



BACK RIVER PROJECT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Merle Keefe', is positioned above a thin horizontal yellow line.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

This Annual Report (the Report) is a requirement of Project Certificate No. 007 Amendment No. 1 (the Project Certificate) issued by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) for B2Gold Back River Corp.'s (B2Gold Nunavut's) Back River Project (the Project). The Project Certificate stipulates the terms and conditions for construction and operation of the Back River Project, and this Report provides information on its performance against them.

Back River Project

The Project is an approved gold mine owned by B2Gold Corp. in the western 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 Kingaok (Bathurst Inlet), 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). The Project was also approved by NIRB in August of 2024 to operate a not yet constructed 'Renewable Energy Centre', which includes the addition of infrastructure to support alternative energy generation, including 13 wind turbine generators, a battery storage system, solar panel array, transmission lines and service roads.

The Project is governed in part by a 20-year benefit and land tenure agreements under a Framework Agreement between B2Gold Nunavut and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA), which sets out rights and obligations across an 80 km belt with respect to surface land access on Inuit Owned Land (IOL) at the 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 Corp, and a 1% net smelter royalty on future production from the approved mine on the Goose Property.

Highlights and Challenges

2024 was an exciting year for the Project. In 2024, there was an increase of over 150,000 Inuit employment hours when compared to 2023, and the number of hours Inuit women worked increased by 30,000 hours compared to the previous year. Additionally, there was \$195 million in contract values committed to businesses on the Kitikmeot Qualified Business Registry (KQBR), which is close to almost 50% of all contract value committed in 2024. Finally, the successful advancement of construction of the Project in 2024 was critical to ensuring the Project remains on target for First Gold in Q2 2025.

Throughout 2024, it was evident that the Project continues to make many positive contributions to Nunavut's economy. Over 5 million hours of Project labour have been performed to-date, of which 647,000+ hours have been performed by Inuit. \$241 million in payroll has been provided to Project personnel and \$1.7 billion in Project business expenditures have been made, with \$431.7 million spent on Kitikmeot Qualified Businesses alone. \$95.7 million in taxes have also been paid to the federal and territorial governments.

Stakeholder and Community Engagement

Various Inuit and KIA engagement activities occurred in 2024. A sample of these events include, in January a Project Contracting Information Session was held with Kitikmeot Qualified Businesses in Edmonton, in February B2Gold Nunavut attended and presented at the Kitikmeot Tradeshow, in March the Company participated in the 2024 Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee meeting in Cambridge Bay, in June representatives from B2Gold Nunavut met with the Hamlet and Hunter Trappers Organization on various local initiatives, and held a KIA Board visit at the Project in October. Additionally, B2Gold Nunavut spent \$209,872.11 on community donations and partnerships in 2024.

In addition to the ongoing stakeholder engagement activities throughout the year, eight team members from the B2Gold Nunavut Indigenous & Northern Affairs, Environment and Recruitment teams hosted a Community Tour in Kugluktuk, Taloyoak, Kugaaruk and Gjoa Haven the week of September 23-27, 2024. An open house was also scheduled for Cambridge Bay, however this had to be cancelled due to poor weather conditions. Over the course of the week, B2Gold Nunavut had the opportunity to speak to approximately 300 members of public, 19 Inuit applicants were offered career opportunities, and many more resumes for collected for future potential opportunities!

Environmental Monitoring Programs

In 2024 our environmental monitoring activities continued at the 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 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 2023 and throughout 2024, 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 WIR occurring in Q1 2024, heavy focus was put on caribou monitoring; B2Gold Nunavut had a dedicated Inuk 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.

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.

The Year Ahead

There are several milestone activities anticipated for 2025, the most notable of which includes achieving first gold in June, and the Grand Opening of Goose Lake Mine in September. To ensure these outcomes, the Project is actively moving materials across site via the Winter Ice Road, with a goal of completing this campaign by the end of April. In addition, the Company is continuing to advance work on the 2024-approved Back River Renewable Energy Centre. It is anticipated that throughout 2025 progress will be made on defining final project concepts, engineering, costing, and that B2Gold Nunavut will begin execution of environmental commitments made during the regulatory process.

The Company will also remain committed to ensuring it continues to meet all regulatory obligations for the Project related to environmental monitoring and community engagement. Additionally, B2Gold Nunavut will continue to work with KIA on implementation of the IIBA in 2025. It is expected that the Parties will continue to focus on identifying and implementing meaningful ways to optimize delivery of the benefits outlined in the IIBA, specifically around the training, hiring and retention of Inuit employees, and the procurement of goods and services from Kitikmeot and Inuit businesses.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY INUINNAQTUN

Kangiqhipkaidjutit

Una Ukiuq Tamaat Unniutjutinik (Unniudjuti) pitqujauhijaujuq havaakhap Naunaitkutaanik No. 007 (Havaakhanut Naunaitkut) tunijauhijaujuq tapkunanga Nunavunmi Avatilirinirmut Katimajiit (NIRB) taffumunga B2Gold Back River Corp.'s (B2Gold Nunavutim) Back River Havaakhat (tamna Havaakhaq). Tamna Havaaqhangit Iitagidjutikhangit naunairutiqaqtuq atuqtakharnik atuqtakharniklu napaqtirutikharnik auladjutikharniklu talvani Back Rivermi Havaaqhangit, unalu Ilitugidjutikhaq tunihimaarniaqtuq naunairutikharnik talvuuna havakpakhimayainik tapkuninga.

Back Rivermi Havaaqhaq

Havaakhaq angiqtauhimayuuq gold-mik ujaraqhiurnikkut nanminirijaujuq B2Gold Corp. uataani Kitikmeoni Nunavunmi (**Takulugu Appendix A Figure 1**). Nayugaa naamavyaktuq 400 kilaamitat (km) hivuraani uataani Ikaluktutiami, 95 km hivuraani kivataani hivuraani nunguniani Kingaok (Kingaktiq), uvalu 520 km tunungani kivataani Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. 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 Qingauk Qingaukmi. Amigainiqhat aipagutuaraagata agyaqtauniginik akungani Iidjirurvia Qitiqqauiyuquulu iniqtauniaqtuq atuqlugu MALIGALIUQTI, qanitanilu 160 km takiyumik WIR-mik ilaliutiniaqtut ukua inigiyauyut.

Tamna Havaaqhaq piqaqtun qaffiuyunik hitamanik angmaumayunik iluqharnik hitamaniklu nunap ataani uyaraqhiuqtunik auladjutikharnik qaffiuyunik goldnik iliugaiyukharnik talvani Goose Property (Umwelt, Llama, Echo, unalu Goose Main). Havaaqhaq angirutiqahimayuuq talvanga NIRBkut Niqiliqivik 2024mi aulatitiyaangat havaktaungitun 'Nuutaanguqtigiaqaqtunik Alruyaqtuqtunik Katimaviani', taima ilauqaqtuq ilauyukharnik iglukpakharnik ikayuutikharnik allanik alruyaqtuutikharnik, taima ilauqaqtuq ilauyukharnik iglukpakharnik ikayuutikharnik allanik alruyaqtuqtunik, taima ilauhimayuuq ilauyukharnik iglukpakharnik ikayuutikharnik allanik alruyaqtuqtunik, talvuuna Niqiliqiyunik, unalu Goose Mainmi aulayukharnik ikayuutikharnik allanik alruyaqtuqtunik, talvuuna Niqiliqivik 2024mi aulatitiyaangat havaktaungitun 'Nuutaanguqtigihimayunik Alruyaqtuqtunik Katimaviani', taima ilauqaqtun ilauyukharnik iglukpakharnik ikayuutikharnik allanik alruyaqtuqtunik auladjutikharnik, taima ilauqaqtuq naunairutikharnik ikayuutikharnik allanik alruyaqtuqtunik auladjutikharnik, taima ilauqaqtunik iglukpakharnik ikayuutikharnik allanik alruyaqtuqtunik, taima ilauqaqtunik iglukpakharnik ikayuutikharnik allanik alruyaqtuqtunik auladjutikharnik, unalu Goose Maintnik auladjutikharnik ikayuutikharnik allanik alruyaqtuqtunik auladjutikharnik, talvuuna Niqiliqivik 2024mi aulatitiyaangat havaktaungitun 'Ihuaqhaiffaagiaqaqtunik Alruyaqtuqtunik Katimaviani', taima ilauqaqtun ilauyukharnik iglukpakharnik ikayuutikharnik allanik alruyaqtuqtunik auladjutikharnik, talvuuna Niqiliqiyunik auladjutikharnik ikayuutikharnik allanik alruyaqtuqtunik, taima ilauqaqtuq naunairutikharnik ikayuutikharnik allanik alruyaqtuqtunik auladjutikharnik, taima ilauqaqhimayuuq auladjutikharnik ikayuutikharnik allanik alruyaqtuqtunik auladjutikharnik, taima ilauyut 13 anugikkut auladjutit, baatuliit tutquumaviit auladjutait, hiqinikkut auladjutit, hiamitiqnikkut alruyat uvalu kivgaqtuutit apqutit.

Havaaqhaq aulapkaqtayuuq ilanganik 20-nik ukiumik ikayuutunik nunamiklu havaaqhanut anggirunmik ataani Havaakhamut Anggirutaa akunngani B2Gold Nunavut kitikmeot Inuit Katimayiinni (KIA mik

naunaittuq), piliuqhimayut pilaarutininik havaaqhaniklu tamaani 80 km nik mi miqhaat pidjutiplituk nunap qan'ngani nunaqhainnik pittaalaqiyaami Inuit Nanminiit Nunaa (IOL mik naunaittuq) talvani Havaaqhami. Hapkua angirutit tunihiyut Inuinnarnun Kitikmeoni maniliqinikkut uvalu inungnun-maniliungnikkut ikayuutit ilaayut, ayuiqhautikharnik, havaaqhangit, aulatitihimayut talvuuna Inuit Avatiliqiyitkut Uqaudjiyut Katimayit (IEAC), maniliurutikharnik nunalaani iglukpakharnik havaaqhangit hivunikhangit ikayuutikharnik avikturvingmi maniliurutikharnik auladjutikharnik hanaqidjutikharnik talvani Kitikmeotmi nunalaangitni, iliqatigiiktukharnik nanminikharnik talvani B2Gold Corpmi, unalu 1 pusanmik katitihimayunik royaltyunik hivunirmi auladjutikharnik talvanga angirutiqaqhimayuq uyaraqhiuqtunik Nanminigiyainik.

Uqagiyauvikhat Akhuurutigiyauvaktutlu

2024mi quvianaqtuq ukiuq haffumunga Havaaghamun. 2024mi, amigairyuumiyut avatqumayut 150,000 Inuit havaktut ikaangniit aadjiliurutigiblugu 2023, uvalu qaffiuniit ikaangnirit Inuit arnat havaktut amigaiquuumiyut imaa 30,000 ikaangnirit aadjiliurutigiblugit kinguliq ukiuq. Imaalu, piqaqtuq \$195 miliataalamik katulaatigit akiit akhuuqtut nanminiqaqtunun Kitikmeoni Qualified Business Registry (KQBR), kitut qanivyaktuq 50 pusat tamainun katulaangnikkut akiit aghuqtut uvani 2024mi. Kinguliqpaq, nakuuniqhaq hivumuqtulugu havakniq Havaaghap uvani 2024mi akhuungnaqtuq piyaangini Havaaghaq tugaaqhimablugu hivuliuyuq Gold uvani Q2 2025mi.

Talvuuna 2024mi, naunaituq taima Tamna Havaaqhaq aulahimaanginaqtuq amigaitunik ihuaqtumik ikayuutikharnik Nunavutim maniliurutikharnik. Avatqumayut 5 million ikaangniit Havaaghat havaktut ublumimun, kitut 647,000+ avatqumayut ikaangnirit havaktauyut Inuinnarnin. \$241 milliat taalamik akiliuhianganik aadlamik tuniyauyuq havauhikhamut havaktinginnut unalu \$1.7 billion taalamik Havauhikhamut akiliutiit piliuqtauyut, \$431.7 milliat taalamik akiliqtauyut Kitingmeonmi Ayuittiaqtut Nanminingit avalittumik. \$95.7 miliataala taaksit akiliqtauyut kanatami uvalu aviktuqhimayuni kavamat.

Tigumiaqtuuqatauyut unalu Nunallaani Ilaupkainiq

Aalatqit Inuit KIA-kulu ilaupkainigit hulijutit atuqhimayut 2024-mi. Uuktuutit hapkua hulidjutit ilaayut, uvani Ubluqtuhiviani Havaaghanun Katulaangnikkut Kangiqhidjutikkut Katimadjutit katimayut Kitikmeoni Ayuittiaqhimayut Nanminiqaqut Edmontonmi, lidjiruvia B2Gold Nunavut ilauvakhimayut aituivakhimajut talvani Kitikmeot Hanajukharnik, Qiqaiyalirviami Havagviani ilauvakhimayut talvani 2024mi Kitikmeot Inuuhinut-Piyangaiyautikkut Munaqhinirmut Katimayit katimavakhimayut Iqaluktuutiami, Imaruqtirviami ilauyukharnik talvanga B2Gold Nunavut katimaqatigivakhimayait Hamilaatkuni Anguniaqtuliqiyitkut Katimayit allatqiinik nunalaani hanaqidjutikharnik, Katimapkaiblutiklu KIAkut Katimayit pulaaqhutik uvani Havaaghamun uvani Tattiarnaqhilirvia. Taimaalu, B2Gold Nunavut atuqpaktuq \$209,872.11 nunallaami aittuutikkut paannariigutikkullu 2024mi.

Ilaliutihimayut aulahimaaqtunun tigumidjutiqaqtunun ilauqatigiingnikkut hulidjutit atuqtilugu ukiuq, iinguyut iligii ilaayut hamanga B2Gold Nunavut Nunaqaqaqtut Ukiuqtaqtumi Kavamaliqidjutainni, Avatiliqiyit uvalu Havaktukhaqhiuqtut havaqatigiit katimapkaiyut Nunallaami Tour uvani Kugluktumi, Taloyoami, Kugaarukmi Uqhuqtuumilu havainirmi Apitilirvik 23-27, 2024. Angmaumajuq igluqpak ihuarhaqtauhimajuqlu Iqaluktuutiami, kihimi una taimaaqtitaujuq hilarlungnirmin. Atuqtilugu havainiq, B2Gold Nunavut piyaghaqaqtut uqaqlutik naamavyaktumik 300nik ilaayunik inungnun, 19 inuit uuktuqtut tuniyauyut havaaghanik piyakhanik, uvalu amigaitut havaariffaaqhgut katitihimayut hivuniptingni piyakhanik!

Avatiliqinikkut Munaqhinikkut Pinahuarutit

2024-mi avatiliqinikut amirijutit hulijutit atuqhimaagtut Havaami nalaumayumik B2Gold-mik Nunavumi Hanayaunigani Pigiarunmi pijutiqaqtulu hulijutinik. Avatiliqinikkut havaanganik ihumagiyaaulaahimayuuq anullautikharnik Ingilraarnitanik, Nunamiutanik, Hydrologynik, Iqaliqiyunik, Nunauyaliiqiyunik, Nunauyaliiqiyunik, Nunamiutanik, Nunamiutanik, Tariurmilu Uumayunik, Freshwaternik Tariurmilu Imarnik Sedimentnik ihivriudjutikharnik talvani Havaaqharni. Pujuulaitkutikhat tutquumadjutikhangit munaqidjutikhangitlu maliqatqujauhimagut atuqtauliqtut ikiglinahuarutikhanik aktilanganik piliuqtauhimagut talvani Back River-mi, imaalu naunaijaqtavut GHG puyuit maliqaplugit Avatiliqijikkut hilaup Aalannguqtirninga (ECCC) GHG Puyunnit Unniudjutikhat Pinahuaruti. Uyagaktaqviit uvalu katitihugit hunat havaktauyut igluqpinikkut ilaayut nunaqyuami havauhiit ihivgiuqtauyut aulahimaagtumik pihimayut haffumunga nunap qanuriniit.

B2Gold Nunavut havakhimaarniaqtun naunaiyaiyaangat uumayunik qayangnairutikharnik talvuuna ihuaqtumik auladjutikharnik talvani Havaaqhangit ihuaqhaidjutikharnik, munagidjutikharnik, unalu atugianganik munagidjutikharnik uuktuutikharnik aulahimayut uumayunik. Nunguliqtulugu 2023 uvalu tamaini 2024, B2Gold Nunavut havaqatigiblugit Kitikmeot Inuit Katimayit, ukualu Kavamatkut Nunavunmi, Tuktunik Ayungnaqtutigut Uqaudjinikkut Katimayit tunihiyut ayungnaqtunik munaridjutinik Havaaghat munaridjutainun uvalu qiniqhiablutik uuktuqlugit ihivriuqlugitlu Havaaghat aktilaangit ikiliyuumiriangani ayuqhautit tuktunun. Huliluaqtauyut hapkua B2Gold Nunavunmi WIR atuqtauyut uvani Q1 2024mi, akhuvalaaq tugaahimayut tuktunun munaridjutainun; B2Gold Nunavut havakpiakpaktut Inuinnaqnik aullapkaiplutik apqutinik munaqhiplutik tuktunut ikajuqtauvaktut uumajunik uumayuliiqijinit munaqhiplutik munaqhiplutik tuktunik qanittuani Havaakhamut, havaklugit unghahiktukkut aulayut tuktut munagidjutikkut piksaliutit apqutini, uvalu piyaangini tamaita aalat hugadjat ihuaqhaidjutikhat atuqtauyut imaatun kikliqaqlugit apqutit angikliyuumiutait, munagiblugit tuktut qunguhiqtautiqaqtunik naunaiyautit amihuaqyuit upautidjutait, uvalu havaktut tingmiyut WIR naittumik titiraqhimayut uvani Havaaghat hugadjatigut piyakhat.

Inituqlituqat havagutit havagutit piqartuq atuqpakniqhat nunauyat kitutliqak nutat uvaluniit ihuaqhihimayuuq pivaliatitni inait aturumani hilataani tatyat atuqtut itigat tamnal/ovaluniit hivuani naunaiyaqtauni inait iniqtauyut. Upin'ngaami aulaviit naunaiyaqtauhimayut ihivriuhugit upingaami tingmiat aulaniit haniani Havaaghat nayugaani, ubluit naunaiyautit iniqtauyut tamaini Havaaghani nayugaini, nauhimayunilu uuktuutit iniqtauyut auyami hapkualu B2Gold Nunavunmi ukiumi hikup aularutaa.

Ukiuq Hivun'nga

Piqaqtuq ikitunik quviahuutinik hulidjutinik nigiuqtauyut haffumunga 2025mun, ihualuangituq kitut ilaayut piyaangini hivuliq goldmik uvani Imaruqirviani, uvalu Grand Angmangnia haffuma Goose Lake Uyarakhiuqtini uvani Apitilirvik. Naunaiyaiyaangat ukuat qanuriliurutikhangit, tamna Havaaqhangit aulahimaagtun nuutigiangani hunavalungnik avatingni nayugaani talvuuna Ukiumi Hikumi Apqutikharnik, hivunikhangit iniqtiyaaangat uminga auladjutikharnik nunguliqan Qitiqqautiyuq. Unaluttauq, Havagvik aulahimaagtumik hivumuqtulugit havaaghat uvani 2024-angiqtauhimayuuq Back River Atuffaaqtaaqut Auladjutikkut Katimavia. Niriuktauyut tapkua tamaini 2025 qanuriniit havaktauniaqtut naunaiyaqlugu kinguliq havaaghat ihumagiyaayut, hananikkut, akiit, uvalu tapkua B2Gold Nunavut aularutiniaqtut aularutaanun avatiliqinikkut uqariyaqtauyunun atuqtilugu maligatigut havauhiatigut.

Havagvik havakhimaarniaqtun naunaiyaiyaangat aulahimaaqtukharnik upautiyaangat tamainik malikhautikharnik hivunikhangit talvani Havaaqhangit aulahimayut avatiliqinikkut munagidjutikharnik nunalaanilu ilauyukharnik. Imaaluttauq, B2Gold Nunavut havaqatigihimmaarniaqtait KIA atulirnikhanut IIBA 2025-mi. Niriuktauyut tapkua ilauyut aulahimaaqtumik turaaqhimalutik naunaiyaqlugit uvalu atuliqtitlugit ihuaqtumik qanuq ihuaqhiyuumiqlugit tunihinirit ikayuutit titiraqhimayut uvani IIBAmi, kitut ilihaidjutit, havaktighaqhiuqtut pihimalugillu Inuit havaktiit, uvalu niuviqlugit tamayat uvalu kivgaqtuutit Kitikmeonin uvalu Inuit nanminiaqtut.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACGIH	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
AQMMP	Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan
B2Gold Nunavut; the Proponent	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
HPD	Hearing Protection Device
IEAC	Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee
IIBA	Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement
INAC	Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
IOL	Inuit Owned Land
JHA	Job Hazard Analysis
KIA	Kitikmeot Inuit Association
KSEMC	Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee
MLA	Marine Laydown Area
MMP	Marine Monitoring Plan
NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Health and Safety
NIRB	Nunavut Impact Review Board
NWB	Nunavut Water Board

OPEP	Oil Pollution Emergency Protection
OPPP	Oil Pollution Prevention Plan
PC	Project Certificate No. 007
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
the Project	Back River Gold Mine Project
the Report	NIRB Annual Report
Sabina	Sabina Gold & Silver Corp.
SEG	Similar exposure groups
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SEMWG	Socio-Economic Monitoring Working Group
TC	Terms and Conditions
TLV	Threshold Limit Values
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 its related facilities. Approvals are in the form of a land use lease, 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

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).

significant 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 Project to the NIRB for assessment. The NIRB subsequently determined the Project was significant and required further assessment by the NIRB. In July 2024, the Federal Minister of Northern Affairs approved the Project to proceed with eleven revised and three new terms and conditions which were subsequently included with the updated Project Certificate No. 007 (Amendment No. 1) issued to B2Gold Nunavut on August 7th, 2024.

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 Licence
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	2025-04-20	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
N2024F0027	2029-11-28	CIRNAC	CAT Train connecting Bathurst Inlet - Back River Project
N2024C0024	2029-11-11	CIRNAC	Back River (Beechy Lake) 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)

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)

Authorization No.	Expiry (yr-mo-day)	Agency	Description
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
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 2024, provides an overview of operational successes, and discusses challenges B2Gold Nunavut faced with respect to meeting PC Terms and Conditions in 2024.
- ◆ Section 4: includes a ‘summary sheet’ detailing compliance for each of the 97 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 these commitments, 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. Additionally, 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 also a member of the Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG) and has established an Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee (IEAC) for the Project with KIA.

2.2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

B2Gold Nunavut actively seeks open and meaningful engagement with Kitikmeot Region residents, communities (Cambridge Bay, Gjoa Haven, Kugluktuk, Kugaaruk, Taloyoak, and Bathurst Inlet/Bay Chimo), and other stakeholders. Engagement will be ongoing throughout the life of the Project so that community knowledge, concerns and feedback can be considered in its operations.

Community engagement methods employed by B2Gold Nunavut are numerous and have included but are not limited to the following: presenting Project information in public and stakeholder meetings; community newsletters; the establishment of community offices staffed by Inuit employees in Cambridge Bay and Kugluktuk; and a community Donations Procedure focused on supporting relevant local causes and initiatives.

Since 2012, B2Gold Nunavut has participated in over 360 meetings with community members in the north, not including other forms of engagement (e.g. written/email correspondence, newsletters, meetings with non-community stakeholders) or its engagement with KIA. Of these meetings, approximately 295 have been in the Kitikmeot Region (Figure 2.2-1).

Table 2.2-1 provides a record of B2Gold Nunavut's 2024 community engagement activities. Many events were held or participated in throughout the year including a Kitikmeot Community Information and Human Resources Tour in September 2024, an Environmental Monitoring Presentation in Kugluktuk in October 2024, stakeholder site visits, and other meetings with local and regional stakeholders and organizations (e.g. HTOs, Hamlets, IEAC, KSEMC).

Figure 2.2-1 Number of Meetings Conducted in Kitikmeot Region Communities (as of December 31, 2024)



Table 2.2-1 2024 Community Engagement Log

Date	Community	Organization / Individual(s)	Type of Engagement	Description
January 10, 2024	Bathurst Inlet and Bay Chimo	Bathurst Inlet and Bay Chimo HTOs	Stakeholder meeting	In-person stakeholder meeting to provide a Back River Project update, discuss the 2023 and 2024 shipping seasons, and NIRB PC T&C 92
January 11, 2024	Cambridge Bay	Hamlet Council	Stakeholder meeting	In-person stakeholder meeting to provide a Back River Project update
January 11, 2024	Cambridge Bay	Deputy Premier Pam Gross	Stakeholder meeting	In-person stakeholder meeting to provide a Back River Project update
January 12, 2024	Cambridge Bay	Ekaluktutiak Hunters & Trappers Organization	Stakeholder meeting	In-person stakeholder meeting to provide a Back River Project update and discuss the 2023 and 2024 shipping seasons

Date	Community	Organization / Individual(s)	Type of Engagement	Description
January 19, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	KQBR Firms	Stakeholder meeting	2024 Back River Project Contracting Information Session held in Edmonton, AB with KQBR Firms
February 7, 2024	Cambridge Bay	Kitikmeot Tradeshow	Public meeting	B2Gold Nunavut attended the Kitikmeot Tradeshow and delivered a Project update presentation
February 8, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	KIA	Stakeholder meeting	Q1 2024 IIBA Implementation Committee meeting
March 4, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	KIA	Stakeholder meeting	Annual meeting of the IIBA Presidents
March 4, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.	Public meeting	B2Gold Nunavut attended the NTI PDAC luncheon and delivered a Project update presentation
March 19, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	KIA	Stakeholder meeting	Teams meeting to discuss NWBs stalled review of several management plans
March 20, 2024	Multi-Community (see 'Description')	Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee	Stakeholder meeting	B2Gold Nunavut participated in the 2024 KSEMC in Cambridge Bay
March 20, 2024	Cambridge Bay	CAO, Hamlet of Cambridge Bay	Stakeholder meeting	Brief Project update meeting
April 3, 2024	Gjoa Haven	Hamlet of Gjoa Haven	Stakeholder meeting	Virtual Project update meeting with Gjoa Haven Hamlet Council
April 8, 2024	Kugluktuk	Kitikmeot School Operations	Stakeholder meeting	Met to discuss Back River Project programming relating to education and B2Gold Nunavut staff visits to Kitikmeot
April 9, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	KIA	Stakeholder meeting	Breakfast meeting with KIA staff to discuss ongoing construction progress at the Back River Project, Inuit employment and training
April 9, 2024	Kugluktuk	Kugluktuk HTO	Stakeholder meeting	Project update, Bernard Harbour 2024 season planning, and discussion of additional fisheries offset programming
April 10, 2024	Bathurst Inlet and Bay Chimo	Bay Chimo and Bathurst Inlet HTOs	Stakeholder meeting	Back River Project site tour
April 24, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	KIA	Stakeholder meeting	Dinner meeting during Nunavut Mining Symposium

Date	Community	Organization / Individual(s)	Type of Engagement	Description
April 24, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	Premier of Nunavut	Stakeholder meeting	Back River Project update meeting
April 25, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	GN Minister of ED&T	Stakeholder meeting	Back River Project update meeting
May 6, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	SEMWG	Stakeholder meeting	Annual meeting of the Project's Socio-Economic Monitoring Working Group (SEMWG)
June 2024	Multi-Community (see 'Description')	Various	Other (see 'Description')	First edition of the Project's IIBA Newsletter released
June 4, 2024	Kugluktuk	Hamlet of Kugluktuk	Stakeholder meeting	Meeting to discuss potential partnership on community training initiatives
June 6, 2024	Kugluktuk	Kugluktuk HTO	Stakeholder meeting	Meeting to provide updates on Bernard Harbour monitoring and discuss the potential for a new fisheries offset program
June 6, 2024	Cambridge Bay	Hamlet of Cambridge Bay	Stakeholder meeting	Meeting to discuss a potential partnership to develop a recreation center in Cambridge Bay
June 24, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	KIA	Stakeholder meeting	Q2 IIBA Implementation Committee meeting
June 25 to June 28, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee	Stakeholder meeting	Annual meeting and site visit
July 5, 2024	Kugluktuk	Hamlet of Kugluktuk	Other (see 'Description')	Met with Interim SAO. Current lease overview and invoicing. Update on simulator training.
July 9, 2024	Cambridge Bay	Public	Public meeting	B2Gold Nunavut partnered with NTI to hold a Nunavut Day BBQ
July 10, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	KIA	Stakeholder meeting	Informal meeting with KIA President to provide a Project update
July 10, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	Kitikmeot Corporation	Stakeholder meeting	Kitikmeot Inuit Workforce Strategy Q2 virtual meeting with Kitikmeot Corporation
August 1, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	KIA	Stakeholder meeting	Meeting to discuss Back River IIBA implementation-related matters
August 26-28, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	KIA	Stakeholder meeting	Inspection of the Project

Date	Community	Organization / Individual(s)	Type of Engagement	Description
September 9, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	KIA and Government of Nunavut	Stakeholder meeting	Meeting with the Government of Nunavut / Kitikmeot Inuit Association to discuss the potential for a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding
September 10, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	KIA	Stakeholder meeting	Q3 IIBA Implementation Committee meeting
September 19, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	KIA	Stakeholder meeting	KIA Q3 2024 Board meeting presentation
September 23, 2024	Kugaaruk	Public	Public meeting	Annual Kitikmeot Community Tour
September 24, 2024	Gjoa Haven	Public	Public meeting	Annual Kitikmeot Community Tour
September 25, 2024	Taloyoak	Public	Public meeting	Annual Kitikmeot Community Tour
September 27, 2024	Kugluktuk	Public	Public meeting	Annual Kitikmeot Community Tour
October 3, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	Otokiak Corporation	Stakeholder meeting	Discussed Inuit employment, training and recruitment with Otokiak Corporation
October 4, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	Kitikmeot Corporation	Stakeholder meeting	Update meeting with Kitikmeot Corporation
October 4, 2024	Cambridge Bay	Kiilunik High School	Public meeting	Meeting with potential graduates to discuss mining-related training and employment opportunities
October 7, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	KIA	Stakeholder meeting	KIA Board visit to Back River Project sites
October 9, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	Kitikmeot Corporation	Stakeholder meeting	Kitikmeot Inuit Workforce Strategy Q3 virtual meeting with Kitikmeot Corporation
October 17, 2024	Multi-Community (see 'Description')	Kitikmeot Mayors	Public meeting	Presentation to the Kitikmeot Regional Mayors Forum in Cambridge Bay
October 28, 2024	Kugluktuk	Public	Public meeting	B2Gold Nunavut held a public meeting to discuss Back River Project environmental monitoring and mitigation
October 28, 2024	Kugluktuk	Kugluktuk HTO	Stakeholder meeting	Project update, future fisheries offset partnerships

Date	Community	Organization / Individual(s)	Type of Engagement	Description
October 28, 2024	Kugluktuk	Mayor Ryan Nivingalok	Stakeholder meeting	Project update discussion
November 2024	Multi-Community (see 'Description')	Various	Other (see 'Description')	Second edition of the Project's IIBA Newsletter released
November 1, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	NNL Kitikmeot Ltd.	Stakeholder meeting	Discussed business opportunities at the Back River Project with NNL Kitikmeot Ltd.
November 4, 2024	Multi-Community (see 'Description')	Premier of Nunavut, Ministers of ED&T and Environment, and Deputy Premier alongside all Kitikmeot Members of the Legislative Assembly	Stakeholder meeting	Project update meeting in Iqaluit
November 19, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	KIA	Stakeholder meeting	Call with KIA to discuss ongoing IIBA review and meeting schedule
November 21, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	Kitikmeot Corporation	Stakeholder meeting	Kitikmeot Inuit Workforce Strategy virtual meeting with Kitikmeot Corporation
November 29, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	Kitikmeot Corporation	Stakeholder meeting	Monthly update meeting with Kitikmeot Corporation
December 3-4, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	CTAG	Stakeholder meeting	Caribou Technical Advisory Group meeting
December 6, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	KIA	Stakeholder meeting	Q4 IIBA Implementation Committee meeting
December 11, 2024	Kugluktuk	Economic Development Officer	Stakeholder meeting	Discussion on Company-community support programs
December 12, 2024	Kugluktuk	Bobby Anavialok, MLA	Stakeholder meeting	Call to discuss Inuit employment-related issues
December 31, 2024	Other (see 'Description')	IEAC	Other (see 'Description')	Email update to IEAC re: next meeting and MLA site access

A selection of photos from B2Gold Nunavut’s 2024 community engagement activities, including its September 2024 Kitikmeot Community Information and Human Resources Tour, are included as Photos 2.2-1 to 2.2-6 below.



Photo 2.2-1 Kugluktuk, Nunavut (October 2024).



Photo 2.2-2 Cambridge Bay, Nunavut (July 2024).



Photo 2.2-3 Bathurst Inlet and Bay Chimo Residents Site Visit (April 2024).



Photo 2.2-4 Gjoa Haven, Nunavut (September 2024).



Photo 2.2-5 Taloyoak, Nunavut (September 2024).



Photo 2.2-6 Kugaaruk, Nunavut (September 2024).

Community perspectives on the Project continue to be tracked by B2Gold Nunavut to inform the Company's management plans and monitoring programs. 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). B2Gold Nunavut's annual Socio-Economic Monitoring Reports and Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Reports currently employ this guidance and present relevant information.

Table 2.2-2 includes a summary of community feedback received on the Project in 2024, example comments, and B2Gold Nunavut's responses to key issues raised. Public meeting notes and presentation materials from 2024 are included in **Appendix B**.

2.3 ENGAGEMENT WITH THE KIA

A Framework Agreement and an Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement were signed with the KIA in April 2018. These agreements aim to maximize Inuit benefits and participation in the opportunities arising from the Back River Project. B2Gold Nunavut recognizes that respect and collaboration with the KIA is central to the license to operate and will continue to prioritize developing the project in a manner that recognizes Inuit priorities, addresses concerns and brings long-term socio-economic benefits to the Kitikmeot Region.

In March 2024, B2Gold Corp. and the KIA met in person for the annual Presidents Meeting to discuss project updates and IIBA Implementation. A follow-up meeting took place in July 2024 with the KIA President to provide an additional project update. Throughout the year, B2Gold Nunavut and KIA continued meetings of the IIBA Implementation Committee which was established in 2022. Four committee meetings were held in 2024.

B2Gold Nunavut looks forward to continuing to build on its strong collaboration with the KIA and Kitikmeot Communities.

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 (NRCan), and Transport Canada (TC). B2Gold Nunavut also actively engages territorial governments, the Nunavut Water Board, the Nunavut Planning Commission, and other government bodies and agencies.

Table 2.2-2 2024 Community Feedback

Issue or Topic	Example Comments	B2Gold Nunavut's Response
Project operations	<p>How many open pits will the mine have?</p> <p>How far (metres) does the drilling go before blasting?</p> <p>Is the mine site well taken care of?</p> <p>How much ore do you pull from Echo Pit daily?</p> <p>What is done with the gold once produced?</p>	<p>B2Gold Nunavut continues to welcome community questions and comments on the Back River Project. Details regarding Project development and technical aspects of the Project are available in several public documents and/or can be discussed in person. This information is available online in our NIRB Annual Reports located on the NIRB Public Registry (https://www.nirb.ca/project/124149) and through our Company website (https://www.b2gold.com/). Discussions about the Project can also be held with our community staff based in Cambridge Bay and Kugluktuk at any time of the year, and through the community engagement sessions we regularly host throughout the Kitikmeot Region. B2Gold Nunavut uses these engagement sessions to provide information and address community questions and concerns about the Project.</p>
Recruitment, training, and career progression	<p>Is B2Gold planning on exposing youth to mining to help them determine if it is for them? Could you conduct site tours for students and youth?</p> <p>During the upcoming Community Tour, are you able to meet with students in Kugaaruk to talk about career opportunities in mining?</p> <p>What plans are being put in place to see students being trained for management positions?</p> <p>Can you please explain B2Gold Nunavut programs to encourage and promote Inuit career progression?</p> <p>Do you do cultural awareness training?</p>	<p>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. We also make efforts to engage Kitikmeot youth about the Project through our community engagement program and provide support to those wishing to pursue related training via our Post-Secondary Education Application Fee program. Additionally, B2Gold Nunavut recently began a partnership with the Redfish Arts Society Inc. in Cambridge Bay and in 2024 introduced 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.</p>
Employment opportunities and employee benefits	<p>I want to hear more about jobs being opened to our youth. We want our economy to grow in our community. There's money to be made, so I am very pleased to see that the youth in our community are being encouraged to apply for jobs.</p> <p>How are you working to increase Inuit employment at Project sites?</p> <p>Who do we contact if interested in applying for a job? As for the Elders who cannot read or write, which jobs are available?</p> <p>Inquiry about transition and changeover of new companies and the effects of benefits to its employees. Particularly relating to pension plans.</p> <p>For those of us that are on the hamlet councils, we need to see more jobs available to our communities, more job opportunities, more career opportunities.</p>	<p>B2Gold Nunavut is committed to making all reasonable efforts to maximize Inuit employment opportunities through the life of the Project 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 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.</p> <p>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 Support 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>.</p>
Community benefits from the Project	<p>Would be nice if they build housing units for generation to come.</p> <p>As for Gjoa Haven, you have employees at site. What can you do for the community? Such as smooth out the roads as the Elders would like to go out for a visit or fresh air, and also an opportunity for the young generation to experience to what type of equipment is used in the mines.</p> <p>Benefits from the Back River Project should be split 50/50 with the community. Will you be doing this?</p> <p>We don't see any benefits from the Project, what are you doing about it?</p> <p>Would the company be able to help build small sheds for the homeless, for the ones that aren't allowed back to the shelter?</p>	<p>The Project offers numerous benefits to Kitikmeot communities including employment and training opportunities, contract and business development opportunities, local donations, taxes paid to government, royalties, 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.</p>

Issue or Topic	Example Comments	B2Gold Nunavut's Response
<p>B2Gold Nunavut's community engagement process</p>	<p>We understand how difficult it is to reach people in smaller communities, if B2Gold needs any assistance with employment and connecting people the hamlet can provide the assistance.</p> <p>... we're not getting information back [from] meetings like this. And because of that, communication between Kitikmeot Inuit Association, B2Gold, which was Sabina at the time... was very poor... Information is not being relayed back to the community for whatever reason. And because of that, we suffer in Kitikmeot east, because the information is not being passed on. Therefore, I'm telling Kitikmeot Inuit Association, B2Gold, we exist in the east. And you can do better with communication and hire more people to work from Kitikmeot east.</p> <p>And talking about visiting our communities in east Kitikmeot, don't come and visit us in springtime. Everybody is out hunting and fishing. Springtime only comes once a year. June, July, August everybody is out gathering food for winter supplies. So, springtime is not a good time for anybody to visit in the communities in the Kitikmeot Region. And I have to point that out because a lot of times we get people coming into our communities in springtime when everybody is out hunting and fishing, drying fish and meat for winter supplies, and that is not a good time.</p> <p>If the wind farm is approved by this Board, we always want full communication with B2Gold, not through second-hand information we've had for a couple years, but directly with our Burnside HTO chair and... manager when possible, with any incidents or concerns, questions or advice you are looking for. Qingaunmiut have lived in and around the Inlet for generations before us. The families know the country very well... And their concerns are always going to be the impact this mine will have for years to come if we are not properly consulted.</p> <p>... I would like to make a comment to the Nunavut Impact Review Board, to the staff, and to all the participants here today. You have shown that collaboration and communication within the Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit system works. It has been so impressive to see what's been happening here, and I'm very pleased and proud and thank you enormously for the invitation to participate.</p>	<p>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 stakeholder 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 Kitikmeot Region focused donation program. 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.</p>
<p>Inuit role on Project-related advisory groups</p>	<p>How is the IEAC committee selected?</p> <p>There was a lot of remarks on caribou technical advisory committee, CTAG, not only from the people that are appointed or involved with CTAG, but also from people on the NIRB board, staff from the NIRB... And mentions from KIA that the [CTAG] work with B2Gold and the Government of Nunavut that they advise. But... they advise other regional organizations like the HTOs and stuff. But when we asked... at the first public hearing, the prehearing, about the [CTAG] that, perhaps maybe members of the HTOs should be part of that advisory group, and it was mentioned that 'No'. It's too technical... or something like that... they're inviting Environment and Climate Change Canada to work on mitigation measures... but they're not inviting the HTOs who see all the wildlife or see that change day-to-day... I feel there's a type of reluctance to have the HTOs involved in such an important step in this process. And, you know, I never only brought it up myself... but I was hearing it from a NIRB board member.</p> <p>I want to go back to the [CTAG]... when it comes to caribou, Kugluktuk has made it a mission to be involved in pretty much every group, every meeting because of the acknowledged decline of most of our herds. I think a lot of our concern regarding this technical group is that we are not getting the information back, and we're not sure what information is being shared from the community information side. We acknowledge that Kitikmeot Inuit Association is the landowner, but there's so much out there that is not part of Inuit-owned lands, and that's why we are at the table today.</p> <p>Is there any other community involved other than Cambridge Bay in the IEAC?</p> <p>We used to be part of the start/beginning committee (CAG), seeing the progress of the footprint over the years is important and we want to continue to see it.</p> <p>On your committee board from this area, do you guys have some in the whole region, or just your local committees are just from here, or where do your committees come from?</p>	<p>B2Gold Nunavut currently facilitates and/or 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). Furthermore, B2Gold Nunavut and KIA jointly participate in an IIBA Implementation Committee, which oversees matters related to IIBA implementation for the Project, and in late 2024 formed a new Inuit employment focused working group with KIA.</p>

Issue or Topic	Example Comments	B2Gold Nunavut's Response
<p>Impact mitigation and monitoring pertaining to caribou and other wildlife</p>	<p>You need more monitors (caribou and grizzlies) at Goose and at MLA, monitor at each end during the winter ice road.</p> <p>Caribou migration through mine site, what is the historical trails? Do you have maps of that? That would be helpful to determine crossing locations around the mine site.</p> <p>Just to be clear, as one of the only people who hunts moose full-time down in Bathurst Inlet, moose are all over Bathurst Inlet in its entirety, and I do hunt it all over the place, so your one location [identified as being an important area for moose] doesn't cut it.</p> <p>... as a HTO member from my community, Kugaaruk, we're always concerned about our animals, fish... Caribous have no border lines or any animals, so they travel a vast distance. So, even the caribou from here are coming our way on the west side that goes up to Taloyoak. We still harvest those caribous every year. And then on the south side that comes in, goes on the east side of our bay, so we've got two migrating caribous... it's our way of life, our food. From the time I was born, my parents harvested, my grandparents harvested, and still today we still join the harvest. So, any sudden changes will do some changes to our migrating animal.</p> <p>Like all community representatives, we are concerned for our wildlife, the habitat, the ecosystems. There needs to be a balance. And I know that being a hunters and trappers organization representative can help achieve that at hearings and forums like this. We are always on the land. We are always talking with other people. And it is so amazing to be present at important things like this, and there needs to be more of it.</p>	<p>B2Gold Nunavut has completed a comprehensive assessment of potential Project impacts on caribou and other wildlife through the NIRB's multi-stakeholder review process. No significant effects on caribou or other wildlife 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 wildlife. This document can be found on the NIRB Public Registry (https://www.nirb.ca/project/124149). Annual monitoring results applicable to caribou and other wildlife 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).</p> <p>B2Gold Nunavut is also reviewing a 2024 recommendation from the IEAC that suggests the addition of another monitoring team to ensure two monitoring teams along the WIR during the required time as outlined in B2Gold Nunavut's WMMP.</p>
<p>Project-related shipping</p>	<p>Is shipping for our HTOs a possibility this year?</p> <p>We need notice of ships in the inlet and their visibility, considering we may need to respond to spills and it would be hard if the ships are all over the place without our notice. We have overall concerns of no information on where the ships are and will be located.</p> <p>Is B2Gold following transport Canada guidelines for shipping?</p> <p>Seen a fair amount of ships going by Bay Chimo and going quite a speed and at the time we are hoping they would slow down a bit.</p> <p>How much bigger is the fuel ship compared to tankers used previously? How much more deadweight tonnage? How far would the ship be from MLA?</p>	<p>B2Gold Nunavut completed a comprehensive assessment of potential Project impacts on the marine environment through the NIRB's multi-stakeholder review process. This included an extensive review of potential impacts from 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.</p>
<p>Environmental impact mitigation and monitoring</p>	<p>When I visited the MLA this winter, I saw dust on the snow from the airstrip. Does that affect vegetation and animals in the area?</p> <p>Does B2Gold monitor the snow condition year after year? It changes every year. Do you monitor and test the water after the melt from the snow runoff?</p> <p>Being good stewards of the land and water, encouraging to protect our land and water. When I first learned about mines being developed, I was extremely worried because the potential for destroying wildlife lands and water. However, after attending meetings and learning about what mines do I feel assured with mining because of all the monitoring.</p> <p>Do the wildlife monitors not only monitor the animals but also the berries and plants?</p> <p>The only issue and concern that I have are the mess on the land, the cleanup after it's all done. And the rest of the east community's concerns are after 20 years, what do you do with all that equipment?</p>	<p>B2Gold Nunavut has several environmental 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).</p>

Issue or Topic	Example Comments	B2Gold Nunavut's Response
<p>Marine and freshwater impact mitigation and monitoring</p>	<p>How do you manage water in the areas you are working in and will be mining in?</p> <p>The big rivers (Hood, Ellice River, Perry River etc.), does B2Gold periodically check and monitor the water in those rivers?</p> <p>I know there's stringent requirements for B2Gold to conduct... sampling of the water table, sampling of soils... if there were spills to occur and stuff like that... That's work being done by B2Gold. Is there an independent assessor to confirm that... B2Gold is meeting the requirements, say, like, for an independent sampling program, for example?</p> <p>Can you provide sample bottles to community members and test samples at MLA if they are collected properly?</p> <p>... we're an HTO where we don't have a lot of resources that could provide those types of expertise and sampling and testing, and so it's great to know that we're not in it ourselves and B2Gold and government agencies and NIRB and the water board are looking after all the environment and wildlife in our areas. I don't know if it was a requirement of the project certificate initially, but there was also concerns of wildlife, fish, and marine mammals in areas of mining and stuff that, if it's possible... they've been tested... just to see a before and after... You know, like, before mining, these were the conditions or the way that the animals were, they had no contaminants in them, they were tested. And if they... would be tested later, I guess... And I'm sure you've tested, you know, the water and the land in the area and... you're continually testing it. But what about the wildlife? Have they been tested, to be certain...? They're at this stage at the beginning of the mine; where are the fish at right now? You know, five, ten years later down.</p>	<p>See above response. In addition, B2Gold Nunavut has a Marine Monitoring Plan and its WMMP Plan contains mitigation and management measures specific to marine birds, marine mammals, and polar bears. The Company also has mitigation and management measures specific to the freshwater environment included in its Water Management Plan and its Aquatic Effects Management Plan.</p>
<p>B2Gold Nunavut's renewable energy project (general comments and questions)</p>	<p>As we all know, we are experiencing climate change in terms of extreme heat and extremely high winds... Will the turbines be able to withstand very high winds such as a hundred kilometres an hour, which we are experiencing every summer -- mostly in summer?</p> <p>I would like to see the Nunavut Impact Review Board approve this project proposal... there's more and more development happening up north, but we must accept that as Elders as well.</p> <p>... the turbines, battery banks, the solar panels and stuff... I'm sure they are hazardous and could be hazardous if they malfunctioned and stuff broke apart. The turbines, they're mechanical equipment, so I know that they'll probably require lubrication of oils and petroleum products and stuff like that. So, my question is, these areas where infrastructure is to be built, are they going to be lined with berms or rubber mats or stuff that will contain if there were ever... a spill to occur that those harmful stuff... does not get into the environment?</p> <p>Like everybody else's concerns here that are voiced, it's always the concerns regarding the land, the wildlife, and the possibilities of something going wrong. Any time something goes wrong, you can't replace what goes off in the areas that you're working at and put it back to its pristine positions that it was before you touched it.</p> <p>How often will you be using the wind turbines when they are turned on?</p>	<p>B2Gold Nunavut welcomes community questions and comments on the Back River Energy Center, which has been reviewed by NIRB and was approved in 2024 by the Government of Canada. Details on this project can be found on the NIRB Public Registry (https://www.nirb.ca/project/125740) and have also been provided to the public 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.</p> <p>B2Gold Nunavut has conducted a comprehensive assessment of potential Project impacts related to the Back River Project Energy Centre. 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.</p>

Issue or Topic	Example Comments	B2Gold Nunavut's Response
<p>Potential impacts of B2Gold Nunavut's renewable energy project on caribou and other wildlife</p>	<p>With the plans to build a wind farm, there is going to be concerns around land animals and vibration. It has an effect on the land around the farm. Since the animals are very sensitive to sounds and vibration around them, it will likely move any migration routes they follow.</p> <p>Are you going to stop the wind turbines for when the caribou are passing?</p> <p>... it's very, very concerning about the caribou populations up here in the north. They're on the decline... Now, the vibration of the turbines and the propellers and the lights... they're going to cause a glare from the sunlight, and as hunters, we all know this. From 2 or 3 miles, the wildlife begin to run off before we get to them... this is going to be visible by caribou and as well as polar bears. The vibration is going to create noise. The glare is... going to impact the polar bears and the caribou because we cannot see what animals see. We don't have that... kind of vision. They see what we don't see. They can see from miles away. They can smell... anything from miles away, and they become timid and run off.</p> <p>We are finally seeing the caribou back in the Inlet after 30 years of decline. And our concern is that the windmill farm will impact this return of the tuktu. As Qingaunmiut we are limited to harvest the caribou, so we rely on Ahiak or the Beverly herd when they migrate through Bathurst Inlet throughout the year. Also, we have been hunting the moose these past several years since we cannot hunt the barren-ground caribou due to the tags allocation to other communities. Our concern is that once the wind farm is in place, the decline will happen with the moose as well. In the last five years, we have been seeing... the moose population come up. Like to caribou, they are finally coming back.</p>	<p>B2Gold Nunavut has conducted a comprehensive assessment of potential Project impacts on caribou and other wildlife related to the Back River Project Energy Centre, using both Traditional Knowledge (TK) from local communities and scientific information. 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 will manage and monitor for potential impacts on caribou and other wildlife. 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).</p>
<p>Potential impacts of B2Gold Nunavut's renewable energy project on birds</p>	<p>Birds appear to be nesting earlier now. Is the birds nesting considered during the monitoring on the turbine?</p> <p>Have you done studies on the turbines throughout the world that were installed? Like, I know there's some in Canada. Most of them are in an open field, and there's recently one in Diavik mine, you said. And how much study was done there after they were erected? And my main concern is birds that flies. We don't have X-ray eyes, so we won't be monitoring every day or night, especially when it's dark. I have heard down south out in the field, there were hundreds and hundreds of birds killed from the blade turbines. So that is why I'm afraid. It's going to be some small birds; it's going to be some also larger birds, right? It concerns me. So, have you guys done any studies on that before?</p> <p>Now, with regards to the birds, today we don't have any wind turbines situated up here in our region in the Kitikmeot, but... I have seen birds fly throughout the fall, especially eiders, and in the fall time, they start to migrate southward when it becomes dark. Sometimes we find that some birds run into or fly into the wires, and then they become injured fatally, and some have injuries of their bones because – they run into these wires because they're flying during the night in the dark, and some run into buildings... The wind turbines are going to be at a great height. I think for sure that that's going to cause a problem for migratory birds.</p> <p>... I've seen turbines on your slides that are all white -- and, if so, if your project is approved, will there be other colours that you will be using on your turbines? Because they'll be hazardous to the birds when it's whiteout. It's really hard -- everything's camouflaged when it's whiteout. Is there any other colours that you'll be using in your turbines?</p>	<p>See above response. In addition, B2Gold Nunavut has committed to developing a detailed Migratory Birds Protection Plan that specifies measures designed for the protection of birds from operation of wind turbines, with additional protective measures to be implemented during periods of poor visibility within peak bird migration periods.</p>

2.5 ENGAGEMENT WITH WORKING GROUPS

2.5.1 KITIKMEOT SOCIO-ECONOMIC MONITORING COMMITTEE AND 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. Most recently, B2Gold Nunavut participated in an in-person meeting with the group in Cambridge Bay in March 2024.

In addition to the KSEMC, the Project has a dedicated Socio-Economic Monitoring Working Group (SEMWG) that is comprised of representatives from B2Gold Nunavut, the GN, the Government of Canada, and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA). The SEMWG Terms of Reference (TOR) provides guidance on B2Gold Nunavut's socio-economic monitoring program and was revised in mid-2024 in consultation with SEMWG members. Engagement throughout 2024 included B2Gold Nunavut hosted a videoconference meeting with the group in May 2024 and providing ongoing opportunities for SEMWG members to review and comment on B2Gold Nunavut's socio-economic submissions via the NIRB annual reporting process.

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

2.5.2 INUIT ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In accordance with the IIBA between B2Gold Nunavut and KIA, an Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee (IEAC) has been established for the Project. As outlined in the IIBA, 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.

The IIBA Implementation Committee has 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 second annual meeting and a Project site visit in June 2024. Appendix G of the 2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (**Appendix B**) contains additional details on the IEAC's composition and activities in 2024.



Photo 2.5-1 IEAC Members and Participants (June 2024).

2.5.3 CARIBOU TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP

Per Project Certificate Term and Condition No. 51, a Caribou Technical Advisory Group (CTAG) has been established 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.

B2Gold Nunavut aims to hold a minimum of one meeting per year and can be a combination of in person and virtual attendance. In 2024, 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 occurring in Q1 2024, 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 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. Measures include 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. Additional details have been provided in both relevant wildlife sections of this report as well as the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Report (Appendix D).

3. OPERATIONS OVERVIEW

3.1 2024 HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES

In 2024, B2Gold Nunavut managed to complete several key construction activities at the site focused on commissioning of the Back River Project in Q2, 2025.

The following activities were completed in 2024, in support of future Project construction and operation:

- ◆ Ongoing construction of the plant site, mill, and truck shop at the Goose property.
- ◆ The concrete batch plant and a fully automated rebar cutting and bending machines poured 90% of the concrete needed for the Goose Site Process Plant in 2024.
- ◆ Majority of Goose Site Process Plant structures cladded to allow heated indoor work through the winter, mechanical and structural are well advanced, and the ball mill installation was completed ahead of schedule.
- ◆ Phase 2 of the accommodations complex at the Goose property was completed in May 2024, expanding the camp to approximately 600 beds.
- ◆ Continued construction of the primary pond at the Goose property nearing completion.
- ◆ Echo Pit pre-stripping was completed and mining commenced.
- ◆ Umwelt Pit pre-stripping commenced.
- ◆ Continuing advancement of the Vault Underground decline.
- ◆ Approximately 2000 loads were transported on the WIR in 2023/2024.
- ◆ The fuel tank containment area at the MLA was enlarged to facilitate additional storage, and initial construction for similar storage at Goose commenced.
- ◆ The MLA was reorganized to maximize space for the 2024 sealift unload.
- ◆ All major equipment and materials required for construction have been delivered to the MLA and are awaiting transportation down the WIR to Goose.
- ◆ 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 had 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 June 9th, 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.

In July 2022, Sabina submitted the Back River Energy Centre Project to the NIRB for assessment. The NIRB subsequently determined that the Project was significant and required further assessment by the NIRB. In July 2024, the Federal Minister of Northern Affairs approved the Project to proceed with eleven revised and three new terms and conditions which were subsequently included with the updated Project Certificate No. 007 (Amendment No. 1) issued to B2Gold Nunavut on August 7th, 2024.

3.1.2 ENGINEERING

In 2024, B2Gold Nunavut enhanced the previous year's momentum; advancing, finalizing, and constructing many detailed engineering programs associated with site development, process plant infrastructure and mining operations. The team has successfully advanced and/or finalized critical elements of the process plant design, highlighting Piping and Instrumentation Diagrams (P&IDs), Balance-of-Plant (BOP) facilities within the powerhouse, and ancillary infrastructure supporting water supply and tailings deposition to and from the process plant.

A secondary Power Generation system has been commissioned, detailed design and procurement are progressing on schedule to support underground mining's expanding consumption. Fuel Storage system upgrades to accommodate the increased demand were substantially completed at both the MLA and Goose project sites. B2Gold Nunavut maintains its commitment to reducing the carbon footprint of the Back River Project as evidenced by the ongoing process to permit, the Back River Renewable Energy

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)

Centre. Upon completion the total fuel consumption and associated GHG emissions from the Back River Project will remain less than the projected original Back River Project FEIS.

3.1.3 EXPLORATION

During 2024 over 25,000 metres of drilling was completed by B2Gold Nunavut on the Goose Property including resource confirmation drilling at the Umwelt deposit, as well as exploration drilling at several Goose Property regional targets including Llama, Nuvuyak and Mammoth, that were developed based on structural modelling and geophysical re-processing. Encouraging results were obtained in Nuvuyak and Mammoth and goal is to grow resources at Goose through exploration drilling.

Regional exploration comprised mapping, prospecting, geophysics and the collection of till and rock samples in Boot, Boulder, Del, BB13, Needle and Beech with heli-magnetics completed in BB13, Needle and Beech and Induced Polarization (3D-IP) carried out in Boot and Boulder. Geophysical results will augment regional and near-mine drill targets with the goal to find additional resources for Back River Project.

3.1.4 EMPLOYMENT

Increasing the Project's Inuit workforce is, and has always been, a key objective for B2Gold Nunavut. In 2024, a total of 3,221 personnel (i.e. employees and contractors) worked on the Project, 233 of which were Inuit (12.2% of the Project's workforce by hours worked). 211 Inuit personnel originated from within the Kitikmeot Region, while 22 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 40,368 hours of training were completed in 2024, including 21,274 hours by Inuit. While Inuit represented 12.2% of the workforce by hours worked in 2024, they received 52.7% of all training hours provided. Several types of training were offered in 2024 including certificate/licence-based and job-related programs. B2Gold Nunavut's Socio-Economic Monitoring Report contains a complete listing of these training offerings.

In 2024, cultural awareness training sessions were provided on 38 different dates by the Indigenous & Northern Affairs team. This training was conducted at Project sites in English and had 318 participants, 17 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 video was also shared with KIA for comment. B2Gold Nunavut will continue to engage KIA on cultural awareness training initiatives at the Project.

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 2024, a total of \$770.5 million in expenditures were made to 761 businesses. Of this, \$319.1 million (41.4%) in expenditures were made to 118 northern businesses (including Kitikmeot Qualified Businesses, NTI Registered Inuit Firms, Nunavut Businesses, and other Northern Businesses). \$204.6 million (26.5%) in expenditures were made to 17 Kitikmeot Qualified Businesses.

3.2 NEXT STEPS

2025 promises to be an incredibly busy and rewarding year at the Back River Project. A busy construction year is planned as we advance towards operations in Q2, 2025. Ongoing community engagement, and the development of new programming to support Kitikmeot Communities will continue. Monitoring programs are continually being enhanced to ensure that construction activities conform to B2Gold Nunavut's licences and authorizations. Environmental monitoring programs that were committed to being completed during Construction phase were completed. All this work will ensure that the target for First Gold in Q2, 2025 remains on track.

The Company's efforts on Inuit hiring, retention, and training are also set to continually be enhanced throughout 2025. 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 August 2025. 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 program will be finalized to aid B2Gold Nunavut as it works to develop a culturally diverse workforce.

Construction activities will focus on completing the primary pond, process plant site component completion in advance of commissioning including the powerhouse, and a successful 2025 Winter Ice Road to ensure necessary equipment, fuel, and supplies are transported down to Goose.

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.

The NIRB's main contact for the Back River Project:

Nunavut Impact Review Board
Attn: Cory Barker
Manager, Project Monitoring
PO Box 1360 (29 Mitik St.)
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0
Email: cbarker@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	◆ Category as defined in PC No. 007
Responsible Parties	◆ Responsible party as defined in PC No. 007
Project Phase(s)	◆ 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	◆ Objective as defined in PC No. 007
Term or Condition (TC)	◆ TC as defined in PC No. 007
Reporting Requirement	◆ Reporting Requirement as defined in PC No. 007
Status of Compliance	◆ A self-assessed status of compliance in the PC TC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Compliant ◇ Partially-compliant ◇ Non-compliant
Stakeholder Review	◆ 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	◆ Description/title of relevant documents where supporting information related to PC TC status of compliance its available for review. ²
Methods	◆ 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	◆ Summary of efforts or work that were completed in support of achieving PC TC compliance in previous reporting years, where applicable.
Trends	◆ Summary of notable trends from previous years.
Next Steps	◆ 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 2024 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. On August 7, 2024, the Project Certificate No. 007 was reissued to B2Gold Nunavut with Amendment 01, to now include the Energy Centre Project. B2Gold Nunavut has implemented the Project Certificate where applicable, and in general, 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, and 95)
- ◆ Section 4.6 Performance on Socio-Economic Terms and Conditions (No.66 to 88, 96 and 97)
- ◆ 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 2024:

KIA (August 2024): inspection of Goose Lake Camp and the Marine Laydown Area was conducted as per the KIA established inspection schedule. George camp was not inspected due to inclement weather, however B2Gold NU provided pictures to the KIA in-line with their inspection agenda at a later date once weather improved. On November 9, 2024, an inspection report was provided to B2Gold Nunavut summarizing the findings of the visit for both the Goose Lake Camp and the Marine Laydown Area. The inspection report indicated that “there has been a lot of development and current construction within the Goose Lake Mine Site area”. Between the two locations only one main item was identified in the inspection report for Goose Lake Camp within the seacan storage area. The laydown required regrading and leveling as it was observed to be uneven, causing some seacans to tilt. Some of those seacans contained reagent and resin chemicals, which if spilled, could cause damage to the environment and/or health issues to wildlife. B2Gold Nunavut quickly restacked the seacans in a more suitable location shortly after the completion of the inspection.

CIRNAC (July 2024 and November 2024): an inspection of both Goose Lake Camp and Marine Laydown Area occurred in July 2024 and an inspection of only Goose Lake Camp occurred in November 2024. These inspection reports are available on the NWB public registry. In the July inspection report a total of six actions were identified for Goose Lake Camp and four actions for the Marine Laydown Area. In the November inspection report a total of four actions were identified for the Goose Lake Camp. Actions identified in the July and November inspections reports were addressed in 2024 to the most practical extent possible. Items identified included comments around secondary containment capacity and waste management practices within the landfill. Landfill design figures were provided to CIRNAC in response as well as clarification on appropriate landfill material as per the approved Landfill and Waste Management Plan. On December 31st, 2024, B2Gold Nunavut submitted a detailed engineering design report regarding the construction of a tote storage facility for Goose Lake Camp, as requested by CIRNAC, which stated that the proposed works would occur in the summer of 2025. Additionally, Instaberms around the project site that are being utilized in advance of the above tote storage facility were repaired if necessary.

NIRB (August 2024): the NIRB inspected both the Goose Lake Camp and Marine Laydown Area between August 27 to August 29, and a Monitoring Report was provided on February 10, 2025. The Board recommended the below:

1. As the updated Noise Abatement Plan and the Vegetation Monitoring Plan were not provided within 60 days of the release of Amendment No. 01 to Project Certificate No. 007 as required by amended Terms and Conditions #10 and #34, B2Gold Nunavut shall provide the updated Noise Abatement Plan and Vegetation Management Plan within 30 days of receiving the NIRB Monitoring Officers' 2023-2024 Report.
2. B2Gold Nunavut Response: The revised Vegetation Monitoring Plan was submitted to the NIRB on February 18th, 2025, (Document ID No. 353315) and the revised Noise Abatement Plan was submitted to the NIRB on March 4th, 2025.
3. During the August 2024 site visit to the Back River Project, NIRB staff noted the secondary containment berm around the tank farm at the Goose Lake exploration site was holding a significant amount of contaminated water. Upon discussions with B2Gold Nunavut staff, they noted that they were currently in the process acquiring an "Oily Water Separator" to treat and discharge it as effluent once/if it reached discharge criteria.
 - a. B2Gold Nunavut Response: In late 2024, a new water treatment system, designed for hydrocarbon removal, was implemented. Testing showed the system effectively eliminated targeted contaminants (hydrocarbons and total suspended solids). However, the onset of freezing weather halted further treatment and so the remaining contaminated water had been left in place. The contaminated water will be re-treated and re-tested again in spring, and screened against the water license' criteria before discharge occurs.

ECCC (May 2024): an inspection of the Goose Lake Mine Site occurred in May 2024. The purpose of the inspection was to verify compliance with the *Fisheries Act* and the *Environmental Emergency Regulations*. The inspection did not reveal any deleterious substances entering or possibly entering water frequented by fish. The inspector recommended B2Gold Nunavut provided additional documentation to confirm compliance with the E2 Environmental Emergency Regulations, which were completed by June 25, 2024.

DFO (August 2024): Fisheries and Oceans Canada conducted a site visit of the Marine Laydown Area in August 2024 during ship offloading activities. The purpose of the site visit was to verify mitigative measures were implemented to prevent sediment deposition and be protective of the marine environment during offloading activities. B2Gold Nunavut environment personnel were on-site during the site visit, and it is understood that DFO has no concerns.

4.4.2 UNAUTHORIZED DISCHARGES AND SPILLS

A summary of unauthorized discharges and spills that occurred in 2024 is provided in the below Table 4.4-1. B2Gold Nunavut records submitted to the NT/NU Spill Line may differ from what has been posted to the online database.

On November 5th, 2024, B2Gold Nunavut received direction from CIRNAC that *all* spills are required to be externally reported regardless of size, location or product. This direction appears to have stemmed from the 'Spills Working Group' repealing 'Schedule 1' which specified reporting thresholds for various substances. As such, there was a marked increase in externally reportable spills from November 5th through to December 31st, 2024, despite the majority of them being quite small in nature. On January 24th, 2025, further guidance was provided from the CIRNAC Field Operations team that changes to the NT/NU Spills Working Agreement, released on November 5th, 2024, do not change the way spills are to be reported to the spill line. All spills occurring in Nunavut where CIRNAC legislation is applicable should be reported to the NT/NU Spill Line in accordance with the thresholds found in the *Nunavut Spill Contingency Planning and Reporting Regulations* document and the requirements of any applicable water licenses related to your project.

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 31st, 2021, and modifications to Schedule I of the Licence were approved by the NWB on July 26th, 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 31st 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](#).

Table 4.4-1 Unauthorized Discharges in 2024 (Reportable)

Date (D-MMM-YY)	Product Spilled	Quantity	Spill Description	Site	Approximate Location	NT-NU Spill #	Mitigation (how was the spill cleaned up)
8-Jan-24	Transmission fluid	150 L	A broken cap on the transmission fluid reservoir caused the release to Echo Pit.	Goose Mine	Echo Pit (65.535, -106.953889)	2024008	Sorbent materials were deployed to soak up all free product on the ground. An excavator was then used to scrape up contaminated soil in the pit and was placed into a lined megabag for eventual off-site disposal. Sorbent materials were incinerated. Workers were reminded to complete thorough pre-op inspections before operating equipment to prevent these types of spills.
6-Apr-24	Transmission fluid, oil, coolant	50 L	Transport truck roll over carrying CAT generator on ice.	WIR	Winter Ice Road – Near Portage 2 (65.58008408, -106.5840331)	2024090	Sorbent materials were deployed initially to soak up free product on the ice. When the truck and generator were righted more product had leaked out. A grader was used to scrape contaminated ice into a pile. Skid-steers and a rubber-tired loader were used to scrape remaining areas. Manual labor was involved to put the contaminated snow in mega bags. Sorbent materials were incinerated. Contaminated snow was allowed to melt in a lined containment and treated on-site. Investigation revealed that speed was a factor. The truck's tires got stuck in a rut on a sharp turn and the weight shifted. Corrective action was to slow down on all corners.

Date (D-MMM-YY)	Product Spilled	Quantity	Spill Description	Site	Approximate Location	NT-NU Spill #	Mitigation (how was the spill cleaned up)
17-Apr-24	Diesel	300 L	Transport truck jack-knifed on Lake 11 of Winter Ice Road and punctured fuel tanks	Goose Mine	Winter Ice Road – Lake 11 Winter Ice Road – Lake 11 (65.680709572175, -107.0610763846)	2024109	A transport truck heading northbound unloaded lost control on Lake 11. Sorbent materials were deployed initially to soak up free product on the ice. When the truck and generator were righted more product had leaked out. A grader was used to scrape contaminated ice into a pile. Skid-steers and a rubber-tired loader were used to scrape remaining areas. Manual labor was involved to put the contaminated snow in mega bags. Sorbent materials were incinerated. Contaminated snow was allowed to melt in a lined containment and treated on-site.
7-May-24	Hydraulic Oil	120 L	Ruptured hose on excavator caused hydraulic oil to spill on ground	Goose Mine	Primary Pond (65.557594, -106.523141)	2024139	Spill pads were deployed immediately to absorb most of the fluid. Once the machine was fixed it was moved and the remaining contaminated soil excavated and placed into megabags for off-site disposal. Sorbent materials were incinerated.
17-May-24	Diesel	200 L	Fuel nozzle was left unattended resulting in spill while refueling drill rig	Goose Mine	Rig 10045 (65.549306, -106.497472)	2024165	Crews deployed to clean up spill. Contaminated material placed in megabags and prepped for backhaul to KBL. Human error - refueling nozzle was 'locked' with a rock while worker left refueling unattended. Change to Major Drilling procedure to ensure workers always present during refueling.

Date (D-MMM-YY)	Product Spilled	Quantity	Spill Description	Site	Approximate Location	NT-NU Spill #	Mitigation (how was the spill cleaned up)
27-Jun-24	Diesel	600 L	Mechanical failure at generator set caused diesel to spew out of control	Goose Mine	Exploration Camp Generator (65.544836, -106.431461)	2024246	Exploration crew mobilized and contained the spill and deployed sorbent materials (pads, socks and Oil Gator). Generator was shut off. Hand tools used to excavate contaminated soil and put into megabags for off-site disposal. Skidsteer used to excavate additional material. Sorbent materials incinerated.
16-Jul-24	Diesel, Hydraulic Fluid/Gear Oil	159.3 L	Sheared rain drain on instaberm released volume of contaminated water for unknown duration	Goose Mine	Insta Berm north of Site Services (65.545133, -106.511875)	2024276	CIRNAC inspectors observed sheared off rain drain w/ valve open. Unknown duration of spill. Conservatively estimated 159.3L based on volume, dimensions, and berm not being level (barely 1/3 full w/ approx. 3" of water in there - highly conservative). Clean up not possible at this time (need to move instaberm and dig into pad). Human error - rain drains not permitted to be used on-site. Corrective action included removing all rain drains and ensuring all water is tested prior to discharge.

Date (D-MMM-YY)	Product Spilled	Quantity	Spill Description	Site	Approximate Location	NT-NU Spill #	Mitigation (how was the spill cleaned up)
19-Oct-24	Diesel Fuel	250 L	Broken Drain	Goose Mine	LV Concrete Pad (65.542760032452, -106.5138889)	2024399	While building a ramp to a concrete pad, the loader was back blading and made contact with a 1" drain and sheered it off, all contents of the tank were released to the ground and concrete pad, clean up started right away, all contaminated material is placed into lined megabags for back haul to KBL in Yellowknife for disposal. Operator's must be aware of their surroundings and employ extra caution when working near fuel tanks.
27-Nov-24	Hydraulic Oil	150 L	Hydraulic hose failed on CA506 (dozer)	Goose Mine	Plant Site (65.543365, -106.508561)	2024440	Sorbent materials deployed to soak up free product. Machine left in place until repaired. Once repaired contaminated soil was excavated and put into lined megabags and staged for eventual backhaul. Sorbent materials incinerated.

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 – Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	<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 Requirements	<p>The plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 90 days prior to the start of construction of the Back River Gold Mine Project and the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure (wind turbines, solar panel array, Battery Energy Storage System, transmission lines, and service roads), with results submitted annually thereafter or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB.</p> <p>Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan, the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan and will ensure the updated Plan is posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p>
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).

<p>Methods:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The updated AQMMP (July 2019) specifically includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 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. <p>The AQMMP includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan (PC T&C 6); ◆ A Fugitive Dust Reduction Plan (PC T&C 3); ◆ Outlines the meteorological monitoring program (PC T&C 8); and ◆ Lichen surveys are described in the Vegetation Monitoring Plan.
<p>Results:</p> <p>See responses for PC#s 2, 3, 6, and 8 for annual results.</p>
<p>Trends:</p> <p>Not applicable.</p>
<p>Next Steps:</p> <p>B2Gold Nunavut will continue to undertake air quality monitoring in 2025 and provide the results in the 2025 NIRB annual report.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The AQMMP is a “living document”, and will be updated accordingly if Mine plans, conditions, monitoring results, or other factors necessitate revisions. Proposed updates to the Fugitive Dust Reduction Plan (FDRP) and AQMMP are planned for 2025 to align with advances to monitoring technologies and to reflect the current understanding of the Project. The AQMMP update will include practical field level triggers to actively manage dust.</p>

Project Certificate Condition No. 2

Category	Air Quality – Air Quality Mitigation and Adaptive Management
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	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	<p>Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan (July 2019).</p> <p>AEPA (Alberta Environment and Protected Areas). 2024. Alberta Ambient Air Quality Objectives and Guidelines. Available at https://open.alberta.ca/publications/alberta-ambient-air-quality-objectives-and-guidelines.</p> <p>CCME (Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment). 2020. Guidance Document on Achievement Determination for Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards for Nitrogen Dioxide. Available at https://ccme.ca/en/res/gdadforcaagsfornitrogendioxide_en1.0.pdf.</p> <p>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.</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 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 the mitigation and adaptive management approach should exceedances be observed.

Results:

Passive dustfall and passive nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) air quality monitoring at Goose was conducted at five combination dustfall and passive NO₂ monitoring stations that were originally 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 were planned for the Goose area. 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). Due to an expanding stockpile near Station 1 in September of 2024, Station 1 was moved 74 metres east-southeast of its original location to move it out of the way of the expanding stockpile. The new Station 1 location is still positioned near the edge of the Goose Plant Site’s construction pad. Table 4.5-1 below summarizes the names and the location of each of the passive air quality stations used for air quality monitoring in 2024.

Table 4.5-1 2024 Passive Air Quality Station Locations (TC2-1)

Air Quality Station Name	Sampling Periods	UTM Zone 13N	
		Easting (m)	Northing (m)
Background Station	All	428,746	7,275,188
Station 1	1-10 ^(a)	430,755	7,269,467
	10-12 ^(a)	430,683	7,269,453
Station 2	All	430,860	7,269,361
Station 3	All	430,965	7,269,254
Station 4	All	431,176	7,269,040

^a Station 1 was relocated during Sampling Period 10 (i.e., September 11 to October 15, 2024)

“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 2024 are summarized in Table 4.5-2. As expected, on average 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); however, measured monthly NO₂ concentrations can be conservatively compared to the annual NAAQS of 32 part per billion volume-basis (ppbv). For reference purposes, measured monthly concentrations can also be compared to the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standard (CAAQS) for annual NO₂ (17 ppbv), although it should be noted that the CAAQS are intended for regional airshed management and not for project-level comparison (CCME 2020). The maximum monthly NO₂ concentrations from the available NO₂ sampling results range from 0.5 ppbv at the Background Station to 3.4 ppbv at Station 2, which are well below the annual NAAQS (32 ppbv) and CAAQS (17 ppbv) for NO₂.

Table 4.5-2 2024 NO₂ Passive Air Quality Monitoring Results (TC2-2)

Sampling Period	Start Date ^(a)	End Date ^(a)	Station				
			BK	1	2	3	4
			Passive NO ₂ Sampling Results (ppbv) ^(b)				
1	2023-12-13	2024-01-15	0.2	3.0	3.4	— ^(c)	1.9
2	2024-01-29	2024-02-12	<0.2	1.8	2.2 ^(d)	1	<0.2
3	2024-02-12	2024-03-13	<0.1	0.3	1.3	0.7	0.5
4	2024-03-13	2024-04-13	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	<0.1	<0.1
5	2024-04-13	2024-05-15	0.2	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.3
6	2024-05-15	2024-06-15 ^(e)	0.4	2.0	1.2	0.8	0.6
7	2024-06-15 ^(e)	2024-07-18	<0.1	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.4
8	2024-07-18	2024-08-14	<0.1	0.9	0.9	1	0.4
9	2024-08-14	2024-09-11 ^(f)	0.2	1.8	1.1	1	0.6
10	2024-09-11 ^(f)	2024-10-15 ^(g)	<0.1	1.6	1.4	1.4	0.8
11	2024-10-15 ^(g)	2024-11-20	<0.1	2.1	1.7	1.2	1
12	2024-11-20	2024-12-21	0.5	2.6	2.6 ^(h)	2.4	1.8
Average ⁽ⁱ⁾			0.2	1.5	1.4	1.0	0.7

(a) Start and end dates listed are for the four transect stations located at the Goose Plant Site. For some sampling periods, the start date and/or end date for the background station differed from the four transect stations, see table notes (e).

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

(c) The Station 3 sampling period 1 result is unavailable for Station 3 due to passive sampler damage.

(d) Result is based on just one of the Station 2 duplicate samples as the other one was lost.

(e) The background station sampling period 6 end date and 7 start date was June 6, 2024.

(f) The background station sampling period 9 end date and 10 start date was September 9, 2024.

(g) The background station sampling period 10 end date and 11 start date was October 14, 2024.

(h) Result is based on just one Station 2 sample as a duplicate was not sampled during this sampling period.

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

“BK” = Background Station; “NO₂” = nitrogen dioxide; “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 2024 (AEPA 2024). 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 2024 are summarized in Table 4.5-3. The maximum total dustfall measured was 176.0 mg/100 cm²/30 d during the sixth sampling period from May 15 to June 15, 2024 at the Background Station, which exceeds the AAAQG for commercial and industrial areas (158 mg/100 cm²/30 d). Fixed dustfall for this sample was 61.7 mg/100 cm²/30 d, which is less than half the total dustfall measured indicating that the measured dustfall was mostly organic and likely was not the result of on-site activities. Note that a helicopter was used to access the Background Station during the retrieval of this sample, and it is possible that airborne dust was generated by the helicopter landing and contaminated the sample, which may explain the high dustfall result at the Background Station. No other total dustfall measurements exceeded the AAAQG for commercial and industrial areas. Total dustfall measurements exceeded the AAAQG for residential and recreational areas (53 mg/100 cm²/30 d) four times in 2024 and only one fixed dustfall exceedance was observed. For most sampling periods in 2024, 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, as expected.

Table 4.5-3 2024 Dustfall Monitoring Results (TC2-3)

Sampling Period	Start Date	End Date	Station				
			BK	1	2	3	4
Total Dustfall (mg/100 cm²/30 d)^(a)							
1	2023-12-13	2024-01-15	7.8	36.6	19.9	14.4	13.4
2	2024-01-15	2024-02-12	7.9	19.5	21.2	19.2	25.6
3	2024-02-12	2024-03-13	<0.1	11.8	1.4	2.1	11.1
4	2024-03-13	2024-04-13	2.0	12.1	12.8	5.4	7.4
5	2024-04-13	2024-05-15	<0.1	11.0	7.5	3.9	0.6
6	2024-05-15	2024-06-15	176 ^(c)	71.8	102.3	19.2	29.5
7	2024-06-15	2024-07-18	51.4	59.9	10.1	23.9	12.8
8	2024-07-18	2024-08-14	26.2	18.9	18.5	13.5	17.7
9	2024-08-14	2024-09-11	16.2	34.4	22.7	16.8	20.9
10	2024-09-11	2024-10-15	<0.1	20.8	22.3	12.0	6.0
11	2024-10-15	2024-11-20	<0.1	18.5	17.8	12.7	12.2
12	2024-11-20	2024-12-21	— ^(b)	19.7	15.4	11.5	14.7
Average ^(d)			26.2	27.9	22.6	12.9	14.3

Sampling Period	Start Date	End Date	Station				
			BK	1	2	3	4
Fixed Dustfall (mg/100 cm²/30 d) ^(a)							
1	2023-12-13	2024-01-15	7.8	30.1	18.2	13.8	12.3
2	2024-01-15	2024-02-12	7.9	19.5	8.0	17.3	12.8
3	2024-02-12	2024-03-13	<0.1	7.6	1.1	<0.1	<0.1
4	2024-03-13	2024-04-13	1.3	10.4	1.7	3.7	2.0
5	2024-04-13	2024-05-15	<0.1	4.9	6.2	4.9	0.6
6	2024-05-15	2024-06-15	61.7 ^(c)	14.5	13.7	5.7	2.7
7	2024-06-15	2024-07-18	1.8	14.4	4.0	4.6	6.7
8	2024-07-18	2024-08-14	3.1	7.0	4.6	7.7	1.5
9	2024-08-14	2024-09-11	1.6	19.0	11.7	14.7	16.2
10	2024-09-11	2024-10-15	<0.1	16.3	19.9	10.5	4.5
11	2024-10-15	2024-11-20	<0.1	15.2	12.8	9.7	6.8
12	2024-11-20	2024-12-21	— ^(b)	13.8	13.2	11.5	14.7
Average ^(d)			7.8	14.4	9.6	8.7	6.7
Alberta residential dustfall guideline (AEPA 2024)			53				
Alberta industrial dustfall guideline (AEPA 2024)			158				
<p>(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.</p> <p>(b) No sample from the background station was retrieved for the last sampling period from November 20, 2024, to December 21, 2024.</p> <p>(c) The total and fixed dustfall measurements at the Background Station during the sixth monitoring period from May 5, 2024, to June 15, 2024, may have been influenced by helicopter dust generated during the retrieval of the sample.</p> <p>(d) Values below the detection limit were treated as one-half of the detection limit in the calculation of annual averages.</p> <p>“BK” = Background Station; “mg/100 cm²/30 day” = milligram per 100 square centimetres per 30 days; “—” = no data; “<” = less than.</p>							
Trends:							
<p>Monthly concentrations of NO₂ and fixed dustfall measured at the four passive air quality stations near the Goose Plant Site in 2024 are on average, modestly higher than measured concentrations in 2023. This increase in concentrations is expected as construction activities at the Goose Plant Site increased in 2024.</p>							

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut retained WSP in 2024 to install air quality monitoring equipment for continuous particulate matter (PM) and NO₂ monitoring. The air quality installation work was performed in December 2024, and a summary of the completed work is provided below:

- ◆ Installation of a continuous air quality monitoring station near the southwest corner of the camp pad. The UTM coordinates for the station are 429,892 m E, 7,269,845 m N, Zone 13N. The station consists of a Teledyne API T640 PM Mass Monitor that continuously monitors coarse particulate matter (PM₁₀) and fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) monitoring and a Kunak Air Lite fitted with cartridges to continuously monitor nitric oxide (NO) and NO₂.
- ◆ Installation of a Kunak Air Lite fitted with cartridges to monitor NO and NO₂ continuously at the Goose meteorological station near exploration camp. The UTM coordinates for the station are 434,167 m E, 7,269,878 m N, Zone 13N.

Data from the new air quality monitoring equipment installed in 2024 is expected to be available for the 2025 NIRB annual report.

B2Gold Nunavut will undertake inspection of the existing monitoring equipment in 2025 to ensure equipment is in proper working. B2Gold Nunavut will continue to undertake air quality monitoring in 2025 and provide the results in the 2025 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.

Project Certificate Condition No. 3

Category	Air Quality – Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	<p>The Proponent shall have in place dust management and monitoring plans which address the following items:</p> <ol 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. e. Demonstrate consideration for the implementation of alternative methods (e.g., windscreens) to limit the deposition of dust generated from the Project.
Reporting Requirements	<p>The plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 90 days prior to commencement of construction activities of the Back River Gold Mine Project and the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure (wind turbines, solar panel array, Battery Energy Storage System, transmission lines, and service roads). 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.</p> <p>Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Air Quality Monitoring and Management Plan, the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan and will ensure the updated Plan is posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p>
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:
<p>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.</p> <p>The AQMMP aligns with commitments made during the environmental impact assessment process and includes a Fugitive Dust Reduction Plan (FDRP) 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.</p>
Results:
Not applicable.
Trends:
Not applicable.
Next Steps:
<p>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.</p> <p>Proposed updates to the FDRP and AQMMP are planned for 2025 to align with advances to monitoring technologies and to reflect the current understanding of the Project.</p> <p>Information regarding updates to the management and monitoring plans and/or mitigation measures will continue to be provided in the annual report to the NIRB.</p>

Project Certificate Condition No. 4

Category	Air Quality – Incineration Management Plan
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	<p>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.</p> <p>Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Incineration Management Plan, the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan and will ensure the updated Plan is posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant.
Stakeholder Review	Type A Water Licence regulatory review process stakeholders/intervenors.
Reference	Incinerator Management Plan (June 2020).

Methods:
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
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.

B2Gold Nunavut confirms that we will proceed with incinerator stack testing at Goose in 2025 and results will be provided in the 2025 annual report.

Project Certificate Condition No. 5

Category	Air Quality – Stack Monitoring
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	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 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.

B2Gold Nunavut confirms that we will proceed with incinerator stack testing at Goose in 2025, and results will be provided in the 2025 annual report.

4.5.2 CLIMATE AND METEOROLOGY (PC TCS 6 THROUGH 8)

Project Certificate Condition No. 6

Category	Climate and Meteorology – Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure
Objective	To monitor and reduce greenhouse gas emissions produced by the Project.
Term or Condition	<p>The Proponent shall maintain a Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) Reduction Plan which includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> An estimate of the Project’s GHG baseline emissions; A description of monitoring measures to be undertaken, including the methods, frequency, parameters, and a description of data analysis; and 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 Requirements	<p>The plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) prior to commencement of construction activities of the Back River Gold Mine Project, and at least 60 days prior to construction of the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure (wind turbines, solar panel array, Battery Energy Storage System, transmission lines, and service roads), with results submitted every two (2) years thereafter, or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB. The contributions and reductions of GHG emissions shall be reported separately for each of the Back River Gold Mine Project and the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure (wind turbines, solar panel array, Battery Energy Storage System, transmission lines, and service roads) respectively.</p> <p>Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan, the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan and will ensure the updated Plan is also posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p>
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>Australian Government Department of Climate Change. 2008. <i>National Greenhouse Gas Accountants (NGA) Factors</i>. January 2008.</p> <p>Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC). 2024. <i>Canada’s Greenhouse Gas Reporting Requirements</i>. Version 7.0. Available at: https://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/9.866467/publication.html.</p>

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). 2006. 2006 *IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*. Volume 5. Waste. Available at <https://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/vol5.html>.

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 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 future updates of the AQMMP.

Results:

WSP estimated greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for Back River Gold Mine Project activities completed in 2024, including the construction activities and pit preparation. The following list summarizes the direct GHG emission sources at the Back River Gold Mine Project in 2024:

- ◆ Stationary Combustion Emissions:
 - ◇ diesel
 - ◇ waste oil
 - ◇ propane
 - ◇ explosives
- ◆ On-site Transportation Emissions:
 - ◇ diesel
- ◆ Waste Emissions:
 - ◇ waste incineration
 - ◇ waste open burning

The data used to estimate GHG emissions for the above emissions sources are summarized in Table 4.5-4. Note that data used is based on information available at the time of writing, and MLA total waste oil combusted and incineration data were unavailable for the 2024 NIRB Annual Report. However, 2024 GHG emissions from these MLA emission sources are expected to be negligible in comparison to the Back River Gold Mine Project’s 2024 totals based on 2023 data for these sources.

Table 4.5-4 Back River Gold Mine Project 2024 Input Data for GHG Estimates (TC6-1)

Emission Source Category	Parameter	Unit	Goose	MLA
Stationary Fuel Combustion	Diesel	L	7,101,167	367,145
	Waste Oil	L	21,100	—
	Propane	L	116,053	98,901
	ANFO Explosives	kg	1,229,403	0
	Emulsion Explosives	kg	567,791	20,189
On-site Transportation	Diesel	L	8,073,807	2,080,488
Waste	Waste Incinerated – Food	kg	453,282	—
	Waste Incinerated – Human Waste	kg	139,624	—
	Waste Incinerated – Misc.	kg	247,513	—
	Total Open Burn Waste	m ³	2,669	0

“ANFO” = ammonium nitrate fuel oil; “kg” = kilogram; “L” = litre; “m³” = cubic metre; “MLA” = Marine Laydown Area; “—” = no data available.

The methods used to estimate 2024 Project GHG emissions are consistent with the methods used for the Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) GHG Emissions Reporting Program (GHGRP). Emission factors in *Canada’s Greenhouse Gas Reporting Requirements* (ECCC 2024) were used to quantify emissions from diesel, propane, and waste oil combustion. Emissions from ammonium nitrate fuel oil (ANFO) and emulsion explosives were estimated using emission factors retrieved from the *National Greenhouse Gas Accountants (NGA) Factors* (Australian Department of Climate Change 2008). Waste incineration and open burning GHG emissions were estimated using the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, Volume 5, Waste* (IPCC 2006) Tier 1 methods.

The GHG emission estimates for the Back River Gold Mine Project in 2024 are shown in Table TC6-2.

Table 4.5-5 Back River Gold Mine Project GHG Emission Totals (TC6-2)

Site	Emissions (tCO ₂ e)
Goose	42,501
MLA	6,736
Back River Gold Mine Project Total	49,237

“MLA” = Marine Laydown Area; tCO₂e = tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent.

The Energy Centre Project was not in construction in 2024, therefore estimates for the contributions and reductions of GHG emissions for this project are not applicable.

Trends:

Total annual GHG emissions have increased in 2024 in comparison to 2023. This increase is largely attributed to an increase in diesel consumption as Project construction and pit development continued to progress in 2024.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to gather annual fuel usage to update the emissions estimates on an annual basis. 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 a summary of quantified GHG emissions on an annual basis using guidance provided by ECCC (ECCC 2024) and other appropriate published emissions factors.

Project Certificate Condition No. 7

Category	Climate and Meteorology – Mine Closure and Reclamation Plan
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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, including the approved Modifications, and the protection of environmental features.
Term or Condition	<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> <ol 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 Requirements	<p>The plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 60 days prior to the start of construction of the Project and any approved Modifications with results submitted annually thereafter or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB.</p> <p>Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Mine Closure and Reclamation Plan, the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan and will ensure the updated Plan is also posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p>
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>

<p>Methods:</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Results:</p> <p>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 updated in 2022/23 as part of the Energy Centre Project amendment. The ICRP addresses PC T&C's 7, 15, 35, and 36.</p>
<p>Trends:</p> <p>Not applicable.</p>
<p>Next Steps:</p> <p>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.</p>

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	Climate and Meteorology – Weather Monitoring and Adaptive Management
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	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). ECCC (Environment and Climate Change Canada). 2025a. Bathurst Inlet (Climate ID: 2300551) Historical Data. Available here: https://climate.weather.gc.ca/historical_data/search_historic_data_e.html . ECCC. 2025b. 1991-2020 Climate Normals & Averages: Lupin 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.

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.

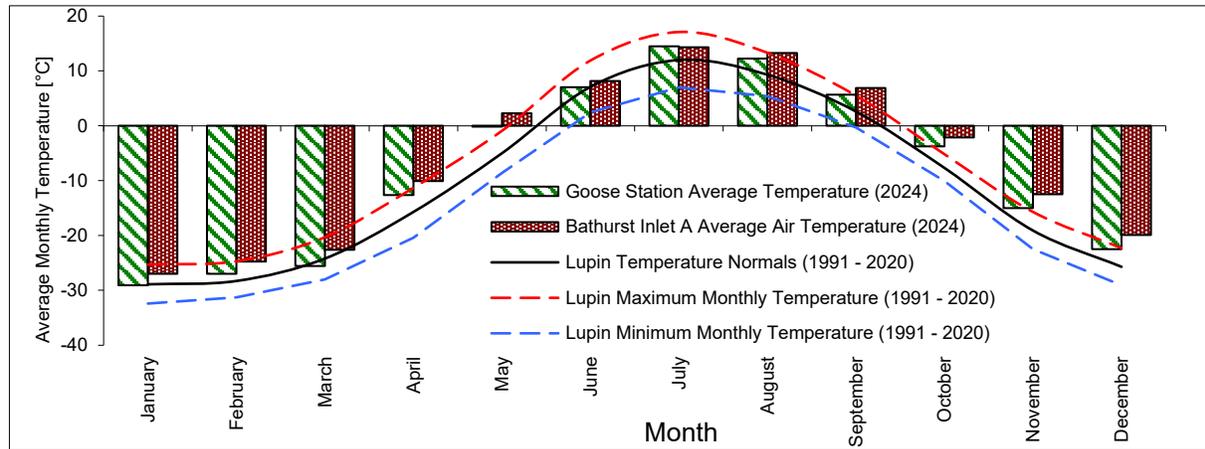
B2Gold Nunavut retained WSP to perform maintenance and calibrations on the Goose property meteorological stations in 2024. Data was downloaded from the Goose meteorological station, reviewed, and anomalous data were removed for this summary. Overall data recovery in 2024 from the meteorological station was 97%. Data from the Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) Bathurst Inlet station and Lupin Composite station climate normals (1991-2020) were also retrieved and analyzed (ECCC 2025a, 2025b). This summary includes available 2024 site and Bathurst Inlet meteorological data in comparison to long-term (1991-2020) climate normals at the Lupin Composite station.

Results:

Figure 4.5-1 presents the monthly mean temperatures observed at the Goose station and Bathurst Inlet in 2024 compared to the 1991-2020 Lupin Composite station climate normals. Average monthly temperatures recorded at the Goose Lake station in 2024 were warmer than the climate normal averages from Lupin for all months except for January, March and June. The 2024 annual mean temperature at Goose Lake was -7.8°C, in comparison, the Lupin Composite station 1991-2020 climate normal average is -10.3°C and the Bathurst Inlet

2024 annual mean temperature was -6.5°C. With the exception of July, average monthly temperatures recorded at Bathurst Inlet were warmer than at Goose Lake but were generally still comparable (i.e., less than a 3.0°C difference for all months).

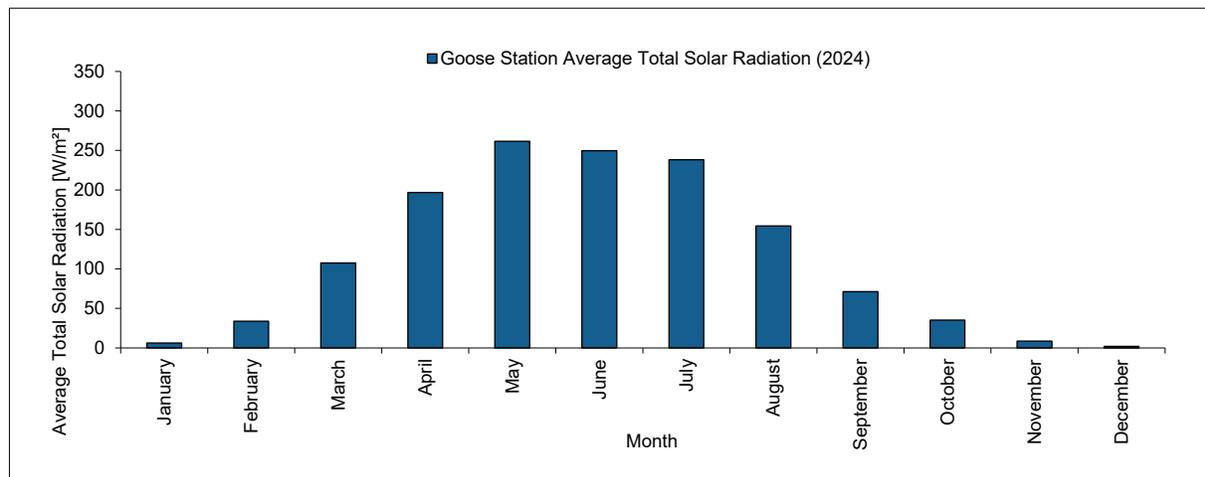
Figure 4.5-1 Goose Station and Bathurst Inlet 2024 Monthly Temperature Summary (TC8-1)



Solar Radiation

Average monthly total solar radiation at Goose station is presented in Figure 4.5-2. Average monthly total solar radiation ranged from 1.9 watts per square metre (W/m²) in December to 261.5 W/m² in May at Goose Lake. No solar data were available from the Bathurst Inlet station.

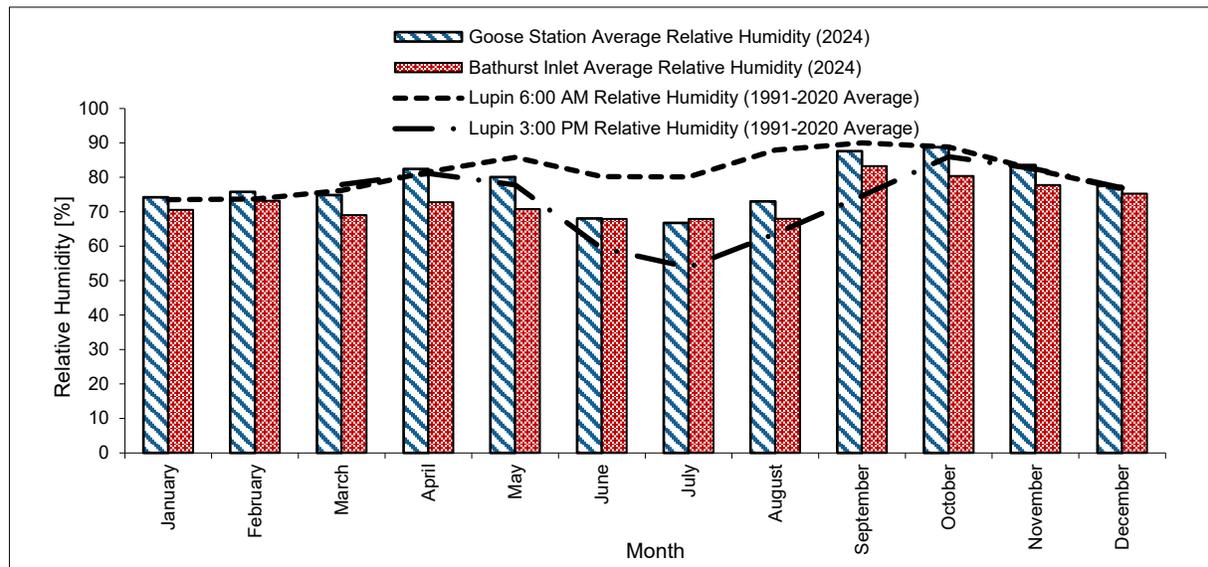
Figure 4.5-2 Goose Station 2024 Monthly Average Total Solar Radiation Summary (TC8-2)



Relative Humidity

Figure 4.5-3 presents the 2024 monthly average relative humidity observed at the Goose station and Bathurst Inlet and the 1991-2020 Lupin climate normals for relative humidity. Average monthly relative humidity measured at Goose station in 2024 ranged from 67% in July to 89% in October. Monthly average relative humidity at the Goose station was higher than at Bathurst Inlet for all months of 2024 except for July.

Figure 4.5-3 Goose Station and Bathurst Inlet Station 2024 Monthly Average Relative Humidity Summary (TC8-3)



Precipitation

Monthly rainfall observed at the Goose station in 2024 is compared to 2024 Bathurst Inlet total precipitation data and the Lupin 1991-2020 rainfall climate normals in Figure 4.5-4. Note that the figure only presents months where the Goose station observed rainfall in 2024 or the Lupin rainfall climate normal is above zero (i.e., April through October). Rainfall specific data for Bathurst Inlet was not available for 2024, therefore total precipitation data for Bathurst Inlet is presented as a surrogate for comparison purposes. Total rainfall measured at the Goose station in 2024 (122.3 mm) was lower than the Lupin 1991-2020 climate normal for annual rainfall (160.5 mm). Monthly total precipitation measured at Bathurst Inlet in 2024 was comparable to rainfall at Goose during all months where temperatures were above freezing (i.e., May through October) except for September, which was notably drier at Goose.

Figure 4.5-5 compares total precipitation measured at Bathurst Inlet in 2024 with the Lupin 1991-2020 climate normal. Note that Goose station only records rainfall and not any forms of frozen precipitation, therefore data from the Goose station is not included in this figure. Observed total precipitation at Bathurst Inlet was notably drier than the Lupin climate normal during the spring months of 2024. However, for most other months of 2024, Bathurst Inlet observed total precipitation was comparable to the Lupin climate normals. The annual total precipitation measured at Bathurst Inlet in 2024 was 221.1 mm, in comparison, the Lupin annual climate normal for total precipitation is 303.5 mm.

Figure 4.5-4 Goose Station 2024 Monthly Rainfall Summary for Months with Rainfall Data (TC8-4)

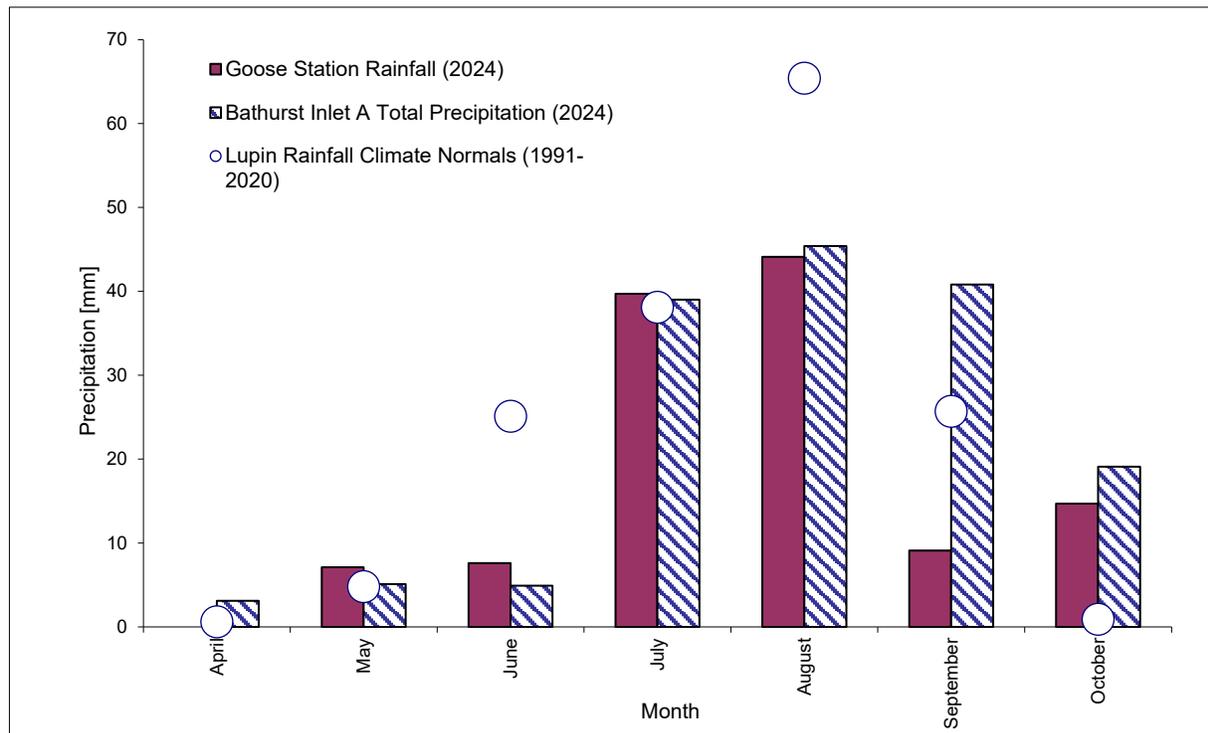
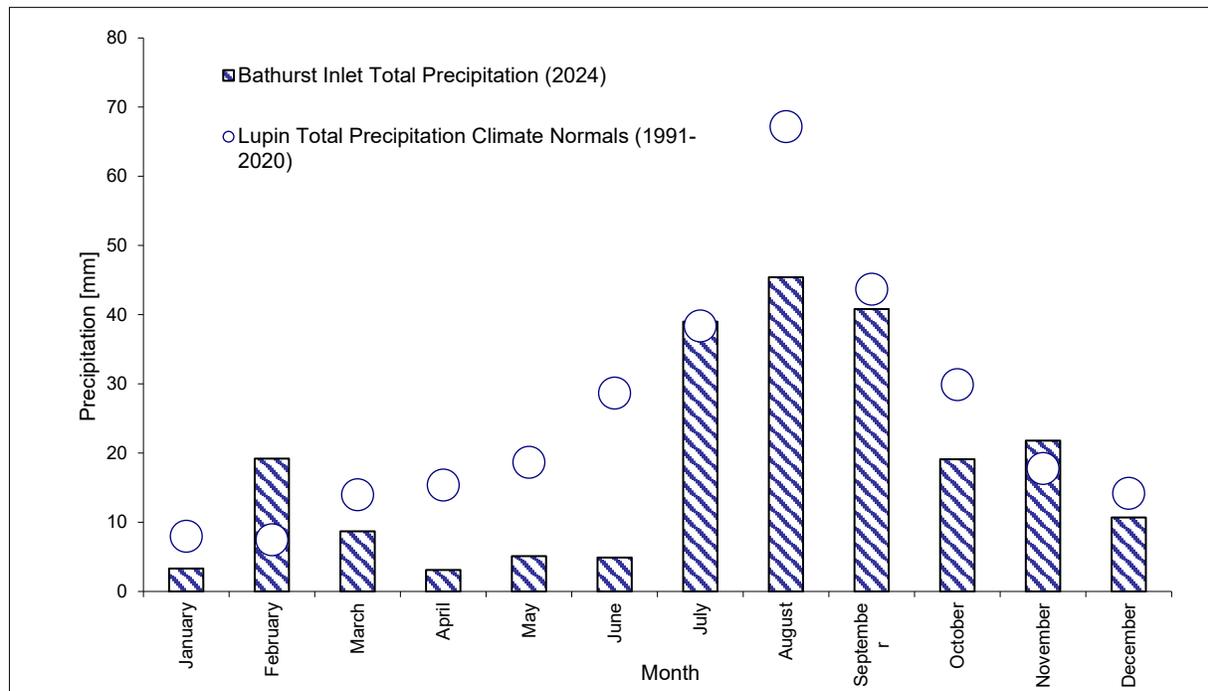


Figure 4.5-5 Bathurst Inlet 2024 Monthly Total Precipitation Summary (TC8-5)



Wind

Windroses that summarize the frequencies of wind directions and speeds observed at Bathurst Inlet and at the Goose station in 2024 are provided in Figures 4.5-6 and 4.5-7, respectively.

Figure 4.5 6 Bathurst Inlet Station 2024 Windrose (TC8-6)

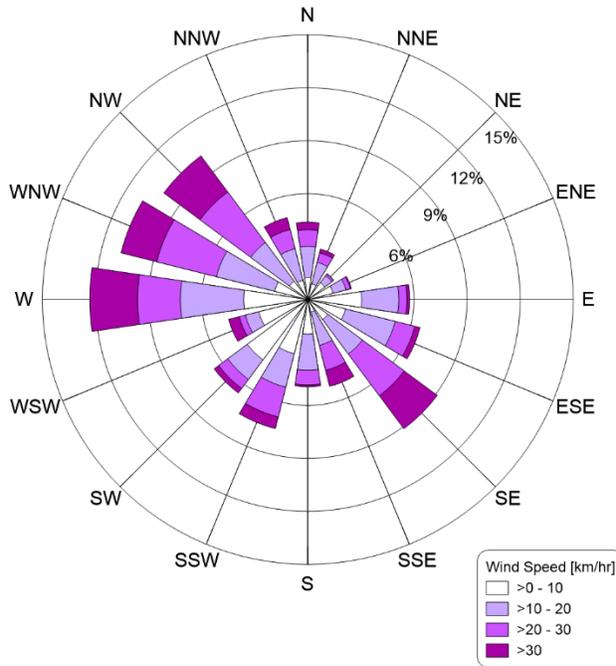
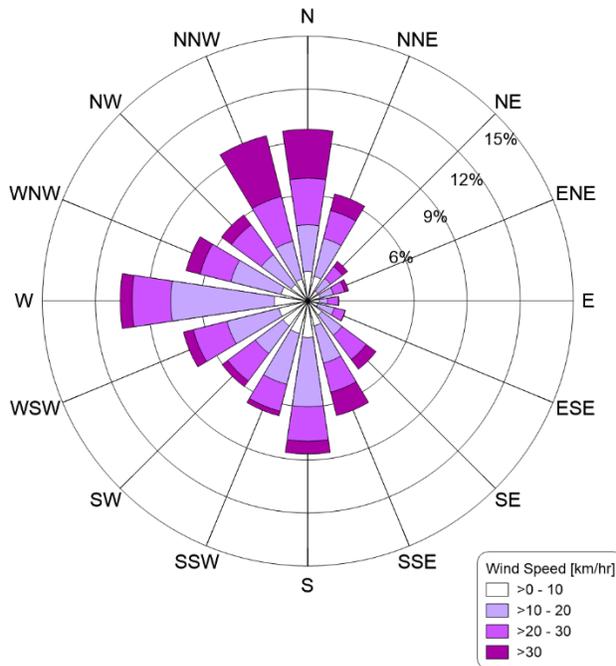


Figure 4.5-7 Goose Station 2024 Windrose (TC8-7)



The predominant wind directions measured at the Bathurst Inlet station were from the west to northwest wind sectors. Strong winds (greater than 19.3 km/h) were frequent, at 35% of the 2024 recorded data. In 2024 the common wind directions observed at the Goose station were from the west, north-northwest, north, and south. Infrequently were winds observed from the northeast to southeast wind sector in 2024 at the Goose station. Strong winds at the Goose station were more frequent than at the Bathurst Inlet station; 44% of recorded winds in 2024 were strong at the Goose station.

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.

Monitoring will also continue 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, the onset of seasonal freeze and thaw cycles and extreme or outlying weather will continue to be reported to the NIRB in the annual report.

4.5.3 NOISE AND VIBRATION (PC TCS 9 THROUGH 10)

Project Certificate Condition No. 9

Category	Noise and Vibration – Noise Reduction
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Final Closure
Objective	To ensure worker health and safety.
Term or Condition	The Proponent shall demonstrate consideration for noise reduction measures when siting and constructing the Goose Property, Marine Laydown Area, camps, wind turbines, solar array, Battery Energy Storage System, and associated Energy Centre Project Infrastructure. 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 Requirements	During construction of the Back River Gold Mine Project, and the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure, 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. When operations commence, and 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 two (2) years in the Proponent’s annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. In relation to the operation of the wind turbines specifically, within one (1) year of the wind turbines becoming operational, the Proponent shall report on the required noise level monitoring and mitigation as required by this Term and Condition in the Proponent’s annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. Thereafter, the Proponent shall provide information regarding monitoring results and any updates to mitigation measures every year in the Proponent’s annual report.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Noise Abatement Plan was reviewed during the NIRB Environmental Assessment.
Reference	Back River Project Noise Abatement Plan, Version 2 (Submitted to the NIRB on March 3 rd , 2025). Back River Project FEIS Volume 4 Section 2: Noise and Vibration (November 2015).

Methods:

Noise measurement and assessment are undertaken following the requirements set out in the Canadian Standards Association (CSA Z107.56-18 (2022)): measurement of noise exposure, ISO 2631-1:1997-06: Mechanical vibration and shock — Evaluation of human exposure to whole-body vibration — Part 1: General requirements, which is then compared with Nunavut Mines Health and Safety Regulation and the threshold limit values (TLV) set by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH).

Basic Characterization of Areas and Employees

- ◆ All work areas on the Back River Project site are being identified and demarcated based on activities performed, equipment used, machinery, generators/plants, etc.

- ◆ Similar exposure groups (SEGs) have also been created to identify employees with similar exposure based on similar job tasks, work environments and exposure to health hazards.
- ◆ “Characterization” of areas and personnel have been initially assessed to identify the risk of noise exposure and target effective controls.

Evaluation of Noise Exposure through Noise Monitoring and Exposure Assessment:

- ◆ All SEGs, personal and area, are being qualitatively assessed as indicated in the B2Gold Occupational Health and Hygiene Program.
- ◆ Baseline noise measurements commenced September 2024, as stated and described in the B2Gold Nunavut Occupational Health and Hygiene program and the Occupational Monitoring program. Area and personal noise sampling are being collected and will continue throughout all phases of the project: construction, production, care, and maintenance.
- ◆ Personal noise sampling is being extensively used for evaluating workers' noise exposure in the workplace. The sampling/monitoring program provides accurate data to assess risks, ensure regulation compliance, and implement effective hearing conservation measures.
- ◆ Baseline noise sampling, in accordance with best practice standards, is being quantitatively assessed to identify areas of concern greater than 85 dBA and above 105 dBA. It will also identify similar exposure groups requiring no controls, routine monitoring, further controls, or those placed at unacceptable risk.
- ◆ Baseline sampling has established a clear benchmark that will be used to provide a science-based reference point to compare future data, helping to identify changes or trends in faulty equipment and changes in operational activities, etc., over time.

Annual sampling will be undertaken of mine to until end of mine life. Annual sampling results will assist in substantiating changes in controls, faulty/defective equipment, and adjustments needed to processes/work environment by comparing yearly exposures to the baseline.

Results:

- ◆ From September to end-of-year 2024, a total of 62 individual samples have been taken using personal noise dosimeters. Attached herein is the year-to-date personal noise data collected.
- ◆ Area noise monitoring at the Back River Project and MLA have been taken using sound level meters. Areas that have been assessed include:
 - ◇ Umwelt Underground (operational underground mining)
 - ◇ Echo Pit (operational surface mining)
 - ◇ Fixed Powerhouse locations (various locations)
 - ◇ Mobile Genset locations (various locations)
 - ◇ Camp Accommodations & Annexes
 - ◇ Exploration Core Shacks
 - ◇ MLA maintenance workshops
 - ◇ Water and Wastewater Treatment plant
 - ◇ Back River Project maintenance workshops

As commissioning of new buildings and processes takes place additional sampling will be collected in accordance with the Industrial Hygiene Sampling and Monitoring plan.

Trends:

As sampling commenced in September and mine infrastructure build out continues there is insufficient data collected to identify trends at this time.

Next Steps:

Sampling and Monitoring will continue as outline in the Industrial Hygiene program and Regulations. Any identified exposures found to be near or over the occupational exposure limit will be added to the exposure action plan corrective measures registry. The registry will identify risk areas and controls that will be assigned reduce personal and area noise exposures. Noise mitigative measures will be applied following an established hierarchy of control methodology.

Current Engineering Controls

1. Mufflers/silencers have been installed on existing underground ventilation fans, booster fans, vehicle exhaust, etc.
2. Identified diesel-powered generators have been enclosed with noise-dampening materials, which prevent or reduce noise exposure to the environment and people.
3. Existing mill conveyor systems have been covered, which dampens noise propagation into the environment and immediate working area.
4. Equipment and machines are maintained and serviced regularly to ensure compliance with noise mitigation requirements.

Current Administrative Controls

1. Identified (signage) for mandatory hearing protection areas and SEGs requiring single and double hearing protection for work areas/zones that require personal protective equipment (PPE) or other protective measures.
2. Implementation of break schedules and/or work rotations are included in employee job planning where noise exposures exceed 85 dBA Lex.
3. Development of sampling schedule based on commissioning of new infrastructure or addition of operating equipment and processes.
4. Introduction of pre-employment and annual audiometric testing for all B2Gold Nunavut employees at the Back River Project, MLA or Exploration locations.
5. Identification of hazardous noise risk and control in site Safe Operating Procedures (SOP), Job Hazard Analysis (JHA), risk assessments, etc.
6. Development of PPE policies and procedures to ensure workers understand hazards and the measures needed to control noise exposure.
7. Adequate training and communication of noise exposure's hazards and health effects to all workers (Contractor and B2Gold Nunavut).
8. All SEGs and over exposed SEGs will be captured within the monitoring program and will be provided additional monitoring/oversight.

Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

1. Ensured employees wear hearing protective devices that meet CSA standards.
2. Single and double hearing protection will be worn as per the ACGIH and CSA standard occupational exposure limit for noise. Thus, single hearing protection device (HPD) for noise \geq 85 dBA and double hearing protection for noise \geq 105 dBA for an equivalent 8-hour exposure. This will be the last line of defence when engineering controls are inadequate.
3. All employees required to wear respirators are trained in the use, care and maintenance of HPD.
4. HPDs are available to employees for use on all sites.

Project Certificate Condition No. 10

Category	Noise and Vibration – Noise and Vibration Reduction
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
Project Phase(s)	Construction, Operations
Objective	To ensure worker health and safety and to prevent and mitigate potential impacts on terrestrial wildlife, including caribou, birds, moose, musk ox, foxes, wolves, etc.
Term or Condition	<p>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).</p> <p>For the wind turbines specifically, the Proponent shall monitor for both noise and vibration to confirm that the noise and vibration levels associated with the normal operation of the wind turbines remains within the predicted levels as set out in the 2023 IS Addendum. If monitoring identifies that noise and/or vibration exceeds predicted levels, the Proponent shall provide an explanation for the exceedance, a description of planned mitigation and shall conduct additional monitoring to evaluate the effectiveness of mitigation measures.</p>
Reporting Requirements	<p>Within 60 days of the issuance of Project Certificate 007, Amendment 001 to reflect the addition of the Energy Centre Project the Proponent shall update its Noise Abatement Plan to include the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure and to incorporate any relevant commitments made during the Board’s assessment of the Energy Centre Project.</p> <p>During construction of the Back River Project including the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure, 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 two (2) years in the Proponent’s annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.</p> <p>Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Noise Abatement Plan, the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan and will ensure the updated Plan is posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p>
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, Version 2 (submitted to the NIRB March 4, 2025).

Methods:

Noise measurement and assessment are undertaken following the requirements set out in the Canadian Standards Association (CSA Z107.56-18 (2022)): measurement of noise exposure, ISO 1999 standard, which is then compared with Nunavut Mines Health and Safety Regulation threshold limit values (TLV) set by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH).

Basic Characterization of Areas and Employees

- ◆ All work areas on the Back River Mine site are being identified and demarcated based on activities performed, equipment used, machinery, generators, etc.
- ◆ Similar exposure groups (SEGs) have also been created to identify employees with similar exposure based on similar job tasks, work environments and exposure to hazards.
- ◆ “Characterization” of areas and personnel have been initially assessed to identify the risk of noise exposure and target effective controls.

Evaluation of Noise Exposure through Noise Monitoring and Exposure Assessment

- ◆ All SEGs, personal and area, are being qualitatively assessed as indicated in the B2Gold Nunavut Occupational Health and Hygiene Program.
- ◆ Baseline noise measurements commenced September 2024, as stated and described in the B2Gold Nunavut Occupational Health and Hygiene program and the Occupational Monitoring program. Area and personal noise sampling are being collected and will continue throughout all phases of the project: construction, production, care, and maintenance.
- ◆ Personal noise sampling is being extensively used for evaluating workers' noise exposure in the workplace. The sampling/monitoring program provides accurate data to assess risks, ensure regulation compliance, and implement effective hearing conservation measures.
- ◆ Baseline noise sampling, in accordance with best practice standards, is being quantitatively assessed to identify areas of concern greater than 85 dBA and above 105 dBA. It will also identify similar exposure groups requiring no controls, routine monitoring, further controls, or those placed at unacceptable risk.
- ◆ Baseline sampling has established a clear benchmark that will be used to provide a science-based reference point to compare future data, helping to identify changes or trends in faulty equipment and changes in operational activities, etc., over time.

Annual sampling will be undertaken of mine to until end of mine life. Annual sampling results will assist in substantiating changes in controls, faulty/defective equipment, and adjustments needed to processes/work environment by comparing yearly exposures to the baseline.

Results:

- ◆ From September to EOY 2024, a total of 62 individual samples have been taken using personal noise dosimeters. Attached herein is the YTD personal noise data collected.
- ◆ Area noise monitoring at the Back River Mine (BRM) and Marine Laydown (MLA) have been taken using sound level meters. Areas that have been assessed include:
 - ◇ Umwelt Underground (operational underground mining)
 - ◇ Echo Pit (operational surface mining)
 - ◇ Fixed Powerhouse locations (various locations)
 - ◇ Mobile Genset locations (various locations)
 - ◇ Camp Accommodations & Annexes
 - ◇ Exploration Core Shacks
 - ◇ MLA maintenance workshops
 - ◇ Water and Wastewater Treatment plant
 - ◇ BRM maintenance workshops

As commissioning of new buildings and processes takes place additional sampling will be collected in accordance with the Industrial Hygiene Sampling and Monitoring plan.

- ◆ From September 2024 till date, 62 personal samples have been taken using the personal noise dosimeters. Attached herein is the YTD personal noise data collected.
- ◆ More than 10 areas on Goose Lake and the marine laydown have been assessed and monitored using sound level meters.

Areas that have been assessed include:

- ◇ Umwelt Underground Mine
- ◇ Drilling activities in the Echo pit
- ◇ Some powerhouses
- ◇ Generators
- ◇ Camp and accommodations
- ◇ Exploration Core Shacks
- ◇ MLA maintenance workshops
- ◇ Water and Wastewater Treatment plant

Additional samples will be collected weekly/monthly based on the B2Gold Nunavut industrial hygiene monitoring baseline and annual sampling plan for 2025.

Trends:

Insufficient data has been collected to identify trends at this time.

Next Steps:

All exposures found to be near or over the occupational exposure limit will be added to the exposure action plan, where controls will be assigned to each over-exposure to reduce the exposure to noise in areas and to personal exposures.

Noise mitigative measures will be applied following the hierarchy of controls.

Current Engineering Controls

1. Installed mufflers/silencers on underground ventilation fans, booster fans, vehicle exhaust, etc.
2. Most diesel-powered generators on site are enclosed with noise-dampening materials, which prevent or reduce noise exposure to the environment and people.
3. Mill conveyor systems have been covered, which dampens noise propagation into the environment and the area.
4. Equipment and machines are maintained and serviced regularly.

Current Administrative Controls

1. Identified most mandatory hearing protection areas and SEGs requiring single and double hearing protection—clear identification of zones requiring PPE and other protective measures.
2. Rest schedules and job rotations are included in employee job planning where noise exposures exceed 85 dBA Lex.
3. Annual sampling of noise commenced in 2024.
4. Pre-employment and annual audiometric testing for all employees on the Back River project will ascertain their hearing health and detect the onset of hearing impairment from noise overexposure to immediate action controls.
5. This includes hazardous noise risk and control in site Safe Operating Procedures (SOP), Job Hazard Analysis (JHA), risk assessments, etc.
6. Adequate training and communication of noise exposure's hazards and health effects.

7. All SEGs over exposed SEGs will be captured on the

Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

1. Ensured employees wear hearing protective devices that meet CSA standards.
2. Single and double hearing protection will be worn as per the ACGIH and CSA standard occupational exposure limit for noise. Thus, single hearing HPD for noise ≥ 85 dBA and double hearing protection for noise ≥ 105 dBA for an equivalent 8-hour exposure. This will be the last line of defence when engineering controls are inadequate.
3. All employees required to wear respirators are trained in the use, care and maintenance of HPD.
4. HPDs are available to employees for use on all sites.

Noise monitoring and potential impacts on terrestrial wildlife, including caribou, birds, moose, musk ox, foxes, wolves, etc. is outlined in Section 6.2.2 of the WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) and results from monitoring completed in 2024 is provided in Section 2.8 of the 2024 WMMP Report (Appendix D).

4.5.4 TERRESTRIAL ENVIRONMENT (PC TCS 11 THROUGH 15)

Project Certificate Condition No. 11

Category	Terrestrial Environment – Permafrost Mapping and Monitoring
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	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 has contracted SRK Consulting Inc. to prepare a thermal monitoring plan. At the time of this submission a draft Thermal Monitoring Plan has been submitted for B2 Gold Nunavut review. The scope of the aforementioned Thermal monitoring Plan includes but is not limited to 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 in the future to assist in the detailed design of project infrastructure.
Results:
Not applicable.
Trends:
Not applicable.
Next Steps:
B2Gold Nunavut will progress with the thermal monitoring plan publishing when finalised and subsequently implement the measures outlined in the Thermal Monitoring Plan that includes but is not limited to the installation of additional monitoring locations and completing an annual comparative analysis. B2Gold Nunavut values the integrity of maintaining permafrost conditions for; environmental, regulatory and infrastructure long term sustainability. To highlight the monitoring measures currently designed which will be implemented on water retaining structures on site such as the Primary Pond and Saline Water Pond Dams, the design for these structures is based on passive heat transfer with the atmosphere and includes thermal cover to limit warming and thawing of the foundation. Detailed thermal monitoring is required for these critical infrastructure components, results of which will be analysed annually.

Project Certificate Condition No. 12

Category	Terrestrial Environment – Permafrost Monitoring
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
Project Phase(s)	Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To monitor and mitigate impacts from the Project and approved Modifications on permafrost.
Term or Condition	The Proponent shall monitor the effects of the Project on permafrost conditions relative to project infrastructure, including associated roads, waste rock stockpiles, trails, quarries, wind turbine generators, solar panel array, Battery Energy Storage System, transmission lines, and service roads. Should permafrost degradation be observed, the Proponent shall report on measures implemented to restore and promote permafrost integrity.
Reporting Requirements	<p>During construction of the Project and any approved Modifications, 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 two (2) years in the Proponent’s annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.</p> <p>Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Permafrost Monitoring Plan(s), the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan and will ensure the updated Plan(s) is posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Impact Review Board, Nunavut Water Board
Reference	Not applicable

Methods:
B2Gold Nunavut has contracted SRK Consulting Inc. to prepare a Thermal Monitoring Plan. At the time of this submission a draft Thermal Monitoring Plan has been submitted for B2Gold Nunavut Review. The scope of the aforementioned Thermal Monitoring Plan includes but is not limited to the following project infrastructure, 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. Remediation measures as recommended through ongoing analysis of the Thermal Monitoring Plan shall be implemented to restore and promote permafrost integrity. Information regarding monitoring results and any updates to mitigation measures shall be provided every two (2) years in the Proponent’s annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Results:
Not applicable.
Trends:
Not applicable.

Next Steps:

At the time of this submission B2Gold Nunavut has the DRAFT “Back River Project 2024 Site-Wide Ground Thermal Monitoring” memo has been received from SRK Consulting. This provides a summary of historic and recent ground temperature information. As part of B2 Golds 2024 Thermal Monitoring Efforts an instrumentation audit was completed, areas of replaced and/or additional instrumentation requirements have been identified and shall be implemented in the coming year. With the Back River Project 2024 Site-Wide Ground Thermal Monitoring memo has reinforced its commitment for continual monitoring. Subsequently, B2 Gold has actioned the recommendation for comprehensive thermal monitoring as per the recently commissioned “Back River Ground Thermal Monitoring Plan”. Our commitment to maintain the integrity of the natural permafrost conditions is unwavering.

Project Certificate Condition No. 13

Category	Terrestrial Environment – Sensitive Landform Mitigation and Monitoring
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	<p>During construction of the Project and any approved Modifications, 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 two (2) years in the Proponent’s annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.</p> <p>Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Monitoring Plan(s), the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan(s) and will ensure the updated Plan is posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p>
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 <i>Canadian Dam Safety Guidelines</i> where applicable. This is a requirement of the Back River Project Type A Water Licence 2AM-BRP1831 (Part I, Item 10).

Project Certificate Condition No. 14

Category	Terrestrial Environment – Waste Management Plan
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	The plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board at least 60 days prior to the start of construction of the Project and any approved Modifications. Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Waste Management Plan, the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan and will ensure the updated Plan is posted on the Proponent's project website.
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 (2025); will be submitted to NIRB following approval from the NWB.

Methods:
In conjunction with the Type A Water Licence Application, an updated Landfill and Waste Management Plan has been submitted to the NWB on March 31, 2025, for review. The LWMP was updated to reflect NIRB PC T&C's 7, 15, 35, and 36 and was approved by the NWB.
Results:
The Company continues to use the updated Landfill and Waste Management Plan (August 2022) in the interim.
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.

Project Certificate Condition No. 15

Category	Terrestrial Environment – Progressive Reclamation Plan
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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 including approved Modifications.
Term or Condition	<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. projected timelines for the reclamation of project features, methodologies for undertaking such activities, and monitoring measures to ensure the effectiveness of reclamation methods employed; 2. specific measures for adaptive management and triggers for their application, should monitoring results reveal trends that could affect the reclamation and closure objectives; and, 3. how Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit and Traditional Knowledge was collected, and used to inform closure plans and the design of project components.
Reporting Requirements	<p>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.</p> <p>Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Monitoring Plan(s), the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan(s) and will ensure the updated Plan is posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p>
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:

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

Results:
<p>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. This ICRP was updated in 2022/23 as part of the Energy Centre Project amendment, however no changes were made to the Progressive Reclamation Plan located within.</p> <p>No progressive reclamation activities have been undertaken to date, as no mining areas have been deemed ready for reclamation.</p>
Trends:
<p>Not applicable.</p>
Next Steps:
<p>Progressive reclamation results will be submitted annually, or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB.</p>

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	Geological Features, Surficial and Bedrock Geology and Geochemistry – Aggregate Sources
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	<p>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.</p> <p>Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Monitoring Plan(s), the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan(s) and will ensure the updated Plan is posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Nunavut Impact Review Board, CIRNAC
Reference	Back River Project Quarry Management Plan (November 2020).
Methods:	
<p>B2Gold Nunavut develops site-specific quarry operation and management plans in advance of the development of any potential quarry site or borrow pit.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The ABA program initiated in 2024, is capturing all material being removed from the pit used for construction material at site. B2Gold Nunavut has limited the use of Quarry material, as the pit development is providing sufficient material for construction use. As the pattern is drilled, samples are taken coded to the pattern and approved for use as NAG or PAG.</p>	

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, 2021 ⁹ .
Trends:
Not applicable.
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. No new quarry or borrow sites were accessed in 2024. Any amendments to existing site-specific quarry operation and management plans shall be provided in B2Gold Nunavut's annual report to the NIRB.

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.

Project Certificate Condition No. 17

Category	Geological Features, Surficial and Bedrock Geology and Geochemistry – Monitoring of Tailings and Treatment Sludges
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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. 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.
Reporting Requirements	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 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	Tailings Management Plan (November 2020). Tailings Management Plan (submitted to NWB April 2022).

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 was submitted to the NWB April 2022.
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. No tailings have been deposited in 2024.

Project Certificate Condition No. 18

Category	Hydrogeology and Groundwater Quantity and Quality – Geotechnical Characterization Program
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
Proect Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations
Objective	To minimize the impacts of contaminated water to the groundwater and receiving environment.
Term or Condition	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 Requirements	During construction of the Project and any subsequently approved Modifications, 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 two (2) 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:
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>

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

Project Certificate Condition No. 19

Category	Hydrological Features and Hydrogeology
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	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. Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Saline Water Management Plan, the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan and will ensure the updated Plan is posted on the Proponent's project website.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Water Board, Nunavut Impact Review Board, Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Reference	Type A Water Licence 2AM-BRP1831. Technical Meeting Commitment Responses (June 2018). Water Management Plan (October 2020). Water Management Plan, (Version 5, May 2024) Appendix D.

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, Appendix D 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 updated. An updated WMP was provided to the NWB in May 2024 and approved in August 2024. B2Gold Nunavut is appending a copy of the updated Water Management Plan (Version 5, May 2024) to this annual report (Appendix D. B2Gold Nunavut highlights that no changes were made to the Saline Water Management Plan as part of this update.

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

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut has provided the updated version of the WMP, which contains a Saline Water Management Plan, as an appendix to this annual report.

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	Hydrological Features and Hydrogeology
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	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. Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Thermal Monitoring Plan, the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan and will ensure the updated Plan is posted on the Proponent's project website.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Impact Review Board, Nunavut Water Board
Reference	Not applicable

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut's Thermal Monitoring Plan includes the monitoring, analysis and reporting of Site Hydrological features and their associated geometry of the Primary Pond, Saline Water Pond, Echo, Umwelt and Llama pits. Included in the Design and drawings of the Primary Pond and Saline Water Pond Dams, is a suit of thermal monitoring instrumentation this information shall be compiled, analysed on an annual basis to ensure long term functionality of these water retaining structures. Additionally thermal monitoring is currently being completed at Echo Pit, we are currently working with SRK with regards to potential benefits to installing additional thermal monitoring instrumentation in Echo pit as it transitions to a tailings facility.

Results:

Not applicable.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

As construction of the Primary Pond approaches completion we are finalizing plans to ensure operation of currently installed thermal monitoring instrumentation and install the remaining suit of required instrumentation as per the design. This information will be analysed as per the procedure outlined in the Thermal Monitoring Plan. As the Saline Water Pond design progresses towards "Issued for Construction" careful

consideration is being made to ensure the designed instrumentation coincides with the requirements of the Thermal Monitoring Plan. Echo, Umwelt and Llama pit all fall within the scope of the Thermal Monitoring Plan and shall be recorded and analysed accordingly. Umwelt pit construction is in its infancy and Llama pit construction has not yet begun; thermal monitoring of this infrastructure shall progress inline with project sequencing. In addition to the water retaining structures and pits on site we are also in the process of constructing water conveyance structures such as the 'Goose Neck Crossing Culverts'. As this design has been prepared to SRK careful consideration has be given to the potential impact to permafrost degradation and mitigating alterations to the natural hydrological flow paths. Engineer of Record signoff and summary memo shall be submitted upon completion.

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

Project Certificate Condition No. 21

Category	Groundwater and Surface Water Quality; Sediment Quality and Freshwater Aquatic Environment – Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	<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 Requirements	<p>The plan should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 90 days prior to the start of construction of the Project and any approved Modifications, with results submitted annually thereafter or as may otherwise be required by the NIRB.</p> <p>Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan, the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan and will ensure the updated Plan is posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Water Board, Environment Climate Change Canada, Nunavut Impact Review Board
Reference	<p>Aquatic Effects Monitoring Plan (October 2017).</p> <p>Aquatic Effects Management Plan. Version 2.0. (December 2024)-submitted to NWB February 2025.</p> <p>2021 Aquatic Baseline Report (Golder 2022).</p> <p>2022 Aquatic Baseline Report (WSP 2023).</p> <p>2023 Surface Water Quality Report (WSP 2024).</p> <p>2024 Surface Water Quality Report (WSP 2025-attached as Appendix E).</p>

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 (AEMP), and to support the hydrodynamic model (HD) model.

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 NIRB 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 the 2023 Annual NIRB Report which was included as an appendix. Reviewers provided comments, which were addressed on August 6, 2024 (B2Gold 2024). 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 and 2024 to collect more water quality data to support the HD model as well as the AEMP. The following field programs occurred:

- ◆ Open-water water quality sampling in the outflow of Goose Lake (Propeller Lake inflow) and various Goose Lake inflows in May, July, and September 2023 and in May, June, July, and September 2024;
- ◆ Open-water water quality sampling at multiple stations and water column depths in Goose Lake in July and September 2023;
- ◆ Ice-cover water quality sampling at multiple stations and water column depths in Goose Lake and Reference B Lake in April 2024; and
- ◆ Open-water water quality at five stations in each of two sampling areas in Goose Lake and one sampling area in Reference B Lake in August and September 2024.

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). The 2023 and 2024 water quality data further supplemented the water quality dataset, particularly to support the HD model as well as to support the AEMP. Summaries of the 2021, 2022, and 2023 baseline data were provided in previous NIRB Annual Reports. A summary of the 2024 data is provided below, with a report including representative time series plots provided in Appendix E

The updated AEMP version 2.0 (December 2024) was submitted to the NWB on February 18, 2025, for review.

Trends:

Water quality data collected at Goose Lake and streams and Reference B Lake in 2024 were generally consistent with previous years data, although increasing trends for some parameters were evident. Depth profiles of

field-measured parameters in the lakes showed some stratification for water temperature, pH, and dissolved oxygen under ice-cover conditions and generally well mixed conditions during open-water season, with the exception of strong stratification under ice at one deep station in the Goose Lake West Bay area near the inflow from the Llama watershed. Similar values and trends in the field profiles were observed in previous years, except for specific conductivity in September in the Goose Lake West Bay area near the inflow from Echo Lake, where concentrations of some parameters were higher than in previous years. Several water quality parameters in some Goose Lake samples exceeded water quality guidelines and/or site-specific water quality objectives (SSWQOs) for pH, nitrate, nitrite, total aluminum, total cobalt, total and dissolved copper, and total manganese. Some pH and dissolved copper exceedances of water quality guidelines were also noted at Reference B Lake.

Similar guideline exceedances at the lakes were observed in previous years; however, some parameters that exceeded guidelines in 2024 were measured at higher concentrations than in previous years.

Several water quality parameters such as nitrate, ammonia, sulphate, chloride, calcium, magnesium, total dissolved solids, and metals (i.e., total and dissolved aluminum, arsenic, barium, cadmium, cobalt, manganese, nickel, selenium, sulphur, strontium, uranium, and zinc) measured in the Goose Lake West Bay area showed an increasing trend in concentrations in 2024. Goose Lake West Bay area had the highest concentrations of these parameters in September 2024, followed by April 2024, compared to the other Goose Lake areas, Reference B Lake, and compared to previous years (Golder 2022, WSP 2023, WSP 2024). Concentrations in August 2024 at all Goose Lake sampling areas and in Reference B Lake were similar to those observed in previous years. For some of these parameters (e.g., nitrate, ammonia, chloride, calcium, magnesium, total and dissolved aluminum, barium, cadmium, cobalt, manganese nickel, strontium, and zinc) an initial increase in concentrations relative to previous years and other lake areas was first observed in September 2023, and concentrations continued to increase in 2024. Total phosphorus concentrations in Goose and Reference B lakes were similar to previous years and chlorophyll *a* concentrations were slightly higher in 2024 in both lakes than in previous years but all concentrations (historical and 2024) were within the oligotrophic range.

Water quality samples collected at Goose Lake streams had a greater number of parameters that exceeded water quality guidelines and/or SSWQOs, and overall higher concentrations, compared to the lake water samples. Parameters that exceeded guidelines at streams in 2024 were total cyanide, nitrate, nitrite, total metals (aluminium, arsenic, cadmium, chromium, cobalt, copper, iron, and manganese) and dissolved copper. Similar guideline exceedances were also observed in the past; however, concentrations of these parameters were generally higher than in the past, and some parameters such as total copper and total arsenic exceeded guidelines or objectives for the first time in 2024.

The Goose Lake inflow from Echo Lake (BRP-19) and the inflow from Llama watershed (BRP-18) had higher concentrations in 2024 than other inflows, and compared to previous years' results at these locations. Water samples collected at BRP-19 had the highest concentrations of total dissolved solids, ammonia, nitrite and nitrate, turbidity, cyanide, magnesium, potassium, sodium, sulphate and most metals (total and dissolved aluminum, antimony, arsenic, chromium, cobalt, copper, lead, lithium, manganese, molybdenum, nickel, selenium, silicon, sulphur, uranium vanadium, and zirconium) in 2024 compared to all previous monitoring years, and other Goose Lake inflows. Higher than background concentrations of most of these parameters were also noted at BRP-18 (i.e., total dissolved solids, nitrate, chloride, calcium, magnesium, sodium, total and dissolved barium, cadmium, cobalt, lead, lithium, manganese, nickel, selenium, silicon, strontium, and zinc). This inflow had the highest concentrations in September 2023, and concentrations continued to be elevated in 2024 but were overall slightly lower than those measured at BRP-19.

The inflow to the Southeast basin of Goose Lake (BRP-30) had an increasing trend in concentrations of total and dissolved chromium, iron, silicon, and vanadium starting in 2023, which continued in 2024, and most stream locations in 2024 had slightly higher concentrations of total phosphorus than in previous years.

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	Groundwater and Surface Water Quality; and Hydrological Features and Hydrogeology – Site Water Monitoring and Management Plan
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	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. Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Site Water Monitoring and Management Plan, the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan and will ensure the updated Plan is posted on the Proponent’s project website.
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	Type A Water Licence 2AM-BRP1831. Water Management Plan (Version 5, May 2024).

Methods:
B2Gold Nunavut’s Water Management Plan (WMP) addresses PC T&C's 22, 28, and 19. B2Gold Nunavut is currently operating under Water Management Plan (Version 5, May 2024).
Results:
An updated WMP was provided to the NWB in May 2024 and approved in August 2024. B2Gold Nunavut is appending the updated Water Management Plan to this annual report (Appendix D) . B2Gold Nunavut highlights that no changes were made to the Saline Water Management Plan as part of this update.
Trends:
Not applicable.
Next Steps:
B2Gold Nunavut has provided the updated version of the WMP as an appendix to this annual report.

4.5.8 FRESHWATER AQUATIC ENVIRONMENT (PC TCS 23 THROUGH 31)

Project Certificate Condition No. 23

Category	Freshwater Aquatic Environment – Setbacks
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	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 2024, 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 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	Freshwater Aquatic Environment – Watercourses
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 (DFO).
Reporting Requirements	Information regarding design, construction and inspection measures implemented by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition for the Project and any approved Modifications, 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>DFO. 2022. Letter of Advice: approval for the culvert construction under a Letter of Advice (file #22-HCAA-00586) on July 15, 2022.</p> <p>Golder. 2018. Back River Project Early Works – Request for Review Application (submitted February 27, 2018).</p> <p>Golder. 2020. Fish Passage Evaluation, Mitigation, and Monitoring for Rascal Stream Diversion. 29 June 2020.</p> <p>Golder. 2021a. Sabina Back River Project – Goose Property Area: Supplemental Hydrology and Fish Habitat Data Report. 2021 Open-Water Period.</p> <p>Golder. 2021b. Issued for Construction Drawings for Culvert Crossings at the Rascal Stream West Reach 1. 27 October 2021.</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. Submitted to DFO on 18 December 2023.</p> <p>WSP. 2024a. Rascal Stream West Crossing Construction Summary Report (Appendix F).</p> <p>WSP. 2024b. Back River Project Rascal Stream West Arctic Grayling Monitoring-2024 Field Summary Report and Fish Passage Characterization (Appendix G).</p>

Methods:

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, Golder 2018) 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 2021b).

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 in the Interim code of practice: End of pipe fish protection screens for small water intakes in freshwater, when using pumps.

The RSW culverts were installed in 2023. Environmental monitoring was conducted during culvert construction activities (WSP 2023b) and an as-completed engineering inspection was completed (Appendix F). In 2024, field surveys were conducted to assess the suitability of Arctic Grayling spawning and rearing habitat in RSW (Appendix G). Results from the field surveys were used to determine if Arctic Grayling were able to access RSW habitat upstream from the culvert construction areas. Findings from these inspection and monitoring programs are summarized below.

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, 2022, and 2024 (Golder 2021a, WSP 2023a, WSP 2024b (Appendix G)). The 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; stream discharge recorded daily from June 1 to 9 (except for June 3) ranged from 0.25 to 0.70 m³/s;
- ◆ Maximum flow velocity at the watercourse crossing was 0.94 m/s in 2021; 0.69 m/s in 2022; and 0.25 m/s in 2024 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 12th, 2023. A summary of findings during the construction monitoring are as follows:

- ◆ Construction on the secondary channel culvert was completed on May 15th, 2023, 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, 2023, 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, 2023, 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 to the construction monitoring report, WSP (2024a) issued the engineering inspection report (Appendix F). The inspection report includes the as-built surveys of the culverts and concludes that, *'WSP certifies that the as-constructed information, if accurate and complete, is anticipated to provide an as constructed system which substantially complies with the original design intent. The future performance of the culverts to meet the design intent require monitoring and maintenance and discussed in this construction summary report'*.

An Arctic Grayling monitoring program was conducted in the spring and summer 2024. Results from the surveys are provided in Appendix G, and summarized below:

- ◆ **Spawning Success:** Fish from Goose Lake can navigate upstream to Reach 1 and beyond, with up to 55 spawning adults observed.
- ◆ **Young of Year:** Most young-of-year fish were found above Reach 1, with the largest numbers in Reach 2 and 3.
- ◆ **Movement Tracking:** 28 of 29 tagged fish remained below the chute, with some post-spawning individuals outmigrating to Goose Lake.
- ◆ **Summer Radio Frequency Identification Detection Data:** Some fish hold within refugia in Gander/Gosling Ponds, with limited movement between stream reaches during the deployment period.
- ◆ **2024 Monitoring:** The program met its objectives, with angling and dip netting proving effective and less stressful for catching Arctic Grayling.

Trends:

There were no discernible changes in conditions for fish passage for the period of 2019 to 2024. 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. Furthermore, findings from the 2024 Arctic Grayling monitoring program confirmed that migrating fish from Goose Lake were able to navigate the RSW culverts and access upstream rearing and spawning habitat.

Next Steps:

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 2020. As such, B2Gold Nunavut will continue to monitor Arctic Grayling movement in RSW during the spring migration and summer fry emergence periods. 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	Freshwater Aquatic Environment – Blasting
Responsible Parties	The Proponent Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
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	The Proponent shall engage with Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) 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 Requirements	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.

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 2025. 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	Freshwater Aquatic Environment – Fish Passage
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the 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	The Proponent shall engage Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), 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 Requirements	The updated information should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 30 days prior to construction of the fish passages for both the Project and any approved Modifications, 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	<p>Sabina. 2018. Rascal Stream Fishway Hydrotechnical Assessment (January 2018).</p> <p>Sabina. 2019. Back River Project: Fish Offsetting Plan (June 2019).</p> <p>Golder. 2021a. Rascal Stream West velocity mitigation – 2020 construction report. Dated 29 March 2021. 60 pages.</p> <p>Golder. 2021b. Sabina Back River Project – Goose Property Area: Supplemental Hydrology and Fish Habitat Data Report. 2021 Open-Water Period.</p> <p>Golder. 2020a. Rascal Stream Fishway Hydrotechnical Assessment. Submitted to Sabina Gold & Silver Corp., 30 June 2020. Reference No. 18114181-R-Rev0. 133 pages.</p>

	<p>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.</p> <p>Golder. 2020c. Rascal Stream Fish Passage Evaluation – Addendum. Submitted to Sabina Gold & Silver Corp. 11 August 2020. 2 pages.</p> <p>WSP. 2023. 2022 Rascal Stream West Field Summary and Fish Passage Characterization. 21 February 2023. Reference No. 21505757-129-TM-Rev0.</p>
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Methods:

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 Conditions No. 24, 29, and 30.

Rascal Stream Fishway

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 2020a, Golder 2020b, Golder 2020c). 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 the airstrip extension 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 the airstrip extension 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 2025. 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 and when the diversion is constructed, a comprehensive fish passage monitoring study will follow. Results from the study will be presented as part of the next NIRB annual Report.

Project Certificate Condition No. 27

Category	Freshwater Aquatic Environment – Water Withdrawal Sites
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the Nunavut Water Board, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
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	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 Requirements	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 2020. Technical Memorandum. Hydrological Assessment of Effects from Increased Goose Lake and Big Lake Withdrawals. March 13, 2020.</p> <p>Golder. 2022. Technical Memorandum, Supplementary Winter Ice Road Water Withdrawal Recommendations and Field Verification Methods (submitted November 2022).</p> <p>Sabina 2020. Modification Package for FEIS. June 2020.</p> <p>WSP. 2024. Downstream Assessment of the Goose Lake Water Withdrawal Increase on Arctic Grayling Spawning and Rearing Habitat. 8 February 2024.</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 the Project Certificate, Sabina submitted a Request for Review for the Winter Ice Road (WIR) to DFO in February 2018. In November 2018 Sabina provided the NIRB, DFO, and NWB with a detailed Technical Memorandum (Golder 2018a) 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 that the WIR technical memo met requirements of the Type A Water Licence. 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 measures can be used to minimize impacts to Arctic Grayling (*Thymallus arcticus*) and their 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).

In September 2024, B2Gold submitted a Request for Review (RFR) application to DFO, entitled: “Back River Project – Goose Lake Water Withdrawal Increase”. The application included the downstream effects assessment on Arctic Grayling habitat (WSP 2024). DFO completed their review on November 28, 2024, and communicated via email that an amendment to the Project’s Fisheries Act Authorization (FAA) would be required due to the following:

- ◆ loss of wetted width in the Goose Lake outlet;
- ◆ the delay of onset of flow above 30% mean annual discharge (MAD); and
- ◆ earlier ceasing of flow.

DFO recommended that B2Gold submit the proposed water withdrawal increase under a FAA amendment application prior to water withdrawal from Goose Lake, and that the amendment should include an update to the Project’s offsetting plan, including a monitoring plan to capture potential impacts of the increase in water withdrawal to downstream Arctic Grayling habitat. Water withdrawal from Goose Lake is proposed for winter 2025. As such, the above regulatory application pieces will be summarized or attached to the 2025 NIRB annual report.

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 during the 2023/2024 WIR construction.

Goose Lake:

The downstream assessment of the Goose Lake water withdrawal increase on Arctic Grayling spawning and rearing habitat was included in the 2023 NIRB annual report (WSP 2024). 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 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:

Prior to water withdrawal from Goose Lake, B2Gold Nunavut submitted to DFO the proposed water withdrawal increases under a Fisheries Act Authorization (FAA) amendment application including a monitoring plan to capture potential impacts of the increase in water withdrawal to downstream Arctic Grayling habitat. DFO engagement and DFO authorization amendment is ongoing.

Project Certificate Condition No. 28

Category	Freshwater Aquatic Environment – Winter Ice Road
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	The Proponent shall implement all applicable Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) 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 Requirements	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:
<p>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).</p> <p>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.</p>
Results:
<p>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.</p> <p>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</p>

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 2023/2024 WIR water use (in volumes per kilometre of WIR) will be provided in the 2024 Annual Report to the NWB.

Project Certificate Condition No. 29

Category	Freshwater Aquatic Environment – Water Crossings
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	The Proponent shall implement all applicable Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) 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 Requirements	Information regarding best management practices and/or mitigation measures implemented by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition for the Project and any approved Modifications 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. Submitted to DFO on 18 December 2023.</p> <p>WSP. 2024a. Rascal Stream West Crossing Construction Summary Report (Appendix F).</p> <p>WSP. 2024b. Back River Project Rascal Stream West Arctic Grayling Monitoring-2024 Field Summary Report and Fish Passage Characterization (Appendix G).</p>

Note that this condition and reporting requirements are related to Condition No. 24. Please refer to the reply included for 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	Freshwater Aquatic Environment – Monitoring Program for Culverts
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	Unless otherwise directed by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), 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 Requirements	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 of the Project and any approved Modifications, 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>Sabina 2018. Back River Project Early Works – Request for Review Application (submitted February 27, 2018).</p> <p>Sabina 2022. Back River Project Rascal Stream West Culvert Installation – Request for Review Application (submitted June 20, 2022).</p> <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>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>Golder. 2021. Issued for Construction Drawings for Culvert Crossings at the Rascal Stream West Reach 1. 27 October 2021.</p> <p>WSP. 2023a. 2022 Rascal Stream West Field Summary and Fish Passage Characterization. 21 February 2023.</p> <p>WSP. 2023b. B2Gold Back River Project – Rascal Stream West Culvert Installation Construction Monitoring Report. Submitted to DFO on 18 December 2023.</p> <p>WSP. 2024a. Rascal Stream West Crossing Construction Summary Report (Appendix F).</p> <p>WSP. 2024b. Back River Project Rascal Stream West Arctic Grayling Monitoring-2024 Field Summary Report and Fish Passage Characterization (Appendix G).</p>

Methods:

Note that this condition and reporting requirements are related to Conditions 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 2021), 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	Freshwater Aquatic Environment – Monitoring Program for Culverts
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	The Proponent should provide annual monitoring updates regarding the Rascal Stream Fish Passage that enables parties to determine its effectiveness.
Reporting Requirements	Monitoring updates regarding the Rascal Stream Fish Passage shall be included in the annual report to the NIRB for the Back River Gold Mine Project. In years when monitoring is not required by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), 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	Vegetation – Site Footprint
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To minimize the impacts of the Project and approved Modifications on vegetation.
Term or Condition	The Proponent shall ensure that Project activities are planned and conducted in such a way as to minimize the Project footprint.
Reporting Requirements	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). Results shall be reported for all components of the Project including the Energy Centre infrastructure (wind turbines, solar panel array, Battery Energy Storage System, transmission lines, and service roads).
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	None
Reference	Vegetation Monitoring Plan (January 2020). Vegetation Monitoring Program (Golder 2019).

Methods:
The 2024 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 the current footprint for the Goose Property and the MLA totals 297.4 ha and is presented by ecosystem type in Table 4.5-6. To date, 245.8 ha (0.1% of the LSA) has been affected due to Goose Property development, of which 226.6 ha (0.1% of the LSA) are vegetated ecosystems, 7.7 ha (<0.1% of the LSA) are sparsely vegetated ecosystems, and 11.5 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, 27.75 ha (<0.1% of the LSA) have been affected in the Goose Property.
Development activities associated with the MLA property have affected 51.6 ha (<0.1% of the LSA), of which 36.8 ha (<0.1% of the LSA) are vegetated ecosystems while 9.0 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, 18.4 ha (<0.1% of the LSA) have been affected in the MLA property.

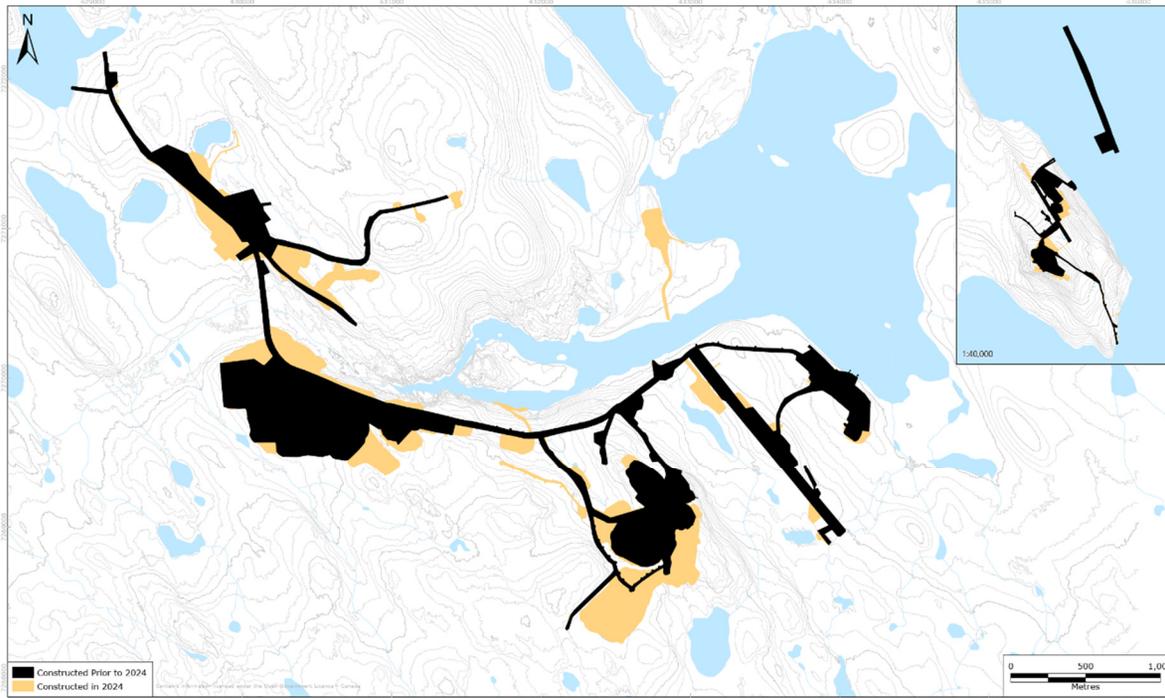
Table 4.5-6 Ecosystem/Vegetation Losses Associated with Current (2023) Footprint for the Goose Property and the Marine Laydown Area

Ecosystem Type	TEM Code	LSA		Predicted Losses FEIS (2015)	Goose Property				MLA Property			
		Area (ha)	% of Total LSA		Area (ha)	2024			2024			
				Area (ha) 2023		Area (ha) 2024	% of Total LSA	Change from 2023 (ha)	Area (ha) 2023	Area (ha) 2024	% of Total LSA	Change from 2023 (ha)
Non-vegetated Ecosystems												
Lake	LA	18,140.9	12.5	461.9	0.1	0.3	<0.1	0.2	-	-	-	-
Mine Camp	DR	10.0	<0.1	6.8	6.3	6.8	<0.1	0.5	-	-	-	-
Pond	PD	6,436.1	4.5	273.7	0.3	4.4	<0.1	4.2	-	-	-	-
River	RI	329.0	0.2	3.7	<0.1	0.1	<0.1	0.0	-	-	-	-
Road surface	DZ	3.2	<0.1	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saltwater	MW	6,170.1	4.3	0.00	-	-	-	-	5.8	5.8	<0.1	0.00
<i>Subtotal</i>		<i>31,089.3</i>	<i>21.5</i>	<i>746.1</i>	<i>6.7</i>	<i>11.5</i>	<i><0.1</i>	<i>4.9</i>	<i>5.8</i>	<i>5.8</i>	<i><0.1</i>	<i>0.0</i>
Sparsely Vegetated Ecosystems												
Bedrock outcrop ^(a)	BR	3,428.8	2.4	155.1	3.5	4.8	<0.1	1.3	-	-	-	-
Bedrock-lichen veneer ^(a)	BL	6,882.8	4.8	52.0	1.5	2.6	<0.1	1.1	-	-	-	-
Blockfield	TB	195.5	0.1	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cliff ^(a)	BC	10.9	<0.1	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Exposed soil	ES	176.7	0.1	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marine beach ^(a)	MB	59.5	<0.1	14.3	-	-	-	-	0.4	0.4	<0.1	0.1
Old beach heads ^(a)	MH	476.1	0.3	53.5	-	-	-	-	6.2	8.5	<0.1	2.4
Saline shallow open water ^(a)	MO	55.8	<0.1	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shallow open water ^(a)	WO	81.1	0.1	4.5	0.1	0.1	<0.1	0.1	-	-	-	-
Sparsely vegetated esker ^(a)	EC	659.5	0.5	2.2	0.0	0.2	<0.1	0.2	-	-	-	-
Talus	BT	4.5	<0.1	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Subtotal</i>		<i>12,031.2</i>	<i>8.3</i>	<i>281.9</i>	<i>5.1</i>	<i>7.7</i>	<i><0.1</i>	<i>2.6</i>	<i>6.6</i>	<i>9.0</i>	<i><0.1</i>	<i>2.4</i>

Ecosystem Type	TEM Code	LSA		Predicted Losses FEIS (2015)	Goose Property				MLA Property			
		Area (ha)	% of Total LSA		2024				2024			
				Area (ha) 2023	Area (ha) 2024	% of Total LSA	Change from 2023 (ha)	Area (ha) 2023	Area (ha) 2024	% of Total LSA	Change from 2023 (ha)	
Vegetated Ecosystems												
Cottongrass-sedge fen ^(a)	WC	3,467.7	2.4	132.6	2.9	4.4	<0.1	1.5	-	-	-	-
Disturbed Vegetation	DV	0.7	<0.1	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dry-sparse tundra	TH	23,458.2	16.2	574.3	18.4	31.1	<0.1	12.7	-	-	-	-
Dwarf shrub esker ^(a)	EH	629.7	0.4	8.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
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	5,444.7	3.8	275.5	-	-	-	-	20.0	26.0	<0.1	6.0
Marine riparian shrub ^(a)	MR	439.4	0.3	89.8	-	-	-	-	4.9	6.1	<0.1	1.3
Marine shrubby tundra	MS	1,830.2	1.3	10.1	-	-	-	-	1.1	1.4	<0.1	0.3
Mesic dwarf-shrub tundra	TL	41,722.4	28.9	2338.8	92.8	137.5	<0.1	44.7	-	-	-	-
Mid bench floodplain ^(a)	RM	3.8	<0.1	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Raised bog complex ^(a)	WB	4,224.6	2.9	236.9	5.8	8.4	<0.1	2.6	0.2	0.2	<0.1	0.0
Saline fen ^(a)	MF	993.1	0.1	73.3	-	-	-	-	2.2	2.7	<0.1	0.5
Saline marsh ^(a)	MM	252	0.2	13.7	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.1	<0.1	0.0
Shrubby esker ^(a)	EW	220.8	0.2	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shrubby tundra	TS	11,853.9	8.2	910.6	27.0	37.9	<0.1	10.9	-	-	-	-
Tussock meadow ^(a)	WT	64.4	<0.1	3.60	0.1	0.2	<0.1	0.1	-	-	-	-
Undifferentiated fen ^(a)	WF	2,582.0	1.8	78.0	2.3	4.1	<0.1	1.8	-	-	-	-
Water sedge marsh ^(a)	WA	2,396.0	1.7	112.0	1.1	2.1	<0.1	1.0	0.4	0.4	<0.1	0.0
Willow riparian ^(a)	RW	1,441.9	1	64.2	0.4	0.5	<0.1	0.1	-	-	-	-
Willow-sedge fen ^(a)	WS	418.3	0.3	23.2	0.1	0.3	<0.1	0.3	-	-	-	-
<i>Subtotal</i>		<i>101,484.6</i>	<i>70.2</i>	<i>4945.2</i>	<i>150.9</i>	<i>226.6</i>	<i><0.1</i>	<i>75.6</i>	<i>28.7</i>	<i>36.8</i>	<i><0.1</i>	<i>8.1</i>
<i>= Total Special Landscape Features</i>		<i>28,828.9</i>	<i>20.1</i>	<i>1,117.5</i>	<i>17.8</i>	<i>27.8</i>	<i><0.1</i>	<i>9.9</i>	<i>14.2</i>	<i>18.4</i>	<i><0.1</i>	<i>4.3</i>
Grand Total		144,605.1	100.0	5973.2	162.7	245.8	0.1	83.1	41.1	51.6	<0.1	10.6

Figure 4.5-8 is a graphic representation of the 2023 footprint for the Goose Property and MLA.

Figure 4.5-8 Back River Project Footprint, 2024



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.

Project Certificate Condition No. 33

Category	Vegetation – Invasive Species
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	At least 30 days prior to first shipment of equipment and supplies to the site, including equipment and supplies for the Energy Centre Project, 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	<p>2024 Vegetation Monitoring Program Report (WSP 2025; Appendix H).</p> <p>CESCC (The Canadian Endangered Species Conservation Council). 2010. Non Native & Invasive Species in Nunavut. [Accessed December 2024]. https://www.gov.nu.ca/sites/default/files/publications/2022-01/invasive_poster_english_jan31-4.pdf.</p> <p>CESCC. 2022. Wild Species 2020: The General Status of Species in Canada. National General Status Working Group: 172pp.</p> <p>FNA (Flora of North America). 2020. <i>Achillea millefolium</i>. Accessed December 2024 at: http://floranorthamerica.org/Achillea_millefolium.</p> <p>NatureServe. 2024. Accessed online December 2024 at: https://explorer.natureserve.org/Search.</p>

<p>Methods:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>In 2020, an updated Back River Project Vegetation Monitoring Plan (VMP) was provided to the NIRB. This plan includes non-native plant species monitoring within the Goose Property, MLA, and WIR footprint and adjacent habitats.</p> <p>B2Gold Nunavut conducted non-native plant monitoring during the 2024 VMP field surveys following the commitment to conduct these surveys every 3 years.</p>
<p>Results:</p> <p>Expediter verification forms confirm equipment and bulk supplies destined for the Back River Project were free of soil and plant debris.</p> <p>Results of the 2024 non-native plant monitoring concluded that there were no species observed that are considered non-native according to CESSC (2010). However, one individual of common yarrow (<i>Achillea millefolium</i>) was observed near the MLA camp (Appendix H). While not listed by the CESSC as an invasive plant, common yarrow is not known to exist in Nunavut (NatureServe 2024; CESSC 2022). The species is considered native in some places in North America but some populations may be introduced (NatureServe 2024). The Flora of North America (FNA 2020) lists common yarrow as distributed across North America, including Nunavut. It is unclear if this species is considered an introduced population because information on its presence in Nunavut is limited and conflicting.</p>
<p>Trends:</p> <p>Non-native plant monitoring will continue to include species such as common yarrow that are not known to occur in Nunavut.</p>
<p>Next Steps:</p> <p>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).</p>

Project Certificate Condition No. 34

Category	Vegetation – Vegetation Monitoring Plan
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the 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 all project sites, including project components added to the Back River Project under the Energy Centre Proposal.
Term or Condition	<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 assessment of the Project (and subsequent modifications), including commitments to consult with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the Government of Nunavut, and other relevant parties, as well as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 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 including the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure (wind turbines, solar panel array, Battery Energy Storage System, transmission lines, and service roads); 2. Incorporation of measures to prevent or minimize potential destabilization and erosion along winter ice road/trail routings and around project sites, including the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure (wind turbines, solar panel array, Battery Energy Storage System, transmission lines, and service roads); 3. Details on the triggers for implementing adaptive management options if effects to vegetation are observed, including potential impacts from dust deposition; and 4. Discussion of how the findings from monitoring efforts would be used to inform reclamation planning.
Reporting Requirements	<p>Within 60 days of the issuance of Project Certificate 007, Amendment No. 1 to reflect the addition of the Energy Centre Project, the Proponent shall submit an updated Vegetation Monitoring Plan to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) to include the addition of the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure (wind turbines, solar panel array, Battery Energy Storage System, transmission lines, and service roads).</p> <p>Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Vegetation Monitoring Plan, the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan and will ensure the updated Plan is also posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	None
Reference	<p>Vegetation Monitoring Plan (January 2020).</p> <p>Vegetation Monitoring Plan (2025).</p> <p>2024 Vegetation Monitoring Program Report (WSP 2025).</p>

Methods:

A Vegetation Monitoring Plan (VMP) 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.

The VMP was updated as per the reporting requirements for the Energy Centre Infrastructure Project as part of Amendment No. 1 to the Project Certificate and submitted to the NIRB on February 18th to fulfil this requirement.

The winter ice road photographic monitoring was conducted as part of the 2024 Vegetation Monitoring Program.

Results:

In 2024, 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.

The photographs taken from 2024 and previous years including 2019, 2022 and 2023 were compared to quantify effects from the WIR. A summary of the disturbance classes assigned to each plot is provided in Table 4.5-7. The photographs are provided in **Appendix H**.

Table 4.5-7 Summary of Disturbance Classes of WIR Monitoring Plots

Plot Name	Plot Type	Location (13W)		Disturbance Class				Comments
		Easting	Northing	2019	2022	2023	2024	
BRR006Ea	Experimental	404245	7343468	NA	NA	no photo	Very High	Plot had aggregate material placed. Not appropriate for future monitoring.
BRR006R	Reference	404243	7343406	NA	NA	no photo	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR007E	Experimental	404795	7338513	NA	NA	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate impacts from WIR.
BRR007R	Reference	404713	7338489	NA	NA	NA	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR014E	Experimental	403805	7335398	NA	NA	Low	Low	Low impacts from WIR.
BRR014R	Reference	403765	7335314	NA	NA	NA	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR015E	Experimental	404124	7335503	Very High	Very High	no photo	Very High	Very high impacts from WIR.
BRR015R	Reference	404242	7335458	NA	NA	no photo	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR016E	Experimental	400749	7327721	Low	Low	no photo	Very High	Plot had aggregate material placed. Not appropriate for future monitoring.
BRR016R	Reference	400724	7327787	NA	NA	no photo	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR021E	Experimental	400258	7327474	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate impacts from WIR.
BRR021R	Reference	400162	7327568	NA	NA	NA	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR024E	Experimental	401014	7304445	Low	no photo	Low	Low	Low impacts from WIR.
BRR024R	Reference	401091	7304501	NA	no photo	NA	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR025E	Experimental	400366	7304583	NA	no photo	no photo	Very High	Plot had aggregate material placed. Not appropriate for future monitoring.
BRR025R	Reference	400341	7304601	NA	no photo	no photo	Very High	Road alignment has moved onto reference plot. New reference plot needed

Plot Name	Plot Type	Location (13W)		Disturbance Class				Comments
		Easting	Northing	2019	2022	2023	2024	
BRR028E	Experimental	399795	7301289	NA	no photo	NA	Low	Low impacts from WIR.
BRR028R	Reference	399869	7301258	NA	no photo	NA	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR029E	Experimental	399976	7296181	NA	no photo	NA	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR029R	Reference	399897	7296145	NA	no photo	NA	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR031E	Experimental	406751	7285212	NA	no photo	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate impacts from WIR.
BRR031R	Reference	406554	7285303	NA	no photo	NA	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR032Ea	Experimental	410144	7282722	NA	Very High	no photo	Very High	Plot had aggregate material placed. Not appropriate for future monitoring.
BRR032R	Reference	410249	7282768	NA	NA	no photo	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR033Ea	Experimental	413758	7280230	NA	Very High	no photo	Very High	Plot had aggregate material placed. Not appropriate for future monitoring.
BRR033R	Reference	413587	7280442	NA	NA	no photo	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR034E	Experimental	415641	7279046	NA	Very High	no photo	Very High	Plot had aggregate material placed. Not appropriate for future monitoring.
BRR034Ra	Reference	415602	7278982	NA	NA	NA	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR035Ea	Experimental	416096	7278371	NA	Very High	no photo	Very High	Plot had aggregate material placed. Not appropriate for future monitoring.
BRR035Ra	Reference	415991	7278319	NA	NA	no photo	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR036E	Experimental	423724	7274476	NA	no photo	NA	High	High impacts from WIR
BRR036R	Reference	423689	7274472	NA	no photo	NA	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR038E	Experimental	400723	7357241	NA	Very High	no photo	Very High	Plot had aggregate material placed. Not appropriate for future monitoring.

Plot Name	Plot Type	Location (13W)		Disturbance Class				Comments
		Easting	Northing	2019	2022	2023	2024	
BRR038R	Reference	400717	7357171	NA	NA	no photo	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR040E	Experimental	401054	7360005	Low	Very High	no photo	Very High	Plot had aggregate material placed. Not appropriate for future monitoring.
BRR040Ra	Reference	400960	7359988	NA	NA	no photo	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR041Ea	Experimental	401394	7358187	High	Very High	no photo	Very High	Plot had aggregate material placed. Not appropriate for future monitoring.
BRR041R	Reference	401465	7358268	NA	NA	no photo	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR042E	Experimental	402608	7317031	NA	no photo	NA	Low	Low impacts from WIR.
BRR042R	Reference	402642	7316865	NA	NA	NA	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR043E	Experimental	402200	7313457	NA	NA	NA	Low	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR043R	Reference	402251	7313397	NA	no photo	NA	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.
BRR046E	Experimental	403693	7341827	no photo	Low	Low	Low	Low impacts from WIR.
BRR046R	Reference	403778	7341887	no photo	NA	NA	NA	No visible impacts from WIR.

Trends:

Of the 44 WIR monitoring plots, 11 have had aggregate material placed on them and should be replaced with new monitoring plots. B2Gold Nunavut commits to replacing these experimental monitoring plots with monitoring plots in the vicinity, however outside of areas where aggregate material has been placed. Of the remaining WIR monitoring plots, one is considered to have very high impacts, one high impacts, three moderate impacts, five low impacts and 23 with no impacts from the WIR.

Next Steps:

During the next WIR monitoring program, new WIR monitoring plots will be established to replace those lost due to aggregate material being placed on them.

Project Certificate Condition No. 35

Category	Vegetation – Revegetation and Reclamation
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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, reseeded, 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 Requirements	The program and associated revegetation results should be provided within the Proponent’s annual report submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Monitoring Plan(s), the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan(s) and will ensure the updated Plan is posted on the Proponent’s project website.
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, 2021 ¹¹ . This ICRP was further updated in 2022/23 as part of the amendment application process and provided to 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. B2Gold Nunavut will provide initial details in the 2025 Annual Report.	

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

Project Certificate Condition No. 36

Category	Vegetation – Mine Closure and Reclamation Plan
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	<p>Within three (3) years from the commencement of construction of the Back River Gold Mine Project, 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 and this information will include reclamation strategies for the Energy Centre Project. 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.</p> <p>Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Monitoring Plan(s), the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan(s) and will ensure the updated Plan is posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	None
Reference	<p>Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan (July 2021).</p> <p>Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan (July 2022).</p>

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, 2021¹². This ICRP was further updated in 2022 as part of the amendment application process and provided to the NIRB. The ICRP addresses PC T&C's 7, 15, 35, and 36.

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

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. B2Gold Nunavut will provide initial details in the 2025 Annual Report.

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

Project Certificate Condition No. 37

Category	Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat – Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Plan
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	<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 including the development of the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure (wind turbines, solar panel array, Battery Energy Storage System, transmission lines, and service roads); monitoring results indicating biologically-meaningful changes, significant updates to the scientific understanding of management methods relevant to wildlife at the project site, Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit, 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 Requirements	<p>Within 60 days of the issuance of Project Certificate 007, Amendment No. 1 to reflect the addition of the Energy Centre Project, the Proponent shall submit an updated version of the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (WMMPP) to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB). Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (WMMPP), the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan and will ensure the updated Plan is also posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p> <p>Information regarding how Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit, Indigenous and Community Knowledge, and changes suggested by the Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee and the Caribou Technical Advisory Group have been incorporated into the WMMPP should be discussed in the Proponent’s annual report. The Proponent should also include a discussion of how local Hunters and Trappers Organizations and potentially affected communities have been engaged and consulted in relation to relevant components of the WMMPP.</p>

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 13, October 2024).

Methods:	
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The WMMPP was further updated in April 2023 to Version 12. 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.</p> <p>Version 12 of the WMMPP was updated in response to the issuance of Project Certificate 007, Amendment No. 1 to reflect the addition of the Energy Centre in October 2024 (Version 13, the current version). All mitigation contained in the main body of the WMMPP pertains to all components of the mine, including the Energy Centre. Version 13 incorporated feedback from the CTAG (including the GN and KIA), including the addition of a separate operational appendix (Appendix A of the WMMPP) outlining details regarding mitigation and monitoring specific to the Energy Centre components. In addition, the Back River Mine changed ownership to B2Gold Corp. in 2023; therefore, Version 13 also includes updating the text to reflect this change (i.e., Sabina has been changed to B2Gold Nunavut).</p>	
Results:	
<p>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) was used to guide mitigation and monitoring from January to October in 2024, with Version 13 (October 2024) being enacted from October to December. Mitigation and monitoring were effective in 2024.</p> <p>The updated WMMP Plan (Version 13, October 2024) was submitted to the NIRB within 60 days of the issuance of Project Certificate 007, Amendment No. 1.</p>	
Trends:	
Not applicable.	
Next Steps:	
B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction and Operations Phases. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.	

Project Certificate Condition No. 38

Category	Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat – Wildlife Monitoring
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the 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	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 Requirements	Information regarding the Proponent’s consultation, coordination and other contribution efforts undertaken in fulfillment of this Term and Condition for both the Back River Project and the Back River Energy Centre Project shall be provided in the Proponent’s annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. Information regarding how Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, Indigenous and Community Knowledge, and changes suggested by the Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee and the Caribou Technical Advisory Group have been incorporated into the WMMPP should be discussed in the Proponent’s annual report. The Proponent should also include a discussion of how local Hunters and Trappers Organizations and potentially affected communities have been engaged and consulted in relation to relevant components of the WMMPP.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	WMMPP Section 7.3.2.7 Collaborative Herd-scale Monitoring. Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 13), October 2024.

Methods:
Section 7.3.2.7 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.

In February, May, and December 2024, CTAG meetings were held including representatives from the GN and KIA. Topics discussed included updates to the WMMPP (Version 13) including Energy Centre mitigations, Winter Ice Road (WIR) crossing analyses, WIR caribou monitoring, Regional Camera Monitoring Program study design, and opportunities for collaborative monitoring approaches. Additionally, B2Gold Nunavut provided in-kind support to GNWT ECC caribou collar monitoring programs by retrieving GPS collars emitting mortality signals within the Regional Study Area.

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	Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat – Caribou Mitigation and Adaptive Management Measures
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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 including approved Modifications.
Term or Condition	<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, including the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure (wind turbines, solar panel array, Battery Energy Storage System, transmission lines, and service roads). 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 Requirements	<p>Within 60 days of the issuance of Project Certificate 007, Amendment No. 1 to reflect the addition of the Energy Centre Project, the Proponent shall submit an updated version of the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (WMMPP) to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the WMMPP, the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 day of revising the Plan and will ensure the updated Plan is also posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Information regarding how Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit, Indigenous and Community Knowledge, and changes suggested by the Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee and the Caribou Technical Advisory Group have been incorporated into the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan should be discussed in the Proponent’s Annual Report. The Proponent should also include a discussion of how local Hunters and Trappers Organizations and potentially affected communities have been engaged and consulted in relation to relevant components of the WMMPP.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment

<p>Reference</p>	<p>WMMPP 7.2.2.2 Levels of Management for Caribou during Normal Operations. WMMPP Section 7.2.2.3 Management for Shifts in Calving Ranges. Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 13), October 2024. The 2024 Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report Program (WMMP) is appended as Appendix C.</p>
<p>Methods:</p>	
<p>Section 7.2.2.2 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 7.2.2.3 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.</p>	
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The WMMPP was further updated in October 2024 to Version 13, incorporating feedback from the CTAG (including the GN and KIA), further outlining mitigations and monitoring related to the Energy Centre, including the addition of a separate operational appendix (Appendix A of the WMMPP) specific to the Energy Centre.</p>	
<p>Results:</p>	
<p>The mitigation measures listed in the WMMPP were followed in 2024 (WMMPP Version 12 (April 2023) and Version 13 (October 2024)).</p> <p>In 2024 there were five situations requiring an level increase of the Caribou Management System, which are described in the 2024 WMMP Report (Section 7.2.2.2 of the WMMPP, Section 3.2.2 of the 2024 WMMP Report (Appendix C)).</p> <p>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) to provide early warning of approaching caribou. Records of incidental observations, monitoring, and mitigation measures are reported in the 2024 WMMP Report (Appendix C).</p>	
<p>Trends:</p>	
<p>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. In 2024, the Mine shifted between Levels 1 to 4 eight times, with an increase in protection level occurring five times.</p>	

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 40

Category	Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat – Caribou Monitoring
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the 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	<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 Requirements	Within one (1) year of construction of the Back River Mine Project and or the Energy Centre Project, 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 two (2) 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 7.3.1.2 Near Real-time Collar Monitoring.</p> <p>Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 13), October 2024.</p> <p>Document title: Back River Project Caribou Movement Rates, September 2018.</p> <p>Document title: The 2024 WMMPP Report is appended as Appendix C.</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 13, October 2024) 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 2024, the Proponent used the collar data plus the biological buffer listed in the WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) to monitor the need for caribou mitigation. Reduction of project activities occurred three occasions in 2024 (**Appendix C**), as triggered by thresholds described in the WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024).

Advancements in available collar data in 2024 include collaboration with the GNWT ECC to provide regular (3x weekly) project specific collar maps for the area around the Back River Mine, aligning with the GNWT Mobile Caribou Conservation Measures program. These improved maps allow further increased resolution relating to caribou approaching the Mine area. Further, following discussion with the CTAG in May 2024, B2Gold Nunavut was able to secure agreement with the GNWT ECC to increase the GPS fix rate to hourly in the area surrounding the Mine and WIR, allowing increased resolution for future collar based analyses.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to use the WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) 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 2025 as part of the CTAG.

Project Certificate Condition No. 41

Category	Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat – Caribou Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	<p>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.</p> <p>The Proponent shall also demonstrate consideration for the increased potential of caribou presence in the area during this period when constructing and operating the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure (wind turbines, solar panel array, Battery Energy Storage System, transmission lines, and service roads) including, but not limited to a discussion of the Proponent’s plans for caribou-specific mitigation, monitoring and adaptive management if there is increased caribou presence in the area.</p>
Reporting Requirements	<p>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.</p> <p>Information regarding how Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit, Indigenous and Community Knowledge, and changes suggested by the Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee and the Caribou Technical Advisory Group have been solicited and considered by the Proponent should also be discussed in the Proponent’s annual report. The Proponent should also include a discussion of how local Hunters and Trappers Organizations and potentially affected communities have been engaged and consulted in relation to the information and plans developed by the Proponent under this Term and Condition.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	<p>WMMPP 7.2.2.1 Management System to Reduce Disturbance to Caribou.</p> <p>WMMPP 7.2.2.2 Levels of Management for Caribou during Normal Operations.</p> <p>Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 13), October 2024.</p>

Methods:

Section 7.1.5.1 of the WMMPP (Management System to Reduce Disturbance to Caribou); Version 13, October 2024) describes the monitoring and management of the Project site, including advising personnel of the heightened chance of encountering caribou during the summer months. Section 7.2.2.2 (Levels of Management for Caribou during Normal Operations; Version 13, October 2024) 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.

The WMMPP was further updated in October 2024 to Version 13, incorporating feedback from the CTAG (including the GN and KIA), further outlining mitigations and monitoring related to the Energy Centre, including the addition of a separate operational appendix (Appendix A of the WMMPP) specific to the Energy Centre.

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

Results:

In 2024, B2Gold Nunavut followed the mitigation measures listed in the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023 and Version 13, October 2024).

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) 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	Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat – Caribou Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	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, and shall reference both the Back River Mine Project and the Energy Centre Infrastructure Project. Information regarding how Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit, Indigenous and Community Knowledge, and changes suggested by the Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee and the Caribou Technical Advisory Group have been solicited and considered by the Proponent should also be discussed in the Proponent’s annual report. The Proponent should also include a discussion of how local Hunters and Trappers Organizations and potentially affected communities have been engaged and consulted in relation to the information and plans developed by the Proponent under this Term and Condition.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	WMMPP 7.2.2.1 Management System to Reduce Disturbance to Caribou. WMMPP 7.2.22 Levels of Management for Caribou during Normal Operations. WMMPP Section 7.2.2.3 Management for Shifts in Calving Ranges. Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 13), October 2024.

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.

The WMMPP was further updated in October 2024 to Version 13, incorporating feedback from the CTAG (including the GN and KIA), further outlining mitigations and monitoring related to the Energy Centre, including the addition of a separate operational appendix (Appendix A of the WMMPP) specific to the Energy Centre.

Results:

During 2024, B2Gold Nunavut followed the mitigation measures listed in the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023 and Version 13, October 2024).

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) 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 and Wildlife Habitat – Wildlife Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the 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	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 Requirements	<p>The information should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) at least 90 days prior to the start of construction of the Back River Gold Mine Project, or the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure, included within the WMMPP, and reported on annually to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.</p> <p>Information regarding how Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit, Indigenous and Community Knowledge, and changes suggested by the Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee and the Caribou Technical Advisory Group have been solicited and considered by the Proponent should also be discussed in the Proponent’s annual report. The Proponent should also include a discussion of how local Hunters and Trappers Organizations and potentially affected communities have been engaged and consulted in relation to the information and plans developed by the Proponent under this Term and Condition.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	<p>WMMPP Section 7.2.4 Mitigation and Management for Direct Mortality and Injury of Caribou.</p> <p>Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 13), October 2024.</p> <p>Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Deterrence Memo, September 2018.</p> <p>Document title: The 2024 WMMPP Report is appended as Appendix C.</p>

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 deterrence 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.

The WMMPP was further updated in October 2024 to Version 13, incorporating feedback from the CTAG (including the GN and KIA), further outlining mitigations and monitoring related to the Energy Centre, including the addition of a separate operational appendix (Appendix A of the WMMPP) specific to the Energy Centre.

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.

In 2024 a single caribou was observed lingering near the Goose airstrip from July 1 to July 4. Gentle hazing methods were applied due to risks to caribou and personnel safety from landing aircraft. The caribou was successfully deterred from the area using gentle herding. An additional incident reported on August 1, 2024 involved the use of two bear bangers by a geology team who encountered a territorial caribou. The caribou left the area and was not encountered again. No other deterrence of caribou was required in 2024. All incidents and deterrence events are detailed in the 2024 WMMP Report (**Appendix C**).

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. One project tolerant caribou was observed at Goose in 2024, and successfully deterred to ensure wildlife and human safety due to proximity to the airstrip.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) 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	Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat – Muskox Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the 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, including approved Modifications.
Term or Condition	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 Requirements	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. Reporting shall include both the Back River Mine Project and the Energy Centre Project. Information regarding how Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit, Indigenous and Community Knowledge, and changes suggested by the Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee have been solicited and considered by the Proponent should also be discussed in the Proponent’s annual report. The Proponent should also include a discussion of how local Hunters and Trappers Organizations and potentially affected communities have been engaged and consulted in relation to the information and plans developed by the Proponent under this Term and Condition.
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 13), October 2024. Document title: The 2024 WMMPP Report is appended as Appendix C.

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.

The WMMPP was further updated in October 2024 to Version 13, incorporating feedback from the CTAG (including the GN and KIA), further outlining mitigations and monitoring related to the Energy Centre, including the addition of a separate operational appendix (Appendix A of the WMMPP) specific to the Energy Centre.

Results:

B2Gold Nunavut used the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023 and Version 13, October 2024) to conduct mitigation and monitoring in 2023 as summarized in the **Appendix C**. Muskox were not observed during Project activities (e.g., blasting) that required mitigation in 2024.

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). In 2024, there were 29 separate incidental observations of muskox, totaling an estimated 220 animals. This increase can be attributed to the completion of wildlife regional monitoring programs in 2024 across the Regional Study Area which accounted for 79% of observation events and 87% of individuals incidentally recorded. No triggers for muskox as outlined in the WMMPP were reached in 2024, and as a result additional mitigation was not required.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) 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 and Wildlife Habitat – Wildlife Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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 including the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure (wind turbines, solar panel array, Battery Energy Storage System, transmission lines, and service roads).
Term or Condition	The Proponent shall ensure that safety barriers, berms, and designed crossings associated with project infrastructure, including site roads, the winter ice road, and the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure (wind turbines, solar panel array, Battery Energy Storage System, transmission lines, and service roads) 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 Requirements	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. Information regarding how Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, Indigenous and Community Knowledge, and changes suggested by the Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee and the Caribou Technical Advisory Group have been incorporated into the WMMPP should be discussed in the Proponent’s annual report. The Proponent should also include a discussion of how local Hunters and Trappers Organizations and potentially affected communities have been engaged and consulted in relation to relevant components.
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 7.2.3 Mitigation and Management for Disruption of Movement of Caribou Management for dens in the ice road route is described in WMMPP Section 9.3.1.5 Winter Ice Road Management Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 13), October 2024.

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 GND OE in August 2018. The Proponent then met with the KIA and GND OE 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.

The WMMPP was further updated in October 2024 to Version 13, incorporating feedback from the CTAG (including the GN and KIA), further outlining mitigations and monitoring related to the Energy Centre, including the addition of a separate operational appendix (Appendix A of the WMMPP) specific to the Energy Centre.

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, the proponent 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.

In 2024, 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. Where high-quality potential habitat overlapped the WIR route, a survey for potential dens was conducted (one location). This survey resulted in no feasible denning habitat being identified. 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 27 – May 1 to record wildlife presence and ensure compliance with mitigations (including bank heights). Further details are summarized in the 2024 WMMP Report (**Appendix C**).

Trends:
Not applicable.
Next Steps:
B2Gold Nunavut will continue to use the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) 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 and Wildlife Habitat – Wildlife Monitoring and Adaptive Management Measures
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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 for both the Project and approved Modifications.
Term or Condition	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 Requirements	A summary regarding incidents reported to regulatory authorities, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, and Environment and Climate Change Canada (Canadian Wildlife Service), including mortalities from the wind turbines, 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 13), October 2024. Document title: The 2024 WMMPP Report is appended as Appendix C .

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.

The WMMPP was further updated in October 2024 to Version 13, incorporating feedback from the CTAG (including the GN and KIA), further outlining mitigations and monitoring related to the Energy Centre, including the addition of a separate operational appendix (Appendix A of the WMMPP) specific to the Energy Centre.

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.

In 2024 there were three wildlife mortalities reported at Back River, with two being deemed the result of natural predation (one ptarmigan, and one Arctic hare). One grey wolf was euthanized by B2Gold Nunavut staff on November 12, following discussion with the GN DoE. The wolf was exhibiting erratic and atypical behaviour, approaching the Mine, and was not deterred by noise, visual stimuli, or other deterrents. Upon guidance of the GN Regional Wildlife Manager, the animal was euthanized and disposed of, with reporting provided to the GN and KIA. Further details are provided in Section 9 of the 2024 WMMP Report (**Appendix C**).

Trends:

Three mortalities were recorded in 2024, reflecting a reduction from the 14 mortalities reported in 2023.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) 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 and Wildlife Habitat – Wildlife Monitoring and Adaptive Management Measures
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Environment and Climate Change Canada (with respect to migratory birds)
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	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 Requirements	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. Information regarding how Inuit Qaujimagatunqangit, Indigenous and Community Knowledge, and changes suggested by the Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee and/or the Caribou Technical Advisory Group have been incorporated into the measures and monitoring which should be discussed in the Proponent’s annual report. The Proponent should also include a discussion of how local Hunters and Trappers Organizations and potentially affected communities have been engaged and consulted.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	WMMPP Section 7.2.7 Mitigation and Management for Exposure to Contaminants by Caribou. WMMPP Section 11.3.1.1 Waterbird Monitoring on Mine Ponds. Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 13), October 2024.

Methods:
<p>Not Applicable. No water attenuation ponds or tailing storage areas occur at the project site at this time.</p> <p>Sections 7.2.7 and 11.3.1.1 of the WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) 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.</p> <p>B2Gold Nunavut completed a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for pond monitoring in October 2024, in preparation for establishment of water attenuation ponds and the TSF at the Mine. The completed <i>Monitoring Wildlife Use of Site Ponds SOP</i> (ENVIRO-21) will be used to guide application of mitigations moving forward.</p>
Results:
<p>Not Applicable. No water attenuation ponds or tailing storage facilities occur at the Mine at this time.</p>

Trends:
Not applicable.
Next Steps:
B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) and associated Monitoring Wildlife Use of Site Ponds SOP (ENVIRO-21) 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 and Wildlife Habitat – Wildlife Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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 the Project, including approved Modifications.
Term or Condition	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 Requirements	<p>Information regarding mitigation measures implemented and/or updated by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition for the Back River Mine Project and for the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure (wind turbines, solar panel array, Battery Energy Storage System, transmission lines, and service roads) shall be included in Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (WMMPP) and in the Proponent’s annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.</p> <p>Information regarding how Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit, Indigenous and Community Knowledge, and changes suggested by the Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee and the Caribou Technical Advisory Group have been incorporated into the WMMPP should be discussed in the Proponent’s annual report. The Proponent should also include a discussion of how local Hunters and Trappers Organizations and potentially affected communities have been engaged and consulted in relation to relevant components of the WMMPP.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	<p>WMMPP Section 9.2.6 Mitigation and Management for Attraction of Grizzly Bear and Wolverine.</p> <p>Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 13), October 2024.</p> <p>Document title: The 2024 WMMP Report is appended as Appendix C.</p>

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 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 WMMPP was further updated in October 2024 to Version 13, incorporating feedback from the CTAG (including the GN and KIA), further outlining mitigations and monitoring related to the Energy Centre, including the addition of a separate operational appendix (Appendix A of the WMMPP) specific to the Energy Centre.

Results:

The WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024), Section 9.2.6 (Mitigation and Management for Attraction of Grizzly Bear and Wolverine), includes sections describing design of buildings to exclude wildlife (Section 9.2.6.1), management of wildlife attractants (Section 9.2.6.2), general mitigation to prevent human-wildlife interactions (Section 9.12.6.3), a protocol for responding to observations of predators and scavengers (Section 9.2.6.4) and a protocol for management of problem wildlife specific to predators (Section 9.2.6.5).

During 2024, there were 14 observations of grizzly bear and 31 observations of wolverine at Goose or the MLA. Where they occurred within the camp perimeter, wolverines and grizzly bear were deterred by human presence and bear bangers. One individual wolverine was observed entering the incinerator building and receiving a food reward in April 2024. Hazing was required for wolverine on nine occasions at Goose, which are further described in Section 9 of the WMMP Report (**Appendix C**). All of the hazing events were associated with the implementation of adaptive management following the attraction event at the Goose incinerator in April 2024 (as described in Section 2.6 of the WMMP Report, **Appendix C**). In addition to active deterrence, adaptive management approaches that were implemented in 2024 included re-securement of the incinerator building, development of a procedure to store all attractant waste in a locked sea can prior to incineration, and a procedure to ensure waste does not build up when incinerators require maintenance. Monitoring was increased around the incinerator through deployment of two additional facilities monitoring cameras.

Mitigative measures were determined to be successful at excluding and deterring the wolverine and as a result, no hazing of wolverine occurred after April in 2024. Additionally, only three observations of wolverine were recorded at Goose after April, with all individuals not being located near the incinerator and being recorded passing through the area.

Trends:

Attraction of wolverine to the Waste Management Facility (incinerator) at Goose 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.

A wolverine was attracted to the Goose Waste Management Facility in April 2024, and observed accessing or attempting access wastes. B2Gold Nunavut employed extensive adaptive management measures to reduce potential for attraction and deter this particular wolverine. Adaptive management measures were successful, and no further wolverines or wolverine sign were observed in the area of the incinerator from April to December 2024.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) 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	Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat – Annual Reporting to the Nunavut Impact Review Board
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Description of all updates to terrestrial wildlife baseline data; 2. A description of the involvement of local communities in its monitoring programs; 3. 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 4. Results of the annual monitoring programs, including methodologies and statistical approaches used to support conclusions drawn.
Reporting Requirements	<p>Information regarding the Proponent’s efforts in fulfillment of this Term and Condition for both the Project and approved Modifications shall be included in the Proponent’s annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.</p> <p>Information regarding how Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, Indigenous and Community Knowledge, and changes suggested by the Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee and the Caribou Technical Advisory Group have been incorporated into monitoring programs should be discussed in the Proponent’s annual report. The Proponent should also include a discussion of how local Hunters and Trappers Organizations and potentially affected communities have been engaged and consulted on the plans.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	Document title: The 2024 WMMP Report is appended as Appendix C .

Methods:
Increased wildlife monitoring began in 2023 as Back River transitioned into the Construction Phase and continued in 2024 with establishment of Regional Monitoring Programs for multiple species. Monitoring followed the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023 and Version 13, October 2024), and included multiple species and associated programs.
Results:
The results of wildlife monitoring in 2023 are provided in the 3 2024 WMMP Report, attached as Appendix C .
Trends:
Increased monitoring occurred in 2024 as the Mine continues in the Construction phase. Regional Monitoring Programs were conducted and reported on as summarized in the 2024 Construction WMMP Report (Appendix C).
Next Steps:
Wildlife monitoring in 2024 will continue to follow the WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024).

Project Certificate Condition No. 50

Category	Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat – Annual Reporting to the Nunavut Impact Review Board
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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 for the Project (and approved Modifications).
Term or Condition	<p>Within its annual report to the NIRB, the Proponent shall incorporate a review section which includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An examination for trends in the measured natural variability of Valued Ecosystem Components in the region relative to the baseline reporting; 2. A detailed analysis of wildlife responses to operations with emphasis on wildlife behaviour, mortalities, and displacements (if any), and responses to project operations; 3. A detailed description of staged reduction mitigation events, including operational shutdowns, undertaken throughout the year in response to wildlife in proximity to the Project and including the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure (wind turbines, solar panel array, Battery Energy Storage System, transmission lines, and service roads). Details shall include, but are not limited to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. A description of the aggregation and species of wildlife encountered including terrestrial wildlife such as caribou, migratory birds, moose, musk ox, foxes and wolves, etc.; b. Environmental conditions; c. A description of the sequence of activities ceased as well as the duration of cessation; and d. The effectiveness of the applied mitigation measures and potential amendments that may be required. 4. A demonstration and description of how the monitoring results contribute to cumulative effects monitoring associated with the Project; and 5. Any proposed changes to the monitoring survey methodologies, statistical approaches, or proposed adaptive management stemming from the results of the monitoring program.
Reporting Requirements	<p>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.</p> <p>Information regarding how Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit, Indigenous and Community Knowledge, and feedback from the Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee and the Caribou Technical Advisory Group have been considered by the Proponent in the fulfillment of this Term and Condition should be included in the Proponent’s annual report. The Proponent should also include a discussion of how local Hunters and Trappers Organizations and potentially affected communities have been engaged and consulted in relation to relevant components of the Proponent’s monitoring and mitigation programs.</p>

Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Reference	The 2024 WMMP Report is appended as Appendix C .

Methods:
Several formal wildlife monitoring programs continued in 2024, including establishment of multiple Regional Monitoring Programs as Back River continued the Construction Phase of the mine, as directed in the WMMPP. B2Gold Nunavut followed the methods in the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023 and Version 13, October 2024) in designing and executing monitoring for wildlife in 2024. Results are summarized in the 2024 WMMP Report (Appendix C).
Results:
<p>Full results of wildlife monitoring at Back River are provided in the 2024 WMMP Report (Appendix C). Key results in 2024 are summarized here.</p> <p><i>Wildlife Response to Operations:</i></p> <p>Caribou behaviour surveys were conducted on the WIR and at the Goose site in 2024 (Appendix C). While the number of surveys collected to date (23) precludes statistical analysis of any trends, exploratory analysis suggests that caribou commonly return to baseline behavioural states with nine 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.</p> <p>Wildlife cameras were used at Back River for the On-Site Monitoring (facility), WIR, and Regional Camera Monitoring Programs in 2024 (Appendix C). Data from the Regional Monitoring Camera program was used to conduct analyses of potential zones of influence for wildlife species. Based on the first year of data collection, only models for caribou were feasible. The result of this analysis was a negligible zone of influence for caribou around the Mine, with vegetative productivity being a strong predictor of caribou occurrence.</p> <p>Regional collar monitoring was conducted in 2024 to test for a zone of influence around the Mine for caribou (Appendix C). Analyses used the methods outlined in the WMMPP (Section 7.3.2.4; Version 13, October 2024), though a zone of influence was not able to be ascertained with the available data.</p> <p>From 2020 to 2024, the Environment Department monitored GNWT collar data daily during the calving, post-calving, and into the summer seasons (July – August).</p> <p><i>Staged Reduction Mitigation:</i></p> <p>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).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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. No Level 3 alerts were issued in 2023.</p> <p>During 2024, implementation of the Caribou Management System (i.e., an increase in the protection level) was required on five occasions at the Mine. Level 4 was implemented three times with blasting being suspended and reminder to site personnel on caribou mitigative measures being issued each time. Full details are provided in Section 3.2.2 of the 2024 WMMP Report (Appendix C).</p>

Trends:

Collar data analysis in 2024 compared the seasonal distribution of the Bathurst and Beverly/Ahiak caribou herds to the Back River site. Full results are presented in the 2024 WMMP Report (**Appendix C**). The centroid of the Bathurst herd calving range in 2024 was 102.44 km from the nearest edge of the MLA PDA and 204.05 km from the nearest edge of the Goose PDA. The centroid of the Beverly/Ahiak herd calving range in 2024 was 349.63 km from the nearest edge of the MLA PDA and 354.60 km from the nearest edge of the Goose PDA.

Next Steps:

Wildlife monitoring in 2025 will continue to follow the WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024). Results collected in future years will be compared against those from previous years 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	Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat – Caribou Technical Advisory Group
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the 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 establish an advisory group to provide technical oversight on the Project’s mitigation, monitoring, and adaptive management measures related to caribou.
Term or Condition	<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; ◆ Submit reports to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB), and other relevant parties, for review; and ◆ Provide independent advice on mitigation, monitoring study design(s), and adaptive management of the potential for effects on caribou associated with the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure (wind turbines, solar panel array, Battery Energy Storage System, transmission lines, and service roads). <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 Requirements	<p>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.</p> <p>Information regarding how Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, Indigenous and Community Knowledge, and feedback from the Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee and the Caribou Technical Advisory Group have been considered by the Proponent in the fulfillment of this Term and Condition should be included in the Proponent’s annual report. The Proponent should also include a discussion of how local Hunters and Trappers Organizations and potentially affected communities have been engaged and consulted in relation to relevant components of the Proponent’s monitoring and mitigation programs.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment

Reference	<p>WMMPP Section 3.2 Caribou Technical Advisory Group</p> <p>Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 13), October, 2024.</p>
<p>Methods:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The WMMPP was further updated in October 2024 to Version 13, incorporating feedback from the CTAG (including the GN and KIA), further outlining mitigations and monitoring related to the Energy Centre, including the addition of a separate operational appendix (Appendix A of the WMMPP) specific to the Energy Centre.</p> <p>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. The TOR was again discussed and updated during the May and December 2024 TAG meetings, with finalization expected in 2025.</p>	
<p>Results:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>In February, May, and December 2024, CTAG meetings were held with representatives from the GN and KIA. Topics discussed included updates to the WMMPP (Version 13) including Energy Centre mitigations, Winter Ice Road (WIR) crossing analyses, WIR caribou monitoring, Regional Camera Monitoring Program study design, finalization of the TOR, noise monitoring, and opportunities for collaborative monitoring approaches.</p>	
<p>Trends:</p> <p>Not Applicable.</p>	

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	Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat – Caribou Mitigation
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the 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	<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 Requirements	Within one (1) 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 two (2) 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:	
	B2Gold Nunavut maintains various authorizations for mineral exploration and mineral tenures outside of the project development area.
Results:	
	In 2024, all exploration drilling activities took place within the project development area.
Trends:	
	Not Applicable.
Next Steps:	
	B2Gold Nunavut confirms there will be exploration drilling within its mineral tenures and outside the approved project development area during the 2025 field season.

4.5.11 BIRDS AND BIRD HABITAT (PC TCS 53 THROUGH 61, AND 95)

Project Certificate Condition No. 53

Category	Birds and Bird Habitat – Mitigation, Monitoring, and Adaptive Management for Birds and Bird Habitat
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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 for the Project (including approved Modifications).
Term or Condition	<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 including but not limited to reduced or shutdown procedures for inclement weather during migration; ◆ 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; and. ◆ Conducting a bird mortality survey annually for five (5) years once the turbines are operational to confirm predictions. If predictions are confirmed, then the survey can be completed every three (3) years to ensure that predictions remain consistent.
Reporting Requirements	<p>Within 60 days of the issuance of Project Certificate 007, Amendment No. 1 to reflect the addition of the Energy Centre Proposal, the Proponent shall submit an updated version of the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (WMMPP) to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB). Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the WMMPP, the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan and will ensure the updated Plan is also posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p> <p>Information regarding how Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, Indigenous and Community Knowledge and changes suggested by the Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee and the Caribou Technical Advisory Group have been incorporated into the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan should be discussed in the Proponent’s annual report. The Proponent should also include a discussion of how local Hunters and Trappers Organizations and potentially affected communities have been engaged and consulted in relation to relevant components of the WMMPP.</p>
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 13), October 2024.</p> <p>The 2024 WMMP Report is appended as Appendix C.</p>
Methods:	
<p>Specific measures for the protection and monitoring of birds and bird habitat are described within the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 13), October 2024, in Sections 10, 11, 12, and 13. Version 13 of the WMMPP further outlines mitigations and monitoring related to the Energy Centre, including the addition of a separate operational appendix (Appendix A of the WMMPP) specific to the Energy Centre. During Construction in 2024, incidental observations of birds and nests were recorded, raptor pit and quarry wall monitoring for Echo Pit, and pre-clearing surveys were conducted. Regional monitoring programs were conducted in 2024 for raptors, upland birds, waterbirds, and marine birds. Results from these programs are summarized in the 2024 WMMP Report (Appendix C).</p>	
Results:	
<p>B2Gold Nunavut was using the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023 and Version 13, October 2024) to guide mitigation and monitoring in 2024.</p>	
<p>Mitigation and monitoring were effective in recording incidental detections of avian wildlife. Full results are presented in the 2024 WMMP Report (Appendix C). One bird mortality was recorded at Back River in 2024, assumed as the result of natural predation by a raptor.</p>	
Trends:	
<p>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 entered the Construction phase, or likely a combination of both.</p> <p>In 2024 avian mortality rates were significantly reduced.</p>	
Next Steps:	
<p>B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.</p>	

Project Certificate Condition No. 54

Category	Birds and Bird Habitat – Mitigation Measures for Birds and Species at Risk
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	Information regarding the Proponent’s fulfillment of this Term and Condition for both the Back River Project and the Energy Centre Project 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 13), October 2024. The 2024 WMMP Report is appended as Appendix C .

Methods:
Specific measures for the protection and monitoring of birds and bird habitat are described in the WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024), in Sections 10 through 13. During Construction in 2024, incidental observations of birds and nests were recorded, and pre-clearing surveys were conducted to ensure wildlife were protected.
Results:
Mitigation and monitoring were effective in 2023, following the programs described in the WMMPP. Results are presented in the 2024 WMMP (Appendix C). No nests belonging to avian species at risk were identified in 2024. Incidental and survey observations of avian species at risk are presented in Sections 6 and 7 of the 2024 WMMP Report (Appendix C). During 2024, ground clearing was required during the bird breeding season between late May and early August, therefore pre-clearing surveys were required. In total, 18 surveys were completed prior to ground clearing activities, with one willow ptarmigan nest observed. Active nest monitoring was completed for this nest, and six additional nests that were incidentally observed at the Mine in 2024. Setback buffers were applied to all active nests, as described in Section 6.2.2.1 of the 2024 WMMP Report (Appendix C).
Trends:
Pre-clearing surveys were completed three times in 2023 and 18 times in 2024. Pre-clearing surveys were successful at identifying one active nest, and mitigations were applied for all nests located at the Mine in 2024 (whether identified incidentally or during active survey efforts).

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) 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	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	Information regarding mitigation and monitoring strategies implemented and/or updated by the Proponent in fulfillment of this Term and Condition for both the Back River Project and the Energy Centre Project 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 13), October 2024. The 2024 WMMP Report is appended as Appendix C .

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.

The WMMPP was further updated in October 2024 to Version 13, incorporating feedback from the CTAG (including the GN and KIA), further outlining mitigations and monitoring related to the Energy Centre, including the addition of a separate operational appendix (Appendix A of the WMMPP) specific to the Energy Centre.

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 WMMP Report included the same table, with the following risk rankings updated for the 2023 WMMP Report.

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.

The species at risk table was again included and updated in the 2024 Construction WMMP Report (**Appendix C**), including the following risk rankings updates:

Territorial Status Updates:

- ◆ Caribou (Dolphin and Union herd): Vulnerable to Imperiled.

Federal Status Updates:

- ◆ Bowhead whale (*Balaena mysticetus*): Special Concern to Not Listed.
- ◆ Killer whale (*Orcinus orca*): Special Concern to Not Listed.
- ◆ Narwhal (*Monodon monoceros*): Special Concern to Not at Risk.

Results:

Not applicable.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) 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	Birds and Bird Habitat – Bird Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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 for the Project and any approved Modifications.
Term or Condition	<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.</p> <p>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 Requirements	Throughout construction of the Project and any approved Modifications, 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 10.3.1.2 Pre-Clearing Surveys for Raptor Nests.</p> <p>Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 13), October 2024.</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.

The WMMPP was further updated in October 2024 to Version 13, incorporating feedback from the CTAG (including the GN and KIA), further outlining mitigations and monitoring related to the Energy Centre, including the addition of a separate operational appendix (Appendix A of the WMMPP) specific to the Energy Centre.

Results:

During 2024, ground clearing was required during the bird breeding season between late May and early August, therefore pre-clearing surveys were required. In total, 18 surveys were completed prior to ground clearing activities, with one willow ptarmigan nest observed. Active nest monitoring was completed for this nest, and six additional nests that were incidentally observed at the Mine in 2024. Setback buffers were applied to all active nests, as described in Section 6.2.2.1 of the 2024 WMMP Report (**Appendix C**).

Trends:

Pre-clearing surveys were completed three times in 2023 and 18 times in 2024. Pre-clearing surveys were successful at identifying one active nest, and mitigations were applied for all nests located at the Mine in 2024 (whether identified incidentally or during active survey efforts).

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) 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	Birds and Bird Habitat – Raptor Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the 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, including approved Modifications.
Term or Condition	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 Requirements	Throughout construction of the Project and any approved Modifications, 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 10.2.2 Mitigation and Management for Disturbance of Raptors. WMMPP Section 10.2.4 Mitigation and Management for Direct Mortality and Injury of Raptors. Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 13), October 2024.

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.

The WMMPP was further updated in October 2024 to Version 13, incorporating feedback from the CTAG (including the GN and KIA), further outlining mitigations and monitoring related to the Energy Centre, including the addition of a separate operational appendix (Appendix A of the WMMPP) specific to the Energy Centre.

Raptor pit wall monitoring, as summarized in Section 10.3.1.1 of the WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024), was initiated in 2024. No nests were observed in pits or quarries, with full results summarized in Section 7.3 of the 2024 WMMP Report (**Appendix C**).

Results:

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

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Step:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 58

Category	Birds and Bird Habitat – Seaducks and Waterfowl Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	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 13, October 2024). Document title: Back River Project Standard Operating Procedure: Marine Shipping Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring. (July 2024, ENVIRO-02). The 2024 WMMP Report is appended as Appendix C .

Methods:
Specific measures to mitigate potential impacts to seaducks and waterfowl from shipping activities are described in the WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) in Section 13 and in the Marine Shipping SOP (ENVIRO-02).
Results:
Prior to the 2024 shipping season, the Proponent provided the Marine Monitoring SOP (July 2024) to the shipping companies. During 2024, there were 10 vessel sailings servicing Back River. There were two trips that traveled from the west (Tuktoyaktuk) to the MLA, and the remaining eight travelled from the east to the MLA. During 2024, marine mammal and seabird sightings were recorded by crew members on nine of the vessels. From August to October, in addition to incidental sightings, 121 surveys (77 seabird surveys and 44 marine mammal surveys) were completed totaling approximately 31 hours of observation time (Appendix C). During 2024, 118 separate bird sightings of 674 individual birds across 25 identified species were recorded by crew members on six 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 2025 season.
Next Steps:
B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. Shipping companies will continue to use the Marine Shipping Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring SOP (July 2024). The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 59

Category	Birds and Bird Habitat – Bird Mortality Reporting
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, 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 for both the Project and approved Modifications.
Term or Condition	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 Requirements	Information regarding these incidents for the Back River Project and the Energy Centre Project including bird strikes from wind turbines 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 13), October 2024.

Methods:
Should a bird mortality occur, The Proponent will alert the ECCC Canadian Wildlife Services to report the mortality.
Results:
In 2024, no migratory bird mortalities were recorded and only one bird mortality of a ptarmigan deemed the result of natural predation was recorded, as described in the 2024 WMMP Report (Appendix C).
Trends:
Only one bird mortality was recorded in 2024, compared to the nine in 2023.
Next Steps:
All migratory bird mortalities in 2025 will be reported to ECCC directly, and in the 2025 Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Report. B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) 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	Birds and Bird Habitat – Wildlife Mitigation Measures
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	<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 Requirements	Initially, until aviation contracts have been established, the Proponent shall provide details on 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 13), October 2024.</p> <p>Document title: Back River Project Standard Operating Procedure: Fixed Wing and Helicopter Operations (June 2024, ENVIRO-03).</p> <p>The 2024 WMMP Report is appended as Appendix C.</p>

Methods:
<p>Specific measures to mitigate potential impacts to wildlife from aircraft operations are described in the WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) and the Fixed Wing and Helicopter Operations SOP (June 2024). During Construction in 2024, checks were completed prior to all aircraft landings and departures.</p>
<p>During 2024, the Proponent was using the WMMPP (Version 12, April 2023 and Version 13, October 2024) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase.</p> <p>Mitigation and monitoring were effective. Caribou were incidentally recorded near the Goose airstrip and the MLA airstrip in 2024, but no interactions between wildlife and fixed wing aircraft occurred. On three occasions, gentle hazing was successfully completed to move a caribou lingering near the Goose airstrip prior to the arrival of incoming aircrafts, as described above in relation to Project Certificate Condition No. 43 and in the WMMP Report (Appendix C).</p> <p>During 2024, both fixed-wing and helicopter pilots followed guidelines set out in the WMMPP as reported in the 2024 WMMP Report (Appendix C).</p>

Trends:
Not applicable.
Next Steps:
B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) 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	Birds and Bird Habitat – Aircraft Monitoring Measures
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	The Proponent shall provide a summary of this 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 13), October 2024. Document title: Back River Project Standard Operating Procedure: Fixed Wing and Helicopter Operations (June 2024, ENVIRO-03).

Methods:
<p>Section 7.2.2.6 (Fixed Wing Aircraft Management) and 7.2.2.7 (Helicopter Management) of the WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) and the Back River Project Standard Operating Procedure: Fixed Wing and Helicopter Operations (June 2024) describes the monitoring and management of aircrafts, including minimum cruising altitude guidelines</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The WMMPP was further updated in October 2024 to Version 13, incorporating feedback from the CTAG (including the GN and KIA), further outlining mitigations and monitoring related to the Energy Centre, including the addition of a separate operational appendix (Appendix A of the WMMPP) specific to the Energy Centre.</p> <p>Annually from 2019 to 2024 the Fixed Wing and Helicopter Operations SOP (June 2024) was delivered to fixed wing and helicopter companies working on site.</p>
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 13, October 2024) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 95

Category	Birds and Bird Habitat
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
Project Phase(s)	Construction, Operation, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Maintenance
Objective	To prevent adverse impacts to birds from Project activities and infrastructure including wind turbines.
Term or Condition	<p>The Proponent shall maintain in either a separate Migratory Birds Protection Plan (MBPP) or with the following items clearly identified, an addition to the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (WMMPP):</p> <p>a) Specifying measures designed for the protection of birds from operation of wind turbines, with additional preventative measures to be implemented during periods of poor visibility within peak bird migration periods;</p> <p>b) Including protocols for bird mortality monitoring within the general area of the wind turbines, and for contribution of data to regional bird research/monitoring programs; and</p> <p>c) Identifying adaptive management measures – including those that may be in place at other sites in northern Canada – that may be implemented should mortalities be greater than expected.</p>
Reporting Requirements	<p>The MBPP or updated WMMPP as required above shall be provided to the NIRB 90 days prior to installation of wind turbines for the Project, with a summary of monitoring provided in the NIRB’s annual report.</p> <p>Information regarding how Inuit Qaujimagatunqangit, Indigenous and Community Knowledge and changes suggested by the Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee and the Caribou Technical Advisory Group have been incorporated into the WMMPP should be discussed in the Proponent’s annual report. The Proponent should also include a discussion of how local Hunters and Trappers Organizations and potentially affected communities have been engaged and consulted in relation to relevant components of the WMMPP.</p> <p>Whenever the MBPP is updated (or the WMMPP is updated if used) the Proponent shall submit the updated plan to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the plan and will ensure the updated plan is posted to the Proponent’s Project website.</p>
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 13), October 2024.

Methods:

The WMMPP was 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.

<p>The WMMPP was further updated in October 2024 to Version 13, incorporating feedback from the CTAG (including the GN and KIA), further outlining mitigations and monitoring related to the Energy Centre, including the addition of a separate operational appendix (Appendix A of the WMMPP) specific to the Energy Centre.</p>
<p>Results:</p>
<p>Version 13 of the WMMPP (October 2024) includes the required mitigation and monitoring programs for avian wildlife in Sections 10.2.8, 11.2.8, 12.2.8, and Appendix A (Section 5).</p>
<p>Trends:</p>
<p>Not Applicable</p>
<p>Next Steps:</p>
<p>Monitoring and mitigation for avian wildlife will follow the WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) during construction and operation of the Energy Centre.</p>

4.5.12 MARINE ENVIRONMENT (PC TC 62)

Project Certificate Condition No. 62

Category	Marine Environment – General
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	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
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Impact Review Board
Reference	Nunami Stantec 2025. Back River Project: Marine Laydown Area - 2024 Marine Sampling Report. March 2025. See Appendix J Marine Monitoring Plan (May 2018) NIRB Document No.:319642

Methods:
The Proponent collected control and discharge area samples from the MLA during desalination activities in April and August of 2024 following the methodology outlined in the Marine Monitoring Plan (MMP).
Results:
Results of B2Gold Nunavut’s 2024 marine sampling can be found in Nunami Stantec 2025. The August sampling event includes benthic and sediment samples that are collected every three years as outlines in the MMP.
Trends:
There were no parameters that exceeded the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment guidelines for the protection of marine aquatic life in water samples collected at either the MLA or the Reference (control) location. There were no exceedances of Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment interim sediment quality guidelines and probable effect levels guidelines for sediment samples collected at the MLA or the Reference (control) location. Phytoplankton biomass (as Chlorophyll <i>a</i>) was slightly higher at the one MLA sampling location during the April sampling and at two MLA locations during the August sampling. Bivalves were the dominate species in the shallow stations and polychaete species dominated the deeper stations. Taxa richness across all sampling stations ranged from 11 to 26 species and Evenness index values ranged from low to moderate evenness across MLA and Reference locations. See Nunami Stantec 2025 for further details.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut continue to conduct regular sampling in 2025, as outlined in the MMP. A report on this sampling will be included with the 2025 Annual Report to the NIRB.

4.5.13 MARINE WILDLIFE (PC TCS 63 THROUGH 65)

Project Certificate Condition No. 63

Category	Marine Wildlife – Monitoring
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	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 13), October 2024. Document title: Back River Project Standard Operating Procedure: Seal Lair Monitoring (June 2024, ENVIRO-04). The 2024 WMMP Report is appended as Appendix C .

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 13, October 2024) and the Seal Lair Monitoring SOP (June 2024).
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) in 2023 (Version 12, April 2023), and 2024 (Version 13, October 2024). The updated version will be used moving forward. During Construction in 2024, 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, 2024, no pre-construction surveys were required.
Trends:
Not applicable
Next Steps:
B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) 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	Marine Wildlife – Monitoring
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, other interested parties
Project Phase(s)	Prior to Project - Shipping
Objective	To ensure protection of marine mammals during Project shipping.
Term or Condition	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 Requirements	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 13), October 2024. Document title: Back River Project Standard Operating Procedure: Marine Shipping Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring. (July 2024, ENVIRO-02). The 2024 WMMPP Report is appended as Appendix C .

Methods:
Specific measures to ensure the protection of marine mammals during project shipping are described in the WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) in Sections 14 and 15, and the Marine Shipping SOP (July 2024).
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, (Version 12, April 2023) and 2024 (Version 13, October 2024).The updated version will be used moving forward. Prior to the 2024 shipping season, the Proponent provided the Marine Monitoring SOP (July 2024) to the shipping companies. During 2024, there were 10 vessel sailings servicing Back River. There were two trips that traveled from the west (Tuktoyaktuk) to the MLA, and the remaining eight travelled from the east to the MLA. During 2024, marine mammal and seabird sightings were recorded by crew members on nine of the vessels. From August to October, in addition to incidental sightings, 121 surveys (77 seabird surveys and 44 marine mammal surveys) were completed totaling approximately 31 hours of observation time (Appendix C).

During 2024, 118 separate bird sightings of 674 individual birds across 25 identified species were recorded by crew members on six 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 2025 season.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. No changes to the WMMPP are anticipated during 2024. The WMMP Plan will continue to be updated as needed.

Project Certificate Condition No. 65

Category	Marine Environment – Marine Shipping
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	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 (Ringed Seal (Marine Mammals) and 15 (Polar Bears). Document title: Back River Project Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 13), October 2024. Document title: Back River Project Standard Operating Procedure: Marine Shipping Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring. (July 2024, ENVIRO-02).

Methods:

Specific measures to ensure the protection of marine mammals during project shipping are described in the WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) in Sections 14 and 15 and Marine Shipping SOP (July 2024). Shipping companies were supplied with a Standard Operating Procedure which ensures companies are aware of sensitive wildlife habitats and species to avoid, which was updated in July 2024.

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 6.2.3 of the WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024). 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 2024. During 2024, 11 separate marine mammal sightings were recorded by crew members between August 15 and October 1. Ten marine mammal species were observed over 11 separate sightings: 5 sightings of 5 cetacean species, 4 sightings of 3 pinniped species, and 1 sighting of 1 ursid. Results (sightings and the shipping route) are presented in the 2024 WMMP Report (Appendix C).

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 6.2.3 of the WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024). No spills occurred during shipping in 2024.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut will continue to utilize the updated WMMPP (Version 13, October 2024) to conduct mitigation and monitoring relevant for the Construction Phase. Shipping companies will continue to use the Marine Shipping Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring SOP (July 2024). 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	Economic Development and Opportunities – Socio-Economic Monitoring and Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the 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	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 Requirements	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	2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2025) - See Appendix B . Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025).

Methods:
A Project monitoring framework is described in the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025) 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. Most recently, B2Gold Nunavut participated in an in-person meeting with the group in Cambridge Bay in March 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	Economic Development and Opportunities – Socio-Economic Monitoring
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the Government of Nunavut, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, 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	The Proponent should work with other socio-economic stakeholders including the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the Government of Nunavut, Crown-Indigenous Relations 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 Requirements	<p>The Terms of Reference should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board within six (6) months of issuance of the Project Certificate. All updates to the Terms of Reference should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board during annual socio-economic reporting.</p> <p>Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Terms of Reference, the Proponent shall submit the updated Terms of Reference to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Terms and will ensure the updated Terms of Reference are also posted on the Proponent's project website.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	SEMWG
Reference	<p>2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2025) - See Appendix B.</p> <p>Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025).</p>

Methods:

A Project monitoring framework is described in the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025) 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 May 2024. 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 was revised in mid-2024 in consultation with SEMWG members and provided to NIRB (NIRB PRI: 351113). It is also included as an appendix to the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025).

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	Economic Development and Opportunities – Socio-Economic Monitoring
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the Government of Nunavut, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, 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	<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 Crown-Indigenous Relations 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 Requirements	<p>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.</p> <p>Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Back River Socio-Economic Monitoring Program, the Proponent shall submit the updated Program to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Program and will ensure the updated Program is also posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p> <p>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.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2025) - See Appendix B Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025)

Methods:

A Project monitoring framework is described in the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025). Section 1 (Introduction) and Section 2 (Methods) of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report also summarize the Project’s monitoring framework. Section 2.5 summarizes any key updates and changes that have been made to the report and monitoring program since the previous year.

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	Economic Development and Opportunities – Socio-Economic Monitoring and Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	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. Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the analysis of risk of temporary mine closures, the Proponent shall submit the updated Program to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Program and will ensure the updated Program is also posted on the Proponent’s project website.
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 that 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:
B2Gold Nunavut anticipates updating this report in 2025 and will update its socio-economic management plans, where appropriate, to reflect any relevant changes.

Project Certificate Condition No. 70

Category	Economic Development and Opportunities – Socio-Economic Monitoring and Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee (KSEMC)
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	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. The Proponent shall ensure this information is also posted on the Proponent’s project website.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	<p>Temporary Mine Closure in the Kitikmeot Region: Risks and Potential Socio-Economic Effects (JPCSL 2018; NIRB PRI: 320331).</p> <p>Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025).</p> <p>Community Engagement Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025).</p> <p>Inuit Human Resources Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025).</p> <p>Inuit Business Development Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025).</p> <p>Stakeholder Grievance Mechanism (NIRB PRI: 349370).</p>

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
- ◆ Community Engagement Plan
- ◆ Inuit Human Resources Plan
- ◆ Inuit Business Development Plan
- ◆ Stakeholder Grievance Mechanism

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

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut anticipates updating this report in 2025 and will update its socio-economic management plans, where appropriate, to reflect any relevant changes.

4.6.2 EMPLOYMENT (PC TCS 71 THROUGH 72, AND 97)

Project Certificate Condition No. 71

Category	Employment – Staff Schedule
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
Project Phase(s)	Pre-construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure
Objective	To produce accurate labour market information regarding available Project employment and skill requirements for the Project, including approved Modifications, to support economic and employment forecasting.
Term or Condition	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: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Title of positions required by department and division; 2. Quantity of positions available by Project phase and year; 3. Transferable skills, both certified and uncertified which may be required for, or gained during, employment within each position; and 4. The National Occupational Classification code for each individual position.
Reporting Requirements	The Staff Schedule should be submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board at least 60 days prior to pre-construction and construction of the Project and any approved Modifications, 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	2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2025) - See Appendix B
Methods:	
	B2Gold Nunavut prepares staff schedule information for NIRB, as appropriate.
Results:	
	B2Gold Nunavut has submitted a staff schedule for the Project’s 2025 construction period in Appendix D of the 2024 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:	
	Any further updates will be submitted to NIRB as appropriate.

Project Certificate Condition No. 72

Category	Employment – Registration of Trades Workers
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the 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	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 Requirements	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	2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2025) - See Appendix B

Methods:
<p>Information on trades occupations, journeypersons, and apprentices working at the Project has been provided to NIRB in Appendix E of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report. This information was also provided directly to the GN Department of Economic Development via email in February 2024.</p> <p>Through B2Gold Nunavut’s Career Development Planning process, opportunities for advancement and growth for Inuit employees are continually being identified. While no opportunities for dedicated apprenticeship training program opportunities were identified in 2024, these programs continue to be researched and developed for introduction at the Project in the future. Additionally, B2Gold Nunavut began has developed a partnership with the Redfish Arts Society Inc. in Cambridge Bay and in 2024 introduced the ‘Back River Inuit Workplace Experience Program’ with students enrolled in programming with the Society. This program sees students work alongside the B2Gold Nunavut maintenance team. The program has been slated for funding by B2Gold for 2024-2027. B2Gold Nunavut expects that through this program apprenticeship opportunities will also be identified.</p>
Results:
Not applicable.
Trends:
Not applicable.
Next Steps:
Updated information will be reported on in B2Gold Nunavut’s NIRB Annual Report in the future.

Project Certificate Condition No. 97

Category	Employment – Maintaining Inuit and Local Employment through Project Modifications
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
Project Phase(s)	Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance
Objective	To ensure that Inuit and local employment is not reduced when the transportation of fuel is reduced due to the transition from diesel generators to alternative energy sources (wind and solar) as proposed under the Energy Centre Proposal.
Term or Condition	At least 6 months prior to the reduction in the number of trips to transport fuel, the Proponent shall prepare and provide to the NIRB an Employment/Contractor Transition Plan that outlines strategies the Proponent plans to take to ensure that Inuit and local employees and/or contractors involved in the transportation of fuel are given alternative opportunities to maintain their employment/contracts with the Project, despite the reduced fuel transport.
Reporting Requirements	In the years following the filing of the Employment/Contractor Transition Plan on both the NIRB’s Public Registry and the Proponent’s website, the Proponent shall include a discussion of the Proponent’s implementation of the Plan, including successes/challenges in limiting job losses and/or reduced contractor opportunities in the Proponent’s annual report to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Not applicable
Reference	Not applicable

Methods:
Construction of the Back River Energy Centre has not yet commenced. B2Gold Nunavut anticipates developing its Fuel Transport Employee/Contractor Transition Plan in 2025/2026. Once finalized, it will be submitted to NIRB.
Results:
Not applicable
Trends:
Not applicable
Next Steps:
Construction of the Back River Energy Centre has not yet commenced. B2Gold Nunavut anticipates developing its Fuel Transport Employee/Contractor Transition Plan in 2025/2026. Once finalized, it will be submitted to NIRB.

4.6.3 EDUCATION AND TRAINING (PC TCS 73 THROUGH 76)

Project Certificate Condition No. 73

Category	Education and Training – Training Opportunities
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the 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, including approved Modifications, maximize opportunities for the regional workforce to obtain transferable skills and certifications.
Term or Condition	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 Requirements	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. The Proponent shall ensure this information is also posted on the project website.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2025) - See Appendix B
Methods:	
B2Gold Nunavut intends to have targeted discussions with relevant parties and anticipates additional engagement with key training organizations and/or government departments on this topic after Project production begins. It is anticipated that this may help yield additional opportunities for residents and employees to gain meaningful and transferable skills and certifications.	
Results:	
<p>B2Gold Nunavut has participated in recent training-related discussions through various forums including:</p> <p>Meetings to discuss the Kitikmeot Inuit Workforce Strategy with the Kitikmeot Corporation (July, October, and November 2024)</p> <p>Meeting with the GN’s Department of Family Services to discuss the B2Gold Nunavut / Redfish Arts Society Inc. partnership at the Project (April 2024).</p> <p>Meeting with the GN’s Department of Family Services to discuss apprenticeship programming at the Project (October 2024).</p> <p>Meetings with the Hamlet of Kugluktuk to discuss training initiatives, including a potential community training partnership (June and July 2024).</p> <p>Information on trades occupations, journeypersons, and apprentices working at the Project was provided to the GN via email in February 2024 (per Term & Condition No. 72).</p>	

Additional training-related discussions and updates also continue to occur with stakeholders through other elements of B2Gold Nunavut's community engagement program.

B2Gold Nunavut has also begun discussions with the Government of Nunavut and Kitikmeot Inuit Association to create a tripartite Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) to increase collaboration related to Inuit employment and training at the Back River Project. It is expected this MOU will be signed in Q1 2025.

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	Education and Training – Transferable Skills and Certifications
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the 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, including approved Modifications, maximizes opportunities for the regional workforce to obtain transferable skills and certifications.
Term or Condition	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 Requirements	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 should also be shared with the wider Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee throughout the life of the Project. The Proponent shall ensure this information is also posted on the project website.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2025) - See Appendix B

Methods:
B2Gold Nunavut will continue to maintain a listing of formal certificates and licences that may be acquired via on-site training or training obtained and supported by the Company during Project employment.
Results:
An updated listing has been provided in Appendix F of the 2024 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	Education and Training – Educational Opportunities
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the Government of Nunavut, the 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 including opportunities resulting from the Energy Centre Project.
Term or Condition	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 Requirements	The summary of this information should be included in the annual Back River socio-economic monitoring reports submitted to the Nunavut Impact Review Board noting opportunities through the Back River Project and the Energy Centre Project and shared with the wider KSEMC throughout the life of the Project. The Proponent shall ensure this information is also posted on the project website.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2025) - See Appendix B . Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025).

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut conducted an Inuit Personnel Survey (IPS) at the Project sites (Goose Lake, Exploration and MLA) in October and November 2024. Relevant results are summarized below and are also provided in Appendix C of B2Gold Nunavut’s 2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report submitted to NIRB. Draft copies of the survey have been made available for the SEMWG and KSEMC to review via circulation of the latest version of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan. Most recently, the SEMWG reviewed and provided comments on a draft version of the survey in 2024. 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. 43.8% completed a high school diploma or equivalent, and no respondents had completed a university certificate or diploma). A strong majority of respondents in 2024 completed their highest level of education in the Kitikmeot Region, while a notable number of the remaining respondents had completed their education in the Northwest Territories. Several respondents did not provide the location of their highest level of education (although one mentioned ‘Morrisburg’, presumably referencing the Operating Engineers Training Institute of Ontario). A small number of respondents mentioned schools or school programs by name, including the Fort Smith Surface Mining Program, the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, and Nunavut Arctic College.

Educational Program	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
<i>I completed a high school diploma or equivalent (n=73)</i>		
Yes	32	43.8%
No	40	54.8%
Unknown	1	1.4%
<i>I completed an apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (n=73)</i>		
Yes	21	28.8%
No	50	68.5%
Unknown	2	2.7%
<i>I completed a college or other non-university certificate or diploma (n=73)</i>		
Yes	13	17.8%
No	54	74.0%
Unknown	6	8.2%
<i>I completed a university certificate or diploma (n=73)</i>		
Yes	0	0.0%
No	65	89.0%
Unknown	8	11.0%
<p>Source: B2Gold Nunavut</p> <p>Notes: Eight respondents who indicated ‘No’ they had not completed a high school diploma or equivalent, and six others who left that question blank, then went on to indicate ‘Yes’ they had trades and/or college certificates or diplomas. Given that a high school diploma is typically a prerequisite for higher education programs, these 14 responses were changed to ‘Yes’.</p>		
Trends:		
<p>A greater number of respondents in 2024 had completed high school than in the 2022 Inuit Personnel Survey. After adjusting for discrepancies, 38.3% of respondents in 2022 had completed a high school diploma, compared the 43.8% who stated they had achieved a high school diploma in the 2024 survey.</p> <p>2022 and 2024 survey data also revealed Inuit personnel had accessed educational opportunities in both the Kitikmeot Region and in Northwest Territories communities. Some opportunities had also been accessed in southern locations (e.g. Alberta or Ontario), or in the Qikiqtaaluk Region.</p>		
Next Steps:		
<p>B2Gold Nunavut continues to welcome feedback from the KSEMC and SEMWG on its survey results. B2Gold Nunavut anticipates completing Inuit Personnel Surveys every 2 years. Relevant stakeholders will be engaged in the planning of these surveys.</p> <p>B2Gold Nunavut is scheduled to conduct its next Inuit Personnel Survey in 2026.</p>		

Project Certificate Condition No. 76

Category	Education and Training – Inuktitut/Inuinnaqtun Training
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	The Proponent is encouraged to provide the following information regarding any second language courses offered on-site: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Description of courses offered (to include general outline); 2. Timing and frequency of courses offered; 3. The number of individuals (and percentage of workforce), including Inuit and non-Inuit, taking part in each course, including completion rates; and 4. Any noted outcomes or lessons learned from the courses offered.
Reporting Requirements	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	2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2025) - See Appendix B . Inuit Human Resources Plan (latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025).

Methods:

B2Gold Nunavut will provide support for employees interested in improving their English, Inuinnaqtun, or Inuktitut skills. Language considerations at Project sites are discussed in B2Gold Nunavut's Inuit Human Resources Plan (latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025).

Results:

Per B2Gold Nunavut's Second Language Training Program, the Company offers training courses based on demand/upon request. Currently, second language training opportunities are communicated to employees via ongoing discussions with the Indigenous & Northern Affairs team, specifically the Supervisor, Community Relations and Inuit Support Coordinators. Moving forward, second language training opportunities will be communicated to employees via cultural awareness training sessions. To date, B2Gold Nunavut has not seen a demand for these course offerings, and none have been requested by employees.

Despite a perceived low demand for second language training, B2Gold Nunavut has proactively taken other measures to reduce the potential for language barriers to Inuit employment on site (i.e. in accordance with the objective of Term & Condition No. 76), should they exist. For example, Inuit Support Coordinators are employed on site and are available to coordinate interpretation / translation support that may be required. Other members of B2Gold Nunavut's Indigenous & Northern Affairs team also conduct Project site visits and can provide similar support.

In addition, B2Gold Nunavut has 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. Project staff have also been made aware that if translation of a document or interpretation is required it will be provided by B2Gold Nunavut.

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	Population Demographics – Monitoring Demographic Changes
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the 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	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 Requirements	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	2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2025) - See Appendix B
Methods:	
<p>This topic is addressed in Section 3.1.2 (Number of Project Personnel) and Section 3.1.3 (Employee Relocations) of the 2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report.</p> <p>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.</p>	
Results:	
<p>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 2024, a total of 3,221 personnel worked on the Project, 233 of which were Inuit (or 12.2% by hours worked). 211 Inuit personnel originated from within the Kitikmeot Region, while 22 originated from outside of Nunavut. All non-Inuit personnel originated from outside of Nunavut.</p> <p>Table 4.6-1 below presents the total number of individuals who worked on the Project over the course of 2024, but does not represent any single point in time throughout the year.</p>	

Table 4.6-1 Number of Project Personnel by Origin and Ethnicity

Origin		2024		
		Inuit	Non-Inuit	Total
Nunavut	Cambridge Bay	67	0	67
	Gjoa Haven	36	0	36
	Kugaaruk	22	0	22
	Kugluktuk	61	0	61
	Taloyoak	25	0	25
	Other	0	0	0
Other Canadian Provinces and Territories	Alberta	6	1,105	1,111
	British Columbia	1	567	568
	Manitoba	0	95	95
	New Brunswick	0	134	134
	Nfld. and Labrador	0	244	244
	Northwest Territories	14	149	163
	Nova Scotia	1	99	100
	Ontario	0	238	238
	Prince Edward Island	0	6	6
	Quebec	0	128	128
	Saskatchewan	0	102	102
Yukon	0	16	16	
International	International	0	37	37
Unknown	Unknown	0	68	68
Total		233	2,988	3,221

Source: B2Gold Nunavut

Data on employee relocations provide insight into potential demographic changes that may be occurring due to the Project. In 2024, two employees (both Inuit) relocated out of or into Nunavut. These two relocations included a move from Kugluktuk to Edmonton, and a move from Gjoa Haven to Yellowknife. Given the small number of employee relocations to-date, it does not appear meaningful changes are currently occurring.

Trends:

The number of personnel declined between 2018 and 2020, but increased by 2,964 individuals from 2020 to 2024 to reach a high of 3,221 individuals. The number of Inuit personnel declined from 49 in 2019 to 13 in 2021, but rose to a high of 233 individuals in 2024. 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 to-date, 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, AND 96)

Project Certificate Condition No. 78

Category	Traditional Activity and Knowledge – Incorporation of IQ and TK
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the 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	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 Requirements	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. Information regarding how Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and Indigenous and Community Knowledge, discussions of how local Hunters and Trappers Organizations and potentially affected communities have been engaged and consulted should also be included.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KIA, KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025)

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 Appendix C of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025).

Results:

B2Gold Nunavut has developed the document *Guidance for Incorporating Community Perspectives and Traditional Knowledge in the Back River Project’s Monitoring Programs*. It includes a review of relevant definitions, potential sources of community perspectives and TK, and reporting and integration considerations for the Project. Where updates are possible, B2Gold Nunavut’s monitoring reports and/or NIRB Annual Reports also 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 (i.e. via the SEMWG or KSEMC) and/or B2Gold Nunavut's Annual Report(s) to NIRB. Community perspectives and TK are currently incorporated into two monitoring reports: the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report and the Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Report. In its Annual Reports to NIRB, B2Gold Nunavut also includes a summary of community feedback received on the Project from the previous year, example comments, and B2Gold Nunavut's responses to key issues raised (see Section 2.2). This will continue in future annual 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 stakeholders on this topic is always welcome.

Project Certificate Condition No. 79

Category	Traditional Activity and Knowledge – Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the 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	<p>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:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of members and home communities; 2. Selection process; 3. Description of work to be undertaken; and 4. Outcome of any work undertaken.
Reporting Requirements	<p>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.</p> <p>Information regarding how Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and Indigenous and Community Knowledge, discussions of how local Hunters and Trappers Organizations and potentially affected communities have been engaged and consulted should also be included.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KIA
Reference	<p>Back River Project Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement (IIBA) (KIA and B2Gold Nunavut 2018).</p> <p>2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2025) - See Appendix B.</p>

Methods:
In accordance with the Back River Project IIBA (KIA and B2Gold Nunavut 2018), Schedule 7.1 Section 2, the IIBA Implementation Committee has established an Inuit Environmental Advisory Committee (IEAC) for the Project.
Results:
<p>The IIBA Implementation Committee has appointed seven (7) 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.</p> <p>The IEAC is intended to receive and consider Project information that relates to the environment and wildlife, to provide advice to B2Gold Nunavut and KIA on potential impacts and mitigation of potential impacts from the Project, and to work to resolve concerns from community members related to environmental and wildlife aspects of the Project. The IEAC held its second annual meeting and a Project site visit in June 2024. Appendix G of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report contains additional details on the IEAC’s composition and activities in 2024, including the number of members and home communities, and a description and outcomes of work undertaken.</p>

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	Traditional Activity and Knowledge – Wildlife Harvesting
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	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. Information regarding how Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit and Indigenous and Community Knowledge, discussions of how local Hunters and Trappers Organizations and potentially affected communities have been engaged and consulted should also be included.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2025) - See Appendix B

Methods:

Section 10.1.4 in the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report includes monitoring data on this topic. Results are assessed on an annual basis.

Results:

In 2024, B2Gold Nunavut conducted monitoring of the Winter Ice Road (WIR) related to ongoing implementation of the Project’s caribou protection measures. Teams dedicated to this purpose travelled the WIR daily and made no observation of any public use of the WIR. However, snowmobile tracks crossing over the WIR were observed in certain locations.

As a supplement to the above, B2Gold Nunavut discusses monitoring results and provides opportunities for community perspectives on this topic to be shared through its engagement program. While several questions and comments on B2Gold Nunavut’s WIR activities have been received, there has been no mention of the WIR being used by the public to-date. B2Gold Nunavut has also communicated with the Bathurst Inlet, Bay Chimo, Kugluktuk, and Cambridge Bay HTOs that the WIR is not a public road open for general use.

B2Gold Nunavut is also in the process of developing plans for a five-year harvest study in the Project area to address new Term and Condition No. 96. Further details and results from this study, including any recorded public WIR use, will be presented in future annual reports.

Trends:

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. From 2023-2024, 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. However, snowmobile tracks crossing over the WIR were observed in certain locations.

Next Steps:

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

Project Certificate Condition No. 96

Category	Traditional Land Use – Wildlife Harvesting
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
Project Phase(s)	Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance
Objective	To assess the potential impacts of the Project and approved Modifications on wildlife harvesting in the area.
Term or Condition	<p>The Proponent shall conduct a five (5) year harvest study in nearby communities of wildlife harvested from the areas surrounding the three (3) Project Areas including the Goose Property, Winter Ice Road, and the Marine Laydown Area. The information collected shall include, but not be limited to: species, proximity to the Project areas, number, season, body condition, and if samples were analysed or reported to wildlife officers due to any concerns.</p> <p>If there are any changes to wildlife harvesting patterns or wildlife health, the Proponent shall continue the survey with more targeted surveys as suggested by relevant advisory groups.</p>
Reporting Requirements	Information regarding the Proponent’s efforts in fulfillment of this Term and Condition shall be included in the Proponent’s annual report provided to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Not applicable
Reference	Not applicable

Methods:
B2Gold Nunavut is in the process of developing plans for a five-year harvest study in the Project area to address new Term and Condition No. 96. As this Term & Condition was only recently issued, further details and results from this study will be presented in future annual reports. Relevant information will be provided in Section 10.1.5 (Other Information) of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report.
Results:
Not applicable
Trends:
Not applicable
Next Steps:
B2Gold Nunavut is in the process of developing plans for a five-year harvest study in the Project area to address new Term and Condition No. 96. As this Term & Condition was only recently issued, further details and results from this study will be presented in future annual reports. Relevant information will be provided in Section 10.1.5 (Other Information) of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Report.

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	The Proponent
Project Phase(s)	Construction, Operations, Post-Closure
Objective	To assess and monitor potential Project effects on non-traditional activity and knowledge.
Term or Condition	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 the construction of the Back River Mine Project and the Energy Centre Project Infrastructure 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	2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2025) - See Appendix B . Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025).

Methods:
B2Gold Nunavut has developed an <i>Outfitting/Guiding Business Consultation Protocol</i> . This document is presented in Appendix D of the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025). The Company also maintains a Stakeholder Grievance Mechanism (NIRB PRI: 349370).
Results:
B2Gold Nunavut issued a biennial informational letter in March 2024 (previous biennial letters were issued in April 2022) to all companies in possession of a pending, current, or recent GN Outfitter Licence, whose community of operation included either Cambridge Bay or Kugluktuk. HTOs in Cambridge Bay, Kugluktuk, Bathurst Inlet, and Bay Chimo also received copies of this letter. No responses to this letter were received and thus no grievances pertaining to non-traditional land and resource use were identified through this process. B2Gold Nunavut’s next biennial informational letter will be issued in 2026.
Trends:
In 2022, one response was received to the 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 fulfilled by B2Gold Nunavut.
Next Steps:
B2Gold Nunavut will continue to issue biennial informational letters consistent with the <i>Outfitting/Guiding Business Consultation Protocol</i> . The next letter will be issued in 2026.

4.6.7 HERITAGE RESOURCES (PC TC 82)

Project Certificate Condition No. 82

Category	Heritage Resources – Assessment of Archaeological and Heritage Resources
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the 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 including from approved Modifications.
Term or Condition	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 Requirements	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 2024 Archaeology Site Status Report was issued to the Government of Nunavut – Department of Culture and Heritage on November 18, 2024.
Reference	WSP (WSP Canada Inc.). 2024. Back River Project, Nunavut – 2024 Archaeological Site Status Report. Doc No. CA0035158.8381-173-R-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 (<100 m) 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 2024 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. No new archaeological sites were recorded within the proposed footprints.

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 2024 no additions were proposed for the Marine Laydown Area (MLA) or Winter Ice Road (WIR) footprints, and construction activities continued within the Project footprint in those areas. Eleven footprints at the GPA were assessed. No sites were observed within or near to these proposed additional footprints. A potential inuksuk site reported by a crew travelling in a helicopter between the MLA and GPA was visited to determine if it was archaeological in origin. The 2.65 m tall stone structure is a survey marker (Station 61923A), associated with a triangulation station (Station 61923) located approximately 32 m northwest of the stone marker. The marker was installed by the Geodetic Survey of Canada between 1961 and 1964 and is not archaeological in origin. There are no proposed Project infrastructure developments within 1 km of the survey marker. No previously recorded sites were observed or revisited during the 2024 archaeology field program. The report was submitted to the Government of Nunavut on November 18, 2024.

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	Health and Wellbeing – Employee Housing
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the Government of Nunavut, the 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	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 Requirements	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	2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2025) - See Appendix B Inuit Human Resources Plan (latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025)

Methods:
As described in the Inuit Human Resources Plan (latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025), B2Gold Nunavut will provide financial management orientation to employees who request it. Additionally, 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:
B2Gold Nunavut met with NHC representatives in July 2024 to discuss potential partnership opportunities on housing initiatives. While no related financial management training programs have been requested by staff to-date, B2Gold Nunavut anticipates training in this area may be requested in the future. 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.

B2Gold Nunavut has also begun discussions with the Government of Nunavut and Kitikmeot Inuit Association to create a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to increase collaboration on topics such as housing. It is expected this MOU will be signed in Q1 2025.

Project Certificate Condition No. 84

Category	Health and Wellbeing – Employee Housing
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the Government of Nunavut, the Nunavut Housing Corporation, the 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	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 Requirements	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	KSEMC, SEMWG
Reference	2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2025) - See Appendix B . Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025).

Methods:

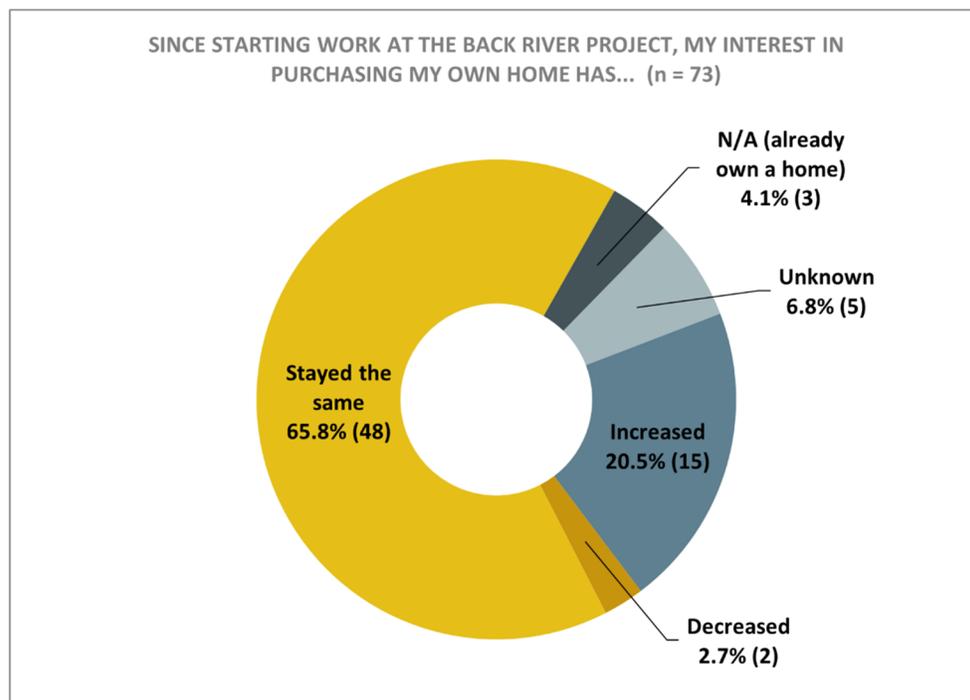
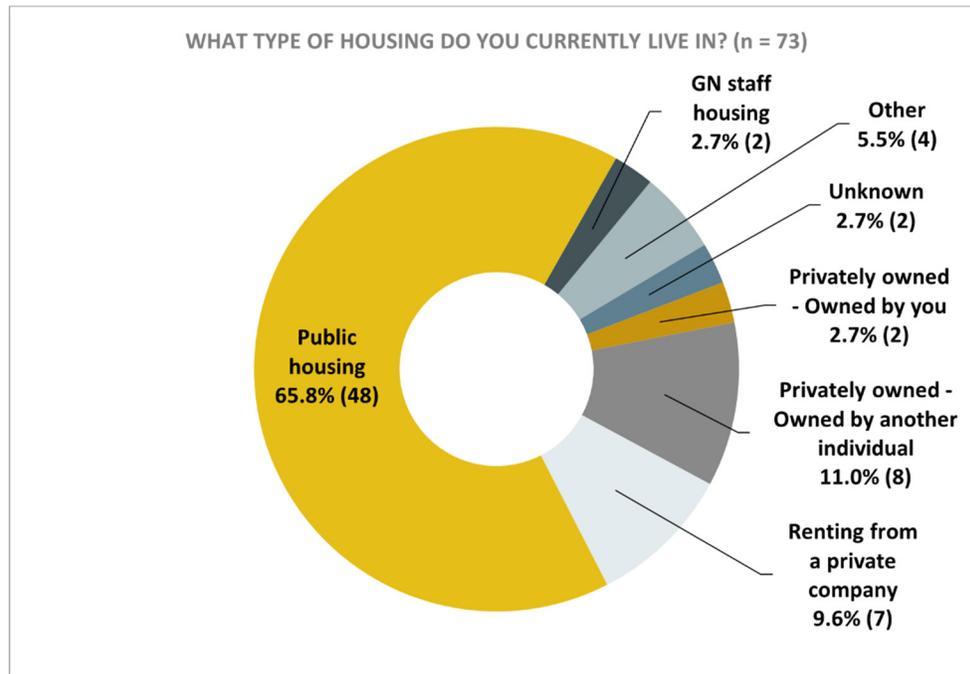
A 2024 Inuit Personnel Survey (IPS) was conducted at Project sites (Goose Lake, Exploration and MLA) in October and November 2024. Results relevant to this term and conditions are summarized below and are also provided in Appendix C of B2Gold Nunavut’s 2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report submitted to NIRB. Draft copies of the survey have been made available for the SEMWG and KSEMC to review (via the Socio-Economic Monitoring Plan). The Government of Nunavut is a member of both the SEMWG and KSEMC and coordinates the involvement of the Nunavut Housing Corporation as appropriate. Most recently, the SEMWG reviewed and provided comments on a draft version of the survey in 2024. The SEMWG and KSEMC will continue to be engaged on this topic as appropriate.

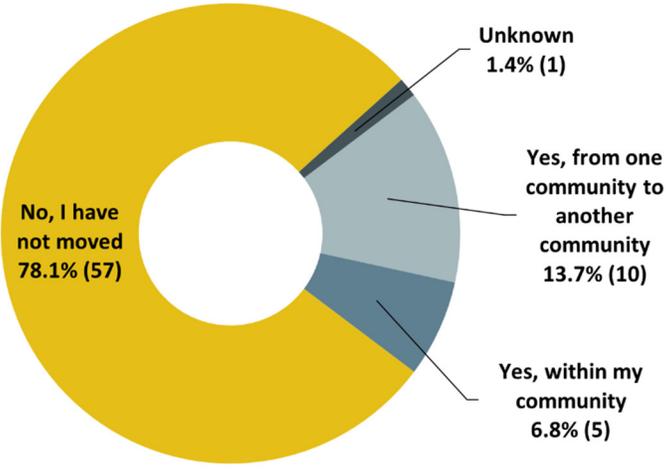
Results:

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%, the same as in 2022) and a much lower percentage living in privately owned residences (14%, compared to 17% in 2022). Since starting work at the Project, 21% of respondents said their interest in purchasing their own home had increased (the same as in 2022). A small, but increased number of survey respondents had changed their residence in the past 24 months (21%, compared to 11% in 2022)(See Figure 4.6-1), and of these individuals, 7% (5 respondents) had moved within their current community of residence, while 14% (10 respondents) had moved to a different community.

Of the respondents who had changed communities, 30% (3 respondents) moved from inside the Kitikmeot Region to communities outside, and 20% (2 respondents) moved from outside the Kitikmeot Region to communities inside. Reasons cited for having moved to a new community included a desire to be closer to family, the pursuit of employment, and a shortage of housing. In 2022, 0% of respondents had moved to a new community, and 11% had changed residence within their current community in the previous 12 months. The 2022 IPS used a 12-month period instead.

Figure 4.6-1 Housing Statistics



<p style="text-align: center;">IN THE PAST 24 MONTHS, HAVE YOU MOVED FROM ONE RESIDENCE TO ANOTHER RESIDENCE? (n = 73)</p>  <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Response</th><th>Percentage</th><th>Count</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>No, I have not moved</td><td>78.1%</td><td>57</td></tr><tr><td>Yes, from one community to another community</td><td>13.7%</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>Yes, within my community</td><td>6.8%</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>Unknown</td><td>1.4%</td><td>1</td></tr></tbody></table>	Response	Percentage	Count	No, I have not moved	78.1%	57	Yes, from one community to another community	13.7%	10	Yes, within my community	6.8%	5	Unknown	1.4%	1	
Response	Percentage	Count														
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Yes, within my community	6.8%	5														
Unknown	1.4%	1														
<p>Trends:</p>																
<p>For a comparison of 2022 vs. 2024 IPS results, see 'Results' above.</p>																
<p>Next Steps:</p>																
<p>B2Gold Nunavut continues to welcome feedback from the KSEMC and SEMWG on its survey results. B2Gold Nunavut anticipates completing Inuit Personnel Surveys every 2 years. Relevant stakeholders will be engaged in the planning of these surveys.</p> <p>B2Gold Nunavut is scheduled to conduct its next Inuit Personnel Survey in 2026.</p>																

Project Certificate Condition No. 85

Category	Health and Wellbeing – Cross-cultural Awareness
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, the 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 Qaujimagatuqangit to establish a healthy workplace for all Project employees (including any personnel required for the Energy Centre Project).
Term or Condition	<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 Qaujimagatuqangit 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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Descriptions of the goals of each program offered; 2. Language of instruction; 3. Schedules and location(s) of when each program was offered; 4. Uptake by employees and/or family members where relevant, noting Inuit and non-Inuit participation rates; and 5. Completion rates for enrolled participants, noting Inuit and non-Inuit participation rates.
Reporting Requirements	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	2024 Socio-Economic Monitoring Report (JPCSL 2025) - See Appendix B . Inuit Human Resources Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025).

Methods:

As described in the Inuit Human Resources Plan (NIRB PRI: TBD, latest version submitted to NIRB on March 3, 2025), B2Gold Nunavut conducts mandatory cultural awareness training for all long-term employees and contractors. The goal of this program is to promote respect and consideration for the importance of Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit (IQ) to the Inuit identity. It is primarily intended 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. The Company is also developing a new management-focused cultural awareness training presentation, and a cultural awareness training video to supplement existing training that is offered.

Results:

In 2024, cultural awareness training sessions were offered on 38 different dates and were delivered by members of the Company's Indigenous & Northern Affairs team to Project personnel. This training was conducted at Project sites in English and had 318 participants. Most of the training was given in-person at B2Gold Nunavut's Goose Camp, however some sessions were provided virtually, where appropriate (i.e. for new employees based out of Edmonton offices). The training program was previously shared with KIA and their feedback was incorporated into revised training materials. 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, 2024 by sharing information with Company staff and providing all employees in Canada an orange T-shirt with a commissioned design by Nunavut Inuit artist, April Pigalak. The design featured an illustration of a pair of children's shoes, an image which has become a symbol of mourning for children and youth who died in residential schools and for the Indigenous people, families, and communities impacted by these schools.

Trends:

B2Gold Nunavut continues to offer cultural awareness 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 cultural awareness training in 2025.

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

Project Certificate Condition No. 86

Category	Human Health and Safety – Airborne Actinolite Fibres
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	<p>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.</p> <p>Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Plan(s), the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan(s) to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Program and will ensure the updated Plan is also posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Health Canada, Nunavut Impact Review Board
Reference	FEIS Technical Comment No. F-HC-TC-4.

Methods:

The B2Gold Nunavut Industrial Hygiene Monitoring Program includes routine airborne actinolite and other asbestiform fibres sampling as part of the initial risk assessment, baseline assessment and annual sampling plan. Sampling follows best practice standards such as measurement methods set in the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), ACGIH and regulatory requirements for exposure assessment.

Air sampling data from sampling will be analysed to identify potential health risks associated with actinolite or other asbestiform fibre exposure. If actinolite fibres are identified in monitoring data, B2Gold Nunavut will enact measures to mitigate human exposure, notify the Territorial occupational health authority, and update relevant management plans.

If airborne hazard levels taken from an area or personal measurement are found to be in excess of occupational exposure limits of 0.1 f/cc and/or predictions from the FEIS, an action plan will be developed to reduce exposure as stated in the Industrial Hygiene Monitoring Program detailing additional mitigation options that will be considered such as ventilation techniques (dilution, exhaustion and extraction), particulate control methods such as wetting, vacuuming, filtering, enclosing the work area, respiratory protective measures, decontamination, etc.

Results:

- ◆ All bulk asbestos samples taken from BRM open pit and underground indicate that asbestos contents in rocks are less than (<) 0.1 % by weight and is therefore not a health concern. Bulk results are enclosed in this report as verified by third party laboratory.
- ◆ Individual worker exposure data collection (air sampling) plan is in place and being conducted with no health concerns being identified.

Trends:

Initial bulk and individual sampling results confirm no trends of concern. Monitoring will continue for life of the mine.

Next Steps:

B2Gold Nunavut industrial hygienists have developed and implemented industrial hygiene exposure control and monitoring programs for chemical, physical and biological hazards. These programs include requirements for:

- ◆ Scope, purpose and objectives
- ◆ Roles and Responsibilities
- ◆ Occupational exposure limits.
- ◆ Exposure monitoring, measuring and hazard control implementation.
- ◆ Overexposure action plan
- ◆ Employee education and training regarding workplace hazards.
- ◆ Annual sampling plan
- ◆ Medical surveillance.
- ◆ Respiratory protection fit testing.
- ◆ Engineering control plans, etc.
- ◆ Annual program review and evaluation
- ◆ Record keeping.

Initial baseline industrial hygiene sampling for all airborne hazards will commence in 2025 and continue until the appropriate number of samples have been collected. These samples will continue to be taken to ensure that a statistically significant number of results and trends within the data collected can be verified for each similar exposure group in accordance with the NIOSH, ACGIH and regulatory requirements for exposure assessment.

Furthermore, Industrial hygiene sampling plans will be updated annually/as required as baseline sampling progresses. The results will be analysed per applicable legislation and guidelines and communicated in annual reports to management and to Regulatory agencies as necessary. The data will identify health hazards and be quantified with the Back River Project's Risk Register.

Additional airborne hazard mitigation options will be considered if monitoring data indicates respiratory hazard levels over reasonable limits and/or predictions.

Project Certificate Condition No. 87

Category	Human Health and Safety – Site Orientation
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	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. Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Plan(s), the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan(s) to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Program and will ensure the updated Plan is also posted on the Proponent’s project website.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Nunavut Impact Review Board
Reference	Not applicable

Methods:
B2Gold Nunavut has a comprehensive site orientation program in place for all site personnel. The orientation process includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 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	Human Health and Safety – Winter Ice Road Operations
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	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 Requirements	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. Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Plan(s), the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan(s) to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan(s) and will ensure the updated Plan(s) are posted on the Proponent’s project website.
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	Accidents and Malfunctions – Spills
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Placement of spill prevention and response equipment as necessary to initiate wildlife protection measures along shipping routes and on-site; 2. Ensuring spill response contacts for B2Gold and government agencies are current; and 3. 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 Requirements	<p>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. Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Plan(s), the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan(s) to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan(s) and will ensure the updated Plan(s) are also posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Transport Canada, Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Impact Review Board
Reference	<p>Wildlife Mitigation and Monitoring Program Plan (Version 13) Oil Pollution Prevention Plan & Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (2024). 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 2024 to reflect 2024 bulk fuel offload activities.

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	Accidents and Malfunctions – Spills
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, 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	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 Requirements	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. Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Plan, the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the Minister of Transport, then to NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan and will ensure the updated Plan is also posted on the Proponent’s project website.
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Transport Canada
Reference	Oil Pollution Prevention Plan & Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (2024).

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 <i>Canada Shipping Act</i> , 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 <i>Canada Shipping Act</i> , 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	Accidents and Malfunctions – Marine Shipping
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, Transport Canada
Project Phase(s)	Prior to Project-shipping, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure protection of the marine environment.
Term or Condition	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 Requirements	<p>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.</p> <p>Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Shipping Management Plan, the Risk Management and Emergency Response Plan(s), the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan(s) to the NIRB within 60 days of revising the Plan(s) and will ensure the updated Plan(s) are also posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p> <p>Whenever the Proponent makes subsequent revisions to the Oil Pollution Emergency Plan, the Proponent shall submit the updated Plan to the NIRB within 60 days after submitting the updated Plan to the Minister of Transport and will ensure the updated Plan is also posted on the Proponent’s project website.</p>
Status of Compliance	Compliant
Stakeholder Review	Transport Canada
Reference	<p>Shipping Management Plan (2024)</p> <p>Oil Pollution Prevention Plan & Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (2024).</p> <p>Risk Management and Emergency Response Plan (2018) NIRB PRI: 319645</p>

Methods:
<p>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 2024 fuel offload activities and planned 2024 activities. These plans are also provided to the shippers to ensure they are aware of their respective requirements.</p> <p>The plan was updated in 2024 to reflect the Ballast Water Regulations, SOR/2021-120, that came into force on June 3, 2021, and which implement the Ballast Water Management Convention in Canada.</p>
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	Accidents and Malfunctions – Marine Shipping
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
Project Phase(s)	Prior to Project-shipping, Construction, Operations, Temporary Closure/Care and Maintenance, Closure and Post-Closure
Objective	To ensure protection of the Marine Environment.
Term or Condition	<p>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.</p> <p>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).</p>
Reporting Requirements	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 <i>Canada Shipping Act</i> . Any necessary updates to spill response equipment and training are included at that time.	

Project Certificate Condition No. 93

Category	Accidents and Malfunctions – Navigation Charts
Responsible Parties	The Proponent, Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Canadian Hydrographic Services
Project Phase(s)	Post-construction
Objective	To mitigate potential ship groundings.
Term or Condition	The Proponent shall submit a post-construction depiction of the Marine Laydown Area and surrounding shoreline, including any new bathymetry aspects.
Reporting Requirements	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 in-water construction occurred in the marine environment at the Marine Laydown Area in 2024. B2Gold Nunavut notes that DFO visited the project site.
Results:
Not applicable.
Trends:
Not applicable.
Next Steps:
B2Gold Nunavut will provide a post-construction depiction, including any new bathymetry aspects, to DFO – Canadian Hydrographic Services following construction prior to 2025 open water season. 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	Accidents and Malfunctions – Fuel Transportation
Responsible Parties	The Proponent
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	The Proponent shall ensure fuel trucks meet industry design standards and receive regularly scheduled maintenance of fuel lines, nozzles and dust caps.
Reporting Requirements	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 2024.

Trends:

Not applicable.

Next Steps:

Maintenance schedules and summaries by work type for Back River Project fuel trucks are included in **Appendix P**.