were kept below 1 metre in height and were feathered wherever possible to reduce roadside slope and encourage natural caribou movement. Dedicated WIR monitors (a wildlife biologist and Inuit land user) travelled the road daily (weather permitting) from March 29 – April 24 to record wildlife presence and ensure compliance with mitigations (including bank heights). Further details are summarized in the 2023 WMMP Report (**Appendix K**).

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to use the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. The WMMPP will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 46

Category	Wildlife Monitoring and Adaptive Management Measures
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure that all direct mortalities are reported and considered in the development of adaptive management protocols.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall file an incident report to the local wildlife conservation office for any and all direct wildlife mortalities that occur in association with the Project. All incident reports should include sufficient detail to demonstrate how monitoring and mitigation measures failed to prevent the mortality, as well as information pertaining to what measures would be put in place to prevent the incident from reoccurring. The Proponent shall reach an agreement with the appropriate Designated Inuit Organization regarding compensation for any direct mortality of wildlife resulting from the Project.
Reporting Requirement	A summary regarding incidents reported and if compensation was or will be provided by the Proponent for direct mortalities, as well as a description of steps taken in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023. Document title: The 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report is appended as Appendix K .

Methods:

The Proponent updated the WMMPP in 2018 to include the commitments made at the 2017 Final Hearing including information about responding to wildlife mortalities. The updated WMMPP (Version 9, September 2018) was circulated for review by the KIA and GNDOE in August 2018. The Proponent then met with the KIA and GNDOE in September 2018 to discuss the updates.

The WMMPP was again updated in October 2019 to Version 10. Updates were made to address a commitment to the KIA to include information on spill response equipment contact information for community organizations. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN during November 2019 and discussed at the December 2019 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was again updated in December 2022 to Version 11. Updates included additions to refer to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the December 2022 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was further updated in April 2023 to Version 12. Updates included further reference to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA and NIRB. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the November 2023 CTAG meeting.

Results:

In 2018, one wildlife mortality was reported, a long-tailed duck that was found at the MLA. No cause of mortality could be found so it could not be concluded that the mortality was due to the Project.

In 2019, one wildlife mortality was reported due to Project activities – a grizzly bear. All communication with the KIA and GN authorities followed the guidance in the WMMPP (Version 9). Results of wildlife monitoring are reported in the 2019 Pre-Construction Wildlife Effects Monitoring Report.

In 2020, 2021, and 2022 no wildlife mortalities were reported due to Project activities.

In 2023 there were a total of 14 wildlife mortalities reported at Back River. Mortalities occurred from vehicle-related collisions (three), interaction with site infrastructure (two), entanglement in aquatic survey equipment (six), and euthanasia (two). Unknown causes of death were also recorded for two individuals. Vehicle related mortalities included ptarmigan (*Lagopus sp.*) and arctic hare (*Lepus arcticus*). Two wolverines (*Gulo gulo*) were euthanized in January due to continually attempting to access the incinerator area. The remaining mortalities were of avian species, most of which occurred due to entanglement with fisheries sampling equipment (gill nets). One mortality consisted of a short-eared owl (*Asio flammeus*), which was found deceased following what appeared to be a collision with the fuel transfer conduit at the MLA. Further details on wildlife mortalities are summarized in the 2023 WMMP Report (**Appendix K**).

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 47

Category	Wildlife Monitoring and Adaptive Management Measures
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To mitigate potential impacts to wildlife through interaction with water attenuation ponds and/or tailings storage areas.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall, in consultation with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, develop and implement measures to prevent the use of water attenuation ponds and tailings storage areas by wildlife, including waterfowl, other migratory birds, and caribou, with sufficient monitoring to assess whether these measures are effective or whether further deterrents may be required.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding development, implementation and monitoring of the measures developed by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	WMMPP Section 9.1.7 Mitigation and Management for Attraction of Grizzly Bear and Wolverine Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023.

Methods:

Not Applicable. No water attenuation ponds or tailing storage areas occur at the project site at this time.

Sections 7.1.10 and 11.1.8 of the WMMPP describe the monitor water quality in project ponds and the Tailings Storage Facilities and mitigation to exclude caribou, other large mammals, and waterbirds if required.

Results:

Not Applicable. No water attenuation ponds or tailing storage facilities occur at the project site at this time.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 48

Category	Wildlife Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To mitigate potential impacts to wildlife from attraction to project infrastructure.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall develop and implement mitigation measures and monitoring programs to limit the attraction of predators and scavengers to Project facilities, and to limit impacts from specific project activities.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding mitigation measures implemented and/or updated by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (WMMPP) and in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	WMMPP Section 9.1.7 Mitigation and Management for Attraction of Grizzly Bear and Wolverine Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023. Document title: The 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report is appended as Appendix K .

Methods:

The Proponent updated the WMMPP in 2018 to include the commitments made at the 2017 Final Hearing including limiting the attraction of predators and scavengers. The updated WMMPP (Version 9, September 2018) was circulated for review by the KIA and GNDOE in August 2018. The Proponent then met with the KIA and GNDOE in September 2018 to discuss the updates.

The WMMPP was again updated in October 2019 to Version 10. Updates were made to address a commitment to the KIA to include information on spill response equipment contact information for community organizations. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN during November 2019 and discussed at the December 2019 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was again updated in December 2022 to Version 11. Updates included additions to refer to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the December 2022 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was further updated in April 2023 to Version 12. Updates included further reference to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA and NIRB. The updated WMMPP was provided to the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG), which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the November 2023 CTAG meeting.

Results:

The WMMPP, Section 9.1.7 (Mitigation and Management for Attraction of Grizzly Bear and Wolverine), includes sections describing design of buildings to exclude wildlife (Section 9.1.7.1), management of wildlife attractants (Section 9.1.7.2), general mitigation to prevent human-wildlife interactions (Section 9.1.7.3), a protocol for responding to observations of predators and scavengers (Section 9.1.7.4) and a protocol for management of problem wildlife specific to predators (Section 9.1.7.5).

During 2023, there were 5 observations of grizzly bear and 12 observations of wolverine. Where they occurred within the camp perimeter, wolverines and grizzly bear were deterred by human presence and bear bangers. Two individual wolverines were observed repeatedly within the Goose Camp perimeter, commonly attempting to access the incinerator building. On both January 3 and January 12, a wolverine was euthanized within the camp perimeter. These events were approved by the GN DOE and were reported to the KIA, including full incident details. In addition, the skulls were provided to the GN DOE at their request. Following this incident, an audit of waste management at site was conducted, and the wildlife exclusion measures at the incinerator building were revisited and improved. Full details of these incidents are included in the 2023 WMMP Report (**Appendix K**).

Between January 26 and January 28, bear bangers were deployed on three occasions to deter a wolverine from the incinerator area. Following these actions, no further direct deterrence actions were taken for wolverine in 2023. Bear bangers were deployed to deter grizzly bear from the MLA once on May 30, and once at the Goose site on September 26. Full records of these occurrences are summarized in the 2023 WMMP Report (**Appendix K**). Waste management procedures were reviewed, facilities were inspected, and management of wildlife attractants remains successful in proper storage and removal from site.

Trends:

Attraction of wolverine to the waste management facility (incinerator) occurred increasingly in early 2023, leading to the destruction of two wolverine posing a risk to staff safety. Adaptive management measures were applied immediately and following these events attraction appeared to be greatly reduced over the remainder of 2023.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. The WMMPP will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 49

Category	Annual Reporting to the Nunavut Impact Review Board
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To provide annual updates to the Nunavut Impact Review Board and relevant parties for ongoing monitoring and collaboration purposes
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>The Proponent shall report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) regarding its terrestrial wildlife monitoring efforts, with inclusion of the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Description of all updates to terrestrial wildlife baseline data; b. A description of the involvement of local communities in its monitoring programs; c. A detailed presentation and analysis of the distribution relative to Project infrastructure and activities for caribou and other terrestrial mammals observed during surveys and incidental sightings; and d. Results of the annual monitoring programs, including methodologies and statistical approaches used to support conclusions drawn.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding the Proponent's efforts in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	Document title: The 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report is appended as Appendix K .

Methods:

Increased wildlife monitoring began in 2023 as Back River transitioned into the Construction Phase. Monitoring followed the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023), and included multiple species and associated programs.

Results:

The results of wildlife monitoring in 2023 are provided in the 3 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report, attached as **Appendix K**.

Trends:

Not applicable. 2023 is the first year of Construction Phase monitoring.

Next Steps:

Wildlife monitoring in 2024 will continue to follow the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023).

Project Certificate Condition No. 50

Category	Annual Reporting to the Nunavut Impact Review Board
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To provide annual updates to the Nunavut Impact Review Board and relevant parties to verify the effectiveness of ongoing monitoring and mitigation efforts.
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>Within its annual report to the NIRB, the Proponent shall incorporate a review section which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. An examination for trends in the measured natural variability of Valued Ecosystem Components in the region relative to the baseline reporting; b. A detailed analysis of wildlife responses to operations with emphasis on wildlife behaviour, mortalities, and displacements (if any), and responses to project operations; c. A detailed description of staged reduction mitigation events, including operational shutdowns, undertaken throughout the year in response to wildlife in proximity to the Project. Details shall include, but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A description of the aggregation and species of wildlife encountered; ii. Environmental conditions; iii. A description of the sequence of activities ceased as well as the duration of cessation; and iv. The effectiveness of the applied mitigation measures and potential amendments that may be required. d. A demonstration and description of how the monitoring results contribute to cumulative effects monitoring associated with the Project; and e. Any proposed changes to the monitoring survey methodologies, statistical approaches, or proposed adaptive management stemming from the results of the monitoring program.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding the Proponent's efforts in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	The 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report is appended as Appendix K .

Methods:

Several formal wildlife monitoring programs commenced in 2023 as Back River progressed into the Construction Phase of the mine, as directed in the WMMPP. B2Gold Nunavut followed the methods in the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) in designing and executing monitoring for wildlife in 2023. Results were summarized in a 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report (**Appendix K**).

Results:

In 2018 and 2019, monitoring did not identify any triggers for staged reduction or shutdown of project activities.

Full results of wildlife monitoring at Back River are provided in the 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report (**Appendix K**). Key results in 2023 are summarized here.

Wildlife Response to Operations:

Caribou behaviour surveys were conducted on the WIR and at the Goose site in 2023. While the number of surveys collected thus (8) far precludes statistical analysis of any trends, exploratory analysis suggests that caribou commonly return to baseline behavioural states with 3-6 minutes of a potential disturbance event (commonly a vehicle passing). These results suggest that existing mitigations to limit disturbance to caribou year-round at Back River are effective.

Wildlife cameras were used at Back River for the On-Site Monitoring, WIR, and Regional Camera Monitoring programs in 2023. Results from the On-Site (facilities) monitoring and WIR programs are presented in the 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report (**Appendix K**). Data from the Regional Monitoring Camera program will be provided in future annual reports, once a full year of data has been collected.

From 2020 to 2023, the Environment Department monitored GNWT collar data daily during the calving, post-calving, and into the summer seasons (July – August).

Staged Reduction Mitigation:

During 2020, one Level 2 response (Site Notification) occurred on July 18 in response to collared caribou within 100 km of the site. Two Level 3 responses (Site Alert) occurred when collars showed caribou moving towards the Project on July 1, and when ~1,000 caribou were observed within ~2 km on August 1. Two Level 4 responses (staged reduction in Project activities) occurred when 50-100 caribou were observed near the Goose site on July 30 and August 2).

During 2021 collared caribou data were used to trigger a Level 2 (Site Notification) when collared caribou approached to within 100 km of the Goose Site on July 28.

During 2022 collared caribou data were used to trigger a Level 2 (Site Notification) when collared caribou approached to within 100 km of the Goose Site. Level 3 (Site Alert) was triggered on multiple occasions when caribou were observed near the site.

During 2023 collared caribou data were used to trigger a Level 2 (Site Notification) when collared caribou approached to within 100 km of the Goose Site (**Appendix K**). No Level 3 alerts were issued in 2023.

The 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report is provided in **Appendix K**.

Trends:

Collar data analysis in 2023 compared the seasonal distribution of the Bathurst and Beverly/Ahiak caribou herds to the Back River site. Full results are presented in the 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report (**Appendix K**). The centroid of the Bathurst herd calving range in 2023 was 118.54 km from the nearest edge of the MLA PDA and 224.44 km from the nearest edge of the Goose PDA. The centroid of the Beverly/Ahiak herd calving range in 2023 was 344.33 km from the nearest edge of the MLA PDA and 346.22 km from the nearest edge of the Goose PDA.

Next Steps:

Wildlife monitoring in 2024 will continue to follow the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023). Results collected in future years will be compared against those from 2023 to determine any potential trends, and to inform adaptive management. The WMMPP will continue to be updated as needed, including with findings from long-term monitoring.

Project Certificate Condition No. 51

Category	Caribou Technical Advisory Group
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To establish an advisory group to provide technical oversight on the Project's mitigation, monitoring, and adaptive management measures related to caribou.
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>In collaboration with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the Government of Nunavut, and other relevant parties, the Proponent shall develop and participate in a Caribou Technical Advisory Group. As part of its function, the group shall seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Provide independent advice on study design(s) and analyses for the testing and evaluation of the Project's adaptive management measures for reducing disturbance to caribou; ◆ Undertake appropriate testing of the caribou detection methods, group size thresholds, and distance thresholds employed as recommended by the advisory group; ◆ On the basis of these tests, and any other available evidence, provide analyses and a written evaluation of the caribou protection measures and where appropriate make necessary adjustments to those measures; and ◆ Submit reports to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB), and other relevant parties, for review. <p>Commentary: Where possible the Proponent shall include relevant hunters and trappers associations and/or knowledgeable land users in the membership of the group and shall demonstrate its consideration for community input and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit as part of the group's function. The Proponent acknowledges that it is the responsibility of the Proponent to carry out the studies, analyses, evaluation and reports that may be required. The Proponent also commits to taking advice from the Caribou Technical Advisory Group into consideration when carrying out these tasks.</p>
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding the Proponent's fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	WMMPP Section 3.2 Caribou Technical Advisory Group Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April, 2023.

Methods:

The Proponent updated the WMMPP in 2018 to include the commitments made at the 2017 Final Hearing, including the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG). The function and responsibilities of the CTAG is described in Section 3.2 of the WMMPP. The updated WMMPP (Version 9, September 2018) was circulated for review by the KIA and GN DOE in August 2018.

The WMMPP was again updated in October 2019 to Version 10. Updates were made to address a commitment to the KIA to include information on spill response equipment contact information for community organizations. The updated WMMPP was provided to the CTAG, which includes the KIA and GN during November 2019 and discussed at the December 2019 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was again updated in December 2022 to Version 11. Updates included additions to refer to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA. The updated WMMPP was provided to the CTAG, which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the December 2022 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was further updated in April 2023 to Version 12. Updates included further reference to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA and NIRB. The updated WMMPP was provided to the CTAG, which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the November 2023 CTAG meeting.

The Proponent also produced a draft Terms of Reference (TOR) for the CTAG and circulated this to KIA and GN DOE in September 2018 and discussed in September 2018 and December 2019.

Results:

The Proponent met with the KIA and GNDOE in September 2018 and December 2019 to discuss the draft TOR for the CTAG, Project updates, as well as a number of technical subjects, including buffers surrounding collar data, management of the Winter Ice Road, caribou survey methods, and mitigation measures.

In 2020, the CTAG did not meet due to COVID-19 restrictions.

In 2021, the CTAG met virtually in December to discuss updates to the Project plans, a planned windfarm, and an update on the habituated caribou at the MLA.

In 2022, the CTAG met virtually in December to discuss updates to the Project plans, developments relating to the planned windfarm, results from the 2021 WMMPP Report, and plans for monitoring in 2023.

In 2023 the CTAG met virtually in January and November to discuss the purchase of the Project by B2Gold Nunavut, developments related to the proposed Energy Center and proposed Fuel Modification, results from the 2022 WMMP Report, plans for monitoring in 2023, and the 2023 WIR.

Trends:

Not Applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut is in the process of finalizing the CTAG TOR with the KIA and GN DOE and will provide the TOR to the NIRB when finalized.

Project Certificate Condition No. 52

Category	Caribou Mitigation
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the Government of Nunavut, the Government of the Northwest Territories
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure caribou protection in the context of additional exploration
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>The Proponent shall, in collaboration with the Government of Nunavut, the Government of the Northwest Territories, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association and other relevant parties, thoroughly evaluate the potential impacts to caribou from planned mineral exploration within its mineral tenures and outside the approved project development area. The Proponent must demonstrate that the potential for adverse effects to caribou populations can be prevented prior to exploration occurring.</p> <p>Commentary: The application of this term and condition is limited to planned mineral exploration which is based out of, or substantially supported by, infrastructure or operations at the Back River Project sites.</p>
Reporting Requirement	Within 1 (one) year of construction, information regarding the Proponent's fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. Subsequently, information regarding the Proponent's in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included every 2 (two) years in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Not Applicable.
Reference	Not Applicable.

Methods:
Not Applicable.

Results:
Not Applicable.

Trends:
Not Applicable.

Next Steps:
B2Gold Nunavut confirms that there is currently no planned or occurring mineral exploration within its mineral tenures and outside the approved project development area, which is based out of, or substantially supported by, infrastructure or operations at the Back River Project.

4.5.11 BIRDS AND BIRD HABITAT (PC TCS 53 THROUGH 61)

Project Certificate Condition No. 53

Category	Mitigation, Monitoring, and Adaptive Management for Birds and Bird Habitat
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To develop and implement appropriate mitigation and monitoring measures for birds and bird habitat.
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>The Proponent shall have in place specific measures for the protection and monitoring of birds and bird habitat within its Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (WMMPP). Protection measures shall include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Mitigation and monitoring measures applied at all times throughout project operations to limit impacts to birds and bird habitat from specific project activities and infrastructure; ◆ Mitigation and monitoring measures applied during periods of heightened sensitivity or alternative circumstances; ◆ Adaptive management measures with specific triggers for intervention; and ◆ Protocols for collaboration with relevant parties, and the Project's advisory groups, throughout the Project, including on-going consideration and incorporation of Inuit Qaujimaningit, to ensure the effective delivery of the WMMPP as related to bird and bird habitat protection.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding mitigation, adaptive management and monitoring strategies and protocols implemented and/or updated by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	<p>Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023.</p> <p>The 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report is appended as Appendix K.</p>

Methods:

Specific measures for the protection and monitoring of birds and bird habitat are described within the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023, in Sections 10, 11, 12, and 13. During Construction in 2023, incidental observations of birds and nests were recorded, and pre-clearing surveys were conducted.

Results:

B2Gold Nunavut was using the current WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to guide mitigation and monitoring in 2023.

Mitigation and monitoring were effective in recording incidental detections of avian wildlife. Nine bird mortalities were recorded at Back River in 2023, primarily related to entanglement in fisheries equipment (gill nets) and one incidence of a vehicle related mortality. One short-eared owl was also found deceased next to the fuel transfer conduit at the MLA, presumably as a result of collision with the conduit during foggy conditions. Full results are presented in the 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report (**Appendix K**).

Trends:

Higher rates of avian mortalities were reported in 2023 than in previous years. This may be due to increased numbers of personnel on site to provide incidental sightings or may be due to increased activity on site as the mine enters the construction phase, or likely a combination of both.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. Adaptive management measures enacted as a result of the avian mortalities observed this year include careful reassessment and planning of any future gill netting efforts, reinforcement of traffic rules on site (as outlined in the WMMPP), and reiteration to all staff of the importance of reporting any wildlife mortalities or incidents. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 54

Category	Mitigation Measures for Birds and Species at Risk
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To mitigate potential impacts to Species at Risk.
Term or Condition (TC)	If Species at Risk or their nests and eggs are encountered during project activities or monitoring programs, the primary mitigation measure must be avoidance. The Proponent shall establish clear zones of avoidance for nest of birds, particularly for Species At Risk, based on species-specific nest setback distances outlined in the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding the Proponent's fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023.

Methods:

Specific measures for the protection and monitoring of birds and bird habitat are described in the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023), in Sections 10 through 13. During Construction in 2023, incidental observations of birds and nests were recorded, and pre-clearing surveys were conducted.

Results:

Mitigation and monitoring were effective in 2023, following the programs described in the WMMPP. Results are presented in the 202 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report (**Appendix K**).

During 2023, ground clearing was required during the bird breeding season in July and early August, therefore pre-clearing surveys were required. Four survey transects were completed prior to ground clearing activities and no nests observed.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. The WMMPP will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 55

Category	Mitigation and Monitoring Measures for Species at Risk
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To mitigate and monitor potential impacts to Species at Risk.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall ensure that the mitigation and monitoring strategies developed for Species at Risk are updated as necessary to maintain consistency with any applicable status reports, recovery strategies, action plans, and management plans that may become available through the duration of the Project.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding mitigation and monitoring strategies implemented and/or updated by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	WMMPP Section 4.1 Species at Risk Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023. The 2023 Pre-Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report is appended as Appendix K .

Methods:

During 2019, the WMMPP was updated to Version 10 to include commitments made by Sabina in response to comments and suggestions made by the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA). The WMMPP (Version 10, October 2019) includes a section that describes the species at risk that may occur in the Project area, their status and the mitigation and management for each species at risk (Section 4.1).

The WMMPP was again updated in December 2022 to Version 11. Updates included additions to refer to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA. The updated WMMPP was provided to the CTAG, which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the December 2022 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was further updated in April 2023 to Version 12. Updates included further reference to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA and NIRB. The updated WMMPP was provided to the CTAG, which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the November 2023 CTAG meeting.

During 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 the Pre-Construction Wildlife Effects Monitoring Report included a table of species at risk known or potentially occurring in the Project area. In 2023 the Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report included the same table (**Appendix K**). Risk rankings updated for the 2023 WMMP Report include:

Territorial Status Updates:

- ◆ Caribou (Beverly/ Ahiak herd and Bathurst herd; *Rangifer tarandus groenlandicus*): Not Listed to Vulnerable.
- ◆ Caribou (Dolphin and Union herd): Apparently Secure to Vulnerable.
- ◆ Red knot (*Calidris canutus rufa* [ssp. DU3/4/5]): Imperiled to Vulnerable.
- ◆ Red knot (*Calidris canutus islandica*): Imperiled to Apparently Secure.
- ◆ Snow bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*): Vulnerable to Apparently Secure.
- ◆ Hudsonian godwit (*Limosa haemastica*) was changed from Vulnerable to Unrankable.
- ◆ Killer whale (Northwest Atlantic/Eastern Arctic population; *Orcinus orca*): Vulnerable to Imperiled.
- ◆ Narwhal (*Monodon monoceros*): Apparently Secure to Vulnerable.

Federal Status Updates:

- ◆ Harris's sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*): Not Listed to Special Concern.
- ◆ Peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum/tundrius*): Special Concern to Not Listed.
- ◆ Peary caribou (*Rangifer tarandus pearyi*): Imperiled to Threatened.
- ◆ Horned grebe (*Podiceps auritus*): Special Concern to Not Listed.

Results:

Not applicable.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase and ensure that the mitigation and monitoring strategies developed for Species at Risk are updated as necessary, as described in Section 4.1 of the WMMP Plan. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 56

Category	Bird Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To mitigate potential impacts to birds from construction and clearing activities.
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>The Proponent shall, to the extent possible, schedule required ground-disturbance activities (e.g. clearing) to occur prior to the seasonal return of migratory birds to the project area and shall install nesting deterrents (e.g. flagging) to discourage birds from nesting in areas likely to be disturbed by construction/clearing activities. If clearing is to occur during the nesting season, a nest survey should take place to identify nests and establish appropriate setbacks to ensure nests remain undisturbed until the young have fledged or left the nest. Pre-clearing nest surveys should be conducted less than 14 days prior to land clearing activities as a consideration for the short nesting cycles of some arctic-nesting birds.</p> <p>Commentary: It is noted that the Proponent is not limited to the use of flagging as a nesting deterrent, with flagging having been provided as an example ONLY. It is also highlighted that the reference to “nest surveys” means non-intrusive nest surveys only</p>
Reporting Requirement	Throughout construction, information regarding scheduling issues and/or results of surveys conducted by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent’s annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. After construction, whenever clearing activities are undertaken that could lead to migratory bird nest disturbance or deterrence from migratory bird nests, information regarding scheduling issues, and/or surveys conducted by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent’s annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	<p>WMMPP Section 11.1.3 11.1.3 Mitigation and Management for Disturbance of Waterbirds</p> <p>Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023.</p>

Methods:

During 2019, the WMMPP was updated to Version 10 to include commitments made by Sabina in response to comments and suggestions made by the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA). The WMMPP (Version 10, October 2019) includes management to schedule ground disturbance activities outside of the nesting season and management measures should a nest be found (Section 11.1.3).

The WMMPP was again updated in December 2022 to Version 11. Updates included additions to refer to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA. The updated WMMPP was provided to the CTAG, which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the December 2022 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was further updated in April 2023 to Version 12. Updates included further reference to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA and NIRB. The updated WMMPP was provided to the CTAG, which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the November 2023 CTAG meeting.

Results:

During 2023, ground clearing was required during the bird breeding season in July and early August, therefore pre-clearing surveys were required. Four survey transects were completed prior to ground clearing activities and no nests observed.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 57

Category	Raptor Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To mitigate potential impacts to raptors from project operations.
Term or Condition (TC)	Prior to removal or deterrence of raptors, the Proponent will contact the Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment to discuss proposed mitigation options and, if required, will obtain the required permits prior to undertaking any activity that can lead to the destruction of raptor nests or the deterring of raptors from nesting sites.
Reporting Requirement	Throughout construction, information regarding mitigation measures implemented by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. After construction, whenever clearing activities are undertaken that could lead to destruction of raptor nests or raptor deterrence from nests, information regarding mitigation measures implemented by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	WMMPP Section 10.1.3 Mitigation and Management for Disturbance of Raptors Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023.

Methods:

During 2019, the WMMPP was updated to Version 10 to include commitments made by Sabina in response to comments and suggestions made by the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA). The WMMPP (Version 10, October 2019) includes management to contact the GNDOE prior to discuss proposed mitigation options and, if required, will obtain the required permits prior to undertaking any activity that can lead to the destruction of raptor nests or the deterring of raptors from nesting sites (Section 10.1.3).

The WMMPP was again updated in December 2022 to Version 11. Updates included additions to refer to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA. The updated WMMPP was provided to the CTAG, which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the December 2022 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was further updated in April 2023 to Version 12. Updates included further reference to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA and NIRB. The updated WMMPP was provided to the CTAG, which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the November 2023 CTAG meeting.

Results:

No deterrence or removal of raptor nests was required during Construction in 2023. No raptor nests were observed.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Step:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. No changes to the WMMPP are anticipated during 2023. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 58

Category	Seaducks and Waterfowl Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To mitigate potential impacts to seaducks and waterfowl from shipping activities.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall include measures within the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan to ensure that, subject only to vessel safety requirements, a setback distance of at least 500 metres is maintained from colonies and moulting aggregations of seaducks and waterfowl during Project shipping transiting through Bathurst/Elu Inlet, Lambert Channel, and Eastern Lancaster Sound.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding measures implemented shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12, April 2023). Document title: Back River Project Standard Operating Procedure: Marine Shipping Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring. November 2022. The 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report is appended as Appendix K .

Methods:

Specific measures to mitigate potential impacts to seaducks and waterfowl from shipping activities are described in the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) in Section 13 and in the Marine Shipping SOP.

Results:

Prior to the 2023 shipping season, the Proponent provided the Marine Monitoring SOP (November 2022) to the shipping companies. During 2023, there were nine vessel sailings servicing Back River. There was one trip that traveled from the west (Tuktoyaktuk) to the MLA, and the remaining eight travelled from the east to the MLA. During 2023, marine mammal and seabird sightings were recorded by crew members on five of the vessels. In August and September, 80 surveys (45 seabird surveys and 35 marine mammal surveys) were completed totaling approximately 58 hours of observation time while travelling along the eastern shipping route (**Appendix K**). During 2023, 39 separate bird sightings of 216 individual birds across 12 identified species were recorded by crew members on the five vessels. None of the sightings indicated requirements for management activity.

Trends:

The numbers of ships conducting monitoring and the number of monitoring surveys on each ship has increased significantly from previous years and all shippers have been reminded of requirements in advance of the 2024 season.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. Shipping companies will continue to use the Marine Shipping Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring SOP (November 2022). The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 59

Category	Bird Mortality Reporting
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Environment and Climate Change Canada
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To report bird mortalities to appropriate parties.
Term or Condition (TC)	Any incidents of bird mortalities associated with project activities are to be recorded and reported to Environment and Climate Change Canada (Canadian Wildlife Service). The Proponent shall work with the Canadian Wildlife Service to determine appropriate recording and reporting format and timing.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding these incidents shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023.

Methods:

Should a bird mortality occur, The Proponent will alert the ECCC Canadian Wildlife Services to report the mortality.

Results:

Of the nine bird mortalities recorded at Back River in 2023, three were reported to ECCC directly with the remaining mortalities reported in the 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report (**Appendix K**). All mortalities were reported to the KIA and GN DOE.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

All bird mortalities in 2024 will be reported to ECCC, should they occur either directly or through the 2024 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report. B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 60

Category	Wildlife Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To mitigate potential impacts to wildlife from aircraft operations.
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>Subject to safety requirements, the Proponent shall ensure that project aircraft maintain sufficient cruising altitudes to avoid disturbance to migratory birds. In particular, the Proponent shall maintain appropriate altitudes in proximity to observed concentrations of migratory birds, caribou and muskoxen that may be encountered during aircraft flights to the George property and other exploration areas, as well as during the transfer of employees between project facilities.</p> <p>Commentary: The application of this term and condition is limited to planned mineral exploration which is based out of, or substantially supported by, infrastructure or operations at the Back River Project sites.</p>
Reporting Requirement	Initially, until aviation contracts have been established, the Proponent shall provide details an annual basis regarding the Proponent's measures taken to fulfill this Term and Condition in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. Once longer term arrangements with contractors have been established, the Proponent shall provide these details in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board every two (2) years or whenever there is a change or addition to the contractors.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	<p>Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023.</p> <p>Document title: Back River Project Standard Operating Procedure: Fixed Wing and Helicopter Operations (July 2018).</p> <p>The 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report is appended as Appendix K.</p>

Methods:

Specific measures to mitigate potential impacts to wildlife from aircraft operations are described in the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) and the Fixed Wing and Helicopter Operations SOP (July 2018). During Construction in 2023, checks were completed prior to all aircraft landings and departures.

Results:

During 2023, the Proponent was using the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase.

Mitigation and monitoring were effective. No caribou or other wildlife were observed during checks of the airstrips and surrounding area prior to aircraft take-off and landings.

During 2023, both fixed-wing and helicopter pilots followed guidelines set out in the WMMPP as reported in the 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report (**Appendix K**).

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 61

Category	Aircraft Monitoring Measures
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure that project aircraft are in compliance with operational procedures, commitments, and regulatory requirements.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall ensure that pilots are informed of minimum cruising altitude guidelines and that a daily log or record of flight paths and cruising altitudes for project aircraft is maintained to monitor adherence and to follow up on complaints.
Reporting Requirement	The Proponent shall provide information in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board, and will make specific logs or records available to the Nunavut Impact Review Board upon request.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023. Document title: Back River Project Standard Operating Procedure: Fixed Wing and Helicopter Operations (July 2018).

Methods:

Section 7.1.5.6 (Fixed Wing Aircraft Management) and 7.1.5.7 (Helicopter Management) of the WMMPP and the SOP describes the monitoring and management of aircrafts, including minimum cruising altitude guidelines. During 2019, the WMMPP was updated to Version 10 to include commitments made by Sabina in response to comments and suggestions made by the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA).

The WMMPP was again updated in December 2022 to Version 11. Updates included additions to refer to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA. The updated WMMPP was provided to the CTAG, which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the December 2022 CTAG meeting.

The WMMPP was further updated in April 2023 to Version 12. Updates included further reference to the proposed addition of the Wind Energy Centre, including mitigations and monitoring related to wind turbines, as well as to incorporate commitments in response to comments and suggestions from the KIA and NIRB. The updated WMMPP was provided to the CTAG, which includes the KIA and GN DOE, and was discussed at the November 2023 CTAG meeting.

Annually from 2019 to 2023 the Fixed Wing and Helicopter Operations SOP (July 2018) was delivered to fixed wing and helicopter companies working on site.

Results:

Mitigation and monitoring were effective. No wildlife incidents with aircraft were recorded.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

4.5.12 MARINE ENVIRONMENT (PC TC 62)

Project Certificate Condition No. 62

Category	General
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure potential impacts to the marine environment are identified and appropriately mitigated.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall maintain a marine monitoring program at the Marine Laydown Area to enable identification of potential impacts of the Project on the marine environment and to inform adaptive management actions. The monitoring program shall be in line with the proposed monitoring in the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Program, or as required by applicable regulatory authorities. At a minimum, water sampling should include end of pipe and control area samples, collected on a regular basis to confirm salinity levels of the discharge and the receiving environment.
Reporting Requirement	The program plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 60 days prior to the commencement of shipping, with results submitted annually thereafter or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB.
Status of Compliance	Compliant – NIRB Document ID No. 319642
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Impact Review Board
Reference	Nunami Stantec 2024. Back River Project: Marine Laydown Area - 2023 Marine Sampling Report. March 2024. See Appendix L Marine Monitoring Plan (May 2018) NIRB PRI:319642

Methods:

The Proponent collected control and discharge area samples from the MLA during desalination activities in April of 2023 following the methodology outlined in the Marine Monitoring Plan. Samples were also collected directly from the uptake and discharge lines of the desalination plant on multiple occasions during 2023.

Results:

Results of the Proponent's 2023 marine sampling can be found in Nunami Stantec 2024. Although both April and an August control and discharge area sampling was planned, the August 2023 sampling could not be undertaken due to logistical and safety constraints resulting from the extensive fires risk surrounding Yellowknife.

Trends:

There were no exceedances of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment guidelines for the protection of arine aquatic life at either the Marine Laydown area or the Reference (control) location. Desalination discharge was no more than 10% saltier than intake water samples. Phytoplankton biomass (as Chlorophyl a) was slightly higher at the reference location than at the MLA. See Nunami Stantec 2024 for further details.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will undertake full sampling (including the collection of biological samples) in 2024, as outlined in the MMP for every third monitoring year. A report on this sampling will be included with the 2024 Annual Report to the NIRB.

4.5.13 MARINE WILDLIFE (PC TCS 63 THROUGH 65)

Project Certificate Condition No. 63

Category	Monitoring
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure protection of seals and seal lairs.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall undertake a survey for seals and seal lairs annually prior to construction of the winter airstrip and ice road on Bathurst Inlet, and shall take every precaution to align these components to ensure that seal dens/lairs are not impacted by Project infrastructure or activities.
Reporting Requirement	Survey results shall be provided on an annual basis in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023. Document title: Back River Project Standard Operating Procedure: Seal Lair Monitoring (February 2018). The 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report is appended as Appendix K .

Methods:

Specific measures to mitigate potential impacts to seals and seal lairs from construction of the winter airstrip and ice road on Bathurst Inlet are described within the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) and the Seal Lair Monitoring SOP (February 2018).

Results:

The Proponent was using the WMMPP (Version 8, May 2017) during winter, spring, and summer of 2018, referencing the commitments made at the 2017 Final Hearing where relevant for the Pre-construction phase. Beginning in October 2018, The Proponent used Version 9 of the WMMPP (September 2018) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Pre-construction Phase. The WMMPP was updated again in 2022 (Version 11, December 2022) and in 2023 (Version 12, April 2023), and the updated version will be used moving forward.

During Construction in 2023, surveys for lairs were not required for the airstrip, as the airstrip was not constructed.

As construction of the WIR between the MLA and the Western River occurred prior to February 15, 2023, no pre-construction surveys were required.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 64

Category	Monitoring
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and other interested parties
Project Phase(s)	Prior to Project-Shipping
Objective	To ensure protection of marine mammals during Project shipping.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall ensure that shipping companies contracted for the Project have in place appropriate ship-based marine mammal monitoring programs and protocols developed through consultation with Fisheries and Oceans Canada, communities, and other interested parties. Consideration should be provided for utilizing, trained observers for full-time marine wildlife monitoring with established data collection and recording protocols.
Reporting Requirement	Initially, until contracts with shippers have been established, the Proponent shall provide details on an annual basis regarding the protocols and measures implemented with contracted shipping companies in fulfillment of this Term and Condition in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. Once longer term arrangements with shippers have been established, the Proponent shall provide these details in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board every two (2) years or whenever there is a change or addition to the shipping companies retained by the Proponent.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	WMMPP Sections 14 and 15 Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023. Document title: Back River Project Standard Operating Procedure: Marine Shipping Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring. November 2022. The 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report is appended as Appendix K .

Methods:

Specific measures to ensure the protection of marine mammals during project shipping are described in the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) in Sections 14 and 15, and the Marine Shipping SOP.

Results:

The Proponent was using the WMMPP (Version 9, September 2018) during winter, spring and summer of 2019. Beginning in November 2019, Sabina used the updated WMMPP (Version 10, October 2019) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Pre-construction Phase. The WMMPP was again updated in 2023, and the updated version will be used moving forward (Version 12, April 2023).

Prior to the 2023 shipping season, the Proponent provided the marine monitoring SOP (November 2022) to the shipping companies. During 2023, there were nine vessel sailings servicing Back River. There was one trip that travelled from the west (Tuktoyaktuk) to the MLA, and the remaining eight travelled from the east to the MLA. During 2023, marine mammal and seabird sightings were recorded by crew members on five of the vessels. In August and September, 80 surveys (45 seabird surveys and 35 marine mammal surveys) were completed totaling approximately 58 hours of observation time while travelling along the eastern shipping route (**Appendix K**). Marine mammals or seabirds were recorded during 26 of the 80 surveys. None of the sightings indicated requirements for management activity.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. No changes to the WMMPP are anticipated during 2023. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 65

Category	Marine Shipping
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure community safety and protection of marine/wildlife habitat.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall ensure contracted shipping companies are made aware of and required to avoid sensitive wildlife habitat and species along the shipping route and use appropriate protocols and equipment to reduce the potential for an accidental release of fuel or other deleterious substances into the marine environment. These protocols should also be communicated to local communities
Reporting Requirement	Initially, until contracts with shippers have been established, the Proponent shall provide details on an annual basis regarding the protocols and measures implemented with contracted shipping companies in fulfillment of this Term and Condition in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. Once longer term arrangements with shippers have been established, the Proponent shall provide these details in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board every two (2) years or whenever there is a change or addition to the shipping companies retained by the Proponent.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	WMMPP Sections 14 and 15 Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 12), April 2023. Document title: Back River Project Standard Operating Procedure: Marine Shipping Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring. November 2022.

Methods:

Specific measures to ensure the protection of marine mammals during project shipping are described in the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) in Sections 14 and 15 and Marine Shipping SOP. Shipping companies were supplied with a Standard Operating Procedure which ensures companies are aware of sensitive wildlife habitats and species to avoid.

Version 10 of the WMMPP was updated in response to a request from the KIA to include contact information in case of a spill.

Specific measures regarding protocols and equipment to reduce the potential for an accidental release of fuel or other deleterious substances into the marine environment are described in Section 6.1.3 of the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023). This section references two documents:

The Oil Pollution Management Plan (OPMP) (NIRB PRI: 319643) is a requirement of the *Canada Shipping Act* (2001) and describes the responses to oil spill scenarios at the Marine Laydown Area to minimize environmental damage and ensure worker safety. It provides instructions to guide all personnel in emergency spill response situations, defines the roles and responsibilities of management and responders and outlines the measures taken to prevent spills, the related exercise and evaluation programme, and the mechanism for regular updates to the plan.

The Shipboard Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (SOPEP) is a requirement of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for all ships transporting fuel; it describes the equipment, training and procedures that the ship must have on board to manage and address any fuel spills during shipment or unloading to minimize any effects on the environment. B2Gold Nunavut will require that the shipping company providing fuel to the Project will have an approved SOPEP in place prior to shipping any fuel to site.

Results:

Sightings of marine mammals from the vessel were recorded during shipping in 2023. Six marine mammal species were observed over 11 separate sightings: one sighting of bowhead whale (*Balaena mysticetus*), ringed seal (*Pusa hispida*), harp seal (*Pagophilus groenlandicus*), and harbour seal (*Phocena vitulina*), two sightings of bearded seals (*Erignathus barbatus*), three sightings hooded seals (*Cystophora cristata*) and two sightings of unknown seal species. Results (sightings and the shipping route) are presented in the 2023 Construction Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report” (**Appendix K**).

Appropriate protocols were followed to reduce the potential for an accidental release of fuel or other deleterious substance into the marine environment, as per Section 6.1.3 of the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023). No spills occurred during shipping in 2023.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. Shipping companies will continue to use the Marine Shipping Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring SOP (November 2022). The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

4.6 PERFORMANCE ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC TERMS AND CONDITIONS

4.6.1 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND OPPORTUNITIES (PC TCS 66 THROUGH 70)

Project Certificate Condition No. 66

Category	Socio-Economic Monitoring and Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	Description of the general monitoring framework to be developed in consultation with the Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent is strongly encouraged to participate in the work of the Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee along with other agencies and the communities of the Kitikmeot Region, and to identify areas of mutual interest and priority for inclusion into a collaborative monitoring framework that includes socio-economic priorities related to the Project, communities, and the Kitikmeot Region as a whole.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding the Proponent's efforts in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2024) - See Appendix C Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510)

Methods:

A Project monitoring framework is described in the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510) and in Section 1 (Introduction) and Section 2 (Methods) of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report.

Results:

B2Gold Nunavut is actively involved in the KSEMC and regularly participates in its meetings when they are organized. Unfortunately, the 2023 KSEMC meeting was again unable to be organized due to reasons outside of the Project's control. A meeting is scheduled in Q1 2024. B2Gold Nunavut's participation in the KSEMC is summarized in Section 1.2 (Socio-Economic Monitoring Requirements and Guidance) of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report. B2Gold Nunavut's use of community perspectives and TK in the monitoring program is described in Section 1.4 (Community Perspectives and TK) of the report.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to engage the KSEMC, SEMWG, and community stakeholders on the Project's monitoring program.

Project Certificate Condition No. 67

Category	Socio-Economic Monitoring
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, and Kitikmeot communities
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	Development and establishment of a Project-specific Back River Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee to oversee the Project-specific monitoring program.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent should work with other socio-economic stakeholders including the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the Government of Nunavut, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, and communities of the Kitikmeot Region, to establish a Back River Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee for the Project to develop and oversee the Back River Socio-Economic Monitoring Program. The Back River Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee should develop Terms of Reference outlining each member's roles and responsibilities for Project-specific socio-economic monitoring throughout the life of the Project.
Reporting Requirement	The Terms of Reference should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board within six (6) months of issuance of the Project Certificate.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	SEMWG
Reference	2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2024) - See Appendix C Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510)

Methods:

A Project monitoring framework is described in the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510) and in Section 1 (Introduction) and Section 2 (Methods) of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report.

Results:

B2Gold Nunavut is actively involved in the SEMWG and regularly participates in its meetings. Most recently, B2Gold Nunavut hosted a videoconference meeting with the group in July 2023. Ongoing opportunities for SEMWG members to review and comment on B2Gold Nunavut's socio-economic submissions are also provided through the NIRB annual reporting process.

B2Gold Nunavut's participation in the SEMWG is described in Section 1.2 (Socio-Economic Monitoring Requirements and Guidance) of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report. A Terms of Reference (TOR) for the SEMWG has been developed and is included as an appendix to the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510).

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to engage the KSEMC, SEMWG, and community stakeholders on the Project's monitoring program. Any updates to the TOR will be provided to NIRB through B2Gold Nunavut's annual reporting process.

Project Certificate Condition No. 68

Category	Socio-Economic Monitoring
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee, Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, and Kitikmeot communities
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	Development of the Project-specific socio-economic monitoring program and on-going monitoring of Project-related socio-economic effects.
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>The Proponent should develop a Project-specific Back River Socio-Economic Monitoring Program designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Monitor for Project-induced effects, including the impacts predicted in the Final Environmental Impact Statement through indicators presented in the Back River Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan; ◆ Reflect regional socio-economic concerns identified by the Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee (KSEMC); ◆ Work in collaboration with all other socio-economic stakeholders such as the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the Government of Nunavut, and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, and the communities of the Kitikmeot Region to develop the program; and ◆ Include a process for adaptive management and mitigation to respond if unanticipated impacts are identified.
Reporting Requirement	Details of the Back River Socio-Economic Monitoring Program should be submitted to the NIRB within one (1) year of issuance of the Project Certificate. The Proponent should produce annual Back River socio-economic monitoring reports throughout the life of the Project that are submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board and shared with the wider KSEMC.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2024) - See Appendix C Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510)

Methods:

A Project monitoring framework is described in the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510). Section 1 (Introduction) and Section 2 (Methods) of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report also summarize the Project's monitoring framework.

Results:

B2Gold Nunavut's participation in the KSEMC and SEMWG are summarized in Section 1.2 (Socio-Economic Monitoring Requirements and Guidance) of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report, while

B2Gold Nunavut's use of community perspectives and TK in Project monitoring is described in Section 1.4 (Community Perspectives and TK). B2Gold Nunavut's process for adaptive management and mitigation is described in the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan and in Section 11.2 (Adaptive Management) of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report. Monitoring program results will continue to be presented in B2Gold Nunavut's annual Socio-Economic Monitoring Report.

Trends:

Monitoring program results will continue to be presented in B2Gold Nunavut's annual Socio-Economic Monitoring Report.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to engage the KSEMC, SEMWG, and community stakeholders on the Project's monitoring program.

Project Certificate Condition No. 69

Category	Socio-Economic Monitoring and Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabine Gold & Silver Corp.)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	Identify risks and potential effects of temporary mine closures on the Kitikmeot Region.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent should undertake an analysis of the risk of temporary mine closure, giving particular consideration to how communities in the Kitikmeot Region may be affected by temporary closure of the mine, including economic, social, and cultural effects. This analysis is required to be updated as necessary to reflect significant changes to the Project or the socio-economic conditions in the region that may increase the risks and potential effects of temporary mine closures.
Reporting Requirement	This initial results of the Proponent's analysis should be provided to the Nunavut Impact Review Board within nine (9) months of the issuance of the Project Certificate. Any updates to the analyses should be provided to the NIRB as completed by the Proponent.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	SEMWG
Reference	Temporary Mine Closure in the Kitikmeot Region: Risks and Potential Socio-Economic Effects (JPCSL 2018; NIRB PRI: 320331)

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut has prepared an analysis of the risk of temporary mine closure which considers how communities in the Kitikmeot Region may be affected by temporary closure of the Project, including socio-economic effects.

Results:

B2Gold Nunavut provided the report 'Temporary Mine Closure in the Kitikmeot Region: Risks and Potential Socio-Economic Effects' (i.e., JPCSL 2018; NIRB PRI: 320331) to NIRB in September 2018.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

This analysis may be updated in the future to reflect significant changes to the Project or socio-economic conditions in the region that may increase the risks and potential effects of temporary mine closures. However, no further updates to this report are considered necessary at this time.

Project Certificate Condition No. 70

Category	Socio-Economic Monitoring and Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee (KSEMC)
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	Ensuring that the Proponent's Socio-Economic Management Plan addresses the risks and potential effects of temporary mine closures on the Kitikmeot Region.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent is required to update its Socio-Economic Management Plan to include defined measures to address the risks and mitigate the potential effects of temporary closure.
Reporting Requirement	The required updates to the Socio-Economic Monitoring Program (and the Socio-Economic Management Plan included within the Program) should be provided to the Nunavut Impact Review Board within three (3) months of the completion of the analysis or updates to the analysis of the risk of temporary mine closure in the term and condition noted above. The Proponent shall reference the updates to its Socio-Economic Monitoring Program and associated Management Plan in the annual Back River socio-economic monitoring reports that are submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board and shared with the wider KSEMC throughout the life of the Project.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	Temporary Mine Closure in the Kitikmeot Region: Risks and Potential Socio-Economic Effects (JPCSL 2018; NIRB PRI: 320331) Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510) Community Engagement Plan (NIRB PRI: 338509) Inuit Human Resources Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510) Inuit Business Development Plan (NIRB PRI: 338509)

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut provided the report 'Temporary Mine Closure in the Kitikmeot Region: Risks and Potential Socio-Economic Effects' (i.e., JPCSL 2018; NIRB PRI: 320331) to NIRB in September 2018.

Results:

B2Gold Nunavut has provided updated versions of the following management plans to NIRB:

- ◆ Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (**Appendix M**)
- ◆ Community Engagement Plan (**Appendix N**)
- ◆ Inuit Business Development Plan (**Appendix O**)

Mitigation and management measures applicable to temporary closure are included in these plans, including measures identified in JPCSL (2018; NIRB PRI: 320331).

B2Gold Nunavut has provided updated version of the Stakeholder Grievance Mechanism (**Appendix P**).

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

The analysis presented in JPCSL (2018; NIRB PRI: 320331) may be updated in the future to reflect significant changes to the Project or socio-economic conditions in the region that may increase the risks and potential effects of temporary mine closures. However, no further updates to this report are considered necessary at this time.

4.6.2 EMPLOYMENT (PC TCS 71 THROUGH 72)

Project Certificate Condition No. 71

Category	Staff Schedule
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance
Objective	To produce accurate labour market information regarding available Project employment and skill requirements for the Project to support economic and employment forecasting.
Term or Condition (TC)	To the extent the sharing of such information is consistent with and not limited by any Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, and in consultation with the Government of Nunavut during preparation, the Proponent should submit detailed staff schedule information, consisting of at least the following items: a. Title of positions required by department and division; b. Quantity of positions available by Project phase and year; c. Transferable skills, both certified and uncertified which may be required for, or gained during, employment within each position; and d. The National Occupational Classification code for each individual position.
Reporting Requirement	The Staff Schedule should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board at least 60 days prior to pre-construction and construction, six (6) months prior to the commencement of operations, if the Proponent identifies significant deviations from the labour force requirements in the FEIS and FEIS Addendum, or as may be required by the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Not applicable
Reference	2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2024) - See Appendix C

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut prepares staff schedule information for NIRB, as appropriate.

Results:

B2Gold Nunavut has submitted a staff schedule for the Project's 2024 construction period in **Appendix C** of the 2023 Back River Socio Economic Monitoring Report submitted to NIRB. B2Gold Nunavut shall also submit a similar staff schedule for the operations period at the appropriate time.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

Updated information will be submitted to NIRB as appropriate.

Project Certificate Condition No. 72

Category	Registration of Trades Workers
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Government of Nunavut
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure that the Government of Nunavut has accurate information to assist in its role as overseer of the apprenticeship program in Nunavut and in providing access to training initiatives and programs.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent is encouraged to identify and register all trades occupations, journeypersons, and apprentices working with the Project, as well as to provide the Government of Nunavut with information regarding the number of registered apprentices and journeypersons from other jurisdictions employed at the Project.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding the Proponent's efforts in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	GN
Reference	2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2024) - See Appendix C

Methods:

Information on trades occupations, journeypersons, and apprentices working at the Project has been provided to NIRB in Appendix D of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report. This information was also provided directly to the GN Department of Economic Development via email in February 2024.

Through B2Gold Nunavut's Career Development Planning process that was recently introduced, opportunities for advancement and growth for Inuit employees are being identified. While no opportunities for apprenticeship opportunities were identified in 2023, formal apprenticeship programs are being researched and developed for introduction at the Project in the future. Additionally, B2Gold Nunavut recently began a partnership with the Redfish Arts Society Inc. in Cambridge Bay and in 2024 will introduce a 'Back River Inuit Workplace Experience Program' with students enrolled in programming with the Society. This program will see students work alongside the B2Gold Nunavut maintenance team. B2Gold Nunavut expects that through this program apprenticeship opportunities will also be identified.

Results:

Not applicable.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

Updated information will be reported on in B2Gold Nunavut's NIRB Annual Report in the future.

4.6.3 EDUCATION AND TRAINING (PC TCS 73 THROUGH 76)

Project Certificate Condition No. 73

Category	Training Opportunities
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>), Government of Nunavut, Training Organizations
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	Ensuring that the local, regional, and territorial training opportunities associated with the Project maximize opportunities for the regional workforce to obtain transferable skills and certifications.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent is encouraged to work with training organizations and/or government departments offering mine-related or other training to ensure that Project-specific training programs can yield additional opportunities for residents and employees to gain meaningful and transferable skills and certifications.
Reporting Requirement	The Proponent should summarize the results of these efforts in the annual Back River socio-economic monitoring reports submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board and shared with the wider Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee throughout the life of the Project.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2024) - See Appendix C

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut continues to have conversations with relevant parties and anticipates additional engagement with key training organizations and/or government departments on this topic after Project production begins. This may help yield additional opportunities for residents and employees to gain meaningful and transferable skills and certifications.

Results:

B2Gold Nunavut has participated in recent training-related discussions through various forums including:

- ◆ Kitikmeot Corporation's Kitikmeot Inuit Workforce Readiness & Success Strategy (meetings in March, May, June, and October 2023).
- ◆ KIA's Kitikmeot Stakeholders Working Group (meeting in June 2023).
- ◆ B2Gold Nunavut met with the GN's Department of Family Services to discuss apprenticeship programming (March 2023).
- ◆ Information on trades occupations, journeypersons, and apprentices working at the Project was provided to the GN via email in March 2023 (per Term & Condition No. 72).

Additional work in this area will be described in future Socio-Economic Monitoring Reports. Specific types of training programs offered by B2Gold Nunavut are discussed in Section 7.1.1 (Hours of Training Completed) and Section 7.1.2 (Inuit Apprenticeships) of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut anticipates additional engagement with relevant training organizations and/or government departments on this topic will occur after Project production begins.

Project Certificate Condition No. 74

Category	Transferable Skills and Certifications
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Government of Nunavut, Training Organizations
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	Ensuring that the Project maximizes opportunities for the regional workforce to obtain transferable skills and certifications.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall develop and maintain an easily referenced listing of formal certificates and licences that may be acquired via on-site training or training during Project employment. The listing shall indicate which of these certifications and licences would be transferable to a similar job site within Nunavut.
Reporting Requirement	The initial listing should be provided to the Nunavut Impact Review Board within six (6) months of the Project Certificate being issued. Updates to the list should be included in the annual Back River socio-economic monitoring reports submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board and shared with the wider Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee throughout the life of the Project.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2024) - See Appendix C

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to maintain a listing of formal certificates and licences that may be acquired via on-site training or training during Project employment.

Results:

An updated listing has been provided in **Appendix C** of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

Updates to this list will be included in future Socio-Economic Monitoring Reports, as appropriate.

Project Certificate Condition No. 75

Category	Educational Opportunities
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Government of Nunavut, Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	Ensuring that the local, regional and territorial educational opportunities maximize the opportunities for Project employment.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent is encouraged to work with the Back River Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee and with the Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee (KSEMC) to review and monitor education utilization rate trends for Project employees throughout the Project to identify whether or not the Project's employees are accessing educational opportunities available to them in the Kitikmeot Region and/or any Northwest Territories communities.
Reporting Requirement	The summary of this information should be included in the annual Back River socio-economic monitoring reports submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board and shared with the wider KSEMC throughout the life of the Project.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2024) - See Appendix C Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510)

Methods:

Data on this topic have been sourced from a 2022 Inuit Personnel Survey, which was conducted at Project sites in November and December 2022. Results are summarized below and are also provided in B2Gold Nunavut's 2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report submitted to NIRB. Draft copies of the survey were available for the SEMWG and KSEMC to review beginning in March 2022 (Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan; NIRB PRI: 338510). Most recently, the SEMWG was engaged on this topic during a June 2022 videoconference and several suggestions were provided on the survey. The SEMWG and KSEMC will continue to be engaged on this topic as appropriate.

Results:

Survey results applicable to this Term & Condition are presented in the table below. Overall, these data reveal several insights, including low educational attainment rates by some Inuit personnel (e.g. 38%* completed a high school diploma or equivalent, and only 2% completed a university certificate or diploma). These data also reveal Inuit personnel have accessed educational opportunities in both the Kitikmeot Region and Northwest Territories communities. However, some opportunities have been accessed in southern locations (e.g. Alberta or Ontario), or in the Qikiqtaaluk Region. Finally, a number of 'unknown' responses were recorded in the survey, which suggests additional respondent guidance or modifications to the survey's structure may be required in the future.

Utilization of Local, Regional, and Territorial Educational Opportunities (2022 Inuit Personnel Survey Results)		
Educational Program	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
<i>I completed a high school diploma or equivalent (n=47)</i>		
Yes	9	19.1%*
No	30	63.8%
Unknown	8	17.0%
Yes, in the Kitikmeot Region	3	6.4%
Yes, in the Kivalliq Region or Qikiqtaaluk Region	0	0.0%
Yes, in the Northwest Territories	1	2.1%
Yes, elsewhere	2	4.3%
<i>I completed an apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (n=47)</i>		
Yes	9	19.1%
No	28	59.6%
Unknown	10	21.3%
Yes, in the Kitikmeot Region	3	6.4%
Yes, in the Kivalliq Region or Qikiqtaaluk Region	1	2.1%
Yes, in the Northwest Territories	1	2.1%
Yes, elsewhere	4	8.5%
<i>I completed a college or other non-university certificate or diploma (n=47)</i>		
Yes	5	10.6%
No	31	66.0%
Unknown	11	23.4%
Yes, in the Kitikmeot Region	2	4.3%
Yes, in the Kivalliq Region or Qikiqtaaluk Region	1	2.1%
Yes, in the Northwest Territories	0	0.0%
Yes, elsewhere	0	0.0%
<i>I completed a university certificate or diploma (n=47)</i>		
Yes	1	2.1%
No	34	72.3%
Unknown	12	25.5%
Yes, in the Kitikmeot Region	0	0.0%
Yes, in the Kivalliq Region or Qikiqtaaluk Region	0	0.0%
Yes, in the Northwest Territories	0	0.0%
Yes, elsewhere	0	0.0%

Source: B2Gold Nunavut

Notes: One respondent completed apprenticeship training in two different regions of Nunavut. Several respondents did not provide details regarding the location of their educational attainment, so it is unclear how many respondents completed their education in the Kitikmeot Region as opposed to elsewhere.

*While only nine respondents (i.e. 19.1%) indicated they had completed high school, an additional nine indicated they had completed an apprenticeship, trades, college, or university certificate or diploma. As such, these additional respondents were assumed to have also completed high school, bringing the percentage of respondents with a high school diploma up to 38.3%.

Trends:

Trends may be reported on once data from additional future surveys become available.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut continues to welcome feedback from the KSEMC and SEMWG on the survey results. B2Gold Nunavut anticipates completing Inuit Personnel Surveys every 2-3 years. Relevant stakeholders will be engaged in the planning and conduct of these surveys.

B2Gold Nunavut anticipates conducting an updated Inuit Personnel Survey in the second half of 2024.

Project Certificate Condition No. 76

Category	Inuktitut/Inuinnaqtun Training
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	Monitoring training measures being taken to reduce language barriers to Inuit employment on-site.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent is encouraged to provide the following information regarding any second language courses offered on-site: a. Description of courses offered (to include general outline); b. Timing and frequency of courses offered; c. The number of individuals (and percentage of workforce), including Inuit and non-Inuit, taking part in each course, including completion rates; and d. Any noted outcomes or lessons learned from the courses offered.
Reporting Requirement	A summary of this information should be included in the annual Back River socio-economic monitoring reports submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board and shared with the wider KSEMC throughout the life of the Project.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2024) - See Appendix C Inuit Human Resources Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510)

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut will provide support for employees interested in improving their English, Inuinnaqtun, or Inuktitut skills. B2Gold Nunavut's second language training program is detailed further in Appendix A of the Inuit Human Resources Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510).

Results:

As outlined in the Second Language Training Plan, B2Gold Nunavut is committed to offering training courses based on demand/upon request. To date, B2Gold Nunavut has not seen a demand for these course offerings, and none have been requested by employees.

B2Gold Nunavut has taken other measures to reduce the potential for language barriers to Inuit employment on site (i.e. the objective of Term & Condition No. 76), should they exist. For example, B2Gold Nunavut's Supervisor, Community Relations conducted several extended Project site visits in 2023 and was available to offer interpretation/translation support that may have been required. To date, this individual has not been asked to provide this support while at Project sites.

B2Gold Nunavut has also developed an internal translated 'Glossary of Terms' that has been circulated at the Project to ensure appropriate site signage is posted in English and Inuinnaqtun/Inuktitut to further reduce language barriers, should they exist. The Company has also noted to all staff at Project

sites that if translation of a document or interpretation is required it will be provided by B2Gold Nunavut.

The Project also created a new position working on rotation at the Goose Site which will help to reduce the potential for language barriers to Inuit employment on site. Inuit Support Coordinators will work 3x3 rotations on the Goose Site as an additional staff resource for Inuit employees. Their duties include working with Inuit employees to address any issues that arise during an employee's time on site.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

Additional updates on this topic will be provided in future Socio-Economic Monitoring Reports.

4.6.4 POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS (PC TC 77)

Project Certificate Condition No. 77

Category	Monitoring Demographic Changes
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	Monitoring demographic changes affecting the Kitikmeot communities and the territory as a whole is important to understand and evaluate the Proponent's predictions with regards to population demographics and whether any trends are identified which may be correlated with the Project.
Term or Condition (TC)	Provided the collection and sharing of such information is consistent with and not limited by any Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the Proponent should provide Project-specific data concerning employee community of residence and number of employees that relocated from the year prior (where available, to and from, for Cambridge Bay, Kugluktuk, Taloyoak, Gjoa Haven, and Kugaaruk). The details of this process will be captured in the terms of reference for the Project specific Back River Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee.
Reporting Requirement	Summaries of this information should be included in the annual Back River socio-economic monitoring reports submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board and shared with the wider Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee throughout the life of the Project.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2024) - See Appendix C

Methods:

This topic is addressed in Section 3.1.2 (Number of Project Personnel) and Section 3.1.3 (Employee Relocations) of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report.

Note, B2Gold Nunavut considers the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan and/or annual Socio-Economic Monitoring Report to be a more appropriate location for the details of this process to be captured.

Results:

Data on the number of Project personnel (i.e. employees and contractors) by origin and ethnicity help reveal the composition of the Project's current labour force. In 2023, a total of 1,379 personnel worked on the Project, 167 of which were Inuit (or 14.2% by hours worked). 158 Inuit personnel originated from within the Kitikmeot Region, while 9 originated from outside of Nunavut. All non-Inuit personnel originated from outside of Nunavut.

The table below presents the total number of individuals who worked on the Project in 2023 rather than being a point-in-time count.

Number of Project Personnel by Origin and Ethnicity				
Origin		2023		
		Inuit	Non-Inuit	Total
Nunavut	Cambridge Bay	47	0	47
	Gjoa Haven	37	0	37
	Kugaaruk	9	0	9
	Kugluktuk	44	0	44
	Taloyoak	21	0	21
	Other	0	0	0
Other Canadian and Provinces and Territories	Alberta	3	236	239
	British Columbia	1	213	214
	Manitoba	0	71	71
	New Brunswick	0	85	85
	Nfld. and Labrador	0	126	126
	Northwest Territories	5	28	33
	Nova Scotia	0	65	65
	Ontario	0	148	148
	Prince Edward Island	0	6	6
	Quebec	0	20	20
	Saskatchewan	0	43	43
	Yukon	0	9	9
International	International	0	7	7
Unknown	Unknown	0	155	155
Total		167	1,212	1,379

Source: B2Gold Nunavut

Data on employee relocations provide insight into potential demographic changes that may be occurring due to the Project. In 2023, zero B2Gold Nunavut employees relocated into or out of Nunavut. Given the small number of employee relocations in 2022 (1) and the lack of employee relocations in 2023, it does not currently appear that meaningful changes are occurring in this area.

Trends:

The number of Project personnel declined between 2018 and 2020, but increased by 1,122 individuals from 2020 to 2023 to reach a high of 1,379 individuals. The number of Inuit personnel declined from 49 in 2019 to 13 in 2021, but then rose to a high of 167 individuals in 2023. The Project continues to source most Inuit personnel from within the Kitikmeot Region and all non-Inuit personnel from outside of Nunavut.

Given the limited number of employee relocations in recent years, it does not currently appear that meaningful changes are occurring in this area. Data on employee relocations will continue to be tracked in future reports.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to monitor this topic and engage the KSEMC and SEMWG on the Project's monitoring program.

4.6.5 TRADITIONAL ACTIVITY AND KNOWLEDGE (PC TCS 78 THROUGH 80)

Project Certificate Condition No. 78

Category	Incorporation of IQ and TK
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Corp., Kitikmeot Inuit Association, and Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure monitoring efforts are informed by and reflect Inuit Qaujimaningit and local community knowledge.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent is strongly encouraged to ensure that the development of all Project monitoring plans and associated reporting and updates are undertaken with active engagement of Kitikmeot communities, land users, and harvesters. The Proponent should work with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association and the Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee to report on the collection and integration of Inuit Qaujimaningit and Traditional Knowledge through its monitoring programs for the Project.
Reporting Requirement	To the extent the sharing of such information is consistent with, and not limited by, any confidentiality or other agreements with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, summaries addressing the Proponent's fulfillment of this Term and Condition should be included in the annual Back River socio-economic monitoring reports submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KIA, KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510)

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut has developed the document *Guidance for Incorporating Community Perspectives and Traditional Knowledge in the Back River Project's Monitoring Programs*. This document is presented in the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510).

Results:

B2Gold Nunavut has developed the document *Guidance for Incorporating Community Perspectives and Traditional Knowledge in the Back River Project's Monitoring Programs*. It reviews relevant definitions, potential sources of community perspectives and TK, and reporting and integration considerations for the Project. Where appropriate, B2Gold Nunavut's monitoring reports and/or NIRB Annual Reports may summarize:

- ◆ Relevant community engagement and TK activities undertaken during the previous year.
- ◆ How community perspectives and TK informed the design and content of the monitoring program.

- ◆ How community perspectives and TK informed the results of the monitoring program (including feedback provided).
- ◆ Any noted discrepancies between TK and scientific knowledge.
- ◆ Responses to key concerns identified through community engagement and TK.
- ◆ How community perspectives and TK informed adaptive management for the Project

Monitoring results specific to Project VECs/VSECs are provided through their respective monitoring programs and/or B2Gold Nunavut's Annual Report to NIRB. Community perspectives and TK began to be incorporated into two monitoring reports in 2020: the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report and the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Report. In its 2022 Annual Report to NIRB, B2Gold Nunavut also began including a summary of community feedback received on the Project from the past year, example comments, and B2Gold Nunavut's responses to key issues raised (see Section 2.2). This will continue through future monitoring reports.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

Community perspectives on the Project will continue to be tracked by B2Gold Nunavut to inform the content, results, and management actions associated with B2Gold Nunavut's monitoring program. Feedback from relevant stakeholders on this topic is always welcome.

Project Certificate Condition No. 79

Category	Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	Establishing and reporting on the Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee as a mechanism to incorporate community input (including Inuit Qaujimaningit and Traditional Knowledge) into monitoring plans, programs, and mitigation measures.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall establish an Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee. To the extent the sharing of such information is consistent with and not limited by any Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, once established, the Proponent shall provide the Nunavut Impact Review Board with the following information about the Committee: a. Number of members and home communities; b. Selection process; c. Description of work to be undertaken; and d. Outcome of any work undertaken.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding the Proponent's efforts in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KIA
Reference	Back River Project Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement (IIBA) (KIA and B2Gold Nunavut 2018) 2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2024) - See Appendix C

Methods:

Per the Back River Project IIBA (KIA and B2Gold Nunavut 2018), Schedule 7.1 Section 2, the IIBA Implementation Committee will establish an Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee (IEAC).

Results:

The IIBA's Implementation Committee, which met for the first time in December 2022, has appointed seven Kitikmeot Inuit with knowledge about wildlife, fisheries, traditional land use, archaeology, or water of the Project area to be members of the IEAC. The criteria for selection as a member of the Back River IEAC is outlined in the Back River Project IIBA in Schedule 7.1.

The IEAC is intended to receive and consider Project information that relates to the environment and wildlife, provide advice to B2Gold Nunavut and KIA on potential impacts and mitigation of potential impacts from the Project, and work to resolve concerns from community members related to

environmental and wildlife aspects of the Project. The IEAC held its inaugural meeting and a Project site visit in July 2023. Appendix F of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report contains additional details on the IEAC's composition and activities in 2023, including the number of members and home communities, and a description and outcomes of work undertaken.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut and KIA will continue to support and participate in IEAC meetings, per the IIBA. Updates on IEAC activities will be provided to NIRB through B2Gold Nunavut's annual reporting process.

Project Certificate Condition No. 80

Category	Wildlife Harvesting
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To assess the potential impacts of winter ice road usage on caribou harvesting.
Term or Condition (TC)	If the results from monitoring reveal extensive public use of the winter ice road, or a trend of increasing use of the winter ice road for harvesting, the Proponent shall conduct a harvest study in nearby communities of wildlife harvested from the areas surrounding the winter ice road.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding the Proponent's efforts in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2024) - See Appendices C

Methods:

Section 10.1.4 (Number of Times Public Use of the Project's Winter Ice Road Reported) in the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report includes monitoring data on this topic. Results are assessed on an annual basis.

Results:

2019 was the first year the WIR became operational (operating from April to May) and was accessed once by a non-Inuit expeditioner travelling through the area. From 2020 to 2022 the WIR did not operate. In 2023, B2Gold Nunavut conducted monitoring of the WIR related to ongoing implementation of the Project's Caribou Protection Measures. Teams dedicated to this purpose travelled the WIR daily and had no observation of any public use of the WIR during its use by B2Gold Nunavut.

In 2023, the Project communicated with the Bay Chimo, Bathurst Inlet, Kugluktuk, and Ekaluktutiak HTO's as outlined in the Visitor Access Policy. The information shared notes that the WIR is not a public road open for public use.

B2Gold Nunavut received feedback from the Ekaluktutiak Hunters & Trappers Organization about possible public use of the road in 2023 in October 2023. However, upon email exchanges and an in-person meeting, it was noted by the Ekaluktutiak HTO that public use of the WIR was not observed but rather the possibility of use was noted at a Ekaluktutiak HTO Board Meeting.

Trends:

Trends may be reported on once additional data become available.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue monitoring and reporting on this topic through the NIRB Annual Report process.

4.6.6 NON-TRADITIONAL LAND USE AND RESOURCE USE (PC TC 81)

Project Certificate Condition No. 81

Category	Non-traditional Activity and Resource Use
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Construction, Operations, and Post-Closure
Objective	To assess and monitor potential Project effects on non-traditional activity and knowledge.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent is encouraged to consult with outfitting and guiding businesses that operate in the regional study area regarding use of the land and marine areas in proximity to Project infrastructure or activities and any noted Project effects, particularly for effects in relation to the experience of the natural environment.
Reporting Requirement	Information regarding the consultations and monitoring undertaken by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition should initially be provided within two (2) years of Project construction in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board and any updated information should be provided in the annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board every year thereafter.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Not applicable
Reference	2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2024) - See Appendix C Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510)

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut has developed an *Outfitting/Guiding Business Consultation Protocol*. This document is presented in Appendix D of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510).

Results:

The Proponent issued a biennial informational letter on April 12, 2022 (see Appendix C of the 2022 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report) to all companies in possession of a pending, current, or recent Outfitter Licence from the Government of Nunavut, whose community of operation includes either Cambridge Bay or Kugluktuk. Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTOs) in Cambridge Bay, Kugluktuk, Bathurst Inlet, and Bay Chimo also received copies of this letter. One response was received to this letter (i.e. from Bathurst Inlet Lodge) and a follow-up meeting with B2Gold Nunavut was organized in May 2022 whereby mutual updates were provided and two requests for logistical support were made of B2Gold Nunavut.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to issue biennial informational letters consistent with the *Outfitting/Guiding Business Consultation Protocol*. The next letter will be issued in 2024.

4.6.7 HERITAGE RESOURCES (PC TC 82)

Project Certificate Condition No. 82

Category	Assessment of Archaeological and Heritage Resources
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Government of Nunavut – Department of Culture and Heritage
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To assess and monitor potential project effects to archaeological and heritage resources.
Term or Condition (TC)	In any year in which changes to the project footprint are expected to occur or an archaeological permit will be requested, the Proponent will provide the Government of Nunavut – Department of Culture and Heritage (GN-CH) with a series of maps and tables indicating the current status of all archaeological sites within the Project Development Area. Tables provided should include textual descriptions of map contents, and the Proponent shall consult with the GN-CH to establish the contents of the maps and tables to be submitted within its annual status reports.
Reporting Requirement	To be submitted for each year in which changes to the project footprint are expected to occur or an archaeological permit will be requested. Specific reporting requirements will be as agreed to by the Government of Nunavut – Department of Culture and Heritage.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	The 2020 Archaeology Site Status Report was issued to the Government of Nunavut – Department of Culture and Heritage on November 10, 2020.
Reference	Golder (Golder Associates Ltd.). 2020. Back River Project, Nunavut – 2020 Archaeology Site Status Report. Doc 20147042-070-RPT-Rev0

Methods:

The Proponent's proposed development work was reviewed to determine where previously recorded sites might be impacted and to see what areas might need pre-impact assessment. Where there were previously recorded sites in proximity (<100m) to project developments, the sites were revisited to determine their status and to gather data to formulate recommendations for site avoidance and/or mitigation.

In 2021 updated infrastructure plans were provided for all proposed developments within the Goose Property Area (GPA). The objective of the investigation was to provide archaeological survey coverage for all of the finalized Project footprints in the GPA.

Pedestrian surveys were undertaken within proposed project development areas. Any identified heritage sites were recorded. Site forms were completed for both revisited sites and for newly identified sites. Detailed maps of the affected sites were produced and recovered archaeological materials were brought back for analysis and cataloguing to facilitate interpretation of the sites.

Excel tables and pdf maps are maintained that list the status of all archaeological sites within the affected Projects areas. These tables and maps were updated with new status information on the revisited sites and with the newly identified sites. The tables and maps form the core of the Annual Site Status Report issued to the Government of Nunavut.

Results:

In 2020 the archaeological program was conducted under Nunavut Archaeologist Permit 2020-05A. To optimize and upgrade the current WIR route, several quarry sources are being sought out along the length of the WIR route. Eight previously recorded sites (LkNj-1, MaNj-5, MaNj-6, MbNj-15, McNj-19, McNj-21, McNk-1, and MdNk-23) along the WIR route were revisited as they were within 50 to 100 m of proposed quarry source locations. All of these sites, with the exception of McNk-1, were found to be intact and undisturbed. Additional artifacts and/or features were observed at MaNj-6, MbNj-15, and McNj-19. Seven of these sites may potentially be impacted by quarry sources and should be mitigated if they cannot be avoided. The information provided in the territorial database for McNk-1 indicates that there were problems with the original coordinates submitted for this site and that it might actually be another site located further south. A survey of the provided location did not reveal any evidence of a site and no further concerns are identified with the provided location of McNk-1. While conducting archaeological assessments of proposed quarry sources for the WIR, three new sites were observed. These include one campsite (LiNj-2), one fox trap (MbNj-26) and one lithic workshop site (McNj-51) consisting of three scatters and thought to be Pre-Dorset in age. These sites are within or adjacent to proposed quarry sources and it is recommended that if they cannot be avoided then they should be mitigated. In the MLA, sites MdNI-18 and 21 were successfully mitigated and no further work is recommended for these prior to Project development.

In 2021 the archaeological program was conducted under Nunavut Archaeologist Permit 2021-27A. The GPA footprint has been finalized and archaeology surveys were conducted for areas not surveyed in previous years. One previously recorded site (LjNh-5) in the GPA was revisited as it was within a proposed ore stockpile area. The site had previously been mitigated in 2017 and was found to be intact and undisturbed, although Project construction had occurred within 10 m of the site. Additional artifacts (n=4) were recovered from the surface at LjNh-5 that are consistent with the previous recoveries at the site and the overall site interpretation remains the same. No further work is recommended at this site. No additional sites were observed or revisited during the 2021 archaeology surveys. No additional archaeology was recommended for any of the Project footprints.

In 2023 no additions were proposed for the Project footprint. Two new quarry sources along the WIR were assessed. No sites were observed within or near to these proposed quarry sources. Three previously recorded sites (MaNj-5, MaNj-6, and MbNj-26) were also revisited for mitigation, including excavation and/or detailed recording, due to proposed quarry use that had potential to impact the sites. Archaeology work along the WIR in 2023 consisted of visits to three quarry locations in close proximity to sites that required mitigation. Site MbNj-26 was revisited and confirmed to be undisturbed. Due to potential for the quarry to expand into the site location mitigation activities consisting of detailed mapping, recording and photography were performed. Site MaNj-5 was revisited and confirmed to be undisturbed. Site mitigation excavation was completed within three excavation blocks and no further work was recommended for this site. Site MaNj-5 was revisited and discovered to be disturbed by quarrying activities. Shovel testing was conducted around the edges of the disturbance to look for any

possible intact areas of the site. All shovel tests were negative. B2Gold has submitted an incident report with the Government of Nunavut – Department of Culture and Heritage.

Trends:

No notable trends.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the Back River Project Cultural and Heritage Resources Plan.

4.6.8 HEALTH AND WELLBEING (PC TCS 83 THROUGH 85)

Project Certificate Condition No. 83

Category	Employee Housing
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Housing Corporation
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To assess and monitor the extent to which the Project enhances employee access to a range of housing options.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent is strongly encouraged to communicate and collaborate with the Government of Nunavut and the Nunavut Housing Corporation on potential housing initiatives with a view to enhancing employee access to a range of housing options, including homeownership. Initiatives may include, but are not limited to, the provision of financial literacy, financial planning, and personal budgeting training.
Reporting Requirement	Provided the sharing of such information is consistent with and not limited by the terms and conditions of any applicable Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, these efforts should be reported to the Nunavut Impact Review Board within the annual Back River Socio-Economic Monitoring Report.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Housing Corporation
Reference	2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2024) - See Appendix C Inuit Human Resources Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510)

Methods:

As described in the Inuit Human Resources Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510), B2Gold Nunavut will provide financial management orientation to employees who request it (based on demand). An Inuit Employee Assistance Program (IEAP) was launched by B2Gold Nunavut in 2023 that includes a financial literacy training component. B2Gold Nunavut's Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP) also offers free and confidential financial guidance on several topics (e.g. debt management, bankruptcy, retirement).

Results:

While no related training programs have been requested by, or offered to, staff to-date, B2Gold Nunavut anticipates training in this area will begin to be provided in 2024. B2Gold Nunavut's EFAP also remains available to access.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

Updates on this topic will be provided in future Socio-Economic Monitoring Reports. Other housing-related initiatives may also be described in future reports.

Project Certificate Condition No. 84

Category	Employee Housing
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Housing Corporation, Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To assess and monitor the potential for Project-induced effects on regional access to housing.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent is strongly encouraged to work with the Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee (KSEMC), the Nunavut Housing Corporation, and the GN to design and implement a voluntary housing survey to be offered to its Nunavummiut employees.
Reporting Requirement	The frequency and content of the survey should be determined by the collaborating parties, but content may include changes to address, housing status (i.e., public/social, privately owned/rented, government, etc.) and migration intentions of Project employees. Non-confidential results of the survey should be reported to the GN and other members of the KSEMC and summary information of these results should be reported to the Nunavut Impact Review Board within the annual Back River Socio-Economic Monitoring Report.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2024) - See Appendix C Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510)

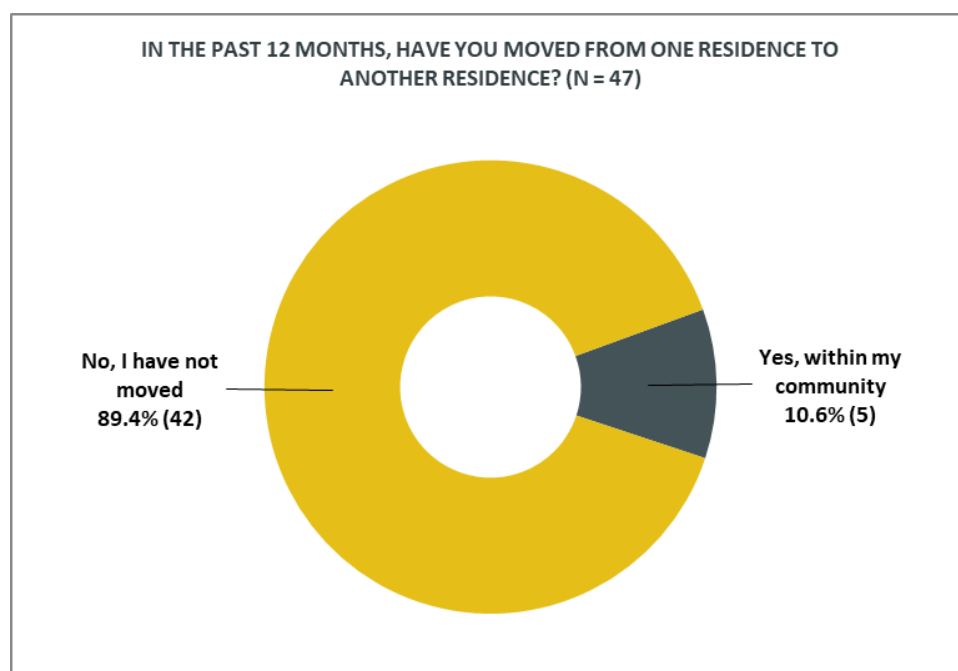
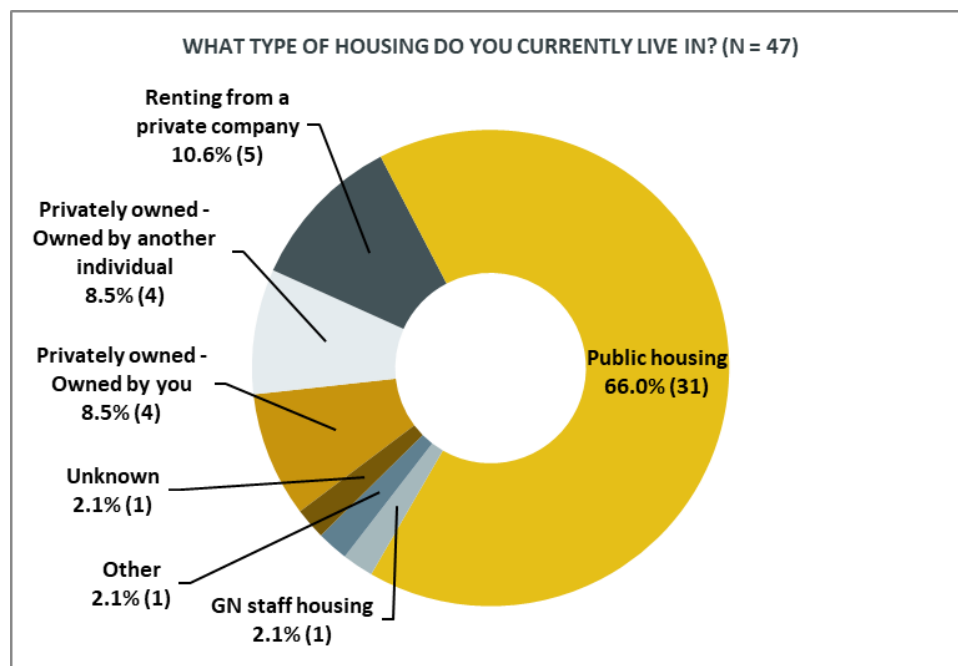
Methods:

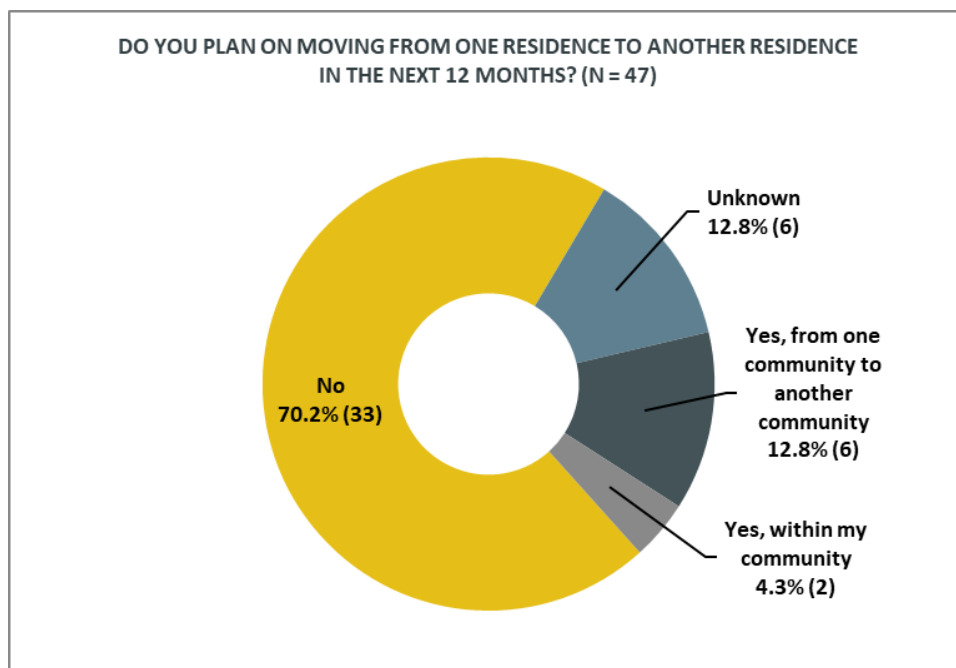
Data on this topic have been sourced from a 2022 Inuit Personnel Survey, which was conducted at Project sites in November and December 2022. Results are summarized below and are also provided in B2Gold Nunavut's 2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report submitted to NIRB. Draft copies of the survey were available for the SEMWG and KSEMC to review beginning in March 2022 (see Appendix B of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan; NIRB PRI: 338510). The Government of Nunavut is a member of both groups and coordinates the involvement of the Nunavut Housing Corporation as appropriate. Most recently, the SEMWG was engaged on this topic during a June 2022 videoconference and several suggestions were provided on the survey. The SEMWG and KSEMC will continue to be engaged on this topic as appropriate.

Results:

Survey results applicable to this Term & Condition are presented in the figures below. Overall, these data reveal several insights, including a high percentage of respondents living in public housing (66%) and a much lower percentage of respondents living in privately owned residences (17%). A small percentage of respondents had changed their residence in the past 12 months (11%), but all these

individuals had moved within their existing community. Some respondents indicated they planned to move residences in the next 12 months, with 13% saying they planned to move to a new community. Of this 13%, half (3 respondents) indicated they planned to move from within the Kitikmeot Region to outside the Kitikmeot Region. Reasons cited for wanting to move to another community included a lower cost of living, to obtain schooling for a child, to be closer to a child, and to simply ‘move away from home for a bit’.





Trends:

Trends may be reported on once data from additional future surveys become available.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut continues to welcome feedback from the KSEMC and SEMWG on the survey results. B2Gold Nunavut anticipates completing Inuit Personnel Surveys every 2-3 years. Relevant stakeholders will be engaged in the planning and conduct of these surveys.

B2Gold Nunavut anticipates conducting an updated Inuit Personnel Survey in the second half of 2024.

Project Certificate Condition No. 85

Category	Cross-cultural Awareness
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To support the elimination of cultural barriers and promote recognition for Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit to establish a healthy workplace for all Project employees.
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>The Proponent is encouraged to work with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association to establish cross-cultural training initiatives which promote respect and consideration for the importance of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit to the Inuit identity and to make this training available to Project employees and on-site sub-contractors. The Proponent should actively monitor the implementation of these initiatives, including the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Descriptions of the goals of each program offered; b. Language of instruction; c. Schedules and location(s) of when each program was offered; d. Uptake by employees and/or family members where relevant, noting Inuit and non-Inuit participation rates; and e. Completion rates for enrolled participants, noting Inuit and non-Inuit participation rates.
Reporting Requirement	Summaries of all cross-cultural training initiatives should be provided in the annual Back River Socio-Economic Monitoring Report.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Reference	2023 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2024) - See Appendix C Inuit Human Resources Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510)

Methods:

As described in the Inuit Human Resources Plan (NIRB PRI: 338510), B2Gold Nunavut provides cultural awareness training for all mine employees and long-term contractors. The goal of this program is to promote respect and consideration for the importance of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (IQ) to the Inuit identity. It is primarily focused to provide non-Inuit employees with opportunities to better understand Inuit culture and communities, and is aimed at enhancing positive interaction between Inuit and non-Inuit in the workplace. The training is currently provided in five main sections: Overview, Nunavut and the Kitikmeot Region, Inuit culture, B2Gold Nunavut's community engagement program, and intercultural effectiveness. B2Gold Nunavut is also in the process of developing an updated version of this training in video format.

Results:

In 2023, a total of 27 cross-cultural training sessions were delivered by the Company's Senior Coordinator, Indigenous Affairs to staff at B2Gold Nunavut's Goose Camp and corporate offices in Vancouver, BC. This training was conducted in English and had 397 participants, 24 of whom were Inuit. The training program has been shared with KIA and their feedback has been incorporated into revised training materials. A draft outline of a new training program/video (mentioned above) was also shared with KIA for comment. B2Gold Nunavut will continue to engage KIA on cross-cultural training initiatives at the Project.

In addition to the above, B2Gold Nunavut honoured the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30, 2023, with the purchase of orange t-shirts (designed by Kugaaruk artist Shantel Qirngnuq Kanayuq) and an informational email sent to all Company staff. Two Elders were also invited to Goose Camp to meet with staff and discuss topics relevant to the day, in both confidential and public settings.

Trends:

B2Gold Nunavut continues to offer cross-cultural training at the Project. Additional updates on this topic will be provided in future Socio-Economic Monitoring Reports.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut intends to continue offering cross-cultural training in 2024.

4.6.9 HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY (PC TCS 86 THROUGH 88)

Project Certificate Condition No. 86

Category	Airborne Actinolite Fibres
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure worker health and safety.
Term or Condition (TC)	If potential health risks due to airborne actinolite fibres are identified, the Proponent shall enact measures to mitigate human exposure, notify the Territorial occupational health authority, and update relevant management plans.
Reporting Requirement	If required, updated information regarding mitigation measures/management plans should be provided to the Nunavut Impact Review Board at least 60 days prior to the commencement of construction, and subsequent modifications to these plans should be identified and included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Health Canada, Nunavut Impact Review Board
Reference	FEIS Technical Comment No. F-HC-TC-4

Methods:

If airborne actinolite fibres are identified, B2Gold Nunavut will enact measures to mitigate human exposure, notify the Territorial occupational health authority, and update relevant management plans.

Results:

Not applicable.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue ongoing monitoring.

Project Certificate Condition No. 87

Category	Site Orientation
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure worker health and safety.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall have in place a comprehensive site orientation plan for all employees. Further, the Proponent shall ensure all worker site- orientation, training presentations, and materials are updated regularly and reflect any amendments to management plans
Reporting Requirement	The updated site orientation plan should be provided to the Nunavut Impact Review Board at least 60 days prior to the commencement of construction and subsequent modifications to this plan should be identified and included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Impact Review Board
Reference	Not applicable

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut has a comprehensive site orientation program is in place for all site personnel. The orientation process includes:

- ◆ General site orientation on arrival for personnel new to site
- ◆ Project induction presentation
- ◆ Review of general site Standard Operating Procedures (such as waste management practices/sorting, wildlife interactions, airstrip/road rules)
- ◆ A job-site orientation where personnel are introduced to their work areas and equipment and may be asked to review additional work-specific documents (such as SOPs, manuals or plans), given additional training identified necessary by their supervisor and/or undergo an assessment of qualifications (e.g., equipment operational competency evaluations). This may include WHIMS, equipment operation checkoff, and review of work-specific guidance and/or training

Results:

All orientation, training and certification materials are regularly reviewed and updated on an as-needed basis. Records of orientation, training and certification are maintained and re-current training is conducted as needed.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to ensure a Comprehensive Site Orientation Program is in place for all employees.

Project Certificate Condition No. 88

Category	Winter Ice Road Operations
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure worker health and safety.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall include, within its relevant management plans, consideration for worker safety during winter ice road operations, particularly during periods of adverse weather conditions. The Proponent shall ensure that updates are made to its safety procedures throughout the life of the Project consistent with best management practices for similar ice road projects.
Reporting Requirement	Updated sections of the relevant management plans should be provided to the Nunavut Impact Review Board at least 60 days prior to the commencement of construction and subsequent modifications to these plans should be identified and included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Impact Review Board
Reference	Road Management Plan (2021)

Methods

B2Gold Nunavut includes, within its project design, relevant management plans and SOPs, consideration for worker safety during winter ice road operations, particularly during periods of adverse weather conditions.

B2Gold Nunavut's Back River Project Road Management Plan (RMP) includes consideration of safety considerations for the construction and use of the WIR during adverse weather conditions. To further improve worker safety during winter ice road operations, particularly during periods of adverse weather conditions, B2Gold Nunavut has received approval for the establishment of emergency shelters along the WIR in its modification application to the NIRB.

Results:

Not applicable.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut is still constructing the emergency shelter camps along the WIR. B2Gold Nunavut will ensure that updates are made to its safety procedures throughout the life of the Project consistent with best management practices for similar ice road projects.

4.7 PERFORMANCE ON OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS

4.7.1 ACCIDENTS AND MALFUNCTIONS (PC TCS 89 THROUGH 94)

Project Certificate Condition No. 89

Category	Spills
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-shipping, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance
Objective	To protect marine wildlife, migratory birds, and the marine environment.
Term or Condition (TC)	<p>The Proponent shall include within its Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan measures for preventing fuel spills into the marine environment and mitigating potential effects of an accidental spill on polar bears, seals, other marine wildlife, and migratory birds. Measures should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Placement of spill prevention and response equipment as necessary to initiate wildlife protection measures along shipping routes and on-site; b. Ensuring spill response contacts for Sabina and government agencies are current; c. Providing a list of community organizations that would be contacted to inform traditional land users of shipping activity in the area, any spills and actions to ensure public safety and plans for clean-up.
Reporting Requirement	The mitigation plan should be provided to the Nunavut Impact Review Board prior to the commencement of Project-related shipping, and updates provided with annual reporting.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Transport Canada, Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Impact Review Board
Reference	<p>Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 11)</p> <p>Oil Pollution Prevention Plan & Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (2023).</p> <p>Spill Contingency Plan (2017).</p>

Methods:

On September 5, 2018, a WMMPP was provided the NIRB in fulfillment of Project Certificate T&C No.89. In summary, the WMMPP summarizes measures B2Gold Nunavut employs for managing fuels and other hazardous materials on land, at the MLA and during marine shipping which are detailed further in B2Gold Nunavut's five management plans used for fuels, hazardous substances and managing spills and refers the reader to the applicable plan.

For a spill occurring at the MLA related to bulk fuel offload, the WMMPP refers the reader to the Oil Pollution Prevention Plan & Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (OPEP). The OPEP was last updated in 2022 to reflect 2022 bulk fuel offload activities and has been submitted to Transport Canada.

The OPEP/OPPP includes measures to prevent harm to wildlife should a spill occur at the MLA, including:

1. Measures to prevent spills occurring,
2. Default measures used to reduce the chance of a spill spreading, such as the use of fuel spill booms during fueling,
3. Modeling to predict the direction of spread of small or large spills under known wind and current conditions,
4. A description of environmentally sensitive features including known locations of marine birds, marine mammals, and marine fish in the area which could be affected by a spill,
5. A response management system should a spill occur, and Spill Response Procedures , that includes:
 - a. Responsibilities, coordination, reporting, management, treatment and disposal instructions,
 - b. Locations of wildlife habitat where mitigation should be focused,
 - c. Deterrence of wildlife from a spill, and
 - d. Cleaning of any oiled wildlife.

Spills unrelated to bulk fuel offloads are addressed under B2Gold Nunavut's Spill Contingency Plan (SCP). This plan ensures that impacts to the surrounding environment and wildlife are minimized.

Results:

Due to the comparative rarity of bulk fuel spills in recent decades, technical expertise in the areas of wildlife rescue and rehabilitation has become concentrated in a small handful of companies in North America who specialize in wildlife spill response. These companies provide technical specialists and equipment and are prepared to mobilize to any site in North America to lead wildlife response activities. In 2022, the Proponent reached out to one of these companies to confirm their ability, availability, and willingness to lead a wildlife spill response at the Back River Project, should it ever become necessary. These capabilities have now been confirmed and background provided on logistical constraints and available equipment and facilities.

Any wildlife-related spill response activities such as hazing or live animal retrieval will be undertaken under the guidance of a technical specialist from one of these companies, and/or as required by the Canadian Wildlife Service (for migratory birds) or Fisheries and Oceans Canada (for marine mammals) and the Nunavut DOE Wildlife Management Division

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut's OPEP is reviewed and updated prior to each year's bulk fuel offload to reflect offload conditions and procedures. This plan is submitted to Transport Canada to review, per the requirements of the Canada Shipping Act. Any updates to this plan will be provided to the NIRB with annual reporting. B2Gold Nunavut also regularly reviews and updates the Back River Project Spill Contingency Plan and will provide any updates to the NIRB with the annual reporting.

Project Certificate Condition No. 90

Category	Spills
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Transport Canada
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure accurate and adequate spill response and emergency preparedness.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall maintain an Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (OPEP) with a list of authorised personnel, staff training, and the required Northwest Territories-Nunavut spill report document.
Reporting Requirement	The OPEP should be provided to the Nunavut Impact Review Board prior to the commencement of Project-related shipping, and updates provided with annual reporting.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Transport Canada
Reference	Oil Pollution Prevention Plan & Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (2023).

Methods:

The Back River Project Oil Pollution Prevention Plan & Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (OPEP) was updated to reflect the 2022 fuel offload conditions and the planned offload procedure and potential response scenarios. A final version of the OPEP (February 2023) which included a list of training participants was provided to Transport Canada, as required by the Shipping Act. The OPEP includes a list of authorised personnel, staff training, and the required Northwest Territories-Nunavut spill report document.

Results:

Not applicable.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

As required by the Canada Shipping Act, this plan is reviewed and updated annually in years of intended fuel offload to reflect the specific vessels being used, the bulk fuel handling facilities (i.e. the configuration of the MLA bulk fuel storage and offloading facilities and vessel access), and the specific procedures to be employed given the vessel(s) and facility configuration. The OPEP reflects the current configuration of the MLA bulk fuel handling facility and addresses related PC TC's (i.e. 89, 90, 91, and 92).

Prior to next bulk fuel offload, this plan will be reviewed and updated based on the vessels contracted, and would described the MLA facilities in place at the time of that offload (which may or may not include the MLA Shoreline Pad extension described in the Proponent's modification package, as this may not yet have been constructed). Per the Canada Shipping Act, this plan is always provided to Transport Canada for review within 6 months of plan revision. B2Gold Nunavut will continue to provide updates of the OPEP to the NIRB with the annual report.

Project Certificate Condition No. 91

Category	Marine Shipping
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Transport Canada
Project Phase(s)	Pre-shipping, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure protection of the marine environment.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall contract only certified vessels to carry cargo for the Project, and will ensure shippers are aware of the requirements of the Shipping Management Plan, the Risk Management and Emergency Response Plan, and the Oil Pollution Emergency Plan.
Reporting Requirement	Monitoring plans should be provided to the Nunavut Impact Review Board prior to the commencement of Project-related shipping, with any subsequent amendments or new plans being identified and provided in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Transport Canada
Reference	Shipping Management Plan (2018) NIRB PRI: 319686 Oil Pollution Prevention Plan & Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (2023). Risk Management and Emergency Response Plan (2018) NIRB PRI: 319645

Methods:

On September 3, 2018, a Back River Project Shipping Management Plan, Risk Management and Emergency Response Plan, and the Oil Pollution Emergency Plan in fulfillment of Project Certificate T&C No.91., were provided to the NIRB. The Back River Project Oil Pollution Prevention Plan & Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (OPEP) is routinely updated in each year of bulk fuel transfer and was most recently updated to reflect 2022 fuel offload activities and planned 2023 activities and was submitted to Transport Canada. These plans are also provided to the shippers to ensure they are aware of their respective requirements.

Results:

Not applicable.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

Any subsequent updates or new plans will be provided in B2Gold Nunavut's annual report to the NIRB.

Project Certificate Condition No. 92

Category	Marine Shipping
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-shipping, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure protection of the Marine Environment.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall ensure that the necessary spill response equipment and training to employees, contractors, and local community members is available prior to commencing Project shipping. Commentary: The reference to “local community members” means members of the public who may reside seasonally in or near the communities of Kingaok (Bathurst Inlet) and Omingmaktok (Bay Chimo).
Reporting Requirement	An inventory of spill equipment and listing of training undertaken shall be provided to the Nunavut Impact Review Board prior to the receipt of the first project-related shipment. Subsequently, results of annual inspections shall be included in the Proponent’s annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Impact Review Board
Reference	Oil Pollution Prevention Plan & Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (2023).

Methods:

The Back River Project Oil Pollution Prevention Plan & Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (OPEP) was last updated to reflect 2022 bulk fuel offload conditions. This updated OPEP has been submitted to Transport Canada. The OPEP includes a list spill response equipment and training to conducted and training participants.

Results:

An inventory of spill equipment and listing of training undertaken and is provided in the OPEP.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

Each year, prior to a bulk fuel offload, B2Gold Nunavut reviews and revises the OPEP for submission to Transport Canada per the requirements of the Canada Shipping Act. Any necessary updates to spill response equipment and training are included at that time.

Project Certificate Condition No. 93

Category	Navigation Charts
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly</i> Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.), Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Canadian Hydrographic Services
Project Phase(s)	Post-construction
Objective	To mitigate potential ship groundings.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall submit a post-construction depiction of the Marine Laydown Area and surrounding shoreline, including any new bathymetry aspects.
Reporting Requirement	This information shall be provided to Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Canadian Hydrographic Services following construction and when the information is provided to Fisheries and Oceans Canada the Proponent shall advise the Nunavut Impact Review Board that the required information has been submitted.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Canadian Hydrographic Services, Nunavut Impact Review Board
Reference	Not applicable

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut confirms no in-water construction occurred in the marine environment at the Marine Laydown Area in 2023.

Results:

Not applicable.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

If in-water construction occurs in the marine environment at the Marine Laydown Area, B2Gold Nunavut will provide a post-construction depiction, including any new bathymetry aspects, to DFO – Canadian Hydrographic Services following construction. When the information is provided to DFO, B2Gold Nunavut will advise the NIRB that the required information has been submitted.

Project Certificate Condition No. 94

Category	Fuel Transportation
Responsible Parties	B2Gold Back River Corp. (<i>formerly Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.</i>)
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure protection of the environment.
Term or Condition (TC)	The Proponent shall ensure fuel trucks meet industry design standards and receive regularly scheduled maintenance of fuel lines, nozzles and dust caps.
Reporting Requirement	A summary of the results of the applicable maintenance schedules and a summary of inspections shall be included in the Proponent's annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Impact Review Board
Reference	Not applicable

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut ensures all fuel trucks meet industry design standards and receive regularly scheduled maintenance of fuel lines, nozzles, and dust caps. Fuel trucks are not mobilized to the Back River Project without a thorough mechanical investigation, as well as review of the equipment's documentation by the Project's mechanics.

Results:

B2Gold Nunavut completed monthly maintenance and inspections of fuel trucks throughout 2023.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

Maintenance schedules and work order tracking is currently transitioning to the SAP® software system. B2Gold Nunavut will continue to provide a maintenance summary during the 2024 annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.

APPENDIX A FIGURE 1

APPENDIX B COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT NOTES

APPENDIX C 2023 SOCIO-ECONOMIC MONITORING REPORT

APPENDIX D GROUND THERMAL MONITORING PLAN

APPENDIX E 2023 ANNUAL GEOTECHNICAL INSPECTION REPORT

APPENDIX F1 2021 AQUATIC BASELINE REPORT

APPENDIX F2 2022 AQUATIC BASELINE REPORT

APPENDIX G RSW CULVERT INSTALLATION CONSTRUCTION MONITORING REPORT

APPENDIX H DOWNSTREAM ASSESSMENT OF GOOSE LAKE WATER WITHDRAWAL INCREASE ON ARCTIC GRAYLING

APPENDIX I 2023 PRE-SHIPMENT EQUIPMENT CLEANING

APPENDIX J VEGETATION SURVEY PHOTOS

APPENDIX K 2023 WMMP REPORT

APPENDIX L 2023 MARINE SAMPLING REPORT

APPENDIX M SOCIO-ECONOMIC MONITORING PLAN

APPENDIX N COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

APPENDIX O INUIT BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PLAN

APPENDIX P STAKEHOLDER GRIEVANCE MECHANISM