

# New Gold Rainy River Mine

**Environmental Assessment  
Compliance Report Reporting  
Period  
January to December 2020**

Per Provincial Environmental  
Assessment

Notice of Approval Condition 5 EA 05-  
09-02/EAIMS 13102

And

Per Federal Environmental  
Assessment Decision Statement  
Condition 2.3



BINDER 1 OF 2 MARCH 31, 2020

Version 1

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Figure 1 (Front Cover). Shovel operating in the pit, August 4th 2020

Figure 2. Swans at the WMP, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

## Executive Summary

The 2020 Annual Compliance Report covers the reporting period from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 for the New Gold Inc. (New Gold) Rainy River Mine.

The site is located within Chapple Township, approximately 65 kilometers northwest of Fort Frances in northwestern Ontario. In October 2017, the Rainy River Project transitioned from its construction phase to an operational phase known as Rainy River Mine.

To date, Rainy River Mine is an operational open pit mine producing approximately 250,000 ounces of gold annually. New Gold intends to pursue the opportunity to process higher grade ounces in the early years of production, while stockpiling lower grades for processing towards the end of the mine life with the intent of increasing cash flow and enhancing project economics.

The 2020 Rainy River Mine Environmental Assessment Compliance Report demonstrates New Gold's commitment to environmental performance and compliance with the Federal Environmental Assessment Decision Statement and in addition to satisfying reporting requirements for the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks.

This document has been created to meet the requirements of;

Provincial Environmental Assessment, Notice of Approval Condition 5 EA 05-09-02/EAIMS 13102; and the Federal Environmental Assessment Decision Statement Condition 2.3.

Key areas discussed in this report are; Aboriginal and community consultation, project development, reclamation activities, protection of fish and wildlife, migratory birds, health of Aboriginal peoples, site archaeology, heritage and cultural resources. This document also contains a summary of monitoring and research activities associated with water and air quality, wildlife and aquatic monitoring.



Figure 3. European Skipper butterflies on cow parsnip, June 2020.

**Acronyms**

BMA	Bear Management Area
CEAA	Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
CMP	Compliance Monitoring Plan
DFO	Department of Fisheries and Oceans
EA	Environmental Assessment
ECCC	Environment and Climate Change Canada
ECA	Environmental Compliance Approval
EMRS	East Mine Rock Stockpile
ERT	Emergency Response Team
EWPW	Eastern Whip-Poor-Will
FMP	Follow-up Monitoring Plan
IAAC	Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
LRIA	Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act
MDMER	Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulation
ENDM	Energy of Northern Development and Mines
MNRF	Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
MECP	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks MRP Mine Rock Pond
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheets NG New Gold
PTTW	Permit to Take Water
PWQO	Provincial Water Quality Objectives
RRM	Rainy River Mine
SAR	Species at Risk
TK/TLU	Traditional Knowledge/Traditional Land Use
TMA	Tailings Management Area
WMP	Water Management Pond
WMRS	West Mine Rock Stockpile

# New Gold Environment Annual Compliance Report

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### Binder 2

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# SECTION 2

## NEW GOLD RAINY RIVER UPDATE



Figure 4. Sunset on the Open Pit, December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020

## Mine Update

The Rainy River Mine (RRM) site is located in the Township of Chapple, approximately 65 kilometers, Northwest of Fort Frances in Northwestern Ontario. Owned and operated by New Gold Inc (New Gold). Physical works related to the RRM consists primarily of:

- Open pit (current)
- Underground (developing)
- Overburden, mine rock and low-grade ore stockpiles,
- Primary crusher and process plant (completed 2017),
- Tailings management area and related water management infrastructure
- 230 kilovolt transmission line (completed 2016),
- Relocation of a portion of gravel-surfaced Highway 600 (completed 2016), and
- Associated infrastructure, buildings and facilities, supported by related pipeline and power infrastructure as required.

Construction of the RRM began in February 2015 after the Environmental Assessment (EA) process was completed, the Closure Plan was filed and the environmental approvals necessary for the work proposed were obtained.

The subsections that follow provide an overview of the activities conducted onsite during 2020.

## Health and Safety

Health and Safety is a primary focus of the Rainy River Mine. Table 1 outlines the project statistics from 2015 to 2020.

Table 1. Rainy River Mine Safety Statistics

<i>Description</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>2020</i>
Lost Time Incidents	0	1	2	3	5	0
Hours Worked on Project	1,265,699	2,899,056	3,726,628	2,586,258	2,854,063	2,450,422
Completed Site Health, Safety & Environmental Orientations	2,500	3,200	4,328	2,719	3,665	3,689

## 2020 Highlights and activities within the Health and Safety Department include;

### Safety

- There were no Lost Time Injuries (LTI) recorded in 2020. 2,657,714 cumulative hours since last reported LTI.
- Rainy River received a \$108,708 rebate from Workspace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) as part of the Health and Safety Excellence Program.
- COVID-19 protocols and testing implemented in 2020 with minimal disruption to site operations.
  - PCR COVID test implemented in third quarter
  - Enrolled in provincial Antigen Rapid Test pilot project at the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter
- Contractor management strengthened with Cognibox' 3<sup>rd</sup> party management platform.

### Emergency Services

- Continued Mine Rescue and ERT member recruitment.
- Purchased replacement fire truck more suitable for the operations.
- Memorandum of Understanding signed with Mine Rescue Ontario.
- Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan tested in December with a live mock scenario with action items developed from the event findings.



Figure 5. New Fire truck testing water canon

## Mine Operations

During 2020, the open pit operations were focused on Phase 2 and 3 with a final elevation being

reached of 190 mRL and 280 mRL, respectively. RRM produced 51,131,076 tonnes of rock which included the ore that was either stockpiled or fed into the processing plant. The waste was either stockpiled or used for construction material for the Tailings Management Area to support construction of the dams and water treatment facilities. The strip ratio for phases 2 and 3, which corresponds to the amount of waste or overburden to be removed for the ore to be mined, was 3.3 which is lower than in phase 1. Due to the increased prevalence of Non Potentially Acid Generating (NPAG) rock mined in the open pit, the need to mine the East Outcrop in 2020 was eliminated.



Figure 6. View of phase 2 and 3 of the pit, December 2020

The advancement of the pit resulted in In-Pit Sumps 4 and 5 being decommissioned. From now on, the pit water is fed to the mill directly via the South Runoff Pond, which was commissioned on June 9th. The capability of sending pit water to the MRP remains as a contingency plan. During 2020, dewatering of Phase 1 of the pit, which had been flooded during the fall of 2019, started after spring freshet in June. From a maximum water volume of 1,092,377 m<sup>3</sup>, the water volume in Phase 1 has been reduced to 372,377 m<sup>3</sup> before freezing temperature halted dewatering. The remaining water will be pumped out in 2021.

The work advancing the underground resumed in 2020. The underground decline developed during 2020 was 472.8 m for a total of 589.6 m development when sumps and safety bays are included. From the portal to the elevation reached in 2020, the decline has achieved 630 m which includes the work and the meters previously excavated. From the portal the vertical decline has reached the 100 m level access. Ore will be mined early in 2021, ahead of schedule.

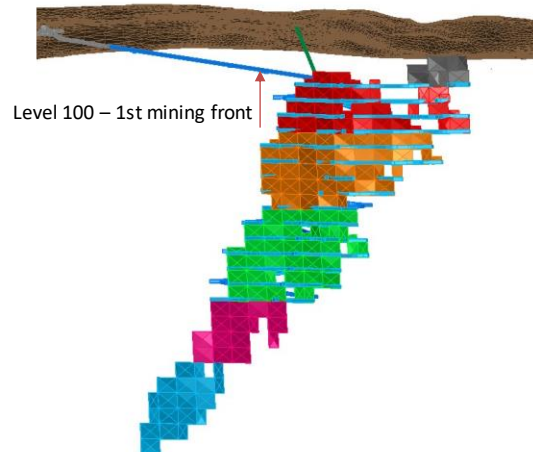


Figure 7. Underground development as of December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Wick drains installation (Fig.8) was completed in 2020, this will allow the East Mine Rock Stockpile (EMRS) to be built to the required elevation and will be able to accommodate the greater than expected amount of PAG in the pit.



Figure 8. Wick drains installation program at the EMRS, 2020

Other project of note was the realignment of the south haul road, which ensured that road runoff material would be captured by the pit and would not reach the environment. In 2021, the focus of improvement will be on the buttressing and widening of the Crusher pad. This will also involve the realignment of the access to the crusher from the EMRS.

## Mill

Mill production had a slow start in 2020 with relatively hard ore coming from the Pit; stemming from the 433 and HS ore zones. Historically, the Mill had been processing the ODM ore zone which was vastly softer and easier to mill. Significant efforts were devoted to increase production on the harder ore including blast fragmentation improvements, bringing the pebble crusher online and adjusting ball charge within the SAG mill. The efforts paid off and the mill was able to achieve the permit limit of 27,000 t/d for both Q3 and Q4. In addition to increasing mill throughput, the mill was able to achieve better than planned gold recovery rates; the improvement was partially due to the ore zones being milled having favourable characteristics that allowed for increased recovery rates.

Improvements in dust control were made to reduce dust emissions to the environment from the crushed ore stockpile:

- The crusher was operated to maintain above 80% stockpile height whenever practical to



reduce the drop height.

- Water sprays were utilized extensively in summer months.
- Calcium chloride was utilized in the winter (dual purpose: dust control + freeze protection)

Water management was a primary focus in 2020: 1.6 million cubic meters of water were discharged directly from the Water Management Pond to the environment as well as via Biochemical Reactor 2. This discharge de-risked the operation from a water balance perspective in that the facility can now handle a 1:100-year wet year without risking mill production or environmental spill. The Water Treatment Plant was commissioned with the help of a consultant and operations of the facility were taken over by Mill Operators mid-summer. The treatment season was limited by the space available in the Water Management Pond (WMP).

In 2021 the mill looks forward to the following improvements:

- Recycling SAG mill grinding media to the Ball Milling circuit (30% reduction in Ball Mill steel consumption).
- SAG Mill reverse rotation to allow for reduced grinding media consumption.
- Removal of unnecessary valving from the pipelines to reduce opportunity for environmental spills.
- Maximize water treatment plant productivity and efficiency.
- Reduce energy usage through optimization of the compressors in the mill and other projects.



Figure 9. Rainy River Mill

## Construction

At Rainy River Mine, 2020 marked the sixth year of construction. During 2020, the following construction projects were completed:

- Tailings Management Area (TMA) South Dam raise to elevation 371.5 m
- TMA North Dam Spillway raise to elevation 369.7 m
- TMA Tailings Booster Station
- TMA North Dam Tailings Line
- TMA Water Influent Control Structures
- TMA Reclaim Pumphouse Raise
- Biochemical Reactor 2 (BCR2) and Outflow Basin
- Primary Discharge Diffuser at Pinewood River (EMS2)
- East Mine Rock Stockpile (EMRS) Wick Drains
- EMRS Progressive Reclamation Earthworks
- Sediment Pond 3 Sump Installation
- Mobile Maintenance Truck Shop
- Lubricant Storage Building
- Hydrocarbon Management Building
- On-Site Warehouse
- Optimization of Wash Bay
- Laydown 7 Enhancements
- Tire Shop Permanent Power
- Mining Fuel Farm
- Mill Dry and Office
- Mill Iron Works
- Camp Construction and Upgrades
- Community Roundhouse at Laydown 16

Capital Projects utilized a favourable construction season to advance 2021 scheduled projects into 2020, mitigating 2021 schedule risk. The following projects were advanced and completed in 2020:

- TMA North Dam, West Dam, and South Dam foundation preparation to elevation 373.6 m
- TMA North Dam, West Dam, and South Dam clay core raise to elevation 372.7 m

- TMA North Dam, and South Dam pre-buttressing
- Temporary Reclaim Water Pipeline
- Procurement of TMA Seepage Collection Pumps

Projects initiated in 2020 and scheduled to be completed in 2021 include:

- Oxygen Plant Foundation and Upgrades

Planned construction activities for 2021 include the following construction projects:

- TMA North Dam, West Dam, and South Dam raise to elevation 373.6 m
- TMA North Dam spillway relocation and raise to elevation 371.6 m
- TMA North Dam land clearing and fencing realignment for newly purchased property
- TMA South Dam Reclaim Pipeline Reinstatement and Containment
- TMA Seepage Collection Transfer Pump Installation and Electrical
- EMRS Progressive Reclamation



Figure 10. TMA South Dam, Zone 3a placement



Figure 11. Truck Shop

## Human Resources

As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020, there were 842 employees of New Gold at Rainy River. In December 2019 there were 810 employees. During the year New Gold hired 197 employees and off-boarded 147 employees for an overall increase of 32 employees. Of the 842 employees;

- 67% were hired from the Rainy River District
- 2% were hired from the Kenora District
- 18% were hired from other locations in Ontario
- 12% were hired from Provinces or Territories within Canada, other than Ontario
- 1% were hired from outside of Canada
- 27% of New Gold employees at Rainy River self-identified as Indigenous, with the majority from local communities or affiliations.
- 16% of New Gold employees at Rainy River are female

The majority of employees work within the mine department, followed by maintenance, mill, and

general operations departments (including finance, supply chain, environment, human resources, community and health and safety).

## **Training**

In 2020, New Gold introduced a training program for Supervisors and above. The training program was customizable for the Rainy River mine site and was facilitated by Jim Decker & Associates through Queen's University. This program is a 3-day event that covered many topics specifically relating to leadership development and training, communication and hard conversations with employees and workplace safety. In 2020, 89 employees attended and completed part 1 of the training program.

## **Major Projects**

In 2020, the HR team completed several major initiatives.

A lot of the HR focus this year was on informing our workforce and giving them the tools and resources to talk about and improve mental health in the workplace and in their personal lives. One of our initiatives was to certify some of our leaders and supervisors in Mental Health First Aid. This course focused on the four most common mental health disorders including substance related, mood related, anxiety and trauma related, and psychotic disorders. Participants who took this course are well prepared to interact confidently about mental health with their family, friends, communities, and workplaces. Over 25 employees from Rainy River mine have completed a full 2-day course and are certified in Mental Health First Aid.

A mental health initiative called "Not Myself Today" was implemented and an ambassador group was formed with people from different departments and roles. The ambassador group begun creating activities, tips and video clips for the mine site to discuss in their pre-shift meetings. Every week over the 2-way radio, a mindful moment is presented with a mental health tip or activity to do. Resources and login information was provided to anyone interested in the program.

Closer to the end of the year, New Gold brought two counsellors to the mine site to begin putting on presentations with a strong focus on different mental health topics including how to deal with stress, understanding depression and thinking positively. Presentations were put on during pre-shift meetings and in lunch and learn sessions. On-site counselling was also available for employees who were going

through trauma or difficult times in their lives.

## Community

New Gold RRM in 2020 was highly impacted by COVID-19. In New Gold's third full year of commercial production, there were a few tours at the beginning of 2020, but COVID-19 prevented site tours that would have typically been provided to the general public, business partners, school groups, local service organizations, neighbours, Indigenous community members or families of employees. New Gold provided a virtual presentation to St. Mary School on geology and an overview of mining. Multiple teleconference meetings were held with Indigenous and municipal leaders to provide updates on New Gold's COVID response.

New Gold RRM distributed three newsletters throughout the local communities, mailed locally and emailed to communities outside of the local mail distribution. New Gold participated in an outdoor toy drive in support of a joint effort between United Native Friendship Centre and the Fort Frances Lakers hockey team. Construction of a Roundhouse at the mine site was completed in the spring of 2020. New Gold held annual Spring and Fall Ceremonies at the Roundhouse; both ceremonies were limited to a few staff members due to COVID restrictions. Officiants were Elder Francis Kavanaugh at the Spring Ceremony and Elder Brian Smith at the Fall Ceremony. The Spring Ceremony also provided an opportunity for Elder Kavanaugh to provide a name for the Roundhouse, "Miishikiibinens O'wiigii'aam" (Descending Thunderbird Lodge).

New Gold RRM has various existing partnerships with Indigenous groups and continued to engage through participation and implementation committee teleconference and video meetings, emails, phone conversations, business development assistance, and limited in-person meetings and community visits. The community team for Rainy River includes a Community Manager, Community Coordinators, a Business Development Officer and a Commitments Supervisor.

New Gold is proud of the numerous sponsorships and donations it makes to local communities. New Gold RRM supports initiatives that focus on education, arts & culture, environment and health and wellness. In 2020, some of the sponsorships and donations by New Gold RRM included;

- Sponsorship of the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation "Heart at Home" campaign;
- Support for Lakehead University Student Orientation;

- Donations to local food banks and community Christmas dinners;
- Support of Manitou Mounds Foundation Beading Circle;
- Support for local community playground equipment;
- Sponsorship of local hockey clubs;
- Sponsorship of a community outdoor movie theatre;
- Support of a community warming center.

New Gold RRM will continue to be responsive to communities, ensuring community members are engaged with New Gold.

Figure 12. Emo Knox United Church. Donation towards Christmas prepared meals for local residents (Anne Marie Rousseau, New Gold Community Relations Coordinator, Nancy Flook, Reverend Frances Flook, Bev Collett, Joyce Meyers, Cindy Judson)



Figure 13. Toy Drive. NG participated in an outdoor community event in support of the UNFC Adopt-A-Family program, hosted by the FF Lakers hockey team (Renee Boucher, New Gold Community Relations Manager).



## Environment

As the Rainy River Mine advances, the Environmental Department continues to find efficient and effective means for conducting required monitoring such as routine groundwater, surface water, wildlife and aquatic monitoring, and ambient air quality monitoring. Important highlights to note in 2020 include:

- The completion of the second phase of the process water treatment system and the second operations' discharge at the Pinewood River and Loslo Creek confluence. The ability to treat and discharge compliant process water is crucial to ensure the continued operations of the mine.
- The completion of the Loslo Diversion Ditch (LDD) at the perimeter of the TMA which will



redirect fresh water to the Marr Diversion Ditch (MDD) that discharges in the West Creek Diversion (WCD) and ultimately the Pinewood River.

- An additional water flow measurement instrument was installed in the WCD downstream of the confluence from the MDD in order to measure the contribution of the LDD and MDD contribution and inform allowable discharge from Sediment Pond 2.
- An updated and reliably operational water balance model to represent current operational conditions and provide predictions into the short-term and long-term site water conditions. This model is updated every month.
- Completion of the first stage of the Environmental Management System (EMS). Implementation of this system began in Q4 of 2019.
- Replacement of one groundwater monitoring well and two new additional dewatering/pumping wells. These dewatering wells were drilled in the periphery of the open pit in support of the mine operations safety and trafficability. A provincial permit to take water application is being prepared with submittal planned in early 2021.
- Addition of a third air quality station northwest of the Tailings Management Area (TMA). The intent of this station is to provide an air quality understanding upstream of the mine as well as capture any TMA air quality influence that may travel west offsite.
- Installation of multiple dustfall canisters throughout site to understand effects of internal dust generators. This information will be used to help further mitigate dust travelling offsite.
- Beginning progressive reclamation of the East Mine Rock Stockpile (EMRS). This process included development of a rigorous QA/QC program and operation handbook to fully capture the complexity of the cover system required.
- Approximately 10 ha of hydroseeding completed on disturbed site areas.

## **Environmental Management System**

RRM is committed to having an International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 14001 compliant Environmental Management System (EMS). As such, the EMS has been designed and developed to deliver on the core function of the Environment Department and to be compliant with ISO 14001 criteria.

The core function of the RRM Environmental Department is managing the Final, Federal and Provincial compliance commitments, and all other applicable environmental permit requirements. In order to best manage these legal regulatory conditions, our RRM EMS has been customized to accommodate the high number of legally binding Environmental requirements that governs our operations and is designed to mitigate hazards and risks as well as maintain compliance with regulatory requirements and permit conditions.

All tasks and actions under the authority of the Environment Department were grouped by discipline as Discipline Specific Management Plans (MPs) while all remaining conditions that fall under the authority of other RRM departments were grouped as such and categorized as Environment Protection Plans (EPP). This demonstrates communication and ownership of commitments while ensuring compliance with RRM's legally binding Environmental requirements. Each RRM department is currently completing Status Reports for each MP and EPP which documents the implemented tasks and actions for their department specific Regulatory requirements.

RRM's EMS provides a framework for implementation of tasks and actions, necessitates evaluation of these tasks and actions and in turn, results in continuous improvement based on proposed preventative and corrective actions. The RRM EMS process allows for continual improvement through evaluation, approval and implementation. Below are some conditions or commitments that have raised some concerns as to how the site is able to achieve and maintain compliance.

For example, the following three (3) condition from the Commitment Registry all speak to RRM enforcing speed limits along proposed mine access roads to reduce the potential adverse effects of increased vehicular traffic associated with the RRM (p. 155 to 160 of this document). However, Security Services are not protected under existing legislation to enforce the Highway Traffic Act on any public roads and therefore are unable to enforce any speed limit.

**EA Commitment-95-4**

*The primary mitigation strategies for limiting adverse effects to wildlife include...*

**EA Commitment-96-4**

*Mitigation measures that will be used to reduce potential adverse effects to amphibians will include the following:*

**EA Commitment-101 Cont A-6**

*The primary mitigation strategies for limiting adverse effects to birds and habitat...*

Similarly, **Condition 13.12.2** of the Follow-Up Monitoring Plan (p. 211-212 of this document) speaks of Traffic flow on local roads with more limited capacity is of greater interest, notably,

- Highway 600
- Teeple Road west of Highway 71
- The East Access Road

The intent is to document that these local roads can continue to function adequately, and within safe limits for both project and local traffic. Methods for measuring traffic use along local roads will include;

- Periodic traffic count surveys using automated traffic counters.
- Employee surveys to determine transport routes to and from the mine site.
- Ongoing discussions with MTO and the Township of Chapple to support additional traffic volume monitoring studies if appropriate.

However, these are public roads where the traffic levels are monitored by the Ministry of Transport. Initiatives have been implemented to encourage carpooling amongst employees, including the coach bus shuttle service that operates from Fort Frances/Emo and Rainy River/Stratton to the Rainy River Mine Site. A shuttle bus is also operated from the Winnipeg airport to site every 2 weeks at rotation shift change. Vans operate to carry camp personnel from camp to site.

RRM would like the Agencies comments/guidance on the aforementioned conditions, as to how RRM can attain compliance with the commitments in question or if any may be rescinded.

## **Water Management**

A GoldSim Monte Carlo Simulation Water Balance (WB) model was previously developed by a third-party consultant. In 2020, the water balance model was transferred to site, where it was calibrated and regularly updated. Monthly updates are performed at site and the information gathered helps inform near future water management decisions. The model is also compared to

measured data, and any deviation greater than 15% is explained. In addition, the load source term water quality model was updated to include actual data and the result show a better than previously forecasted water quality for closure. The water quality model will be transferred to site in 2021.

A live water balance dashboard (Figure 14) was developed which compares model predictions with the actual data. Manual water levels are taken at minimum once a week during winter and up to three times a week during ice-free periods. This information is automatically transferred to the dashboard which then gives a real time snapshot of water levels. The monthly updates also help forecast in near term water inventory on site and allows RRM to adjust and prepare for any conditions, by adjusting pumping rates or treatment and discharge of water. Having the WB managed on site give RRM much greater control on water management and allows for nimble decision making.



Figure 14. Rainy River Mine Water Balance Dashboard as shown on February 5<sup>th</sup> 2021

The final component of the water treatment train, BCR2, was completed and commissioned in July 2020. In addition, the second diffuser, EDL2 at the confluence of the Pinewood River and Loslo Creek was constructed and commissioned. The combination of the full treatment train and the two functioning diffusers enables RRM much greater control on water management. BCR2 was

operated until November 14<sup>th</sup> producing water reaching and surpassing the PWQO.



Figure 15. Under ice flow measurement at H1 station, January 2020.

## Reclamation

RRM began large-scale progressive reclamation work in Q3 of 2020. During this reclamation work, New Gold started reclaiming the EMRS lower bench and was able to develop an appropriate QA/QC program, an operational handbook, and constructability plan to assist in future reclamation work. Approximately 3 ha of the EMRS closure cover was placed by the end

of 2020 consisting of a compacted clay layer (CCL) and a non-compacted clay layer (NCL) to limit oxygen migration into the minerock. Additionally, the Batch Plant was decommissioned, and reclamation efforts began on the laydown. A growth medium was also placed on all disturbed areas (approximately 2 ha). Revegetation efforts at both areas are planned for spring 2021 and will be used to research additional soil amendment strategies and seed mixtures on a large scale with further input from stakeholders.

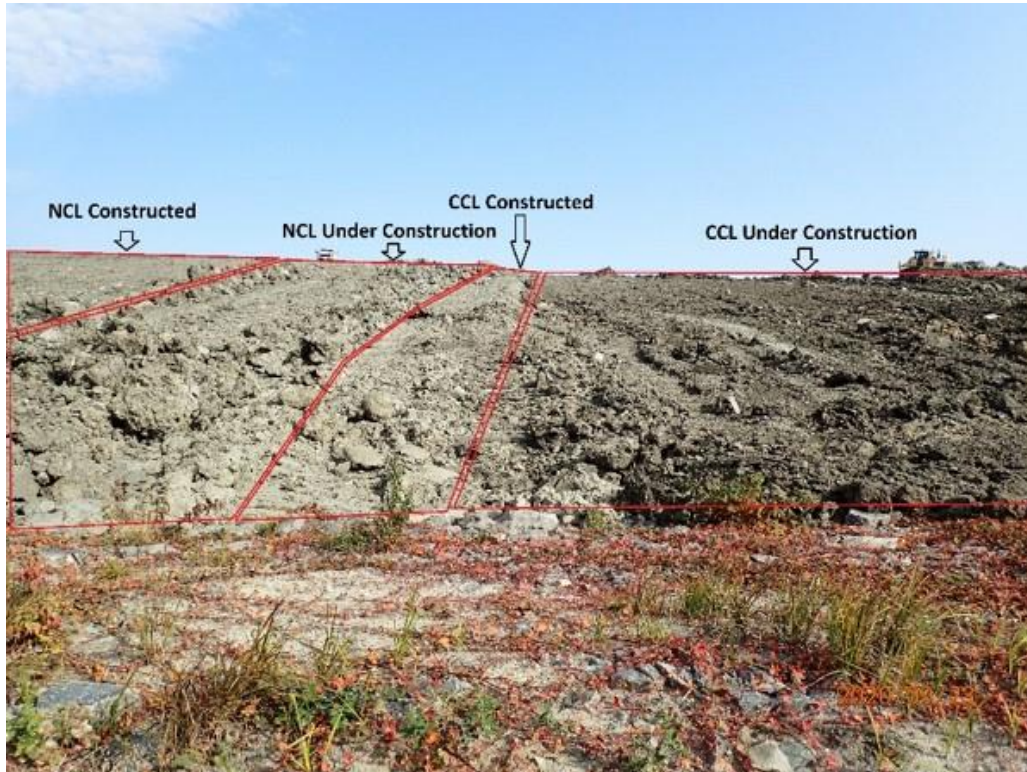


Figure 16. Progressive reclamation of the EMRS lower bench, September 2020.

RRM also finished planting the Vegetation Trials in 2020 with the intent to address key uncertainties surrounding re-vegetation at closure. The list of species was developed based on consultation in 2019 with First Nations and with Regulators in 2018. Monitoring will continue in the coming years with plans to excavate the destructive plots to evaluate rooting depth of various plant species.



Figure 17. Hydroseeding the banks of Loslo Creek Diversion Ditch, September 2020.

## GIS

During 2020, the GIS Team continued to manage and advance the internal New Gold Rainy River Web GIS System; a distributed client/server GIS environment that provides instant access to current and historical geospatial information to all New Gold employees and registered consultants (users) via web GIS and mobile applications. The team successfully completed the migration of the existing system to a new server in order to provide better overall performance and stability. The legacy local office server has also been replaced and the existing tape backup system has been updated to automated internet backup to the company's off-site servers in Toronto improving security and enabling timely disaster recovery if necessary.

In order to maintain the accuracy of the internal geospatial infrastructure, the GIS team has continued to update the most critical services including the ongoing site layout progression, the site hydrology and road network as well as the drone orthomosaic basemap and other GIS

datasets. This provides New Gold staff with the tools to make well informed and accurate decisions. The team also began work on a new process designed to maintain an up-to-date digital elevation model (DEM) composed of various ongoing input survey programs. The resulting product will be used in a number of GIS applications as well as an effort to monitor the variations of the site topography over time as a result of mining activities.

In the interest of sharing geospatial information with the local First Nation community, the public as well as regulators, the GIS team has developed a New Gold Public Web GIS platform in the public domain where the company can share any GIS data as necessary. Currently, this web application, which is also supported on mobile devices with navigation capabilities, is used to provide directions to the mine to the members of the local First Nations communities, show the proximity of the mine to First Nations communities and lands and to also show the mine's location in relation to the Treaty 3 Boundary. This platform also has many other potential future applications.

One of many added benefits of an easily accessible GIS system within an organization is better decision making and in 2020 the GIS Team focused their efforts to presenting the GIS data to both the decision makers and employees using dashboards which allow the users to visualize trends and monitor the status of select datasets in real time. Some examples of the dashboards now in use at the Rainy River Mine include Piezometer Monitoring, Wildlife Sightings, Water Balance Model and the Open Pit Prisms Monitoring dashboards.

Furthermore, the team has expanded the array of the existing custom mobile applications to include the Waste Bin Inspection forms, Dustfall Jar Monitoring and the Air Sampler Calibration sheet – all of which are connected with GIS system SQL Server database.

To improve employee engagement and to help staff get the most out of the existing GIS system, the GIS team planned a series of training sessions on site in 2020 but due to the lasting COVID crises a new approach was adopted. The team has recorded, created, and published a series of short training videos on a variety of topics related to the use of the web GIS system.

As a part of an ongoing annual geospatial survey program, the GIS team facilitated the



collection and acquisition of high-resolution multispectral orthoimagery in the winter, spring and fall of 2020, a LiDAR topographic survey along with ultra-high resolution aerial imagery of the entire mine site in early September of 2020, as well as a bathymetry survey of the tailings management area. In support of this annual survey effort, the GIS team also began to develop, catalogue and classify an internal survey control network utilizing the existing on-site survey monuments as well as the nearby network of Canada Lands Act Survey Monuments to be used to improve the accuracy of future geospatial surveys.

## Wildlife

In addition to the above projects, the environmental team continues to monitor air quality, wildlife, water quality, waste and hazardous waste. Inspections of site areas are completed monthly with additional inspections performed on an as-needed basis will all non-compliances reported immediately.

During 2020 various activities and monitoring programs were undertaken regarding RRM's commitments related to wildlife. Three fish salvage operations were undertaken in the Pinewood River to reduce any potential harm that may be caused from in-water works in relation to installation and repair of hydrometric monitoring equipment and discharge structures. Small and Large body fish tissue monitoring occurred in the Pinewood River primarily to assess potential impacts RRM may be causing. For small body fish Common Shiner and Central Mudminnow were targeted and for Large body fish, Northern Pike and Walleye were targeted. No significant effects were detected and Mercury levels seem to be trending downward over baseline levels. Fish populations were also assessed in on-site compensation and offset habitat against DFO criteria for successfully constructed fish habitat. With the exception of Stock Pile Diversion, all structures are trending toward success for population density and life cycle use, species diversity remains a challenge for some structures (Teeple and Clark Ponds). All activities were done with the authorization of the required License to Collect Fish for Scientific Purposes and Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act permits.

In addition to normal reporting of Species at Risk to MECP, Eastern Whip-Poor-Will near site

monitoring was undertaken. 7-8 birds were assumed to be nesting near the mine site which is similar to the number of birds that were detected during the last round of monitoring in 2018. Bat monitoring also occurred in 2020 and populations of non-Species at Risk bats stayed similar however the two SAR bat species historically found near RRM were found to have declined sharply. This finding is consistent with regional observations of these species and are believed to be related to White-nose disease and not mine related activity. All monitoring and activities were done as per New Gold's Endangered Species Act permit and Follow-up-Monitoring plan.

Black Bears have always been a common sight at RRM but 2020 was the first time bears needed to be relocated. Since 2016 New Gold has worked with the MNRF to minimize human/bear interactions and with their guidance and training nuisance bears have remained manageable. The two bears that were successfully relocated have been known to New Gold Environmental staff for at least 2 years and generally are seeking food or other waste, in the past once the attractant has been identified and removed the bears move on. In 2020 these two bears remained persistent even after all attractants had been removed for several days. At night these bears would visit two different areas, one bear would appear near the Mill and the other would visit Laydown 7 which posed an extra safety risk. It should be noted these bears were not a family unit, one being a large 5th or 6th year old male and the other being a small third year female. The bears were trapped and relocated to a location selected by the MNRF without incident, under an Authorization to Trap and Transport Black Bears.



Figure 18. Bear relocated from RRM at designated release location, September 2020



Figure 19. Monarch caterpillar on milkweed at the WCD, July 2020

## **Regulatory Update**

In January 2015 both a Federal Environmental Assessment Decision Statement and a Provincial Environmental Assessment Notice of Approval were provided to New Gold for the Rainy River Mine.

Throughout 2015 to 2017 earthworks construction of dams, water diversion systems, roads, and commissioning of mining operations were advanced based various permits and approvals granted by both the Federal and Provincial Governments.

An Amended Environmental Compliance Approval Industrial Sewage permit was issued in February 2020 and the Amended Closure Plan was filed in October 2020.

Table 2. Summary of the environmental approvals related to the Rainy River Mine.

Table 2: Rainy River Mine - Environmental Permits and Approvals				
Agency	Type	Number	Description	Comments
Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks	Permit to Take Water	7430-AYEN78	Renewed Tailings Management Area Construction	Expired June 22, 2019.
		8101-AY8HT5	Renewed Construction Minor Takings	Expired June 22, 2019.
		2558-AJ7HXF	Renewed Tait Quarry	
		1386-9VTP2H	Aggregate Sources (OC3, OC4, Roen)	
		7631-9VULMS	Mine Dewatering	
	Environmental Compliance Approval	0412-A2LR4V	Air / Noise	Amended
		8567-9ZXG8U	Air / Noise	Superseded
		5178-9TUDP9	Operations	rescinded
		7004-BC7KQ5	Operations	
	Ontario Ministry of Natural	Location, Plans and Specifications Approval  <i>Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act</i>	FF-2019-01	Effluent Mixing Structure and Hydrology Gauge
FF-2017-03			TMA Cell #2	
FF-2017-02			Sediment Ponds	
FF-2017-01			West Creek Natural Channel Temporary Bypass	
FF-2016-02 FF-2016-02A			Culvert Crossing CPL15	
FF-2015-08			Culvert C15	
FF-2015-07			Pinewood River Intake / Outfall	
FF-2015-05 FF-2015-05A			Mine Rock Pond	
FF-2015-04 FF-2015-04A FF-2015-04B FF-2015-04C			TMA	
FF-2015-03 FF-2015-03A FF-2015-03B			Clark Creek Diversion	
FF-2015-02 FF-2015-02A FF-2015-02B			West Creek Diversion	
FF-2015-01			West Creek Diversion	
FF-2015-01			Temporary Culverts C2, C6, C8	

**Table 2: Rainy River Mine - Environmental Permits and Approvals**

Table 2: Rainy River Mine - Environmental Permits and Approvals				
Resources and Forestry	Work Permit/ Letter of Authority	FF-2019-1916-AP001	Work in Water	
		FF11-2015/2016	Pinewood River Bridge Crossing	Expired December 30, 2016
		FF6-2015/2016	East Access Road Construction Amendment	Expired May 30, 2016
	Public Lands Act	FF2-2015/2016	East Access Road Construction	Expired May 30, 2016
		FF-C-001-14	Permit Under 17(2)(c)	
	Endangered Species Act Permit	625851	Tait Quarry	Rehabilitated in 2018
		626197	Laydown 4 Quarry	
	Aggregate Resources Licence	Agreement with Resolute Forest Products 2018-2019.		Expires March 31, 2019
		B12157		2019-2020
	Overlapping Forest Resource Licence Agreement	219400		2019-2020
		219198, 218658, 219196		2018-2019
	Forest Resource Licence	1134-1003167	Transmission Line	
		1134-1003203	Four Safety Platforms	
	Harvest Approval/ Authority to Haul	1094187	Licence to Collect Fish for Scientific Purposes-Pinewood River	Expired December 31, 2019
		1093595	Licence to Collect Fish for Scientific Purposes-Site Waterbodies	Expired December 31, 2019
Land Use Permit	1092647	Authorization to Trap and Transfer Black Bears 2019	Expires March 31, 2020	
	1094158	Wildlife Scientific Collectors Authorization - Turtle and Snake Relocation 2019	Expired December 31, 2019	
Ontario Ministry of Natural	Federal Decision Statement issued under Section 54 of Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012	Provincial EA	90+ Federal EA Commitments	

**Table 2: Rainy River Mine - Environmental Permits and Approvals**

<b>Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks</b>	Environmental Assessment Act Section 9 Notice of Approval to proceed with the Undertaking	EA Commitments	68 Provincial Commitments	
<b>Environment Canada</b>	Final EA Report Commitments Registry	Reporting Procedures for MMR	205 Commitments	
	Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations			
<b>Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines</b>	Closure Plan	13+ approvals	Contains Closure Plan Commitments Registry Filed by Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (February 23, 2015)	
<b>Ontario Ministry of Transportation</b>	Entrance Permit	14+ approvals		
	Encroachment Permit	11+ approvals		No lighting or marking required
	Land Use	15-HCAA-00039		Renewal
<b>Fisheries and Oceans Canada</b>	Authorization	KE-12-0963	Section 35(2)	
	Letter of Advice	15-0045	Road Crossings	
<b>Transport Canada</b>	Letter	15-0046	Linear Structure	
	Letter	ATS-15-16-00026521	Blasting Zone	
	Clearance	16-2664	Transmission Line - Aeronautic Obstruction Clearance	
<b>Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission</b>	Nuclear Radiation Licence	15954-1-24.0	Nuclear Radiation Device License	
		15954-1-19.0	Nuclear Radiation Device License	Expired
<b>Ontario Energy Board</b>	Electricity Wholesaler Licence	EW-2014-0371		
<b>Municipality</b>	Occupancy Permit	N16-08	Admin Building – Process Plant Site	

## SECTION 3

# NEW GOLD RAINY RIVER MINE COMMITMENT REGISTRY FEDERAL COMMITMENTS



Figure 20. Great Spangled Fritillary butterfly on Canada Thistle at Pinewood River



## General Conditions

Conditions 2.1 and 2.2 are definitions and general conditions, no reporting is associated with either of these conditions.

### **Condition 2.1**

*The Proponent shall, throughout all phases of the Designated Project, inform its actions in meeting the conditions set in this Decision Statement by the best available information and knowledge, based on validated methods and models, undertaken by qualified individuals and apply the best available economically and technologically feasible mitigation measures.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

During operation of the RRM, applications for new or amended permits have been required, meeting the conditions set out in this Decision Statement as well as other Provincial and Federal approvals. On November 7, 2018, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency conducted an inspection at the mine. This allowed an opportunity for New Gold RRM to update CEAA on the progress of the mine and to find opportunities to ensure all Government conditions and commitments are attained.

### **Condition 2.2**

*Where consultation is a requirement of the conditions set out in this Decision Statement, the Proponent shall first consult Aboriginal groups on the most appropriate manner in which to engage in consultation with them.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

Consultation and engagement methods were significant discussion items throughout the EA process and in the negotiation of Impact Benefit and Participation Agreements. Active consultation and engagement with local communities continued through 2020.

**Condition 2.3**

*The Proponent shall submit to the Agency an annual report on the implementation of the conditions set out in this Decision Statement with a supporting analysis for each of the conditions for the preceding calendar year on or before March 31, starting from the commencement of any activities in connection with the carrying out of the Designated Project. Each annual report shall describe how the Proponent has considered and incorporated the factors outlined in condition 2.1 in the implementation of the conditions set out in this Decision Statement.*

Timing: Annually on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Status: Completed to date

The annual report was submitted to the Agency in March 2020. A digital copy can be found on the New Gold Website at <http://www.newgold.com/projects/rainyriver/rainyriver-project>. The public is also welcome to visit the New Gold office in Emo Ontario to review copies of the document.

**Condition 2.4**

*The Proponent shall, in consideration of the annual report for condition 2.3, provide documentation to the Agency indicating the results of any monitoring for conditions 3.8, 4.6, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 6.4, and 8.4. The documentation shall demonstrate whether the mitigation measures have proven effective and whether the predictions made during the environmental assessment were accurate. The documentation shall also detail any corrective actions taken by the Proponent should the mitigation measures prove not to be effective.*

Timing Annually on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Status: Completed to date

Documented results can be found under each of the specified sections for the monitoring work that was completed in 2020.

**Condition 2.5**

The Proponent shall make the report and documentation referred to in conditions 2.3 and 2.4 available

on its website no later than 30 days after submission to the Agency.

Timing: Within 30 days of submission to Agency

Status: Completed to date

The report and documentation referred to in conditions 2.3 and 2.4 are made available on NG's website ([www.newgold.com](http://www.newgold.com)) no later than 30 days after submission to the Agency.

### **Condition 3: Fish and Fish Habitat**

#### **Condition 3.1.1**

The Proponent shall minimize changes caused by the Designated Project to water levels and water flows in the Pinewood River, the Minor Creek System, and the Modified Minor Creek System in such a way as to protect fish and fish habitat, by implementing mitigation measures including, but not limited to: recycling of water, for ore processing, from the TMA and ponds constructed for water management.

Timing: Operations.

Status: Ongoing

In 2017, the Mill, the Water Management Pond (WMP), the Tailings Management Area (TMA) Starter Cell (Cell 1) and Mine Rock Pond (MRP) were commissioned allowing water to be recycled from the open pit, under the authorization and subject to Conditions 3.2 through 3.5 of Permit to Take Water (PTTW) 7631-9VULMS, the WMP, and the TMA to assist in the milling of ore. The mine infrastructure was designed to encourage recycling of water.

Water was withdrawn from the Pinewood River to build the initial water inventory needed to start operations, under the authorization and subject to Conditions 3.2 and 3.3 of PTTW 8776-9W2QN3. Water taking from the Pinewood River ceased in October 2018, and PTTW 8776-9W2QN3 which authorized direct water taking from the Pinewood River expired on November 30, 2018.

#### **Condition 3.1.2**

*The Proponent shall minimize changes caused by the Designated Project to water levels and water flows in the Pinewood River, the Minor Creek System, and the Modified Minor Creek System in such a*

*way as to protect fish and fish habitat, by implementing mitigation measures including, but not limited to: optimizing the timing, position and quantity of final effluent discharge between the final effluent discharge points.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

In 2017, the Water Management Pond (WMP), Tailings Management Area (TMA) Starter Cell and Mine Rock Pond (MRP) were commissioned, which increased the site capture of watershed drainage areas associated with the Rainy River Mine (RRM). As per Condition 3.3 of Permit to Take Water (PTTW) 8776-9W2QN3, the volume of water captured by site catchments was included in the total direct taking from the Pinewood River in 2017 and 2018. During the construction of the WMP, the TMA, the MRP and development of the open pit, there were construction related discharges to the environment subject to the Effluent Limits in Condition 7 of expired Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) 5781-9VJQ2J. The construction related discharge points were obtained through the Environment Canada Metal Mining Effluent Notification Process, and subject to the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations.

Until February 2020, Condition 5 of rescinded ECA 5178-9TUPD9 dictated the discharge quality criteria, timing and volume restrictions for release of effluent from the four (4) final discharge points, Constructed Wetland Final Discharge, Water Management Pond Pipeline Discharge, Sediment Pond #1 and Sediment Pond #2. In February 2020, amended ECA #7004-BC7KQ5 was issued to RRM which has several conditions related to the discharge quality, timing and volume restrictions for release of effluent from four approved final discharge points: EDL1, EDL2, Sediment Pond 1 and Sediment Pond 2. In 2020, discharges occurred from EDL1 in Q2, EDL1, Sediment Pond 1 and Sediment Pond 2 in Q3 and EDL1, EDL2 and Sediment Pond 2 in Q4.

### **Condition 3.1.3**

*The Proponent shall minimize changes caused by the Designated Project to water levels and water flows in the Pinewood River, the Minor Creek System, and the Modified Minor Creek System in such a way as to protect fish and fish habitat, by implementing mitigation measures including, but not limited to: filling the open pit during the decommissioning and abandonment phases in a manner which meets the flow requirements in the Pinewood River while allowing the pit to be filled as expeditiously as possible to reduce any adverse environmental effects.*

Timing: Closure.

Status: Not applicable in 2020.

The Closure Plan for the Rainy River Mine outlines the close out and rehabilitation methods that will be used at the time of mine closure. With regard to the open pit, the pit walls will be reviewed by a professional engineer to ensure compliance with the Ontario Mine Rehabilitation Code. Safety measures that include a berm and boulders, and signage will be placed, and then the pit will be allowed to fill using a staged approach. This approach will involve water being directed from the Mine Rock Pond, seepage from the East Mine Rock Stockpile, and potentially runoff from the outside of the Tailings Management Area dams, in addition to open pit runoff and groundwater seeps. Flooding the final open pit is expected to take 60 to 75 years.

**Condition 3.1.4- Completed November 30, 2018.**

*The Proponent shall minimize changes caused by the Designated Project to water levels and water flows in the Pinewood River, the Minor Creek System, and the Modified Minor Creek System in such a way as to protect fish and fish habitat, by implementing mitigation measures including, but not limited to: not taking water from the Pinewood River when flows are below the minimum threshold set by Ontario*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status: Complete

No direct water taking from the Pinewood River occurred in 2020. Permit to Take Water (PTTW) 8776-9W2QN3 expired on November 30, 2018.

**Condition 3.2.1**

*The Proponent shall, for all effluent, comply with the MMER, the Fisheries Act and any site-specific water quality requirements set by Ontario. To ensure compliance, the Proponent shall implement, at a minimum, the following mitigation measures: treat effluent prior to discharge to the environment.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

In 2020, effluent discharges to the Pinewood River occurred directly from EDL1, EDL2 and Sediment Pond #2, and indirectly from Sediment Pond #1 via the West Creek Diversion. Effluent discharged from Sediment Ponds #1 and #2 did not contact tailings or any potentially acid generating (PAG) material. Treated effluent discharged at EDL1 originated from the WMP or BCR2 of the water treatment train, and treated effluent discharged at EDL2 originated from BCR2 of the water treatment train.

To maintain compliance with Environment Canada Environmental Effects Monitoring requirements issued for the project, RRM conducts quarterly sublethal toxicity testing of its final effluent discharge location that potentially has the most adverse effect on the environment, monthly water quality monitoring of reference and exposure locations for each final discharge point, as well as sediment quality monitoring, benthic invertebrate community monitoring and fish population monitoring. Sublethal toxicity testing was conducted in October 2020 at EDL2.

### **Condition 3.2.2**

*The Proponent shall, for all effluent, comply with the MMER, the Fisheries Act and any site-specific water quality requirements set by Ontario. To ensure compliance, the Proponent shall implement, at a minimum, the following mitigation measures: treat tailings slurry to break down cyanide and precipitate heavy metals.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

Authorization to deposit tailings in the Tailings Management Area (TMA) Starter Cell (Cell 1) was received on September 28, 2017. Before tailings slurry can be deposited in Cell 1, or any subsequent cell in the TMA, the slurry must be treated by an in-plant tailings slurry cyanide destruction (SO<sub>2</sub>/Air) treatment facility located in the process plant as required by ECA #7004-BC5KQ7.

### **Condition 3.2.3**

*The Proponent shall, for all effluent, comply with the MMER, the Fisheries Act and any site-specific water quality requirements set by Ontario. To ensure compliance, the Proponent shall implement, at a minimum, the following mitigation measures: collect site contact water and seepage in ditches and*

*divert to either the TMA or water management facilities for release via final discharge points.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

All site water is collected in a site impoundment, such as Sediment Pond #1 and #2, the Tailings Management Area (TMA), Water Management Pond (WMP) or Mine Rock Pond (MRP), for recycling and further treatment before eventual release via final discharge points.

#### **Condition 3.2.4**

*The Proponent shall, for all effluent, comply with the MMER, the Fisheries Act and any site-specific water quality requirements set by Ontario. To ensure compliance, the Proponent shall implement, at a minimum, the following mitigation measures: install and operate a water quality control structure in the constructed wetland to prevent the release of final effluent discharge not compliant with the Regulations or requirements*

Timing: Operation and Closure.

Status: Ongoing.

Not applicable at this time. Construction of the constructed wetland has been deferred. Construction will include a water quality control structure.

#### **Condition 3.2.5 - Completed**

*The Proponent shall, for all effluent, comply with the MMER, the Fisheries Act and any site-specific water quality requirements set by Ontario. To ensure compliance, the Proponent shall implement, at a minimum, the following mitigation measures: install secondary containment on pipelines that cross the West Creek Diversion Channel to prevent accidental discharge of effluent.*

Timing: Construction

Status: Complete

Pipelines associated with mill processing and tailings transportation from the plant to the Tailings Management Area were installed in 2017. A design modification was completed which included

secondary containment of the pipeline that cross the West Creek Diversion channel and also where the pipeline crosses West Creek. The secondary containment consists of sleeves (pipe within a pipe) made from 36" high density polyethylene (HDPE). The rest of the pipeline has a double wall thickness for protection. The entire tailings pipeline is contained in a corridor which is also lined with a fused geomembrane and is sloped to drain into the multiple sumps in case of emergency.

Relocation of this line began in Q1 2021, which will include the same containment measures as the original pipeline corridor.

### **Condition 3.3.1**

*The Proponent shall control acid rock drainage and metal leaching so that all effluent and passive outflow from the Project Site comply with the MMER, any site-specific water quality requirements set by Ontario, and the Fisheries Act, as applicable at any time. To ensure compliance, the Proponent shall implement, at a minimum, the following mitigation measures: line the former Clark Creek channel (under the east mine rock stockpile) with non-potentially acid generating material*

Timing: Construction and Operations

Status: Ongoing

To comply with MDMER and provincial permitting requirements, effluent and passive outflow from the Potentially Acid Generating (PAG) rock drainage and metal leaching from active areas of East Mine Rock Stockpile area was collected in the Mine Rock Pond and associated seepage collection system. In 2020, the lining of the Clark Creek channel with non-acid generating rock was completed under the East Mine Rock Stockpile area up to the wick zone area.

### **Condition 3.3.2**

*The Proponent shall control acid rock drainage and metal leaching so that all effluent and passive outflow from the Project Site comply with the MMER, any site-specific water quality requirements set by Ontario, and the Fisheries Act, as applicable at any time. To ensure compliance, the Proponent shall implement, at a minimum, the following mitigation measures: sort waste rock into potentially acid generating and non-potentially acid generating rock stockpiles through the development and implementation of a detailed mine rock segregation program using criteria for determining potentially acid generating material set by Ontario.*



Timing: Construction and Operations.

Status: Ongoing

A Geochemical Monitoring Plan for the Construction and Operation Phases was issued in accordance with MECP ECA 7004-BC7KQ5 requirements and has been implemented at the RRM site. Monitoring was ongoing during 2020. Appendix A.

### **Condition 3.3.3**

*The Proponent shall control acid rock drainage and metal leaching so that all effluent and passive outflow from the Project Site comply with the MMER, any site-specific water quality requirements set by Ontario, and the Fisheries Act, as applicable at any time. To ensure compliance, the Proponent shall implement, at a minimum, the following mitigation measures: design and construct the perimeter ditching around the east mine rock stockpile and low-grade ore stockpile to accommodate a 100-year flood event.*

Timing: Construction and Operations.

Status: Ongoing

Construction of a perimeter ditching that will accommodate a 100 year flood event for the East Mine Rock Stockpile (EMRS) has been completed. A 25 year return flood perimeter ditch for the West Mine Rock Stockpile, were completed in 2017 and 2018 and construction completed in 2019.

### **Condition 3.3.4**

*The Proponent shall control acid rock drainage and metal leaching so that all effluent and passive outflow from the Project Site comply with the MMER, any site-specific water quality requirements set by Ontario, and the Fisheries Act, as applicable at any time. To ensure compliance, the Proponent shall implement, at a minimum, the following mitigation measures: use potentially acid generating material only for the purpose of constructing the tailing management dam, where saturated conditions can be maintained. Potentially acid generating material must not be used for any other construction purpose.*

Timing: Construction and Operations.

Status: Ongoing

All the PAG that has been encountered during 2020 has either been stockpiled in the East Mine Rock Stockpile, used in the pit (for road building and padding in the overburden) or stockpiled in the Tailings Management Area and used for dam wall construction.

**Condition 3.3.5**

*The Proponent shall control acid rock drainage and metal leaching so that all effluent and passive outflow from the Project Site comply with the MMER, any site-specific water quality requirements set by Ontario, and the Fisheries Act, as applicable at any time. To ensure compliance, the Proponent shall implement, at a minimum, the following mitigation measures: place an engineered cover over the east mine rock stockpile and any remaining ore stockpiles at or before the decommissioning phase. The cover should be designed to prevent infiltration of water and to limit infiltration of air during the decommissioning and abandonment phases.*

Timing: Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

Approximately 3 ha of East Mine Rock Stockpile's lower bench began progressive reclamation during Q3 and Q4 2020. This reclamation included the construction of a 0.5 m lower permeability layer on the bottom and a 1 m growth medium, frost protection, moisture retention layer on the top. During this reclamation, a constructability plan was created followed by an extensive QA/QC program to ensure compliance with the proposed engineered cover system. Revegetation efforts on this area is planned for Q2 2021. See 20201231 EMRS Cover Record of Construction Rev0 in Appendix B for more information. Additionally, in 2017, a stockpile containing potentially acid generating rock was covered with the engineered cover per design in the RRM Closure Plan and had instrumentation installed for monitoring purposes. Further testing and monitoring was conducted in 2020 to assess third year of cover trial. See 20201201 PAG Cover Trial Annual Monitoring Report Rev0 in Appendix C for more information.

**Condition 3.3.6**

*The Proponent shall control acid rock drainage and metal leaching so that all effluent and passive outflow from the Project Site comply with the MMER, any site-specific water quality requirements set by Ontario, and the Fisheries Act, as applicable at any time. To ensure compliance, the Proponent shall implement, at a minimum, the following mitigation measures: cover the tailings with water and maintain*

*the tailings in a perpetually saturated state during the decommissioning and abandonment phases.*

Timing: Closure.

Status: Not applicable in 2020.

At the time of mine closure New Gold intends on maintaining the tailings in a perpetually saturated state during the decommissioning and abandonment phases. Further information regarding mine reclamation and decommissioning can be found in the Updated Rainy River Mine Closure Plan (September 2020). This condition currently doesn't apply to the operational state of the mine.

**Condition 3.3.7**

*The Proponent shall control acid rock drainage and metal leaching so that all effluent and passive outflow from the Project Site comply with the MMER, any site-specific water quality requirements set by Ontario, and the Fisheries Act, as applicable at any time. To ensure compliance, the Proponent shall implement, at a minimum, the following mitigation measures: fill the open pit, in accordance with condition 3.1.3 and 3.1.4, as rapidly as practicable during the decommissioning and abandonment phases, using all available means, including directing drainage from the east mine rock stockpile into the pit.*

Timing: Closure

Status: Not applicable in 2020.

During the decommissioning and abandonment phases, the open pit will fill and be managed according to the requirements specified in section 9.3.1 of the Rainy River Mine Closure Plan (December 2019). During the first 10 years of flooding, waters from the Mine Rock Pond will be directed into the open pit. Following this initial flooding period, seepage from the east mine rock stockpile area will be directed into the open pit. With the additional input of natural water sources (rain, ground water seeps) it is estimated that it will take 75 years to flood the open pit.

**Condition 3.3.8**

*The Proponent shall control acid rock drainage and metal leaching so that all effluent and passive outflow from the Project Site comply with the MMER, any site-specific water quality requirements set by Ontario, and the Fisheries Act, as applicable at any time. To ensure compliance, the Proponent shall*

*implement, at a minimum, the following mitigation measures: control water quality in the open pit lake during the abandonment phase.*

Timing: Closure

Status: Not applicable in 2020.

This condition is not relevant to the construction and operations phases. It will be implemented during the "closing out" stage of the Rainy River Mine as stipulated in the Rainy River Project Closure Plan (December 2019), Section 10.2.

**Condition 3.4 – Completed Fall of 2015**

*The Proponent shall design and construct new road watercourse crossings for the realignment of Highway 600 to allow for fish passage in accordance with the Environmental Guide for Fish and Fish Habitat.*

Timing: Construction

Status: Complete

**Condition 3.5- Completed Fall 2017.**

*The Proponent shall design and construct new road watercourse crossings for the realignment of Highway 600 to meet the Highway Drainage Design Standards of the MTO.*

Timing: Construction

Status: Complete

During the design phase of the Highway 600 realignment routine meetings were held between New Gold Inc. (formally Rainy River Resources) and the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario (MTO). The road and its associated crossings have been designed and constructed to meet MTO standards and was completed under the MTO Construction Administration and Inspection Task Manual (CAITM) protocol. Highway 600 was turned over to the MTO in 2017.

**Condition 3.6**

*The Proponent shall design, and construct water intakes meeting standards set out in the Freshwater*

*Intake End-of-Pipe Fish Screen Guideline of the DFO.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

In 2016 the Pinewood River Pumphouse and Intake was completed and operated in 2017. This facility provided water to the Water Management Pond to utilize in mill processing in the event that there is not enough fresh water in the sites recycling process.

The pump intake enters the Pinewood River and is isolated by a chain link fence that is installed below the high-water mark of the Pinewood River. In order to meet DFO guidelines and continue to allow successful suction of water, a fish screen was installed over the chain link fence running from the base of the Pinewood River to the above high-water mark. During construction of flow measurement systems in 2020, all pump intakes used in fish-bearing waters were equipped with fish screens that met DFO guidelines.

**Condition 3.7**

*The Proponent shall both offset any residual serious harm to fish in accordance with subsection 35(2) of the Fisheries Act and associated regulations, and compensate for the loss of fish habitat resulting from the deposition of a deleterious substance into a tailings impoundment area in accordance with the MMER, by recreating fish habitat in the West Creek Diversion Channel, West Creek Pond, Stockpile Pond Diversion Channel, Stockpile Pond, Clark Creek Diversion Channel, Clark Creek Pond, and Teeple Road Pond.*

Timing: Construction.

Status: Ongoing

Fish habitat compensation was designed by qualified experts and was reviewed by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) during the permit approval phase.

In 2016, Teeple Pond and Diversion channel construction concluded and the system was commissioned that fall. In 2017 the design team conducted a review of the system and produced an Annual Monitoring Report for the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to meet the requirements of Fisheries Act Authorization No. 15-HCAA-00039. The review concluded substantial conformance

between the as built specifications and the design criteria and that the area or replacement habitat was greater than the required 8.41ha.

Construction of the remaining offsetting habitat (West Creek Pond and Diversion Channel, Stockpile Pond and Diversion Channel, and Clark Creek Pond and Diversion Channel) was completed in July 2017. As part of fulfilling the as-constructed survey condition of the approval, an interim As-Constructed compensation measures review was conducted during 2017 and a report submitted to DFO.

On July 31, 2020, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada issued a Notice of Non-Compliance to New Gold Inc. of not compensating for the loss of fish habitat by failing to achieve the success criteria of recreating functional fish habitat by water loss in Stockpile Pond. New Gold is currently investigating the source of the water loss within the pond through 2021 with plans to repair in 2022.

### **Condition 3.8.1**

*The Proponent shall monitor water quality and quantity, and fish and fish habitat, to determine the effectiveness of the mitigation measures under conditions 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.7. In doing so, the Proponent shall monitor, at a minimum: water levels and flows, with respect to minimum flow thresholds for the Pinewood River set by Ontario, during periods of water taking as authorized pursuant to the Ontario Water Resources Act.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

During 2015, a flow monitoring station was installed in the Pinewood River to track water level elevations and flow rates for the Pinewood River System. A flow monitoring station belonging to the Water Survey of Canada (WSC) is also located downstream of the project on the Pinewood River. In April 2017, the Water Management Pond (WMP) was commissioned and direct water takings from the Pinewood River began to build the initial water inventory for operations start up. The water takings were in accordance with Permit to Take Water (PTTW) 8776-9W2QN2, which has since expired on November 20, 2018. Under PTTW 8776-9W2QN2, New Gold was required to develop and submit a Biological Monitoring Plan that addresses methods for monitoring and identifying fish kills and fish stranding, and a contingency plan to address adverse effects. This monitoring plan was submitted in early 2016, and commenced upon MECP approval. The monitoring continued in 2020.

RRM has 3 PTTWs for the Mine Workings and Aggregate Dewatering. All water takings are monitoring

using calibrated flow meters and data obtained from these takings is submitted annually via the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) online reporting protocol.

### **Condition 3.8.2**

*The Proponent shall monitor water quality and quantity, and fish and fish habitat, to determine the effectiveness of the mitigation measures under conditions 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.7. In doing so, the Proponent shall monitor, at a minimum: effluent quality as per the requirements set out in the MMER.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

During 2020, effluent discharges to the environment as defined by the Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulation (MDMER) occurred from Sediment Ponds #1, Sediment Pond #2, via the Water Discharge Pipeline (EDL1) and EDL2. All discharged effluent was compliant with applicable provincial and federal regulations, with the exception of a provincial monthly average concentration exceedance of total copper at EDL1 for October 2020.

In 2020, four of four final discharge points were active. Discharge from Sediment Pond #1 only occurred on July 16, 2020 as a result of an incident (leaking valve). Discharge from Sediment Pond #2 occurred between June 21 and July 19, and September 28 and November 27, discharging a total of 87 days. Discharge via the Water Discharge Pipeline (EDL1) occurred between April 29 and May 31, September 6 and 7 and October 13 and November 14, discharging a total of 67 days. Discharge via EDL2 occurred between October 15 and November 14, discharging a total of 29 days.

### **Condition 3.8.3**

*The Proponent shall monitor water quality and quantity, and fish and fish habitat, to determine the effectiveness of the mitigation measures under conditions 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.7. In doing so, the Proponent shall monitor, at a minimum: the effectiveness of recreated fish habitat. The monitoring shall be designed in accordance with any authorizations pursuant to subsection 35(2) of the Fisheries Act and associated regulations and/or the MMER.*

Timing: Construction and Operations.

Status: Ongoing

Fish habitat compensation was designed by qualified experts and was reviewed by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) during the permit approval phase.

By the end of 2017, all fish habitat had been recreated. The As-Constructed Report for Teeple Pond and Diversion Channel was completed and submitted to the DFO at the end of 2016. The fourth year of monitoring had been completed in 2020. A monitoring report was submitted to the DFO at the end of 2020. This monitoring will occur for the next year with a report submitted annually.

The As-Constructed Report for West Creek Pond, Stockpile Pond, Clark Creek Pond and associated diversions was submitted to the DFO at the end of 2017. In 2020, the third year of monitoring had been completed and the monitoring report submitted to the DFO. This monitoring will occur for the next 2 years with a report submitted annually.

On July 31, 2020, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada issued a Notice of Non-Compliance to New Gold Inc. of not compensating for the loss of fish habitat by failing to achieve the success criteria of recreating functional fish habitat by water loss in Stockpile Pond. New Gold is currently investigating the source of the water loss within the pond through 2021 with plans to repair in 2022. See 2020 Offset and Compensation Plan Monitoring Report in Appendix D for more information.

#### **Condition 3.8.4**

*The Proponent shall monitor water quality and quantity, and fish and fish habitat, to determine the effectiveness of the mitigation measures under conditions 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.7. In doing so, the Proponent shall monitor, at a minimum: the effectiveness of the potentially acid generating and non-potentially acid generating rock segregation program through ongoing geochemical verification of the waste rock during any period that waste rock is generated.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

Potential acid generating and non-potentially acid generating rock is sampled and segregated per the Geochemical Monitoring Plan. See RRP Geochemical Monitoring Plan Ver 3 in Appendix A for more information.

#### **Condition 3.8.5**



*The Proponent shall monitor water quality and quantity, and fish and fish habitat, to determine the effectiveness of the mitigation measures under conditions 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.7. In doing so, the Proponent shall monitor, at a minimum: water quality in the open pit, pursuant to any requirements set by Ontario in the Mine Closure Plan for the Designated Project.*

Timing: Closure.

Status: Not applicable in 2020.

This condition is currently not relevant as the mine is in its operational phase.

### **Condition 3.8.6**

*The Proponent shall monitor water quality and quantity, and fish and fish habitat, to determine the effectiveness of the mitigation measures under conditions 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.7. In doing so, the Proponent shall monitor, at a minimum: the maintenance of a perpetually saturated state of the tailings, for 25 years from the start of the decommissioning phase of the Designated Project.*

Timing: 25 years after operations.

Status: Not applicable in 2020.

This condition currently doesn't apply to the project as the mine was in a construction and operational phase in 2020. However, the Closure Plan for the project outlines the process in which tailings will be rehabilitated in a saturated state.

## **Condition 4: Migratory Birds**

### **Condition 4.1.1**

*The Proponent shall carry out all phases of the Designated Project in a manner that avoids harming or killing migratory birds, or disturbing, destroying or the taking of nests or eggs, with consideration of guidance provided in: Environment Canada's policy on Incidental Take of Migratory Birds in Canada.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

In order to educate New Gold Employees and site contractors, the Rainy River Mine Environmental Team has implemented site wide notices regarding the breeding bird window and the requirements for bird sweeps in new construction areas or areas that have been inactive for periods of time. A bird sweep is a method of walking an area in a grid system to ensure that no birds are nesting on the ground or nesting in tall grass areas. The Environment department is also the primary contact for any incidents or mortalities to birds, nests or eggs on site.

In 2020 one migratory bird was found dead at RRM, a Hooded Merganser was found dead on the main access road to the Admin building, suspected cause of death was road mortality. The incident was reported the MNRF and EC. In 2021, the monitoring programs will continue and the Environmental team will provide education to staff and site contractors.

#### **Condition 4.1.2**

*The Proponent shall carry out all phases of the Designated Project in a manner that avoids harming or killing migratory birds, or disturbing, destroying or the taking of nests or eggs, with consideration of guidance provided in: Environment Canada's avoidance guidelines on General Nesting Periods of Migratory Birds in Canada.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

Starting in 2015 members of the Rainy River Mine Environmental Team have been trained by qualified professionals on conducting bird sweeps and identifying bird species classified as Species at Risk (SAR). During 2020, 26 bird sweeps were conducted between April and August in construction areas to ensure the absence of nesting birds or species at risk prior to disturbance. In areas where nests were found, appropriate buffers were flagged off around the perimeter of the buffer zone and the nests were monitored on a weekly basis until the nests were abandoned. Buffer zones were established based on input from consulting expertise in conjunction with discussions with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. Furthermore the clearing of vegetation was prohibited during the breeding bird window. This program will continue in 2021.

#### **Condition 4.2**

*The Proponent shall, at all times, implement noise reduction measures to control sound levels from machinery to avoid harassing migratory birds.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

Noise reduction measures include: All excessively noisy equipment is housed within the insulated mill building, this includes the SAG and Ball Mills, the Grinding pump, the compressors and the pebble crusher. This is the primary noise reduction measure. The majority of the time the overhead and personnel doors are kept closed on the mill further reducing noise emissions. The crushed ore stockpile is kept as high as practically possible to reduce the velocity of impact, thereby reducing noise emissions. The light vehicles and heavy mobile equipment are all equipped with mufflers to reduce engine exhaust noise.

Additional Noise reduction measures were taken in 2020: Installing a large berm around the mobile crusher to reduce noise.

#### **Condition 4.3**

*The Proponent shall install and use site lighting fixtures in a manner that reduces light pollution in the surrounding environment to avoid disturbance to nocturnal species, such as the Common Nighthawk (Chordeiles minor).*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

New Gold is continuing to work towards installing more permanent lighting fixtures around the mine to reduce the need for temporary light plants. Some temporary light plants are solar powered. They are used only in areas where employees are working a night shift or if required for safety purposes. Light plants are designed so that lights can be angled toward the ground. During routine field inspections members of the Rainy River Environmental Department check all lighting fixtures to ensure they are angled appropriately and used only when necessary. Monitoring and consideration to this condition will continue to be implemented as the operation advances. .

#### **Condition 4.4**

*The Proponent shall deter migratory birds from using the tailings management area.*

Timing: As applicable.

Status: Ongoing

During the open water season of 2020 the TMA was inspected at least twice daily by mill operators for birds as well as other potential issues. The current protocol is that Mill Operators are to contact the New Gold Environmental Department if birds are identified anywhere on the active TMA. Additional inspections are frequently conducted by the Environmental Department. To date when birds have been found on the TMA, best efforts to haze them away have been made using certified bird hazing techniques (flares, noise making devices). The Environmental Department is reviewing the current process to see if adjustments are necessary for 2021. An ecological risk assessment may be undertaken to determine what hazards are associated within the TMA for birds.

#### **Condition 4.5**

*The Proponent shall provide comparable replacement artificial nesting structures for Barn Swallows (*Hirundo rustica*) prior to the removal of existing nesting structures.*

Timing: Construction and Operations

Status: Ongoing

At the commencement of construction in 2015 four artificial nesting structures were put in place April 2015, prior to the 2015 breeding season. New Gold has been monitoring the success of these nesting structures each year since 2015 which has been limited at best. As the operation advances additional homes and outbuildings will need to be torn down. At that time, the need to develop additional artificial nesting structures will be investigated. If there is found to be an increase in use of artificial nesting structures and competition for nesting habitat is observed, more nesting structures will be built.

#### **Condition 4.6**

*The Proponent shall monitor migratory birds, breeding activity and mortality, to evaluate the effectiveness of mitigation measures under conditions 4.1 to 4.3. If monitoring demonstrates an inconsistency with those conditions, then document how this has been rectified. Monitoring starts at construction and ceases at the end of the decommissioning phase.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

During 2020 the requirement for monitoring activities were restricted to ongoing visual inspections of four artificial barn swallow nesting structures, as per permit. The structures were installed in April 2015. Nesting did not occur within any structure in 2020. Species at Risk monitoring, specifically Eastern-Whip-Poor-Will near site and Bat surveys, occurred as was reporting during daily operations. Annual monitoring of active Bald Eagle nests occurred in close proximity the RRP site. The nest of Jones Road was not used in 2020 but remained in good repair, the nest south of site was used and one juvenile was observed.

Implementation of a wildlife log of general breeding bird observations at the RRM site by employees (focused on raptors and raptor nests, and SAR species); and in regard to mitigation strategies that are being implemented on the project to assist in monitoring and reduce adverse effects these include:

- Reduction of speed limits on the mine site to reduce vehicle collisions with birds
- Restricting habitat displacement for mine infrastructure to periods outside the breeding bird season (May 1 to August 15).

In order to track mortality New Gold RRM has an onsite reporting system for employees to report any road collisions with birds and wildlife. In 2020 one migratory bird was found dead at RRM, a Hooded Merganser was found dead on the main access road to the Admin building, suspected cause of death was road mortality. The incident was reported the MNRF and EC. In 2020 the monitoring programs will continue and the Environmental team will provide education to staff and site contractors.

#### **Condition 4.7**

*The Proponent shall monitor use of the tailings management area by migratory birds under condition 4.4 from the start of the operations phase to the end of the decommissioning phase.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

During the open water season of 2020, the TMA was inspected daily by mill operators for birds as well as other potential issues. The current protocol is that Mill Operators are to contact the New Gold Environmental Department if birds are identified anywhere on the active TMA. Additional inspections are conducted by the Environmental Department frequently. To date, when birds have been found on

the TMA, best efforts to haze them away have been made using certified bird hazing techniques (flares, noise making devices). The Environmental Department is reviewing the current process to see if adjustments are necessary for 2021. An ecological risk assessment may be undertaken to determine what hazards are associated within the TMA for birds.

**Condition 4.8**

*The Proponent shall monitor the effectiveness of the artificial nesting structures created for Barn Swallows (*Hirundo rustica*).*

Timing: Construction and Operations

Status: Ongoing

The RRM began monitoring barn swallows within the project prior to the construction phase (pre 2015) and implemented four artificial nesting structures in 2015, prior to the breeding season to offset the removal of existing farm structures. Monitoring of the success of the nesting structures has been completed over the past four years. 2016 was the first year that nesting attempts occurred in any of the structures, all structures went unused in 2017 and 2018. During 2019 two nesting attempts were made and one nest had two eggs laid in it. The eggs were later found to be missing and assumed to have been eaten by a predator. In 2020 no nesting attempts were made in any of the structures.

**5.0 Health of Aboriginal Peoples**

**Condition 5.1.1**

*The Proponent shall, during the construction, operations, and decommissioning phases of the Designated Project, control exceedances of the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards and meet air quality requirements established by Ontario at the nearest human receptor by: implementing fugitive dust best management practices.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

During 2020, fugitive dust management practices followed the Fugitive Dust Best Management Practices Plan approved by the MECP in 2016. There were several applications of chemical to all roads

maintained by RRM during 2020. Water was also used to suppress dust on roads when necessary. All watering activities are tracked and reported. The water trucks are equipped with spray bars for road dust suppression, spray bars on mobile aggregate crushers, dust control curtains on production drills and dust cyclones on development drills. The primary crusher and conveyor system utilizes baghouses and a chemical spray system to control dust. In the mill processing area dust is controlled by a system of baghouses, wet scrubbers and specialized dust control equipment. In 2020, there were 9 applications of calcium chloride on the roads maintained by RRM, as well as some heavily traveled roads, as shown in Table 3 and Fig.21 to 23.

Table 3. Calcium chloride application on roads at RRM in 2020

Date	Volume (L)	Company	Location
6/23/2020	68000	Northwest Road Management	Teeple Rd. from Highway 71 to the Atkinson Rd. camp and the camp parking lots.
6/29/2020	68000	Northwest Road Management	Marr site and Korpi Rd from Marr Site to Highway 71, Roen Rd from Korpi to main gate at security office.
7/9/2020	34000	Northwest Road Management	Hwy 600 from West Gate, Eluik Rd, Pipeline Corridor to Marr Gate. Gallinger Rd.
7/10/2020	14000	Northwest Road Management	Inside main gate, roads around Process Plant, shops, admin and up to primary crusher.
5/14/2020	73,000	Northwest Road Management	TMA area
6/29/2020	73,000	Northwest Road Management	TMA area
8/27/2020	90,000	Northwest Road Management	TMA area
5/11/2020	33,444	Northwest Road Management	Pit Area
6/6/2020	33,444	Northwest Road Management	Pit Area
7/9/2020	33,444	Northwest Road Management	Pit Area



Figure 21 TMA route for calcium chloride Application

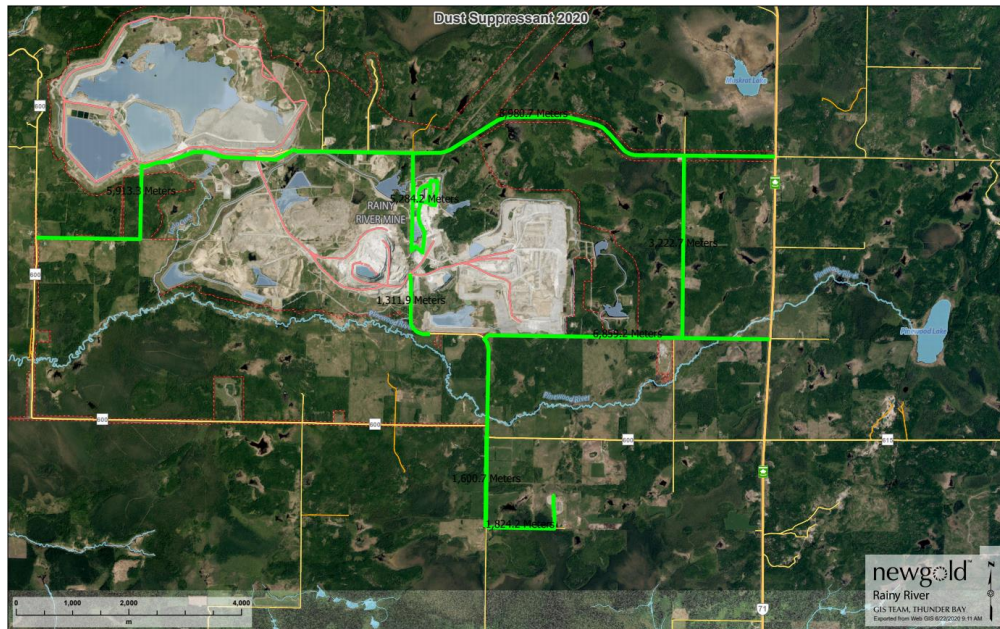


Figure 22 Roads route for calcium chloride application in 2020



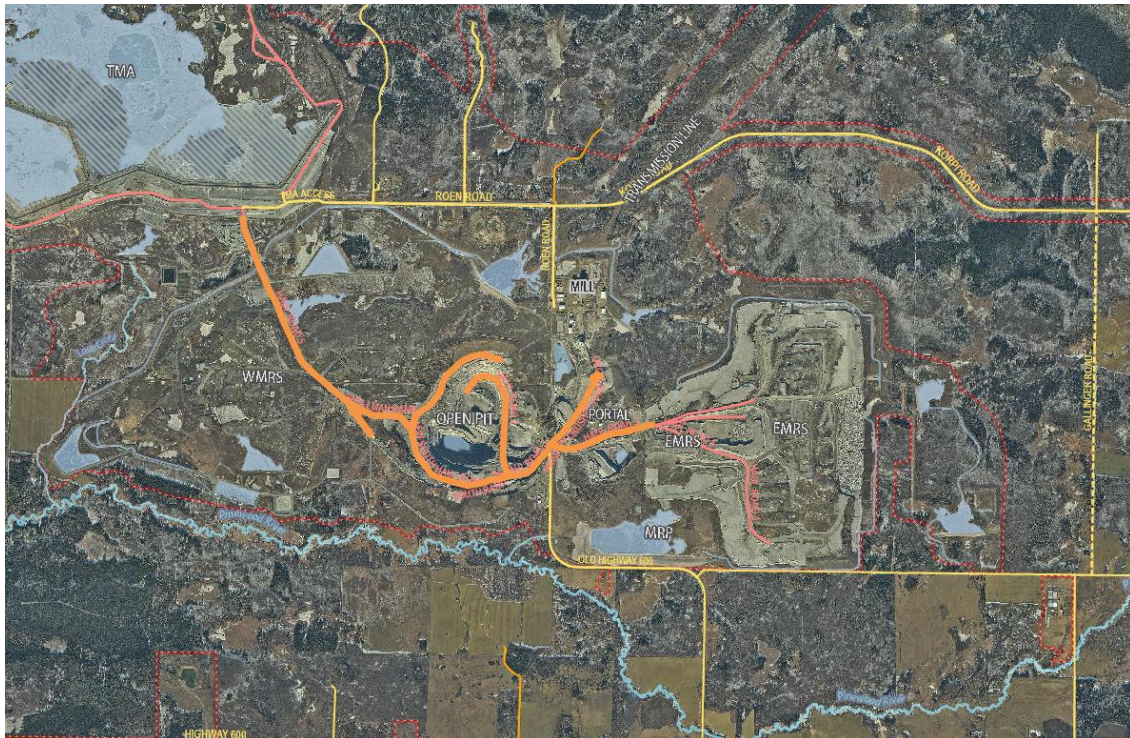


Figure 23 Pit route for calcium chloride application in 2020.

**Condition 5.1.2**

*The Proponent shall, during the construction, operations, and decommissioning phases of the Designated Project, control exceedances of the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards and meet air quality requirements established by Ontario at the nearest human receptor by: maintaining site roadways to control silt loading.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

In 2020, there were 9 applications of calcium chloride on the roads maintained by RRM, as well as some heavily traveled roads, as shown in Table 3 and Fig.21 to 23. Speeds are restricted and to 60 km on all site access roads and 50 km to 20 km on internal site roads. Commercial traffic entered the site along East Access or Teeple Road. RRM Site Services regular grade and place crush material on all site roads. Off-road activities are restricted on the RRM site. Construction of rock access roads is a common practice where heavy equipment is required.

### **Condition 5.1.3**

*The Proponent shall, during the construction, operations, and decommissioning phases of the Designated Project, control exceedances of the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards and meet air quality requirements established by Ontario at the nearest human receptor by: using water sprays at the crusher and at active stockpiles.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

During 2018, water spray bars were installed during April to October at the active construction quarries. The primary crusher is equipped with a baghouse system to manage dust generated during the crushing process. At the end of 2017, a secondary water and chemical dust suppression system incorporating spray bars was installed at the primary crusher.

During 2019, a secondary water and chemical dust suppression system incorporating calcium chloride was also installed at the primary crusher. No additions were made during 2020.

### **Condition 5.1.4**

*The Proponent shall, during the construction, operations, and decommissioning phases of the Designated Project, control exceedances of the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards and meet air quality requirements established by Ontario at the nearest human receptor by: using dust control equipment.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

During the early operations phase, the same dust control equipment utilized in 2017 continued into 2020. This included water trucks equipped with spray bars for road dust suppression, spray bars on mobile aggregate crushers, dust control curtains on production drills and dust cyclones on development drills. The primary crusher and conveyor system utilizes baghouses and a chemical spray system to control dust. In the mill processing area dust is controlled by a system of baghouses, wet scrubbers and specialized dust control equipment.

### **Condition 5.1.5**

*The Proponent shall, during the construction, operations, and decommissioning phases of the Designated Project, control exceedances of the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards and meet air quality requirements established by Ontario at the nearest human receptor by: using low-Sulphur diesel equipment and using pollution control equipment on mobile heavy equipment and meeting the Canadian Environmental Protection Act for the emissions from this equipment and vehicles.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

Equipment purchased during 2020 followed the same purchasing standards as set out in 2017. All preventative maintenance programs include a surveillance program to test for emissions from mobile equipment. Pollution control equipment is installed on mobile heavy equipment that meets the Canadian Environmental Protection Act for the emissions from equipment and vehicles. Two air quality monitoring stations are also installed on site and routinely monitored to ensure there are no air quality exceedances. A third station was installed north east, near the tailings.

#### **Condition 5.1.6**

*The Proponent shall, during the construction, operations, and decommissioning phases of the Designated Project, control exceedances of the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards and meet air quality requirements established by Ontario at the nearest human receptor by: revegetating disturbed areas in a manner that minimizes all exposed dust sources.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

Revegetating disturbed areas to minimize exposed dust sources was performed around the mine site and Tait Quarry during construction and operations. Areas revegetated in 2020 were Loslo and Marr diversion ditches, Water Discharge Pond Spillway, and the Vegetation Trial slopes. Additional areas are planned to get revegetated in 2021 including sections of East Mine Rock Stockpile, the Northern and Eastern overburden slopes of the open pit expansion, and the Batch Plant laydown. Tree clearing and vegetation disturbance is limited to the extent required. Where possible, forest and vegetation buffers are maintained on site.

## **Condition 5.2**

*The Proponent shall monitor air quality to evaluate the effectiveness of mitigation measures under condition 5.1. Monitoring starts with construction and ceases at the commencement of the decommissioning phase.*

Timing: Construction and Operations

Status: Ongoing

Ambient air quality monitoring program continued in 2020 with monitoring of relevant air emissions parameters stipulated in the Rainy River Project Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Plan in compliance of ECA 0412-A2LR4V condition 10.1. Quarterly reports can be found under Appendix E. Air Quality Monitoring Reports for each quarter of 2020 can be found in the supporting documentation. During the last quarter of 2020 one more station was installed, north of the TMA to sample for TSP, and PM<sub>2.5</sub>. An additional five sites were installed to conduct total dustfall sampling.

## **Condition 5.2.1**

*The Proponent shall alert the Aboriginal groups in cases of exceedances of the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards and air quality requirements established by Ontario at the nearest human receptor.*

Timing: Construction and Operations

Status: Ongoing

Any ambient air quality exceedances discussed here are based on provincial health-based criteria. Aboriginal communities receive a weekly email detailing any spill, exceedance or complaint that occurred onsite and are an agenda item at Environmental Monitoring Board (EMB) Meetings. Additional information is provided upon request. Three ambient air quality exceedances occurred during 2020. Copies of these weekly reports can be located under supporting document (Appendix F).

## **Condition 5.3**

*The Proponent shall monitor wells located within the open pit dewatering zone of influence, used by Aboriginal groups for drinking water, for water quality and quantity. Monitoring starts with construction*

*and ceases after the first 10 years of the decommissioning phase.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

Through the consultation phase and up to the end of 2020, New Gold has not been informed of the locations of any wells utilized by Aboriginal groups within the proximity of the open pit dewatering zone of influence.

In 2017, New Gold implemented an Offsite groundwater sampling program for neighbouring property owners surrounding RRM. To date there have been no issues reported to New Gold regarding wells from any of the neighboring property owners (Appendix R).

**Condition 5.3.1**

*The Proponent shall alert Aboriginal groups who use wells located within the open pit dewatering zone of influence for drinking water in cases of exceedance of water quality standards established by Ontario. The Proponent shall alert these Aboriginal groups as soon as possible once any exceedance is detected.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

To date New Gold has not been informed of any wells used by Aboriginal groups within the Open Pit zone of influence.

**Condition 5.4**

*The Proponent shall monitor key contaminants, including mercury, arsenic, cadmium and lead, for their concentrations in Northern Pike (*Esox lucius*) and Walleye (*Sander vitreus*) in the Pinewood River. Monitoring starts with construction and ceases 10 years after the start of the decommissioning phase.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

Large body fish tissue sampling occurred in 2020 as it is meant to occur concurrent with MDMER and

EEM sampling programs. 34 Northern Pike and 16 Walleye were caught, 15 of each species were sampled for contaminants of concern in muscle, liver and ovary (if applicable) tissues.

**Condition 5.4.1**

*The Proponent shall alert the Aboriginal groups in cases of exceedance of provincial, federal or international health-based criteria. The Proponent shall alert these Aboriginal groups as soon as possible once any exceedance is detected.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

New Gold RRM continues to communicate with aboriginal communities regarding provincial health-based criteria. Aboriginal Communities continue to receive a weekly email detailing any spill, exceedance or complaint that occurred during the previous week. Additional information is provided on request. Copies of these weekly reports can be located under supporting document (Appendix F).

**Condition 5.5**

*The proponent shall consult with the Aboriginal groups on the implementation of conditions 5.2, 5.3 and 5.4.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

During the Environmental Assessment permitting phase of the New Gold Rainy River Mine, Aboriginal Communities were consulted regarding the project and potential impacts related to conditions 5.2 to (air, fish, water quality). Since the approval of the EA, New Gold has continued Aboriginal Community involvement by;

- Establishing Environmental Monitoring Boards in 2016. The purpose of these meetings is to ensure community members are engaged in environmental aspects of the project. Some topics that are discussed include;
  - environmental monitoring results (i.e.; air quality, wildlife monitoring, deer tissue sampling programs, fish tissue sampling programs), exceedances or environmental

spills, project design (tailings management, reclamation).

- Conducting on-site tours and discussing fish salvage programs, water quality sampling protocols and sampling results and other environmental monitoring requirements.
- Providing email notifications to Aboriginal Communities regarding environmental exceedances (air, water and environmental spills).
- Inviting First Nation members to participate in fish tissue sampling programs and fish salvage programs.

**Condition 6 Current use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes:**

**Condition 6.1**

*The Proponent shall provide access to private lands to Aboriginal groups for their current use of land, including hunting and plant harvesting.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

New Gold provides access to private lands where it is safe to do so. On a regular basis, New Gold also provides site tours of the mine site to community members.

**Condition 6.2**

*Current use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes: The Proponent shall avoid use of herbicides along the transmission line corridor unless required to prevent fire hazards. The Proponent shall minimize the removal of non-woody vegetation within the transmission line corridor.*

Timing: Construction and Operations.

Status: Ongoing

Over the life of the mine, the line will be inspected and if necessary, vegetation that would impact the line may need to be managed. The use of herbicide for vegetation management is not intended. During 2020, mechanical vegetation management occurred along the line.

**Condition 6.3.**

*The Proponent shall, throughout all phases of the Designated Project, undertake progressive habitat restoration as per any requirements set by Ontario in the Mine Closure Plan for the Designated Project. Habitat restoration shall include: a consideration of habitat types that support a diversity of wildlife species and traditional uses by Aboriginal peoples, including ungulates and furbearers, as well as native plant species previously collected at the Project Site for food and medicinal purposes.*

Timing: Construction and Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

During 2020, native seeds and plant species were used in areas where re-vegetation occurred. Planting of the Vegetation Trial was completed Q4 2020. Determination of plants used on the Vegetation Trial was decided through community information sessions, regulatory requirements, and site requirements. These plots will be used to test different plant and tree species with an array of surface treatments. Traditional Knowledge sessions began in 2018 with Elders and members of First Nation communities to determine the different traditional plant species that could be used for ongoing reclamation and closure at RRM site..

### **Condition 6.3.1**

*A consideration of habitat types that support a diversity of wildlife species and traditional uses by Aboriginal peoples, including ungulates and furbearers, as well as native plant species previously collected at the Project Site for food and medicinal purposes;*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

During 2020, native seeds and plant species were used in areas where re-vegetation occurred. Final planting finished on the Vegetation Plots in fall 2020. Determination of plants used on the vegetation plot was decided through community information sessions, regulatory requirements, and site requirements. These plots will be used to test different plant and tree species with an array of surface treatments. Traditional Knowledge sessions began in 2018 with Elders and members of First Nation communities to determine the different traditional plant species that could be used for ongoing reclamation and at closure at RRM site. See 20210125 2020 Vegetation Trial Summary Rev 1 in Appendix G for more information.



**Condition 6.3.2**

*The Proponent shall, throughout all phases of the Designated Project, undertake progressive habitat restoration as per any requirements set by Ontario in the Mine Closure Plan for the Designated Project. Habitat restoration shall include: separating and stockpiling removed organic rich material during construction (of open pit and during tailings dam stripping) for use to support revegetation and other reclamation activities.*

Timing: Construction and Operations.

Status: Ongoing

During construction activities, organic rich material was separated and stockpiled in designated areas for use in revegetation and other reclamation activities. In 2020, organic rich material was salvaged during development of areas within the East Mine Rock Stockpile, West Mine Rock Stockpile and TMA.

**Condition 6.4**

*The Proponent shall monitor habitat restoration to verify the success of revegetation efforts. Monitoring starts with construction and ends once habitat has been restored and proven effective.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

In the early stages of the Rainy River Mine the largest construction undertaking that has seen the most reclamation is the creation of three man made diversions to re-route former water systems known as the West Creek, Clark Creek and Teeple Drain. Construction of these diversion structures referred to as the West Creek, Clark Creek and Teeple Diversions commenced in 2015 with commissioning beginning in late 2016 and mid 2017. As part of the Fisheries and Oceans Canada approval process for these structures, New Gold is required to complete an annual monitoring report of the fisheries, fish habitat and compensation of these structures. See 2020 Offset and Compensation Plan Monitoring Report in Appendix D for more information.

Planting of the Vegetation Trial was completed in 2020 and underwent monitoring of vegetation establishment success. This information and additional annual monitoring will help inform further reclamation effort. See 20210125 2020 Vegetation Trial Summary Rev 1 in Appendix G for more

information. Progressive reclamation started on the EMRS in 2020 with revegetation efforts planned for Q2 2021. Monitoring will follow similar practices established from the vegetation trials.

**Condition 6.5**

*The Proponent shall restore access to the Project Site for the Aboriginal groups during the decommissioning phase, to the extent that such access is safe, for their traditional purposes.*

Timing: Closure

Status: This condition is not applicable in 2020.

This condition is not relevant to the current early operations phase of the project.

**Condition 6.6**

*The proponent shall consult with the Aboriginal groups on the implementation of conditions 6.1, 6.4 and 6.5.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status Update: Ongoing

Through negotiated agreements and in the Rainy River Project Indigenous Consultation Plan, New Gold has engaged Indigenous groups on accessing New Gold property. Updates on habitat restoration and the success of revegetation efforts are provided during site tours and at Environmental Monitoring Board meetings.

**7.0 Aboriginal Archaeological, Heritage and Cultural Resources**

**Condition 7.1.1**

*The Proponent shall, for all phases of the Designated Project: avoid known culturally significant sites.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status Update: Ongoing

Culturally significant sites were avoided in 2020.

**Condition 7.1.2**

*The Proponent shall, for all phases of the Designated Project: assess additional culturally significant sites, if discovered.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status Update: Ongoing

No culturally significant sites were identified in 2020.

**Condition 7.1.3**

*The Proponent shall, for all phases of the Designated Project: establish a procedure for Aboriginal groups to safely access the Project Site for cultural and ceremonial purposes.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status Update: Ongoing

A formal procedure was identified in Section 4.0 of the Aboriginal Consultation Plan (Provincial Environmental Assessment, Notice of Approval Condition 9) and issued to MOECC on February 9, 2015. In 2018, revisions were made to the document name, contact information and updates made in response to MECP comments. The current version of the Indigenous Consultation Plan was issued to MECP on July 30, 2018.

**Condition 7.1.4**

*The Proponent shall, for all phases of the Designated Project: preserve any discovered burial sites.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status Update: Ongoing

No burial sites were discovered in 2020.

**Condition 7.1.5**

*The Proponent shall, for all phases of the Designated Project: salvage and preserve any artifacts that*

*cannot be maintained in-situ.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status Update: Ongoing

Northwest Archaeological Assessments under the guidance of qualified archaeologist Andrew Hinshelwood, completed analysis and cataloguing of artifacts discovered during the 2018 Stage 4 excavation on the southwestern edge of the mine site. During 2019, preliminary reports for both excavation sites plus the final report for the smaller excavation site, were submitted to the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS) - Archaeological Programs Unit, for review and acceptance into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports. The final report for the larger excavation site has been completed and submitted to the MTCS in 2020. Upon acceptance of both final reports by the MTCS, arrangements will be made with Aboriginal people to transfer the artifacts to appropriate facilities.

**Condition 7.1.6**

*The Proponent shall, for all phases of the Designated Project: transfer artifacts in condition 7.1.5 to a facility identified by Aboriginal groups, in consultation with the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

Artifacts will be transferred from the archaeologist once the reports for MTCS are complete and consultation with Indigenous groups regarding the artifacts is complete. No artifacts were transferred in 2020.

**Condition 7.2**

*The proponent shall consult with the Aboriginal groups on the implementation of condition 7.1.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

No additional cultural sites were identified in 2020. Throughout the Environmental Assessment process, New Gold had engaged Aboriginal groups on previously identified cultural sites.

**Condition 8.0**

*Subsection 5(2) effects related to components of the Designated Project that may be associated with federal authorizations*

**Condition 8.1.1**

*The proponent shall, in implementing condition 3.7, take measures to avoid or lessen adverse effects: on migratory birds and their habitats.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

In order to lessen adverse effects on migratory birds and their habitats New Gold has implemented the following activities during the first year of construction (2015) and continued to carry these tasks through 2020;

- Establishment of compensation-related habitat and a monitoring and maintenance plan has been initiated (barn swallow nesting boxes and compensation lands);
- New Gold RRM is aware and has taken extra care with regards to the potential for effects on migratory birds during nesting periods. All employees receive Species at Risk training and information regarding nesting birds and the migratory bird act during site orientation. Frequent site wide information bulletins are also shared;
- 26 bird sweeps occurred in 2020 as a precautionary measure to ensure birds were not nesting in proposed areas for construction. A bird sweep is a method of walking a grid system in a proposed construction work zone to ensure that no birds are nesting in the area prior to the commencement of work. A sweep is valid for 72 hours;
- Mitigation measures used to deter birds from nesting in construction zones or landing on the Tailings Management Area include; deterrent cannons, netting over uninstalled pipes, culverts and openings.
- No tree clearing occurred during the breeding bird window (April 15th to August 15th).

- Monitoring of the success of the diversion structures and fish habitat compensation will be monitored over the next three-four years as part of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Authorization. In the event that maintenance activities are required this condition will be reviewed for appropriate mitigation strategies.

**Condition 8.1.2**

*The proponent shall, in implementing condition 3.7, take measures to avoid or lessen adverse effects: on terrestrial species, including amphibians and reptiles, and their habitats.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

The construction of DFO and MDMER compensation and offsetting habitat being the West Creek, Clark Creek, Stockpile Pond and Teeple Pond systems began in 2015 and reached completion in 2018. These structures were intended to provide habitat connectivity for fish and wildlife including SAR and other wildlife as well as to direct clean water away from mining activities. Thus, reducing or mitigating impact to all wildlife and their habitat. Another consideration was the location of these structures. Generally due to topographical reasons, ponds were constructed in low areas and diversions were kept away from high mining activity areas. These considerations help promote use by wildlife including SAR and to varying degrees work around these areas is limited or restricted when possible. Another consideration was whether the habitat being disturbed could be considered critical habitat for SAR. During the EA process the mine site was not determined to have suitable habitat for bat roosting or denning of American Badger. No amphibian SAR are known to inhabit the geographical area of the mine site. The Snapping turtle, a reptile, is known to exist within the Rainy River district. Potentially, Snapping turtles would benefit from the DFO/MDMER compensation/offset structures due to the connectivity they promote. Also, the creation and stewardship of these structures would provide suitable replacement habitat to most habitat types that may have been lost as it is designed to mimic the habitat that existed prior to the mine's construction.

**Condition 8.1.3**

*The proponent shall, in implementing condition 3.7, take measures to avoid or lessen adverse effects: On species at risk (SAR) and their habitats.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

The construction of DFO and MDMER compensation and offsetting habitat being the West Creek, Clark Creek, Stockpile Pond and Teeple Pond systems began in 2015 and reached completion in 2018. These structures were intended to provide habitat connectivity for fish and wildlife including SAR as well as to direct clean water away from mining activities. Thus, reducing or mitigating impact to SAR and their habitat. Another consideration was the location of these structures. Generally due to topographical reasons, ponds were constructed in low areas and diversions were kept away from high mining activity areas. These considerations help promote use by wildlife including SAR and to varying degrees work around these areas is limited or restricted when possible. Another consideration was whether the habitat being disturbed could be considered critical habitat for SAR. During the EA process the mine site was not determined to have suitable habitat for bat roosting or denning of American Badger. No amphibian SAR are known to inhabit the geographical area of the mine site. The Snapping turtle, a reptile, is known to exist within the Rainy River district. Potentially, Snapping turtles would benefit from the DFO/MDMER compensation/offset structures due to the connectivity they promote. Also, the pond portions of these structures would provide suitable replacement habitat to any that may have been lost.

**Condition 8.1.4**

*The proponent shall, in implementing condition 3.7, take measures to avoid or lessen adverse effects: on current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes by Aboriginal peoples.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

The construction of fish habitat compensation to offset the impact of the Tailings Management Area (TMA) started in 2015 and was completed in 2017. The man-made ponds (4) and creek diversion systems contained fish habitat features suitable to existing fish species presence (minnows) and native plant species consistent to what was naturally growing on site. The construction of these features and loss of habitat associated with the construction of the TMA was shared with communities through the Environmental Assessment Permitting Phase as part of Public and Aboriginal Consultation. All project design components related to compensation and reclamation were developed to reflect available

Traditional Knowledge, naturally occurring features and previous land use considerations.

**Condition 8.1.5**

*The proponent shall, in implementing condition 3.7, take measures to avoid or lessen adverse effects: on sites of cultural significance to Aboriginal peoples.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

Creation of fisheries compensation related habitat initiated during 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 (completed) did not impact any identified sites of cultural significances to Aboriginal peoples. Previous archeological assessments of the New Gold Rainy River Project property included Stage 1 through 4 assessments and excavation.

**Condition 8.1.6**

*The proponent shall, in implementing condition 3.7, take measures to avoid or lessen adverse effects: from potential sources of contamination (e.g. mercury, arsenic, cadmium and lead).*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

The design and construction of the fisheries compensation features were created in a manner to reflect natural systems that will not be impacted by mine waste water that could be a potential source of contamination. No acid generating rock was used in the creation of rock features. Additionally, New Gold monitors internal water management systems for water quality purposes. If discharge to the environment is required, the water is sampled per ECA and MDMER requirements before and during discharge.

**Condition 8.2**

*The Proponent shall, in implementing condition 6.3, take into consideration the habitat needs of species at risk consistent with final recovery strategies or action plans, or alternatively, rely on best available information where recovery plans or action plans for the species are not yet completed for the species at risk.*



Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

In 2018 New Gold completed the reclamation of the former Tait Quarry which operated between 2015 and 2017 to provide material for the construction of Highway 600. Through discussions with the MNRF in 2013 and 2014 it was decided that Tait Quarry would be reclaimed to Whip-poor-will habitat similar to that found in the gravel pit on Roen Road. Prior to its development, Tait Quarry was not considered to be suitable habitat for Whip-poor-wills, which are a Species at Risk in the Rainy River District.

Future reclamation projects will take into consideration action plans for other SAR known to inhabit areas close to the mine. Compensation and offsetting habitat such as those required under the mine's DFO conditions were built with the intent that Snapping turtles and White Pelicans would use them as well as Bald Eagles. In 2019, New Gold facilitated 12 Traditional Knowledge meetings, one with each interested First Nation community stakeholder. The intent of these meetings was to learn what species FN communities would like New Gold to focus on encouraging to return to the mine site post closure. New Gold RRM considered Species at Risk and the potential for habitat creation in site restoration activities to date, including in accordance with their Provincial Endangered Species Act permit. Species at Risk monitoring was conducted in 2020 and a report to MECP and all other stakeholders is attached as Appendix H.

### **Condition 8.3**

*The Proponent shall provide about 1400 hectares of private land as habitat for Eastern Whip poor-will (*Antrostomus vociferous*) and Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*).*

Timing: Construction

Status: Complete

Prior to project development the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) determined that 18 identified Eastern Whip-poor-will breeding territories could potentially be affected by the project's development and that 348 ha of Bobolink habitat had the potentially to be impacted by the project. Based on this information, to offset the loss of habitat New Gold obtained 1468.3 ha of lands to provide

Eastern Whip-poor-will breeding territories and 348 ha of field habitat suitable for Bobolink breeding habitat.

**Condition 8.4**

*The Proponent shall monitor the effectiveness of the habitat in condition 8.3.*

Timing: Construction and Operations

Status: Ongoing

The RRM owns and monitors over 1800 ha of overall benefit land and are following the monitoring plan described in the 2020 SAR report (Appendix H)

**Condition 8.5.1**

*The Proponent shall: maintain a fence around the tailings management area to prevent access by wildlife.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

By the spring of 2019 a 14 km wildlife exclusion fence had been erected that encompasses the footprint of the TMA, WDP and WMP.

**Condition 8.5.2**

*The Proponent shall: implement measures to prevent Snapping Turtles (*Chelydra serpentina*) from entering the following components of the Designated Project: tailings management area (TMA), water management pond (WMP), water discharge pond, constructed wetland, overburden pile, west mine rock pile and sediment ponds 1 and 2.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

- **8.5.2.1 – Tailings Management Area**

By the spring of 2019 a 14 km wildlife exclusion fence was erected that encompasses the

footprint of the TMA, WDP and WMP. No Snapping turtles were observed in the TMA, WDP or WMP in 2020

- **8.5.2.2 - Water Management Pond**

By the spring of 2019 a 14 km wildlife exclusion fence was erected that encompasses the footprint of the TMA, WDP and WMP. No Snapping turtles were observed in the TMA, WDP or WMP in 2020

- **8.5.2.3 Water Discharge Pond**

In 2019 the Wildlife Exclusion Fence was re-aligned to encompass the WDP. Prior to the construction of the WDP beaver activity was managed to keep water levels low and Loslo Creek was fish salvaged a final time in 2017. These measures as well as forest clearing would have limited the interest to Snapping Turtles

- **8.5.2.4 Constructed Wetland:**

Constructed wetland will be built as part of mine closure and does not exist at this time.

- **8.5.2.5 Overburden Pile**

Ditching is built with steep banks around the overburden stockpile to ensure turtles do not enter the overburden dump and slit fence is installed that will direct them away from the area. No snapping turtles were observed in or around the overburden stockpile in 2020.

- **8.5.2.6 West Mine Rock Pile**

In 2019 ditching around the area was complete. This ditching is built with steep banks to ensure turtles do not enter the stockpile area. No turtles were observed in the area in the 2020.

- **8.5.2.7 Sediment Ponds 1 & 2**

Sediment ponds 1 and 2 were completed in 2018, during construction of these ponds no snapping turtles were observed. The banks of the ponds are rock armored and geotechnical fabric lined so turtles will be discouraged from borrowing into them or climbing over them. No turtles were seen within these ponds during 2020.

## **9.0 Accidents or Malfunctions**

### **Condition 9.1.1**

*In the event of an accident or malfunction with the potential to cause adverse environmental effects, the Proponent shall; Notify the Agency and other relevant regulatory agencies of the occurrence as soon as possible.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

In the event of an accident or malfunction with the potential to cause adverse environmental effects, New Gold Rainy River Mine has implemented a standard operating procedure for spill reporting and an emergency preparedness and response plan that obligates notification to the Agency and other relevant regulatory agencies of an occurrence as soon as possible.

**Condition 9.1.2**

*In the event of an accident or malfunction with the potential to cause adverse environmental effects, the Proponent shall: implement measures to minimize any adverse environmental effects associated with the occurrence as soon as possible.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure

Status: Ongoing

In the event of an accident or malfunction with potential to cause adverse environmental effects, New Gold has implemented a site wide spill reporting procedure. The objective of this procedure is to implement measures to control and minimize adverse environmental effects associated with the event. This reporting procedure incorporates the site-wide emergency preparedness and response plan, if necessary.

**Condition 9.1.3**

*In the event of an accident or malfunction with the potential to cause adverse environmental effects, the Proponent shall: submit a written report to the Agency as soon as possible in the circumstances, but at the latest 30 days after the day on which the accident or malfunction took place; the written report must include:*

- *The measures that were taken to mitigate the effects of the occurrence.*
- *If an emergency response plan was implemented, details concerning its implementation.*
- *Changes made to avoid a subsequent occurrence of the accident or malfunction.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure, within 30 days of incident

Status: Ongoing

In the event of an accident or malfunction with the potential to cause adverse environmental effects, New Gold shall follow the site wide spill reporting procedure and ECA#7004-BC7KQ5 condition 12(4) which includes providing a written report detailing mitigation measures and changes made to avoid a reoccurrence. A copy of the report will be submitted to the Agency within 10 working days of the event as per ECA #7004-BC7KQ5 condition 12(4). A copy of the Site Wide Spill Reporting and Response Procedure (ENV-SOP-0001), the Environmental Department Reporting Procedure (ENV-SOP-0002) and Contractor Spill Reporting and Response Procedure (ENV-SOP-0007) can be found in Appendix I.

### **Condition 10 Implementation Schedule**

#### **Condition 10.1 – Completed February 3, 2015**

*The Proponent shall submit an implementation schedule for conditions contained within this Decision Statement to the Agency, or anyone designated pursuant to s. 89 of CEEA 2012, 15 days prior to construction.*

Timing: 15 days prior to construction

Status: Complete

#### **Condition 10.2**

*The Proponent shall submit an update to this implementation schedule in writing to the Agency, or anyone designated pursuant to s. 89 of CEEA 2012, every two years on March 31, starting the year following the date of the initial submission of the implementation schedule until completion of the activities.*

Timing: Every two years starting March 31, 2016

Status: Ongoing

The implementation schedule is updated annually and hence has become established as part of the Annual Compliance Report that is submitted every March to the Agencies and First Nations Communities.

#### **Condition 10.3**

*The Proponent shall provide the Agency, or anyone designated pursuant to s. 89 of CEAA 2012, with notice of any implementation schedule changes from the initial schedule or any subsequent updates 30 days prior to the implementation of the change.*

Timing: 30 days prior to implementation

Status: Ongoing

An updated Implementation Schedule has been provided for March 2021 Annual Compliance Report and can be found within each of the 10 previous conditions status update.

## **Condition 11. Record Keeping**

### **Condition 11.1**

*The Proponent shall record, retain and make available to the Agency, or anyone designated pursuant to s. 89 of CEAA 2012, upon demand, at a facility close to the Designated Project area (local facility), information related to the implementation of the conditions of this Decision Statement, including:*

*11.1.1 The results of all monitoring, including:*

*11.1.2 The place, date and time of any sampling;*

*11.1.3 The dates and the analyses that were performed;*

*11.1.4 The analytical techniques, methods or procedures used in the analyses;*

*11.1.5 The names of the persons who collected and analyzed each sample and*

*documentation of any professional certifications relevant to the work performed that they might possess; and*

*11.1.6 The results of the analyses.*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure.

Status: Ongoing

Records are being kept.

### **Condition 11.2**

*The proponent shall retain and make available upon demand to the Agency, or anyone designated*

*pursuant to s. 89 of CEAA 2012, the information contained in Condition 11.1 for a minimum of twenty-five years or until decommission ends, whichever is longer, unless otherwise specified, at a facility close to the Designated Project area (or at a location within Canada and agreed upon by the Agency, should the local facility no longer be maintained).*

Timing: Construction, Operations and Closure. Timing set by Condition 11.

Status: Ongoing

## Revision history

March 2021:

- Implementation Schedule is incorporated into the Commitment Registry of Federal Commitments

March 2019:

- 2019-03-31, condition 2.2: referenced latest Aboriginal Consultation Plan and added that Government comments may change consultation manner.
- 2019-03-31, condition 3.2.4: added Post-operations to timing, added Constructed Wetlands structure will stay in place through closure for TMA passive discharge.
- 2019-03-31, condition 5.3, 5.3.1: Noted that there are no drinking water wells within the Zone of Influence (ZOI).

September 2017:

- 2017-09-06, condition 2.2 revised timing to all phases, consultation manner confirmed first but changes to consultation manner may occur, based on feedback from Aboriginal Groups
- 2017-09-06, condition 3.2.4 revise timing to operations to reflect the change in timing of wetland construction
- 2017-09-06, various, changed tense for conditions completed during the

construction phase e.g., 3.2.5, 3.4, 3.5, 3.7

- 2017-09-06, condition 3.6 extend timing to include all project phases when pumping from fish bearing waters may occur
- 2017-09-06, condition 3.8.4 extend timing to include all project phases when rock is handled
- 2017-09-06, condition 8.5.2 changed rationale to tie condition timing to construction timing
- 2017-09-06, condition 5.5, 6.6 and 7.1.4 updated timing to reflect completed date – no change in timing occurring throughout all project phases



## SECTION 4

### NEW GOLD RAINY RIVER MINE COMMITMENT REGISTRY PROVINCIAL COMMITMENTS



Figure 24. Barn swallow nest with eggs om West Creek Diversion box culvert, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Condition 3.1**

*Where a document, plan or report is required to be submitted to the Ministry, the Proponent shall provide two copies of the final document, plan or report to the Director: a copy for filing in the specific public record file maintained for the Undertaking, and a copy for use by Ministry staff.*

To date, New Gold has provided two copies of reports and documentation to the Ministry and has submitted required information in the requested format by the Ministry.

**Condition 3.2**

*The Proponent shall provide additional copies of the documents required for the public record file to the following for access by the public: a) Regional Director, b) District Manager and c) New Gold Inc. office in Emo, Ontario.*

The conditions of this commitment have been met. All copies have been submitted by March 31st, 2021.

**Condition 3.3**

*The EAB file number EA 05-09-02 and EAIMS file number 13102 shall be quoted on all documents submitted by the Proponent pursuant to condition 3.1 of this Notice of Approval.*

The EAB file number EA 05-09-02 and EAIMS file number 13102 is found on the Annual Compliance Report.

**Condition 3.4**

*Without detracting from the foregoing Public Record conditions, the proponent may also provide these documents through other means, as considered appropriate by the Proponent.*

The 2020 Annual Compliance Report is made available on the company's website. A hard copy can be viewed at the New Gold office in Emo. Additional reports, supporting documentation and environmental information can be made available by request, from the New Gold Environmental Department.

**Condition 4.1 – Completed November 12, 2015**

*The Proponent shall post the Errata document dated December 15, 2014 on the Proponent's project*

*website. The Proponent shall update the Summary of the Environmental Assessment Report to reflect the addition of the Errata and to itemize what sections of the Environmental Assessment Report have been impacted by it and shall post the updated Summary on the website. The Proponent shall update the Table of Contents of the Environmental Assessment Report to reflect that the Errata is included as part of Volume 2 of the Environmental Assessment Report and shall post the updated Table of Contents on the website.*

**Condition 5.1 – Completed February 9. 2015**

*The Proponent shall prepare and submit to the Director, for the public record, an Environmental Assessment Compliance Monitoring Program (CMP).*

**Condition 5.2 – Completed February 9. 2015**

*The CMP shall be submitted 30 days before the Start of Construction or such other date as agreed to in writing by the Director.*

**Condition 5.3 – Completed February 9. 2015**

*The CMP shall describe how the Proponent will monitor its fulfilment of: 1) the provisions of the Environmental Assessment pertaining to mitigation measures, public consultation, and additional studies and work to be carried out; 2) all other commitments made by the Proponent during the Environmental Assessment process including the Commitments Registry as contained in the Errata dated December 15, 2014; and 3) the conditions included in this Notice of Approval.*

**Condition 5.4 – Completed February 9. 2015**

*The CMP must contain an implementation schedule for construction, operations and closure, as well as monitoring during construction, operations and closure.*

**Condition 5.5 – Completed February 9. 2015**

*When the Proponent submits the CMP to the Director, the Proponent shall append a statement indicating that the CMP is intended to fulfil condition 5 of this Notice of Approval.*

**Condition 5.6**

*The Director may require the Proponent to amend the CMP at any time. Should an amendment be*

*required, the Director will notify the Proponent, in writing, of the required amendment and the date by which the Proponent must complete the amendment and submit it to the Director.*

During 2020 there were no requests for New Gold to amend the Compliance Monitoring Plan

**Condition 5.7**

*The Proponent shall carry out the CMP, as it may be amended by the Director.*

During 2020 there were no requests made for New Gold to amend the Compliance Monitoring Plan.

**Condition 5.8**

*The Proponent shall make the documentation pertaining to the CMP available to the Ministry or designate upon request, in a timely manner, when so requested by the Ministry during an on-site inspection, audit, response to a pollution incident report or when information concerning compliance is requested by the Ministry.*

There were no requests made in 2020.

**Condition 6.1**

*The Proponent shall prepare an annual Compliance Report which describes its compliance with the conditions of approval set out in this Notice of Approval, and which describes the results of the Proponent's Environmental Assessment CMP required by Condition 5 of this Notice of Approval.*

This section forms part of the 2020 Annual Compliance Report and describes compliance with the conditions of the approval.

**Condition 6.2 – Completed March 31, 2016**

*The first annual Compliance Report shall be submitted to the Director, for the public record, within one year from the Start of Construction and shall cover all activities of the previous 12 month period.*

**Condition 6.3 – Completed annually on March 31**

*Subsequent Compliance Reports shall be submitted to the Director, for the public record, on or before the anniversary of the Start of Construction each year thereafter. Each Compliance Report shall cover all activities of the previous 12 month period.*

**Condition 6.4**

*Once all conditions in this Notice of Approval have been satisfied, or have been incorporated into any other provincial approval, the Proponent shall indicate in its annual Compliance Report that the Compliance Report is its final Compliance Report, and that all conditions in this Notice of Approval have been satisfied. The Director may also vary the time at which the Proponent is to provide its final Compliance Report, and state this in writing to the Proponent. The terms of this condition are understood and not applicable to the 2020 report.*

**Condition 6.5**

*The Proponent shall retain either on site or in another location approved by the Director, a copy of each of the annual Compliance Reports and any associated documentation of compliance monitoring activities.*

Copies of the Annual Compliance Monitoring Report are available at the New Gold Rainy River Office located in Emo, Ontario as well as available at the mine site from the Environmental Department. Any associated compliance monitoring documentation that is not available in the report can be requested from the New Gold Environmental Department.

**Condition 6.6**

*The Proponent shall make the Compliance Reports, and associated documentation, available to the Ministry or designate in a timely manner when requested to do so by the Ministry.*

To date, New Gold has been compliant with this condition and is willing to share associated documentation as requested by the Ministry.

**Condition 7.1 – Completed February 2, 2015**

*The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Complaint Protocol that sets out how it will deal with and respond to inquiries and complaints received during the design, construction and operation of the Undertaking.*

**Condition 7.2 – Completed February 2, 2015**

*The Proponent shall submit the Complaint Protocol to the Director, for the public record, 30 days before the Start of Construction or such other date as agreed to in writing by the Director.*

**Condition 7.3**

*The Director may require the Proponent to amend the Complaint Protocol at any time. If an amendment is required, the Director will notify the Proponent in writing of the required amendment and the date by which the Proponent must complete the amendment and submit it to the Director.*

During 2020 there were no requests made to New Gold to amend the Complaint Protocol.

**Condition 7.4**

*The Proponent shall carry out the Complaint Protocol, as it may be amended by the Director.*

Completed to date. There were 11 complaints in 2020; 2 relating to vibration, 6 were community related, 2 related to employee behaviour off-site and 1 relating to property access.

**Condition 8.1 – Completed February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

*The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Community Communications Plan that sets forth:*

- *How the Proponent plans to disseminate information to interested persons;*
- *How interested persons will be notified and kept informed about Site operations; and*
- *The procedures for keeping interested persons apprised of information about documents related to the Undertaking, and when and how the updated information and/or documents will be made available.*

**Condition 8.2 – Completed February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

*The Proponent shall submit a Community Communications Plan to the Director 30 days before the Start of Construction or such other date as agreed to in writing by the Director.*

**Condition 8.3 – Completed to date**

*The Proponent shall implement the Community Communications Plan during construction, operations*

*and closure of the Undertaking.*

**Condition 9.1 – Completed January 21<sup>st</sup>. 2015**

*The Proponent shall prepare and implement an Aboriginal Consultation Plan that sets forth:*

- *How, during the detailed design and implementation of the Undertaking, the Proponent will consult with the Aboriginal communities that were notified of the Undertaking during the Environmental Assessment process;*
- *How the Proponent will fulfill all commitments made to Aboriginal communities during the Environmental Assessment process, including ongoing consultation during the design and implementation of the Undertaking;*
- *A Notification Protocol for how the Proponent will inform Aboriginal communities if archaeological resources or Aboriginal remains are encountered during construction;*
- *How the Proponent will issue notices and updates on key steps in the design and implementation of the Undertaking.*

**Condition 9.2 – Completed February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

*The Proponent shall submit the Aboriginal Consultation Plan to the Director and the Aboriginal communities that were notified of the Undertaking during the Environmental Assessment process 30 days before the Start of Construction or by such other date as agreed to in writing by the Director.*

**Condition 9.3 – Completed to date**

*The Proponent shall implement the Aboriginal Consultation Plan during construction, operations and closure of the Undertaking.*

**Condition 9.4 – Completed to date**

*The Proponent shall continue to consult with the following Aboriginal communities: Rainy River First Nations, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Big Grassy River First Nation, Naotkamegwanning (Whitefish Bay) First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing (Big Island) First Nation, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation, and the Sunset Country Métis community (represented by Métis Nation of Ontario Region 1 Consultation Committee), to inform them of when impacting activities will occur. Before impacting activities occur, the Proponent shall provide interested Aboriginal communities with reasonable opportunity to carry out specific cultural practices, as those communities consider appropriate.*

**Condition 10.1 – Completed February 3<sup>rd</sup> , 2015**

*The Proponent shall complete stage 2 archaeological assessment studies for the project, as necessary. The stage 2 archaeological assessments must be submitted to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS) for review and accepted into MTCS's report register prior to the start of in-ground work.*

**Condition 10.2**

*If during construction any archaeological resources are discovered, all construction activities within 100 metres of the archaeological resources will cease immediately and a licensed archaeologist will be retained to carry out the necessary fieldwork in compliance with Section 48(1) of the Ontario Heritage Act.*

No archaeological resources were discovered within and around construction areas during 2020.

**Condition 10.3**

*Archaeological resources that require removal will be transferred to a public institution selected through consultation with local First Nations and Métis represented by the Métis Nation of Ontario Region 1 Consultation Committee, in consultation with MTCS. An MTCS collection transfer form will be completed by the surrendering licensee and the institution accepting the materials. Collection shall be curated to current standards.*

Preliminary reports for the two sites subject to a Stage 4 archaeological Field Study was completed during 2019. Cataloguing and analyses of any significant findings was completed in 2020. Final report preparation and submission to the MTCS in 2020. Consultation with local First Nations and Metis Nation of Ontario Region 1 occurred.

**Condition 11.1**

*Prior to the construction of the proposed demolition landfill (or any other landfill) within the Site's property boundary, the Proponent shall obtain any necessary Environmental Assessment Act approvals and Environmental Protection Act approvals. In addition, prior to construction of the proposed demolition landfill (or any other landfill), the Proponent shall provide appropriate financial assurance to*



*the Ministry's satisfaction, unless by then the appropriate cost has already been accounted for and provided to the MNM as part of Closure Plan requirements under the Mining Act*

Permitting for a demolition landfill is discussed under section 5.8 of the 2015 Closure Plan and 9.5 of the Closure Plan Amendment. Appropriate financial assurance has been accounted for provided to ENDM as part of the Closure Plan Amendment.

#### **Condition 12.1**

*As a minimum, the Proponent shall meet all requirements and commitments related to mine water discharges to the Pinewood River as agreed to by the Ministry during the EA process, or as revised through approvals by the Ministry. These requirements and commitments are found throughout the EA and include, but are not limited to, those set out in the July 17, 2014 memo by the Ministry's surface water specialist regarding the "Rainy River Gold Project: Effluent Criteria Discussion and Water Taking Thresholds" which appears in Section 4 of the Ministry Review of the EA.*

*Further, as part of its application for the Environmental Compliance Approval(s) (ECA) required for the Undertaking, the proponent shall identify, through memo or other means acceptable to the ECA Director, how the proponent's proposed water management process will satisfy the technical requirements and other surface Director, how the proponent's proposed water management process will satisfy the technical requirements and other surface water quality commitments stated in the EA.*

New Gold RRM has implemented a water sampling programs that meets the requirements of the MECP Environmental Compliance Approvals and the Federal Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulation. During 2020, effluent was discharged directly to the Pinewood River from Effluent Discharge Location 1 (EDL1) located downstream of the McCallum Creek confluence, from EDL2 at the Loslo Creek confluence, from Sediment Pond 2 just up stream of the Loslo Creek confluence, and from Sediment Pond 1 via the West Creek Diversion. All discharged water met provincial and federal discharge criteria, with the exception of an exceedance of the provincial monthly average copper limits at EDL1 for October 2020.

A monthly water balance update is produced by the RRM Environment Department, which is submitted to the MECP with the required monthly ECA report.

#### **Condition 12.2**

*The Proponent shall meet all requirements and commitments related to the establishment of a minimum water taking threshold from the Pinewood River as agreed to by the Ministry during the EA process, or as revised through approvals by the Ministry. These requirements and commitments are found throughout the EA and include, but are not limited to, those set out in the July 17, 2014 memo by the Ministry's surface water specialist regarding the "Rainy River Gold Project: Effluent Criteria Discussion and Water Taking Thresholds" which appears in Section 4 of the Ministry Review of the EA. Further, as part of its application for the Permit(s) to Take Water (PTTW) required for the Undertaking, the proponent shall identify, through memo or other means acceptable to the PTTW Director, how the proponent's proposed water management process will satisfy the water taking commitments stated in the EA.*

New Gold met all requirements and commitments related to the establishment of a minimum water taking threshold from the Pinewood River, however PTTW 8776-9W2QN3 authorizing direct water taking from the Pinewood River expired on November 30, 2018. No direct water taking from the Pinewood River is permitted under Condition 3.3 subsection E of PTTW 8776-9W2QN3. There were no exceedances of maximum water taking limits by source for any of the three active PTTWs for 2020.

### **Condition 13.1**

*The Proponent shall fulfill all requirements and commitments related to tailings management, including maintaining a sufficient water cover over deposited tailings and fulfilling monitoring requirements detailed in provincial regulatory documents, including the Closure Plan and any other permits and approvals associated with the Undertaking. In addition, the Proponent shall consider deterrent systems to ward off bird and animal life from accessing the TMA.*

The Closure Plan Amendment filed by the Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines on September 14, 2020 outlines commitments related to tailings management during operations and mine closure and reclamation. These commitments include maintaining a sufficient water cover. In Q4 of 2017 the plant began pumping tailings into Cell 1 (Starter Cell) of the Tailings Management Area (TMA). The tailings are sampled within the mill before being routed to the TMA.

The TMA is monitored for bird activity by Mill Operations, Site Services, and Environment Departments. New Gold has onsite deterrents for birds in the form of bangers and handheld noise making devices. The Environmental Department is currently reviewing larger, self-sufficient deterrent systems to ward off birds and animals. Permanent fencing was also installed in 2019.

### **Condition 13.2**

*The Proponent shall assess and utilize provincial, national and international industry best practices for tailings management and water management containment facilities as they relate to climate change and the increasing frequency of severe weather abnormalities. The management of tailings, based on this assessment, shall be done in a manner adequate to ensure the appropriate management of any contaminants that may be present during and beyond the operating life of the Undertaking. The Proponent shall, as part of the Compliance Reports required under Condition 6, or otherwise specified in writing by the Director, provide details to the Ministry on how actions required by this condition have been considered in the project design, operations and the Closure Plan.*

Section 5.6.1 of the Rainy River Mine Comprehensive Closure Plan Amendment (October 2017) outlines the Geotechnical Design Criteria for the TMA dams. It indicates that;

- the dams have been designed to meet the most severe flood and earthquake criteria, being the probable maximum flood and maximum credible earthquake in accordance with the Ontario Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act requirements.
- The designs are supported by geotechnical investigations of sub surface conditions conducted in 2010 by Klohn Crippen Berger and in 2011 and 2014 by AMEC.

Emergency spillways will be provided for each state of the TMA dam construction and Water Management Pond (WMP) to safely pass the probably maximum flood. Adequate freeboard will be maintained in the TMA and WMP to contain the environmental design flood corresponding to a 100-year 24-hour storm event. All spillways will be rock armored to withstand erosion impacts from these flow rates.

### **Condition 14.1 – Completed February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016**

*The Proponent shall assess and utilize best practices to protect the biodiversity of existing species within the area of the Undertaking. Building on the baseline studies completed during the Environmental Assessment process, including aquatic resources, terrestrial and species at risk baselines, and further studies as deemed necessary, the Proponent shall establish a pre- construction biodiversity baseline and report on biodiversity levels within the area of the Undertaking. The Proponent shall as part of the Compliance Reports required under Condition 6, or otherwise specified in writing by the Director, provide details to the Ministry on how the requirements set out in this condition*

*are being met.*

Version 5 of the Terrestrial Systems Monitoring Plan was submitted to the MNRF on February 3, 2016 and accepted by the MNRF in May 2016.

New Gold is currently completing monitoring as part of the Terrestrial Systems and Habitat Monitoring Plan.

During 2020 the following monitoring programs were implemented as per the relevant conditions; Species at Risk monitoring, wildlife observation monitoring, fish tissue sampling to assess metal accumulation in organ and muscle tissue and barn swallow monitoring. The Biodiversity Monitoring Plan for the Pinewood River was implemented as per ECA No. 7004-BC7KQ5. These annual monitoring programs build from the baseline data collected during the EA process.

**Condition 14.2 – Completed May 6<sup>th</sup> , 2016**

*In addition to fulfilling all commitments with regard to rehabilitating wildlife habitat and terrestrial systems, the Proponent shall consult with MNRF on the development of a monitoring plan for terrestrial systems and habitat. The Proponent shall prepare the monitoring plan before the start of construction and shall provide a draft plan to MNRF for review before the plan is finalized. The Proponent shall carry out the plan during construction, operation and closure of the Undertaking. The purpose of the monitoring plan is to verify the accuracy of the predictions the Proponent made during the EA about the Undertaking's impacts on wildlife and habitat and to monitor the effectiveness of rehabilitation efforts for wildlife habitat and terrestrial environments. The Proponent shall report on biodiversity baseline and results required in Condition 14.1 through the Terrestrial Systems and Habitat Monitoring Plan.*

**Condition 15.1 – Completed February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016**

*Conditions Specific to Vegetation Clearing Activities Occurring Before May 1, 2015:*

- A. The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Vegetation Clearing Plan that sets forth how the Proponent will conduct vegetation clearing activities that are intended to occur on the Site before May 1, 2015 ("Vegetation Clearing Activities"). As itemized below, this Vegetation Clearing Plan shall address issues related to those Vegetation Clearing Activities, including: compliance monitoring; compliance reporting; a complaint protocol; a community*

*communication plan; consultation with Aboriginal communities; and terrestrial systems and habitat monitoring plans.*

- B. Unless otherwise stated in Condition 15 or stipulated per another timeline as may be identified in writing by the Director, the Proponent shall submit all elements of the Vegetation Clearing Plan to the Director, for the public record, 15 days before the Proponent's intended start of Vegetation Clearing Activities.*
- C. The Proponent shall post the Vegetation Clearing Plan on its project website by no later than 15 days prior to the intended start of Vegetation Clearing Activities.*

**Condition 15.2 A**

*Compliance Monitoring for Vegetation Clearing Activities: In relation to any vegetation clearing that occurs on the site before May 1, 2015, the Proponent shall monitor its fulfilment of: 1) the provisions of the Environmental Assessment pertaining to mitigation measures and public consultation regarding such Vegetation Clearing Activities; 2) all other commitments made by the Proponent during the Environmental Assessment process including the Commitments Registry as contained in the Errata dated December 15, 2014, in relation to such Vegetation Clearing Activities; and 3) the conditions included in section 15 of this Notice of Approval.*

All clearing that has occurred on site has been completed in accordance with licenses obtained from the MNRF (when applicable). Clearing was ongoing during 2020 excluding the period of the breeding bird window.

**Condition 15.2 B – Completed February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015**

*The Proponent shall prepare an implementation schedule for all the vegetation clearing activities that are intended to occur on the Site before May 1, 2015.*

**Condition 15.3 A – Completed February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 – Completed February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

*Compliance Reporting for Vegetation Clearing Activities: In relation to vegetation clearing activities that occur on the Site before May 1, 2015, the Proponent shall prepare a Vegetation Clearing Compliance Report which describes and provides evidence of the Proponent's compliance with Condition 15 of this Notice of Approval.*

**Condition 15.3 B – Completed February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 – Completed May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015**

*Compliance Reporting for Vegetation Clearing Activities: The Proponent shall submit the Vegetation Clearing Compliance report to the Director within 30 days of completing the Vegetation Clearing Activities*

**Condition 15.4 A – Completed February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

*Complaint Protocol for Vegetation Clearing Activities: The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Vegetation Clearing Complaint Protocol that sets out how the Proponent will address inquiries and complaints received during any Vegetation Clearing Activities.*

No complaints were received related to Vegetation Clearing Activities in 2020.

**Condition 15.5 A – Completed February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 – Completed February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 (V2);  
February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015 (V3)**

*By no later than 15 days prior to the start of Vegetation Clearing Activities, the Proponent shall provide notification to those interested persons to whom Condition 8 of this Notice of Approval applies. The notification shall include a link to the location where copies of the Vegetation Clearing Plan can be seen by members of the public, as required by Condition 15.1 (c).*

**Condition 15.6 A – Completed February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

*Consultation with Aboriginal Communities for Vegetation Clearing Activities: By no later than 15 days prior to the intended start of Vegetation Clearing Activities, the Proponent shall notify and then follow up with the Aboriginal communities identified in Condition 9.1 of this Notice of Approval. This notification shall append the implementation schedule required under Condition 15.2(b), above. The notification shall also include a link to the location where copies of the Vegetation Clearing Plan can be seen by members of the public, as required by Condition 15.1 (c).*

**Condition 15.6 B – Completed February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

*Consultation with Aboriginal Communities for Vegetation Clearing Activities: By no later than 15 days prior to the intended start of Vegetation Clearing Activities, the Proponent shall consult the Aboriginal communities identified in condition 9.4 of this Notice of Approval, to ascertain whether they wish to carry out specific cultural practices prior to Vegetation Clearing Activities occurring. The Proponent shall provide reasonable time for interested Aboriginal communities to carry out such cultural practices prior to the start of Vegetation Clearing Activities, in coordination with the interested communities.*

**Condition 15.6 C – Completed February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

*Consultation with Aboriginal Communities for Vegetation Clearing Activities: By no later than 7 days prior to the intended start of Vegetation Clearing Activities, the Proponent shall submit to the Director copies of: the notification letters that it sent in fulfilment of conditions 15.6 (a) and (b); any records confirming the Aboriginal communities' receipt of those notification letters; records of any concerns heard from the Aboriginal communities in response to those letters; and records of efforts the Proponent has made, or has committed to make, to address those concerns.*

**Condition 15.7A**

*Terrestrial Systems and Habitat Monitoring for Vegetation Clearing Activities: The Proponent shall fulfill all its EA commitments with regard to land clearing and to rehabilitating wildlife habitat and terrestrial systems, in relation to any associated impacts from Vegetation Clearing Activities.*

Land clearing is contained within the footprint of the project only in areas where development is required. When licenses are required, they are obtained from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. Grubbing is not conducted unless necessary and buffers are implemented around sensitive areas.

Reclamation earthworks of the former Tait Quarry commenced in 2017 with seeding and planting occurring in 2018. The quarry which operated from 2015 to 2017 to supply material for the Highway 600 realignment underwent extensive tree clearing, blasting and rock extraction. Based on decisions made with MNRF during the Environmental Assessment process, the quarry was reclaimed to suitable Whip-poor-will habitat. Work finished in 2020 on setting up vegetation plots to mimic stockpile closure on a small scale. This included multiple tree and shrub species planted with different soil covers.

Approximately 3 ha of EMRS underwent reclamation work in 2020 by placing a multi-layer soil cover designed to minimize ARD generation. Revegetation efforts are planned for Q2 2021.

**Condition 15.8 – Completed February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015**

*When the Proponent submits its Vegetation Clearing Plan materials to the Director, the Proponent shall append a statement indicating that its submission is intended to fulfill Condition 15 of this Notice of Approval.*

**Condition 15.9**

*The Director may require the Proponent to amend aspects of the Vegetation Clearing Plan at any time. Should an amendment be required, the Director will notify the Proponent, in writing, of the required amendment and of the date by which the Proponent must complete the amendment and submit it to the Director.*

Not requested in 2020.

**Condition 15.10** – completed to date

*The Proponent shall carry out the Vegetation Clearing Plan, as it may be amended by the Director.*

Clearing was carried out per the Vegetation Clearing Plan.

**Condition 15.11**

*The Proponent shall make documentation pertaining to the Vegetation Clearing Plan available to the Ministry or designate upon request, in a timely manner, when so requested by the Ministry.*

No requests were made during 2020.

**Condition 15.12 – completed February 12<sup>th</sup> and February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

*In addition to fulfilling the Vegetation Clearing Plan conditions above, the Proponent shall also mention its Vegetation Clearing Activities, as relevant, in other materials it produces to fulfill the other conditions required by this Notice of Approval.*

**Condition 16.1**

*The Proponent shall ensure that the need for the Undertaking is capable of adapting to climate change during the construction, operation and closure phases of the Undertaking, and to that end the Proponent shall:*

- A. *16.1 A Plan its construction practices, operational procedures and the design of the Undertaking to respond to storms, flooding, (including the consideration of the 500-year flood level), drought or other severe weather events resulting from climate change.*

In 2019, Sedimentation Pond 3 was completed on the south east end of the WMRS. In addition,



a fresh water non- contact diversion ditch was constructed to divert clean water from the Marr Creek to the West Diversion Creek. This allows to limit the volume of water entering the site and requiring storage, pumping and treatment.

- B. Design the post-closure aspects of the site to ensure resilience to climate change impacts, such as maintaining an appropriate site water balance and sufficient water cover over the TMA. The Proponent shall also undertake an updated review of climate change scenarios at a point approximately two years prior to implementing final closure of the TMA to confirm, or modify, anticipated future hydrological conditions related to climate change scenarios.*

The 2019 Closure Plan Amendment submitted to the agencies outlined the post- closure strategy of the TMA consistent with the EA commitment, outlined in 16.1 (b).

- C. The Proponent shall, as part of the Compliance Reports required under condition 6, or otherwise specified in writing by the Director, provide details to the Ministry on how climate change has been incorporated into the project design.*

New Gold has submitted an ECA amendment to include a review on climate change and the site water balance. The new permit was issued in February 2020.

- D. The Proponent shall ensure that the need for the Undertaking is capable of adapting to climate change during the construction, operation and closure phases of the Undertaking, and to that end the Proponent shall: d) The Proponent shall also include these considerations, as appropriate, in the Closure Plan or future Closure Plan amendments submitted to MNDM.*

The Closure Plan for the Rainy River Mine discusses operational flexibility in regard to water demands. Through the design of the project water diversion structures and ditching around the East Mine Rock Stockpile were designed to handle extreme flooding events (1 in 100-year event). The TMA dams have been designed to meet the most severe flood and earthquake criteria, being the probable maximum flood and maximum credible earthquake in accordance with the Ontario Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act requirements.

In 2019, a diversion ditch for the Marr Creek was constructed. Fresh non-contact water from the Marr Creek is now diverted to the West Creek Diversion Channel. A similar ditch was

constructed in 2020 for Loslo Creek and is pumped to the Marr ditch. Both diversion ditches were hydroseeded in the fall of 2020.

**Condition 17.1**

*The Proponent shall obtain other necessary permits and approvals including, but not limited to, those that are committed to in the Environmental Assessment.*

To date, New Gold has met the requirements of this condition. A copy of the Environmental Permits and Approvals obtained to date and specifically in 2020 by New Gold have been included in the Annual Compliance Report in Table 2 Section 1.7 Regulatory Update.

**Condition 18.1**

*In carrying out the Undertaking, the Proponent shall require that its contractors, subcontractors and employees:*

**18.1A** *Fulfil the commitments made by the Proponent in the Environmental Assessment process, including those made in the Environmental Assessment and in the Proponent's responses to comments received during the formal Environmental Assessment comment periods.*

All employees and contractors go through a standard site orientation, which includes Environmental, Community, Health and Safety (and other pertinent site aspects).

- Contractors are required to attend an environmental kick off meeting prior to start of work. Purpose of the meeting is to review commitments and permit requirements applicable to the Scope of Work. There are also statements in contracts that require the contractor to adhere to all applicable permits and site environmental procedures.
- Financial / other materials may include specific clauses with contracts on standards, requirements etc., depending on the nature of the contract.
- Environmental Conditions set out in Permits also include reference to specific contract drawings that are to be adhered to by the construction contractors.
- NG RRM Environmental Department monitors Contractors to ensure construction works and mining operations are carried out in accordance with Environmental Commitments.
- Side wide bulletins are issued via email, radio communication and posting in work places. When required the bulletins discuss Environmental Commitments and approvals.

### **18.1B**

*Meet applicable regulatory standards regarding the construction, operation and maintenance of the Undertaking, including these conditions of approval.*

As outlined in the response to condition 18.1(a) New Gold has taken several steps to ensure that all onsite personnel are familiar with the Environmental Conditions and Approvals for the project. To ensure that these conditions are implemented and met, as well as other permit approvals, New Gold Environmental Department has implemented a number of strategies including; Site Inspections and Audits or work tasks; incorporating Regulatory requirements in contract tenders, orientation training, operating procedures, site wide communication bulletins; installing signage around the mine site; participating in meetings amongst different departments and contractors to communicate environmental requirements; include environmental conditions and approvals in construction execution plans.

### **18.1C**

*Obtain any necessary approvals, permits or licenses*

New Gold Environmental Department is responsible for obtaining all environmental related permits, approvals and licenses for the project. In order to ensure that permits are obtained for all work fronts the department reviews contract scopes of work and participates in meetings held with mine staff and contractors. During 2020 New Gold also retained environmental consulting expertise in areas related to fisheries, wildlife and species at risk, air quality monitoring, mine reclamation and water quality who assist in ensuring appropriate approvals are obtained. Since the start of construction in 2015 it is site practice that all new construction and operation activities or deviations from original designs are communicated to the Environmental Department who screen for required permits or amendments to existing permits.

### **Condition 19.1**

*Prior to implementing any proposed changes to the Undertaking, the Proponent shall determine what Environmental Assessment Act requirements are applicable to the proposed changes and shall fulfill those Environmental Assessment Act requirements.*

During 2020, design modifications and changes to support the project were communicated effectively

with MECP and other relevant agencies to obtain input and ensure work was being conducted in accordance with current permits and approvals. In 2020 the following amendments, screenings and reports were submitted to Government Agencies including MNRF, ENDM, MECP, IAAC and DFO:

**MNRF:**

- January 2020 - LRIA Screening for a Permanent Ditch in the TMA, TMA Stage 2 Dam Raise Phase 1 Letter of Conformance, TMA Environmental Design Flood Volume and MOWL, 2020 Stage 2 South Dam Raise – Supplemental Information, 2019 Mandatory Report for Licence to Collect Fish and 2019 Annual Reporting Wildlife Scientific Collector's Authorization
- March 2020 – LRIA Screening for the Installation of the Second Diffuser – EMS 2, 2020 Licence to Collect Fish for Scientific Purposes, Wildlife Scientific Collector's Application, TMA Cell 2 and Cell 3 Overflow Spillway Letter of Conformance and TMA West Dam 4 Letter of Conformance
- April 2020 – 2019-2020 Black Bear Trap and Transport Log
- July 2020 – EMS1 Design Modifications
- Sept 2020 – EMS2 – Grouted Gabion Boxes, EMS2 Letter of Conformance, 2020 Compliance Assessment Report for Aggregate Permit 626197 and 2020 Compliance Assessment Report for Aggregate Permit 625851
- Oct 2020 – EMS2 Construction Report
- Nov 2020 – Tree Clearing for Phase 3 TMA Expansion and Tree Clearing for Phase 3 TMA Expansion- Supplemental Information

**MECP:**

- January 2020 - MECP Roen Pit Inspection Report and Surface Water Quality Results – December 2019
- Feb 2020 – MECP Ambient Air Monitoring Program Review, Notice of 2019 Exceedance Air Quality Monitoring TSP, Air Quality Report Q4 2019 and Surface Water Quality Results Summary – Jan 2020
- March 2020 – 2019-2020 Established Discharge Sampling Points, Cell 1 NOWL and MRP Deviation in Water Balance Model, H1 Hydrometric Monitoring Station and EMS 1 Letter of Conformance, Sediment Pond 1 Design Review – Supplemental Information, 2019 Annual Ground Water Report, 2019 Pinewood River Annual Terms of Reference and Biological Monitoring Report, 2019 Annual Compliance Report, 2019 Annual Sewage Works Report, 2019

- Dam Safety Inspection Report, 2019 Annual Surface Water Report, 3-D Numerical Ground Water Design Basis Memorandum, Declaration of Compliance – Air and Noise 2019 Operating Year, Monthly Performance Report – Feb 2020 and 2019 Annual Hydrometric Monitoring Report
- April 2020 - TSS Check Management Plan, Oil Water Separator Management Procedure, Notification of 2020 Discharge Commencement Dates, Amended Notification of Discharge Commencement Dates, Notification of Delay in Spring Fish Population Studies and Monthly Performance Report – March 2020
  - May 2020 – Treatment Train Rainy River Snapshot, Mixing Study Terms of Reference, Amendment to 2020 Discharge Sampling Schedule Notification, Notice of Exceedance – Air Quality – North and South Stations, Air Quality Report Q1 2020, 2019 Annual Air Quality Report, Constructed Wetlands Timeline, 2019 Annual Compliance Report Revision 2 – MECP Comments and Monthly Performance Report – April 2020
  - June 2020 – Discharge Stopped for Water Treatment Train BCR 2 Commissioning, Sediment Pond 3 Construction Records Report, Notice of Material Change – 2020 TMA Stage 2 Additional Clay Core Placement, Notice of Discharge Commencement Date – Sediment Pond 2, MDMER Mine Design Rated Capacity and Monthly Performance Report – May 2020
  - July 2020 – Stage 3 Dam Raise Buttress, Notification of Discharge Stopped Date – Sediment Pond 2, Monthly Performance Report – June 2020 and Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Plan Supplemental – Additional Dustfall Canisters
  - August 2020 – Air Quality Report Q2 2020, Notice of Discharge Commencement Dates – September 2020 and 2019 Annual Compliance Report – Revised with IAAC Comments,
  - Sept 2020 - Monthly Performance Report – July 2020, Amended Notification of Discharge Commencement Dates – Sept 2020 and Monthly Performance Report – August 2020,
  - Oct 2020 – TMA Stage 3 Dam Raise, Monthly Performance Report – Sept 2020
  - Nov 2020 - TMA Stage 3 Dam Raise Addendum, Air Quality Report Q3 2020 and Monthly Performance Report – October 2020 TSP Exceedance - Nov 11/2020 Gallinger Station in Q4 2020 Report – sent in 2021
  - Dec 2020 – Notification of Discharge Complete – 2020, Updated List of Established Sampling Points and TMA Stage 3 Dam Raise – Supplemental Information

**DFO:**

- April 2020 – Request for Project Review – EMS2

- July 2020 – Notification of Commencement of Work – EMS2

**Condition 20.1** – Completed January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015

*30 days prior to construction, or as per another timeline as may be identified in writing by the Director, the Proponent shall provide notification of the Proponent's intention to proceed with construction. If significant changes to the existing environment or regulatory changes have occurred that could affect the implementation of the Undertaking or result in any new potential adverse environmental effects from the undertaking, the Proponent shall include a description of those changes in its notice. The Proponent shall provide the notice to the Director and Regional Director of the Ministry, the MNRF, the MNDM, and any other relevant agencies that the Proponent or the Director determine may have an interest in any changes provided in the notice.*

## SECTION 5

### NEW GOLD RAINY RIVER MINE COMMITMENT REGISTRY



Figure 25. Orb Weaver Spider on grass at Pinewood River, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Condition 1** – Completed May 2015; added 1 December 2020

*The RRM (RRM) will monitor and mitigate air emissions, particularly dust, through implementation of current industry best management practices.*

Ambient air quality monitoring program continued in 2020 with monitoring of relevant air emissions parameters stipulated in the Rainy River Project Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Plan in compliance of ECA 0412- A2LR4V condition 10.1 (a) i Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Plan. Ambient air quality data continued to be collected at the two air quality monitoring stations located east (Gallinger Road) and south-east (Tait Road) of the mine site by New Gold Environment staff.

Analytical data was provided by certified external laboratories. New Gold Rainy River Environmental staff interpreted the data and prepared 4 quarterly reports (Appendix E). Before submission, quarterly reports were submitted for external review by an independent consultant.

During 2020, there were three exceedances of total suspended particulates (TSP) at the Gallinger Road station and one exceedance of total suspended particulates (TSP) at Tait Station. Air Quality Monitoring Reports for each quarter of 2020 can be found in the supporting documentation (Appendix E).

As per section 2.7 of the MECP Air Facility inspection report, a 2020 updated copy of the Fugitive Dust Best Management Practices Plan (BMP) for operations was submitted to MECP for review in July. Best management practices include the use of water as dust suppressant and calcium chloride on major haul roads and on major light vehicle routes during non-freezing conditions. In addition, speed limits on and around site are controlled.

Baghouses and other dust suppression equipment were used at the processing plant and crusher. During 2020, dust emissions were controlled by: production drills equipped with dust curtains and water dispersion during operations. Primary and auxiliary aggregate crushers used chemical and water dispersed by spray bars during non-freezing conditions. Commercial traffic was limited to site access along the east access or Teeple Road. In 2020, there were 9 applications of calcium chloride on the roads maintained by RRM, as well as some heavily traveled roads, as shown in Table 3 and Fig.21 to 23 (P.63).

**Condition 2** –

*A fugitive dust best management practices plan will be prepared to identify all potential sources of fugitive dusts, outline mitigative measures that will be employed to control dust generation, and detail*



*the inspection and recordkeeping required to demonstrate that fugitive dusts are being effectively managed.*

ECA Application Submission – November 14, 2014; Fugitive Dust Best Management Plans submitted to MOECC February 4, 2016; Updated Water Use Plan for dust submitted to MOEC December 14, 2016.

An updated 2020 Fugitive Dust Best Management Practices Plan for RRM operations phase was prepared and submitted to the MECP as per section 2.7 of the December 2018 Air Inspection Report. This plan supersedes the 2019 updates and identifies fugitive emission sources, composition and characterization of particulate emissions, fugitive dust control for each source, implementation and operation plus inspection and maintenance procedures.

RRM activities continued to follow the 2016 plan for construction while using updated data collection forms from the 2018 plan updates. Paper and electronic records for dust suppression methods were collected and stored during 2020 (Appendix J).

**Condition 3 –**

*Sound will be monitored during construction, operations and active closure phases consistent with Ministry of the Environment (MOE) requirements*

During December 2020, an acoustic audit was conducted on site. Due to COVID-19 constraints, readings were conducted by New Gold personnel under direction of our consultant. Sound pressure levels were measured per MECP Publication NPC-103 using a Larson Davis SoundExpert LxT sound level meter, with a preamplifier and a removable microphone. One wind screen was used over the microphone for all measurements. For steady sound measurements, the meter was set to slow response and A-weighting. A Larson Davis acoustical calibrator was used to calibrate the sound meter at the start and end of the measurement program.

**Condition 4 –** Plan submitted February 2016

*NG (NG; previously Rainy River Resources) expect that the monitoring required will include: total suspended particulate (TSP) and metals on the TSP size fraction, PM10, dustfall and passive monitoring for NO2 and SO2. NG commits to conducting this monitoring which is also expected to be an approval requirement.*

During 2020, ambient air quality monitoring continued at two ambient air quality stations located along the eastern and southern-eastern boundaries of the mine site. The 2020 ambient air quality monitoring program strictly follows the Ambient Air Monitoring Program Plan approved by MECP in 2016. Since the installation of the stations, the MECP has conducted 3 inspections: in 2015, 2016 and 2019. There were no significant deficiencies identified during each inspection. Monitoring ambient air quality parameters including total suspended particulates (TSP) including metals and metalloids, particulate material less than 2.5 microns (PM<sub>2.5</sub>), monthly total dustfall, passive nitrous dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and Sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) measurements during 2020. Quarterly reporting of data was compared to provincial standards during 2020 as per plan and ECA requirement.

During the last quarter of 2020 one more station was installed, north of the TMA to sample for TSP, and PM<sub>2.5</sub>. And an additional five sites were installed to conduct total dustfall sampling.

**Condition 5 – Completed February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

*The best management plan related to fugitive dust management, source control and operational constraints required by the Provincial Environmental Compliance Approval will be provided to Environment Canada (EC) for review and will be fully implemented prior to the construction phase.*

- ECA Application Submission – November 14, 2014;
- Fugitive Dust Best Management Plans submitted to MOECC February 4, 2016;

Updated Water Use Plan for dust submitted to MOEC Dec 14, 2016. Updates of the Fugitive Dust Best Management Practices Plan (FDBMPP) were sent to MECP in December 2018, April 2019 and in July 2020, in order to address gaps in RRM's effort to mitigate fugitive dust.

**Condition 6 – completed September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

*A transboundary notification under the Canada - U.S. Air Quality Agreement will be filed prior to operation.*

**Condition 7–**

*Planning measures aimed at reducing fuel and power consumption for the RRM site include the following:*

- *Using larger, more fuel efficient trucks for material transport;*

- *Using optimum insulation in buildings to reduce heat loss and heat recovery from equipment*
- *where practical; and*
- *Maintaining site equipment and vehicles in good working order through regular preventative maintenance.*

All new equipment in 2020 is TIER 4 emission compliant. Permanent buildings for Maintenance, Warehouse etc. have been replaced with tent type structures so energy reduction associated with insulation will not be as originally expected. All other strategies remain the same.

**Condition 8–**

*Monitoring of air quality will occur during construction, operations and active closure phases per Section 13.1.1 of the Final EA Report.*

Monitoring of air quality at the RRM site continued during 2020. New Gold Environmental staff continued to collect data from the two air quality sampling stations as per the Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Plan. Sampling stations are located to the southeast of the site at Tait Road and Highway 600, and east of the site along Gallinger Road.

During 2020, there were three exceedances of total suspended particulates (TSP) at the Gallinger Road station and one exceedance of total suspended particulates (TSP) at Tait Station.

Air Quality Monitoring Reports for each quarter of 2020 can be found in the supporting documentation Appendix E. During the last quarter of 2020 one more station was installed, north of the TMA to sample for TSP, and PM<sub>2.5</sub>. And an additional five sites were installed to conduct total dustfall sampling.

**Condition 9–**

*Sound mitigation measures will be used, such as selection of quieter equipment. Implementation of sound abatement strategies to dampen sound infiltrating habitats and migratory bird nesting areas surrounding high traffic areas of the mine.*

Measures that were implemented during 2015 and continued into 2019 to reduce sound included:

- Specific trucks that allow exhaust to pass through the truck box rather than directly through the exhaust pipe (can muffle sound).
- Reducing size of blasts where appropriate and scheduling those blast only at 1100 hours and

1500 hours.

- Tree buffers maintained where practical.
- Annually the acoustic model is updated, and no significant change has been detected.

**Condition 10–**

*Should the final equipment selections determine through detailed engineering and sound level assumptions vary materially from those presented in the Environmental Assessment (EA), an updated assessment with the new information will be prepared as part of the detailed design and approvals application(s) for the RRM.*

The type of equipment and equipment sound levels currently operating at New Gold are generally consistent with the equipment type and equipment sound levels presented in the Acoustic Assessment Reports (AAR) prepared for Environmental Assessment (EA), the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) and as part of the annual updates. An updated AAR was prepared for the 2020 operating year to assess the impacts from the current operations based on current quantity and location of the equipment at RRM. Measurements will be collected in 2021 along Old Highway 600, near the receptor closest to the TMA construction activities, to confirm the actual sound levels from these construction activities.

**Condition 11–**

*The maximum charge size per delay for blasting is limited to 1,000 kg as the vibration and overpressure mitigation option. If the charge size is larger than 1,000 kg per delay, the vibration and overpressure levels emanating from RRM blasting operations will be reassessed in a detailed study to confirm that the predicted levels are within guideline limits.*

For the 6 3/4 inch drill patterns the design may have 4 holes (216 kg each) blasting in close proximity (within 8 ms of each other for Non-electric detonators). For the 8.5 inch, the design may have 3 holes on average blasting (320 kg each) in close proximity. Therefore, our MIC can be estimated at 864-960 kg per shot.

**Condition 12–**

*NG will continue to work actively with local residents throughout the period of mine construction,*

*operation and active closure to further manage and reduce any disturbances due to air and sound emissions to the extent possible, as well as for other effects.*

Through regular communication, New Gold has established positive relationships with neighbours who are closest to the project mine site. When neighbours have any concerns or comments, they contact the Community Coordinator or Community Supervisor directly, who then ensure follow-up and closeout. It is typical for New Gold to host the neighbours for a site visit and lunch; however, due to COVID-19 restrictions, this visit did not take place. New Gold did send a gift basket to the neighbours. In 2020, there were two vibration complaints and no road dust or any other air quality complaints. The vibration complaints were resolved to the neighbours satisfaction.

**Condition 13–**

*Collectively and individually, the processes and water management strategies proposed for the RRM are Best Management Practices and/or Best Available Technology Economically Achievable (BATEA), and NG has committed to the use of such processes and water management strategies in the Final EA Report. Examples of such BATEA committed to by NG:*

- *Use of the in-plant SO<sub>2</sub>/Air process for cyanide destruction and metal precipitation, as well as to extended post SO<sub>2</sub>/Air treatment effluent aging in the TMA (TMA) and water management ponds, followed by constructed wetland treatment;*
- *Detailed plans and designs to manage potentially acid generating rock (PAG) on site, including ongoing progressive reclamation at the stockpile to limit acid generation, with drainage from this stockpile reporting to the mine rock pond, for re-use as part of the mill process water supply thereby reducing fresh water requirements. Dissolved metals associated with east mine rock stockpile drainage would ultimately report to the process plant SO<sub>2</sub>/Air and hydroxide precipitation circuit, and then to tailings;*
- *Use of emulsion and/or emulsion blend explosives as a means of limiting ammonia residuals from the use of blasting agents at source; and*
- *Collection of site runoff and seepage as per MMER (MMER), and to maximize the use of near 100% contact water recycle for the processing plant water supply.*

During 2020 the mill continued in plant treatment of tailings using SO<sub>2</sub>/air in the cyanide destruction

tank, where cyanide and metalocyanide complexes are oxidized to cyanate ions. The cyanate ions reacted with water to form ammonia and carbon dioxide. Free metal ions were precipitated with the addition of lime to form insoluble metal hydroxides and absorbed onto tailings particle solids, settling out of the slurry in the tailings management area. Excess SO<sub>2</sub> was used in the process to ensure complete stoichiometric oxidation of cyanide.

In 2020, construction of the Tailings Management Area (TMA) lift on North and West Dams were completed. Treated tailings are continuously pumped from the mill through the tailings pipeline into TMA. The water treatment train including a water treatment plant, biological reactor #1 and three nitrification cells was completed in 2019. Construction of biological reactor #2 and overflow pond began in late fall of 2019 with completion in June 2020. Effluent discharge line #2 and diffuser was completed near confluence of Loslo Creek with Pinewood River. Sediment Pond #3 construction began in summer and was completed in early 2020.

Identification of potentially acid generating rock (PAG) continued to be managed through chemical testing and segregation into ore stockpiles within the low grade and East Mine Rock stockpile areas, as per requirements of the Geochemical Monitoring Plan.

Progression reclamation began with the Tait Quarry area and will continue as discussed in the Rainy River Closure Plan Amendment (September 2020). Drainage from low grade and east mine rock PAG stockpiles continues to report into the Mine Rock Pond via a drainage ditch surrounding the East Mine Rock Stockpile area which was completed in 2019. Recycling of water from the Mine Rock Pond for re-use in the mill process water supply continued during 2020. The current drilling and blasting contractor on site, Dyno Nobel, continued to use a straight emulsion for all blasting in 2020. As per MDMER regulations, collection of site runoff and seepage was directed into the Water Management Pond and other on-site holding ponds. Effluent discharges to the environment from ECA compliant water retained in on-site holding ponds, took place in the fall of 2020.

**Condition 14–**

*Surface water runoff will be diverted from entering the pit or flowing through stockpiles by ditching or other means.*

During 2020, all surface water was diverted from the stockpiles and the open pit with permanent ditching and sumps. West Mine Rock Stockpile has permanent ditching surrounding the periphery of

the footprint relying on Sediment Pond 3 and Sumps 1 and 2 to collect the southern and eastern portion of ditching and Sediment Ponds 1 and 2 to collect the northern and western portion ditching. Water captured in Sediment Pond 3 and Sumps 1 and 2 is pumped to Sediment Ponds 1 or 2. If it meets water quality objectives, it is discharged to either West Creek Diversion via Sediment Pond 1 or the Pinewood River via Sediment Pond 2. East Mine Rock Stockpile also has permanent ditching around the periphery of the footprint. This ditching directs all water to the Mine Rock Pond. The Open Pit has expanded in the general southern direction with the temporary north ditch extended to capture surface water along the entire northern edge. The water is pumped to either the Plant Site water management structures or Mine Rock Pond and used in ore processing. Temporary sumps are still used for staging pumps to remove localized surface water runoff with the Open Pit footprint and sent to either the Mine Rock Pond or the Plant Site water management structures.

**Condition 15–**

*Open pit dewatering water will be contained and if necessary, treated before it is discharged to the environment.*

The Open Pit uses an extended ditch along its northern edge to collect all surface water before it enters the footprint as well as temporary sumps with the footprint itself to stage pumps and remove localized surface water runoff and groundwater seepage. This water is pumped to the Mine Rock Pond or the Plant Site water management structures and used in ore processing. If it is not required, it can bypass the mill and go straight to the Tailings Management Area. It can either be used in the ore processing again or go through the Water Treatment Train and be discharged to the Pinewood River.

**Condition 16–**

*In regards to final reclamation, the open pit will be flooded at closure to create a pit lake either passively through natural groundwater entry and precipitation inputs; or by active enhanced flooding. Discussions will be held with the various government agencies to determine the optimal balance between maintaining Pinewood River flows and filling the open pit on an expedited basis.*

The CPA was filed on September 15, 2020 by the agency and addresses this requirement.

**Condition 17–**

*Enhanced pit flooding using the West Creek source is not under consideration by NG and has been*

*clarified in the Draft Closure Plan submitted for review, pending discussions and further direction from various government agencies.*

The process for flooding the open pit at mine closure is discussed in commitment number 16. The use of West Creek as a source to provide water for flooding the open pit is not being considered by New Gold.

**Condition 18–**

*Pit lake water quality will be monitored regularly as part of the post-closure monitoring program.*

The mine is currently in an operational phase and ore is being extracted from the open pit. This commitment will be addressed at mine closure.

**Condition 19–**

*Should it be determined that future treatment is needed for stockpile runoff / seepage and overflow from the pit at closure, passive treatment options would be fully considered during the detailed design stage.*

Perimeter ditches are in function for the stockpiles. Compliant water can be discharged, and a system of pump back is in place for sedimentation ponds 1, 2 and 3, should water not be compliant.

**Condition 20–**

*Ditches (and ponds as appropriate), will be established around the stockpiles to collect and manage runoff. Diversions will be sized to convey the environmental design flood. All sedimentation ponds will be designed with a retention period to meet the MMER discharge requirement for total suspended solids. The design criteria for perimeter ditching in this area (east mine rock stockpile and low grade ore stockpile) has been increased to the 100-year return period condition, as these stockpiles will contain PAG materials.*

As per MDMER regulations, collection of site runoff and seepage was directed into the Water Management Pond and other on-site holding ponds. Discharges to the environment from on-site holding ponds occurred in 2020. Permanent ditch design in EMRS has been designed by qualified engineers based on 100 year storm event criteria and has been fully constructed.

Permanent ditching design for WMRS has been designed by qualified engineers based on 25 year



storm event. The ditch was fully completed during 2020.

**Condition 21– Completed 2018**

*The retention time for sediment ponds 1 and 2 has been increased to 12 days, subject to review and acceptance by the MOECC.*

**Condition 22– Completed December 2017**

*PAG mine rock (and ore) will be managed, with drainage from the PAG mine rock and ore stockpile reporting to the mine rock pond, for re-use as part of the process plant water supply.*

**Condition 23–**

*The deepest local till layer resting directly on bedrock contains PAG material and will be visually segregated and treated as PAG material unless otherwise determined, and will be stockpiled within the east mine rock stockpile, or disposed of in a manner where acid rock drainage (ARD) potentials will be controlled. A detailed mine rock segregation program / management strategy will be developed around the distribution of non-potentially acid generating (NPAG) and PAG materials, and a program of ongoing testing to be carried out during mining operations of the mine rock being removed.*

*NG proposes to utilize visual and geochemical data to identify that portion of the till overlying the bedrock which requires handling as PAG material, based on the characteristics of the clasts (loose stones) contained therein. Segregation is commonly utilized and MEND 5.4.2d (MEND Manual, Volume 4, Prevention and Control) indicates that segregation is applicable where a clean separation can be made and where a disposal location is available for the PAG material - both of which apply to the RRP. This PAG till would be treated as PAG material and would be directed to the east mine rock stockpile for disposal along with PAG mine rock. NG is conducting a detailed sampling and analysis program of the overburden within the pit area. The study will be used to delineate the thickness of till over the bedrock that may contain locally derived PAG rock materials so that these materials can be segregated during operations and placed into the East Mine Rock stockpile, or otherwise maintained in a saturated condition. Periodic confirmation analysis will be conducted during the (open pit) stripping program to ensure that the initial interpretation of the thickness of till requiring handling as PAG remains accurate. A draft mine rock and overburden management plan was submitted with the Draft Closure Plan that will be finalized and submitted with the Final Closure Plan for filing with the MNM later in 2014. It will also be provided to EC per their request. The plan will be revised during operations if necessary, to ensure it*

*remains current and as part of future Closure Plan amendments*

Monitoring was ongoing during 2020. Periodic sampling of till is ongoing during open pit stripping of till. Results have been in line with the initial interpretations. A Geochemical Monitoring Plan for the Construction and Operation Phases was issued in accordance with MECP ECA 5178- 9TUPD9 requirements and has been implemented at the RRM site. Monitoring was ongoing during 2019. Periodic sampling of till is ongoing during open pit stripping of till. Results have been in line with the initial interpretations.

#### **Condition 24–**

*Geochemistry monitoring:*

- *Runoff and seepage related to tailings and stockpiles will be monitored as per surface and groundwater monitoring;*
- *Blast hole sampling from open pit operations for mine rock segregation will be carried out throughout the open pit operations phase;*
- *Tailings samples will be collected at regular intervals during the mine operations phase; and*
- *Field trials will be carried out during all or a portion of the mine construction and operations phases as required to generate data need to confirm modeling results.*

A Geochemical Monitoring Plan for the Construction and Operation Phases was issued in accordance with MECP ECA 7004-BC7KQ5 requirements and has been implemented at the RRM site. Monitoring was ongoing during 2020. A field capping trial was commissioned in 2017.

#### **Condition 25–**

*PAG material would only be used for fill material in areas where it can be maintained in a saturated state to exclude oxygen and inhibit sulphide oxidation. These uses may include underground backfill and construction of the upstream portion of the TMA dams.*

All the PAG that has been encountered during 2020 has either been stockpiled in the East Mine Rock Stockpile, used in the pit (for road building and padding in the overburden) or stockpiled in the Tailings Management Area and used for dam wall construction.

**Condition 26–**

*Progressive rehabilitation of mine rock and overburden stockpiles will be undertaken where practical once the maximum height of each stockpile has been reached and/or as each lift is completed.*

Approximately 3 ha of East Mine Rock Stockpile's lower bench began progressive reclamation during Q3 and Q4 2020. This reclamation included the construction of a 0.5 m lower permeability layer on the bottom and a 1 m growth medium, frost protection, moisture retention layer on the top. During this reclamation, a constructability plan was created followed by an extensive QA/QC program to ensure compliance with the proposed engineered cover system. Revegetation efforts on this area is planned for Q2 2021. See 20201231 EMRS Cover Record of Construction in Appendix B Rev0 for more information.

**Condition 27–**

*Encapsulation of the east mine rock stockpile under a multi-layered cover is proposed with a long-term goal of controlling ARD.*

In 2017, a multi-layered cover system test plot was set up on the Northeast side of the plant to test the proposed design through multiple years. In 2018, 2019, and 2020, this multi layered cover system was monitored to ensure complete encapsulation was successful and memo outlining the results in 2020 was prepared. See PAG Cover Trial Annual Monitoring Report Rev0 in Appendix C for more information.

Approximately 3 ha of East Mine Rock Stockpile's lower bench began progressive reclamation during Q3 and Q4 2020. This reclamation included the construction of a multi-layered cover that consisted of a 0.5 m lower permeability layer on the bottom and a 1 m growth medium, frost protection, moisture retention layer on the top. During this reclamation, a constructability plan was created followed by an extensive QA/QC program to ensure compliance with the proposed engineered cover system with a long term goal of controlling ARD. See 20201231 EMRS Cover Record of Construction in Appendix B Rev0 for more information.

**Condition 28–**

*As part of the geochemical characterization studies for the project, NG committed to an extended monitoring period of kinetic cells to both demonstrate and continue to evaluate the robustness of the geochemical results.*

In 2017 Kinetic cell monitoring was ongoing as required to support the geochemical characterization studies. As of December 31, 2020 the following kinetic tests remained active:

- 1 waste rock humidity cells
- 2 tailings columns

**Condition 29–**

*The run-of-mine stockpile is the temporary, working stockpile for the processing plant; the low grade ore stockpile is proposed to be depleted during the latter part of operations. As a contingency only, it is proposed that should an ore stockpile remain at closure, it will be managed similar to PAG in the East Mine Rock Stockpile with a multi-layer cover and seeded. Runoff and seepage will be directed to the open pit as part of the passive water management system.*

At closure, should a ore stockpile remain, section 9.14.1.4 of the Rainy River Project Closure Plan (October 2017) stipulates that it will be considered part of the East Mine Rock Stockpile and reclaimed in the same manner.

**Condition 30–**

*Site runoff and seepage will be collected, managed and treated per the Provincial and MMER requirements.*

- Site runoff and seepage are collected, managed and treated as per provincial and federal requirements.
- Water Management Pond and Tailings Management Area - Ditches and finger drains direct seepage and dam runoff to seepage collection ponds. Seepage collection ponds are pumped back to the WMP and TMA, respectively.
- West Mine Rock Stockpile - Ditches and drains direct seepage and dump runoff to Sediment Ponds #1, #2 and #3 for treatment by settling. Treated seepage and runoff in Sediment Ponds #1 and #2 that meets provincial and federal effluent limits is discharged to the environment.
- Open Pit - Sumps in catch benches, in-pit sumps and interception ditches collect runoff and seepage from the open pit which is pumped to the Mine Rock Pond or South Pond which the Mill draws from for use in processing ore.

- East Mine Rock Stockpile - Ditches and drains direct seepage and dump runoff to the Mine Rock Pond for use in processing ore.
- Process Plant Site - Ditches direct seepage and site runoff to the South and North Ponds. South and North Ponds are drawn into the Mill for use in ore processing.

**Condition 31– Completed during design**

*The overall site footprint and watershed capture will be minimized to the extent practical, so as to minimize the quantity of runoff and seepage requiring treatment and management.*

**Condition 32–**

*West Creek pond and West Creek diversion flows will be measured on a continuous basis using water level transducers, supported by monthly manual measurements during the winter period, when transducer results experience interference caused by ice pressure.*

The West Creek Pond and Diversion were completed in 2017. A water level transducer was installed in the West Creek Pond in April 2018. A hydrometric station was established in the West Creek Diversion box culvert, the H3 hydrometric station, in September 2019. A second hydrometric station, the H4 hydrometric station, was established in the West Creek Diversion at the Haul Road 8 culvert downstream of Sediment Pond 1 discharge and where the Marr Diversion enters the West Creek Diversion.

**Condition 33–**

*The West Creek pond will only contain natural, non-contact water. The West Creek diversion channel will be kept separate from the constructed wetland downstream of the TMA, so as not to mix the natural creek water with excess water discharged from the TMA.*

The West Creek pond only contains non-contact water. The wetland construction will only occur near closure. At that time, appropriate measure will be implemented.

**Condition 34– completed 2017.**

*West Creek Diversion will be positioned far enough from the pit perimeter to ensure integrity and stability and is expected to provide like-for-like fish habitat replacement.*

**Condition 35–**

*The West Creek diversion will be permanent, and there is no further consideration being given to diverting any flows from this creek into the open pit to help accelerate pit flooding at or following closure.*

To date, the design of the mine is consistent with the requirements of this commitment.

Please refer to commitment number 16

**Condition 36– Completed 2016**

*There will be secondary containment in place for tailings and contact water pipelines at the crossing of West Creek.*

In 2016, a secondary pipe and berm were installed around the Tailings and Water Management Pond Reclaim pipelines at every fish bearing waterbody crossing including West Creek. These all still remain in 2020.

**Condition 37–**

*A reliable water source for process plant operations and ancillary uses will be generated by maximizing the rate of water recycled to the process plant.*

*Water demands are expected to be met by capturing and reusing the effluents and contact water within the site footprint.*

Roughly 70% of the water takings for the Mill were sourced from the Tailings reclaim water structure, 25% from Mine Rock Pond and the remainder from South Pond. The Process Plant operated on 100% contact water throughout 2020.

**Condition 38– completed November 30<sup>th</sup> 2018**

*Water will be taken from the Pinewood River for the purpose of developing an initial water inventory, only during the construction phase. NG does not intend to take water directly from the Pinewood River thereafter, except possibly for contingency purposes.*

**Condition 39–**

*Water recycle will be maximized, using approximately 100% water recycle for the processing plant water supply.*

Roughly 70% of the water takings for the Mill were sourced from the Tailings reclaim water structure, 25% from Mine Rock Pond and the remainder from South Pond. The Process Plant operated on 100% contact water throughout 2020.

**Condition 40–**

*Local area lakes will not be used for process water supply for the RRM.*

Roughly 70% of the water takings for the Mill were sourced from the Tailings reclaim water structure, 25% from Mine Rock Pond and the remainder from South Pond. The Process Plant operated on 100% contact water throughout 2020. No local lakes or rivers were utilized to source any water.

**Condition 41–**

*All process reagents and materials, and wastes, will be handled and stored responsibly, according to supplier and safety guidance, regulatory requirements and industry best practices.*

During 2020 process reagents and materials were handled and stored according to supplier and safety guidance, Regulatory requirements and industry best practices. Mechanical maintenance areas have appropriate containment for used oil and other hazardous materials associated with mechanical repairs and maintenance to heavy equipment. New Gold RRM and on-site contractors producing hazardous waste were registered with HWIN. Certified hazardous waste transportation companies were contracted to remove hazardous waste from designated areas. New Gold Staff inspect these designated areas to ensure appropriate storage methods were being implemented. Mill Operations stored reagents and chemicals used in ore processing either in dry storage facilities or within secondary containment areas. All reagents shipped to site are conducted by licensed transportation companies. When products arrive on site, they are offloaded by New Gold RRM operators who are trained in Transportation of Dangerous Goods.

New materials being purchased by the company undergo a review of the Safety Data Sheets by the New Gold Health and Safety and Environmental Departments prior to being brought to site. The intent of this review is to ensure appropriate product use as well as appropriate handling and containment practices are in place.

**Condition 42–**

*Any chemical spills within the process plant / chemical storage areas will be controlled through provision of secondary containment as appropriate and will not enter the environment. Spills of potentially hazardous materials during transport, or from on-site material storage and handling facilities will be managed. Measures will be taken to prevent and clean up any hydrocarbon spills (and other spills) at source to ensure such materials do not enter surrounding waters as practical. Spills will be reported to the MOECC and other appropriate agencies per the requirements of the Ontario Environmental Protection Act.*

During 2019, an MECP guidance document on environmental protection measures at chemical and waste storage facilities was implemented sitewide. Chemicals to be used in the process plant were moved into the mill, placed in covered cold storage areas or within bermed laydown areas to protect against spills to the environment. In 2020, fully covered storage facilities were built for new and used lube and oil.

In 2020, 8 spills (project wide) were reported to the MECP as per requirements of the Ontario Environmental Protection Act. Letter reports communicating incident details, clean up and mitigation measures were provided to the MECP as per ECA 7004-BC7KQ5 permit conditions. Event details are captured in a computer program called INControl. Each event is provided with a unique identifier which is used to capture spill information details, clean up tasks and assign accountability to responsible individuals. This system ensures that the spill is documented and cleaned up appropriately in a timely manner and reviewed by area owners before event is closed. Information related to the spills reported to MECP can be found in the Supporting Documentation for Appendix K.

**Condition 43–**

*The TMA dams will meet strict regulatory requirements including the requirements of the Provincial Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act and will be constructed to withstand the probable maximum flood and maximum credible earthquake. A remedial action plan would be developed in consultation with appropriate government agencies in the event of dam breach.*

Section 5.6.1 of the Rainy River Mine Comprehensive Closure Plan Amendment (October 2017) outlines the Geotechnical Design Criteria for the TMA dams and Water Management Pond dams (WMP). It indicates that;



- The dams are designed to meet the most severe flood and earthquake criteria, being the probable maximum flood and maximum credible earthquake, in accordance with the Ontario Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act requirements.
- The designs are supported by several geotechnical investigations of subsurface condition, the most recent of which was completed by BGC in 2021.
- Emergency spillways are provided for each stage of the TMA dams and WMP to safely pass the probable maximum flood
- Adequate freeboard is maintained in the TMA and WMP to contain the environmental design flood corresponding to a 100-year 30-day storm event and all spillways are protected against erosion
- New Gold has successfully obtained appropriate LRIA permit approvals for the construction of all onsite dams.

An Operational Maintenance and Surveillance (OMS) manual was submitted to the MNRF as per conditions of the LRIA and accepted in August 2017. The OMS is updated at least annually, with the most recent version provided as Supporting Documentation for Appendix L

**Condition 44–**

*Runoff and seepage from the TMA and stockpiles will be captured, monitored, and either released to the environment if applicable criteria are met and/or re-used in the process plant during operations. Cyanide and metal concentrations in the TMA seepage and all treated effluent discharges to the environment will be controlled through the use of in-plant cyanide destruction and heavy metal precipitation, augmented by extended effluent aging in the TMA ponds.*

Detailed design during 2020 was consistent with this commitment. Permanent seepage collection ditches and sumps were completed around the Water Management Pond and all of the completed Tailings Management Area (TMA) with systems in place to pump the runoff and seepage back into either the Water Management Pond or the Tailings Management Area to allow for extended effluent aging. If discharge of this water is required, it will go through the Water Treatment Train process before discharging to the Pinewood River. Seepage collection systems will continue to be built along the downstream section of the TMA dam extensions. Ditches sediment ponds have also been constructed around the East and West Mine Rock Stockpiles to capture any runoff or seepage. Runoff or seepage can be discharged from Sediment Ponds 1 and 2 located around the West Mine Rock Stockpile if

required and applicable criteria are met while the ditching around East Mine Rock Stockpile directs flows to the Mine Rock Pond which is used in the ore process with an option to send directly to the TMA.

**Condition 45–**

*All active pipelines will be inspected twice per 12 hour shift and informally at other times. Should flow unexpectedly lessen or stop in a pipeline, an inspection will be immediately conducted.*

The surveillance and inspections of active pipelines is outlined in each part of the Rainy River Mine Operation, Maintenance and Surveillance (OMS) Manual, where relevant. The OMS was reviewed by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry as a part of the Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act (LRIA) Approval Process for the construction of dams. A copy of the OMS can be found in the Supporting Documentation in Appendix L.

**Condition 46–**

*The exposed tailings beach will be covered at closure with a layer of overburden, with flooding of the remaining tailings with a layer of water to prevent the tailings from oxidizing over the longer term. This will ensure that the tailings pond water remains of high quality, such that it will not pose a threat to wildlife.*

On September 15<sup>th</sup> 2020 an amended Closure Plan was filed by ENDM. There is no change with regards to the treatment of the tailing's treatment at closure.

**Condition 47–**

*NG commits to maintaining the deposited tailings during the post closure period in a saturated condition in perpetuity to prevent the generation of ARD. NG also commits to developing and completing a monitoring plan which evaluates the integrity of the cover system (e.g. low permeability overburden zone) and the continuous saturation of the tailings.*

On September 15<sup>th</sup> 2020 an amended Closure Plan was filed by ENDM. There is no change with regards to the treatment of the tailing's treatment at closure.

**Condition 48–**

*The thickness and maintenance of water cover over the TMA will be clarified in the Closure Plan.*

On September 15<sup>th</sup> 2020 an amended Closure Plan was filed by ENDM. There is no change with regards to the treatment of the tailing's treatment at closure.

**Condition 49–**

*A detailed monitoring plan will be developed as part of the Provincial closure planning process to ensure that the deposited tailings solids remain permanently saturated in the post-closure condition. This plan will include consideration of the low permeability overburden perimeter cover bordering the tailings dams to ensure that the deposited tailings beneath the perimeter overburden cover remain saturated, or alternatively that the overburden zone cover itself remains sufficiently saturated so as to prevent oxidation of the underlying tailings. The monitoring program will consist of the following principal elements:*

- *Establishment of a field trial to simulate the performance of the low permeability cover, with initiation during the development phase and monitoring during operations to support the closure design to ensure saturation levels in the cover and underlying tailings to confirm, or modify, design criteria;*
- *Survey of the final tailings surface prior to flooding for closure, with results of the survey tied to TMA dam crest elevations and the spillway invert elevation;*
- *Establishment of a water level monitoring station within the tailings pond, near to the spillway, with measurements to be taken at regular intervals.*

The first Closure Plan for the Rainy River Project was filed in 2015. A Closure Plan Amendment was filed with the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines in October 2017 as the project transitioned from its construction phase into operations and filed on September 15, 2020. Section 6.2.4 of the Closure Plan discusses the progressive reclamation strategy for the TMA that will occur much later in the mine life, as it will be actively used for tailings deposition throughout operations and allowed to flood upon closure. At the end of mine operations the plan is to allow a low permeability overburden to cover approximately 150m in width to be placed on the upstream side of the dam around two thirds of the ultimate perimeter allowing the remaining one third to be reclaimed at closure. The purpose of the overburden cover is to prevent the water cover from coming in contact with the dams and it will also limit oxygen diffusion into the uppermost portion of the tailings underneath. The overburden layer will be

seeded with native seed mix and armoured with Non-Acid Generating (NAG) rock. The remaining tailings will have a permanent water cover of approximately 2 m. As the project advances through its operational phase more research and planning will be conducted on the management of tailings at closure. Additional planning will be outlined in future closure plan amendments.

**Condition 50–**

*In the event that observed water levels within the TMA pond were to decline to a level where there was a risk of the deposited tailings solids becoming partially unsaturated for extended periods, the available contingencies to mitigate that condition would be the following:*

- *Periodically pump water from the Pinewood River during spring freshet, or during other high water periods, to maintain the TMA post closure water cover within an optimal zone (alternatively water could be periodically pumped to the TMA from the upper water column of the flooded open pit – pending suitable water quality);*
- *Raise the spillway invert to further increase the depth of the TMA water cover (this action would require a widening of the spillway to continue to allow for passage of the probable maximum flood); or*
- *Raising the dam crest, as well as the spillway invert to further increase the depth of the TMA water cover.*

*In development of the above contingencies, trigger levels would be developed for implementation of the contingencies. the following:*

- *Periodically pump water from the Pinewood River during spring freshet, or during other high water periods, to maintain the TMA post closure water cover within an optimal zone (alternatively water could be periodically pumped to the TMA from the upper water column of the flooded open pit – pending suitable water quality);*
- *Raise the spillway invert to further increase the depth of the TMA water cover (this action would require a widening of the spillway to continue to allow for passage of the probable maximum flood); or*
- *Raising the dam crest, as well as the spillway invert to further increase the depth of the TMA water cover.*

*In development of the above contingencies, trigger levels would be developed for implementation of the*

*contingencies.*

In the fall of 2017, the Rainy River Project transitioned from a construction to operational state. Currently this condition doesn't apply as the mine and Tailings Management Area (TMA) are not in a closure state. However, New Gold intends to have a 2m water cover over the tailings as discussed in the Mine Closure Plan.

**Condition 51–**

*Mitigation measures that will be used to reduce potential adverse effects to the Pinewood River aquatic system will include the following:*

- *Extensive contact water recycling for process plant needs to reduce overall water demands and to minimize final effluent discharge volumes to the Pinewood River;*
- *Use of SO<sub>2</sub>/Air treatment for cyanide destruction and heavy metal precipitation in the process plant followed by extended effluent aging in the TMA pond and in the water management pond to achieve the highest quality effluent reasonably achievable;*
- *Use of a constructed wetland system for final effluent polishing of a major portion of the discharge;*
- *Management of the site for ARD control during operations and following closure to prevent adverse water quality impacts to the Pinewood River;*
- *The DFO (DFO) Freshwater Intake End-of-Pipe Guidelines will be followed as mitigation for potential fisheries effects associated with water intakes;*
- *Construction of the Pinewood River Highway 600 re-alignment crossing (bridge or culverts) in a manner that does not restrict fish passage;*
- *Maintaining current fish habitat productivity; and*
- *Implementation of an extensive monitoring plan for water quality and flow discharges, and receiving water aquatic life and habitat.*

RRM maximizes water recycling for ore processing and treats excess water for release to the environment to remain below the maximum operating water level of all site dams in preparation for storm events and spring freshet. In 2020, 100% of the water use for the mill came from three sources: TMA, MRP and South Pond (pit). The RRM site water balance informs the annual site discharge target.

In 2020, RRM discharged from 3 final discharge points a total of 1,648,154 m<sup>3</sup> to the Pinewood River. Prior to deposit in the TMA, process plant effluent and tailings pass through an in-plant slurry cyanide destruction (SO<sub>2</sub>/Air) treatment facility. Effluent is aged in the TMA before transfer to the Water Treatment Train for treatment. Treated effluent is further aged in the WMP and is either discharged directly to the environment or sent for further treatment, dependent on water quality. Prior to closure, a Constructed Wetland will be developed for final effluent polishing at closure.

The East and West Mine Rock Stockpiles have perimeter ditching to collect seepage and runoff to contain potential ARD. A seep monitoring program will begin in 2021 for all stockpiles, and insitu monitoring equipment is being installed to monitor ARD potential and development in the East Mine Rock Stockpile.

The DFO Freshwater Intake End of Pipe Guidelines were implemented at RRM in 2016 during the construction of the Pinewood River pumphouse. Fish screens were also installed on all construction dewatering pumps during the construction of diversion structures and culvert installations.

The construction of the Pinewood River crossing at Highway 600 was completed in 2016 and consisted of the installation of a clear span bridge with no in water work that would restrict fish passage.

RRM has an extensive aquatic resources monitoring program which includes the Pinewood Biological Monitoring Plan to monitor direct effects to fish in the Pinewood River. Monitoring of Pinewood River water quality is conducted monthly as part of the Surface Water monitoring program. The Pinewood Hydrometric Monitoring program outlines monitoring for flow changes.

#### **Condition 52–**

*All final discharge points will have a point of control to immediately cease discharge. A control structure will be constructed at the discharge point of the treatment wetland to be in compliance with MMER. All discharge locations will be regularly sampled in accordance with environmental approval requirements and will provide insight as to ongoing treatment system performance.*

All final discharge points are controlled by pump that is equipped with a calibrated flow measuring device. All final discharge points are sampled at the frequency required by MDMER and amended ECA 7004-BC7KQ5 during active discharge to assess compliance.

#### **Condition 53–**

*NG acknowledges the need to meet effluent criteria for any discharge to the environment. Excess water*

*discharged to the environment will meet applicable Federal and Provincial guidelines for the protection of aquatic life, or other scientifically defensible alternatives, in the receiver, as well as any site-specific approval requirements.*

Four approved effluent compliance points were active in 2020, though it should be noted that Sediment Pond 1 was only active for a short duration as a result of a leaking valve. All effluent met applicable Federal and Provincial guidelines for the protection of aquatic life, and ECA 7004-BC7KQ5 site-specific limits with the exception of the provincial monthly average concentration of total copper at the EDL1 (Water Discharge Pipeline) final discharge point for the month of October 2020.

**Condition 54–**

*Minimize the number of final effluent compliance points as reasonable.*

In 2020, there were four approved effluent compliance points under amended ECA 7004-BC7KQ5 and MDMER.

- Sediment Pond 1 Final Discharge Point was active on July 16, 2020 due to a leaking valve, with a total discharge of 162 m<sup>3</sup> to the West Creek Diversion over less than 1 day.
- Sediment Pond 2 Final Discharge Point was active between June 21 and July 19, and September 28 and November 27, 2020, with a total discharge of 262,570 m<sup>3</sup> to the Pinewood River over 87 days.
- EDL1 (Water Discharge Pipeline) Final Discharge Point was active between April 29 and May 31, September 6 and September 7, and October 13 and November 14, 2020, with a total discharge of 1,137,571 m<sup>3</sup> to the Pinewood River over 67 days.
- EDL2 Final Discharge Point was active between October 15 and November 14, 2020, with a total discharge of 248,013 m<sup>3</sup> to the Pinewood River over 29 days.

**Condition 55–Completed October 2018**

*NG agrees to work with the MOE to develop a mutually acceptable minimum flow threshold, below which water from the Pinewood River would not be taken to build up the initial water inventory to support processing plant start up operations. Subject to approval(s), NG is proposing spring and open water flow thresholds of 10,000 m<sup>3</sup>/d and 5,000 m<sup>3</sup>/d, respectively, below which direct water taking from the Pinewood River downstream of McCallum Creek, would temporarily cease until river flows*

recover. The application of such flow restrictions would be based on day to day prorated flow data obtained from Water Survey of Canada (WSC) Station 05PC023.

**Condition 56—Completed October 9<sup>th</sup> 2015; Upgraded December 2019.**

*The appropriateness of the use of the WSC station will be assessed as part of the operations planning, and if this station appears unsuitable, a separate dedicated flow monitoring station will be set up, either independently, or in association with the WSC.*

**Condition 57**

*Optimize the timing and positioning of final effluent discharges to the Pinewood River so as to limit the potential for adverse flow effects to the river.*

Consistent with this commitment, there are four approved final effluent discharge locations per amended ECA 7004-BC7KQ5. Approval for eight temporary construction final effluent discharge locations per ECA 5781-9VJQ2J expired on May 8, 2018.

**Condition 58**

*Subject to approval(s), NG is proposing to operate the final effluent discharge from both the Constructed Wetland and the pipeline discharge from the Water Management Pond, such that a minimum 1:1 receiver to final effluent mixing ratio would be maintained in the Pinewood River, with the understanding that receiver to final effluent mixing ratios of greater than 1:1 would be the norm.*

The Constructed Wetland is scheduled for construction two years prior to closure. In the interim NG has constructed a treatment train that is consistent with the discharge criteria. It discharges at the same location along the Pinewood River as will the future Constructed Wetlands. The discharge is also consistent with the commitment of discharging from both the pipeline and the treatment train at mixing ratios of 1:1 into the Pinewood River.

**Condition 59**

*NG commits to the discharge of effluents to the Pinewood River in a manner that will achieve rapid mixing within the river. If future operational monitoring shows that effective receiver mixing is not attained, NG commits to implement additional measures to enhance mixing to a level which is mutually acceptable to the MOE and NG. Such additional measures could include the use of rock groynes*



*placed on either side of the channel to force mid- channel mixing and use of boulder clusters to increase flow turbulence within the mixing zone.*

Installation of two duckbill diffusers and riverbed armouring, effluent mixing structures (EMS), were installed in the Pinewood River at EDL1 (EMS1) in December 2019 and at EDL2 (EMS2) at the Loslo Confluence in September 2020. Improvements were completed at EMS1 in August 2020 as a result of inspections after spring 2020 discharge was completed, which were also applied to the construction of EMS2.

### **Condition 60**

*Scheduling of RRM development activities will consider environmental aspects, such as fish spawning.*

Since 2015, Rainy River Mine activities and mitigation measures previously implemented to consider environmental aspects such as fish spawning;

- Construction activities near fish bearing waterbodies were scheduled outside of the fish spawning window. Fish salvage was conducted prior to any construction activities affecting fish bearing waters.
- In late summer of 2020, in-water works in the Pinewood River and to repair existing discharge structures (EDL1) and hydrometric instrumentation (H1) and install EDL2 at the confluence of Loslo Creek and the Pinewood River. These works were done well outside of fish spawning windows as identified by the MNR through the LRIA permit process. Fish salvaging for this work was performed under a LCFSP with no mortality to fish.
- Vegetation buffers, rig mats and straw in place around all fish bearing water ways to protect aquatic life. This is done in an effort to prevent any sediment from construction activities from depositing into water ways.

### **Condition 61**

*A No Net Loss Plan and compensation strategy will be developed and implemented by NG to create new like for like habitats as project compensation and/or enhance existing restoration programs, to offset the RRM habitat losses.*

To offset habitat loss New Gold has currently completed the following:

- Ownership and maintenance of over 1800 ha of Overall Benefit Land to compensate for the loss of Bobolink and Whip-Poor-Will habitat during construction.
- Completion of the water diversion structures and ponds to offset for the loss of fish habitat in the former Loslo Creek, Marr Creek, West Creek, Clark Creek and Teeple Drain systems. Monitoring of the Clark and Teeple systems commenced in 2017 and proved to support fish passage. Stockpile Pond did not fill with 2019 freshet and did not activate the remaining 50% of the Stockpile Diversion after filling the pond. A geotechnical investigating is underway to address issues with Stockpile Pond and a plan to mitigate the issue is expected in mid-late 2020. West Creek Pond and Diversion again allowed for suitable fish passage during 2019 and as with Teeple and Clark systems are on track to meet DFO success criterion. White Suckers were seen spawning as far up the pond and diversion systems as the lower end of the Stockpile Diversion
- Reclamation of Tait Quarry was completed in summer 2018. The first bench of the EMRS and batch plant locations will be reclaimed in 2021.

#### **Condition 62**

*Except where aquatic habitat will be overprinted (and compensated for as part of DFO authorizations) for project development, a 120 m buffer zone will be maintained adjacent to rivers and creeks to the extent practical, to protect watercourses and their associated vegetated margins.*

Buffer zones are maintained by reducing tree clearing, grubbing and equipment access. New Gold regulates this by; providing construction contractors with maps of buffer zones, using flagging tape to flag off 'no entry' areas, limiting the use of equipment around water courses, ensuring BMP are followed when sediment and erosion measures should be in place and conducting field inspections of work areas.

#### **Condition 63**

*Fish flesh and fish organ tissue samples from the Pinewood River have been analyzed for metals for walleye and northern pike in the baseline condition. A commitment has been made to continue to monitoring metals in these two fish species after mine start-up. Should there be future evidence to show that fish are being taken from the Pinewood River on a more regular basis and prepared as a food source, NG would be pleased to work with these fishermen to collect and analyze a reasonable sampling to reflect any applied methods of food preparation.*

Large body fish tissue sampling occurred in 2020 as it is meant to occur concurrent with MDMER and EEM sampling programs. Thirty-four (34) Northern Pike and 16 Walleye were caught, 15 of each species were sampled for contaminants of concern (metals) in muscle, liver and ovary (if applicable) tissues. New Gold has not been made aware of increased fishing in the Pinewood River and this program will occur again in 2023.

#### **Condition 64**

*Fish tissue (dorsal muscle tissue and livers) sampling will include both northern pike and walleye. If contaminant concentrations increase over time, potential consumers and the applicable Provincial departments (MOE and MNR; MNR) would be informed and information related to increased health risks (if any) would be provided, as suggested.*

Large body fish tissue sampling occurred in 2020 as it is meant to occur concurrent with MDMER and EEM sampling programs. Thirty-four (34) Northern Pike and 16 Walleye were caught, 15 of each species were sampled for contaminants of concern (metals) in muscle, liver and ovary (if applicable) tissues. Contaminant levels have been decreasing over time from baseline levels. For example, mean Northern Pike mercury level in muscle tissue for 2012 was 0.776 mg/kg w.w. and in 2020 that number was 0.440 mg/kg w.w. Conversely the baseline max muscle tissue mercury level in Northern Pike was 4.7 mg/kg w.w. during baseline and in 2020 the max was 0.614 mg/kg w.w. Those levels are still above the limit (0.5 mg/kg w.w.) for consumption by vulnerable populations (This group includes women of child-bearing age and children younger than 15) but a marked decrease between sampling years. Further information regarding large body fish tissue sampling can be found in Appendix M.

#### **Condition 65**

*Specific erosion and sediment control measures and their locations will be provided in the permit application documents once detailed design is completed to avoid direct impacts to fish during the mine construction phase.*

During 2020, erosion and sediment control measures were provided in the permit for all major infrastructure works including TMA dam raise, the Treatment Train(BCR2), and EDL2 as well as EDL1 and H1 repairs.

Each permit application, filed under the Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act (LRIA) and Environmental

Protection Act, contained a sediment and erosion plan for each project/works that is incorporated as a condition of the work permit approval under the section entitled "Further Submittals and Approval Conditions".

**Condition 66**

*Pond dams will be inspected at a regular interval by site employees for any visible signs of concern and particularly during and after major storm events. They will also be inspected periodically by a qualified geotechnical engineer at an interval that meets regulatory requirements at a minimum.*

Daily inspections were carried out by Mill Operators as per MIL-CND-SOP-0009 (targeting 2 inspections per shift). The EOR performed the Dam Safety inspection in August, final report was provided in December. The Tailings Dam Engineer (hired in late 2019) performed monthly inspections of all dam structures and inspects after a major storm event (59 mm in 24 hour trigger)

**Condition 67**

*Surface water: to be monitored during construction, operations and active closure phases, with post active closure monitoring expected to continue for a decade (or more) at reduced frequencies pending ongoing analysis of data*

Surface water was monitored on a monthly basis per permit conditions at sites upstream and downstream of the project footprint in 2020. Results were consistent with baseline studies with the exception of an elevated copper result for October 2020 downstream of the EDL1 final discharge point which corresponds with the exceedance of the provincial monthly average concentration for total copper for October 2020 for that final discharge point.

**Condition 68**

*Proposed (subject to modification to ensure participation and data sharing is adequate to meet the expectations of Aboriginal groups) surface water sampling program would include a First Nation training component followed by a rotating schedule whereby a First Nation representative would accompany NG staff on the monthly surface water sampling program. Laboratory results will be received by NG, reviewed and submitted to the identified individuals of each participating First Nation along with a summary explanation.*

Since 2015 New Gold has employed an Environmental Monitor from Big Grassy First Nation. This role includes environmental site monitoring including water sampling and access to training, mentorship and all data and results. The monitor is responsible to communicate with their community on a regular basis.

In 2019, New Gold hired a second Environmental Monitor, from Big Island First Nation. This role also includes environmental site monitoring including water sampling and access to training, mentorship and all data and results. The monitor is responsible to communicate with their community on a regular basis. In the event of a water quality exceedance that doesn't meet the requirements of the Metal Mining Effluent Regulation or the Provincial Water Quality Objectives, New Gold does inform Aboriginal Communities via email and through communication at the Environmental Monitoring Board Meetings.

#### **Condition 69**

*Sampling of sediments will take place to evaluate soil quality parameters prior to undertaking any further closure activities for any contact water ponds and drainage works (including stockpile sediment ponds) where breaching is proposed.*

In 2016 a topsoil sampling program was completed which included a chemical analysis of soil to be used for closure and reclamation activities. The report identified best case topsoil harvesting locations and provided information on topsoil in Overall Benefit Lands.

In 2020 sediment sampling for reclamation was not completed. As the mine progresses through its operations stage, New Gold intends to implement further sampling programs at contact water ponds and drainage works as per the Closure Plan.

#### **Condition 70**

*NG staff is willing to describe the ongoing water quality program and provide freshet data on request. The water management plan for the RRM provides for the management of all site contact waters in accordance with accepted industry standards including periods of high runoff, and sequences of high precipitation years.*

No requests were made in 2020. A monthly performance report which includes site discharge and surface water quality results is submitted to the MECP area office each month.

### **Condition 71**

*There will be no sediment ponds associated with the aggregate pit(s).*

There were no sediment ponds associated with the Roen Road Pit, Outcrop 3, Laydown 4, or Tait Quarry in 2020. There is one runoff pond located adjacent to Outcrop 3 that is used to capture runoff from the equipment laydown. This Outcrop has since been overprinted by construction of the East Mine Rock Stockpile. During the detailed design stage it was determined that a settling pond may be required to ensure high quality effluent from the Tait Quarry (to allow for ammonia degradation in situ and settling of suspended solids) and Provincial environmental approvals were obtained for this structure. During the operation of the quarry (2015 to 2017) groundwater was not generated and the settling pond was not required. Tait Quarry had undergone reclamation in 2018.

### **Condition 72 – Completed November 2015 to April 2016**

*Related to the transmission line:*

- *Tree stumps, root mats and ground vegetation cover will be left intact to reduce the potential for surface erosion and to help maintain groundcover for plant and wildlife habitat*
- *Vegetation (shrub) screens will be left to the extent practical along the single creek crossing that exists between Beadle and Preachers Lake, near the east end of the alignment, for erosion protection, while ensuring clearance requirements for conductors*
- *No in-water work will be conducted and all poles will be placed above the high water mark*
- *Industry standard sediment interception and erosion control practices will be applied wherever appropriate / needed*
- *Should any erosion of the ground be identified at the end of the construction period (or during any intervening inspections), the exposed area would be re-seeded or otherwise stabilized to control erosion until native vegetation takes hold. If the erosion is more severe, other methods such as placement of straw matting or equivalent will be used*
- *Where required in larger quantities, construction materials will be stored a minimum distance of 200 m from any open (non- frozen) surface water, and from major access points; and*
- *Fueling and maintenance of vehicles will not occur within 50 m of surface waterbodies.*

### **Condition 73**

*As a result of the independent First Nation review of the Final Environmental Assessment report, NG committed to a joint water quality monitoring and reporting program with the area First Nations*

*(including Big Grassy River First Nation; BGRFN) as part of the existing monthly water quality monitoring program which is currently carried out by NG. The program will be funded by NG and form an integral part of the overall environmental management program as it relates to First Nations traditional knowledge and assurances of maintaining water quality and by extension, aquatic biota protection. The program will be developed jointly with the First Nations in lead-up to the initiation of mine construction. (Letter to Chiefs from Kyle Stanfield, October 2013).*

In 2019, New Gold hired a second Environmental Monitor, from Big Island First Nation. This role includes environmental site monitoring including water sampling and access to training, mentorship and all data and results. The monitor is responsible to communicate with their community on a regular basis. In the event of a water quality exceedance that doesn't meet the requirements of the Metal Mining Effluent Regulation or the Provincial Water Quality Objectives, New Gold does inform Aboriginal Communities via email and through communication at the Environmental Monitoring Board Meetings.

#### **Condition 74**

*NG has committed to provide a program of close coordination with Rainy River First Nations in support of the pre-existing First Nation Watershed Program and water quality protection. Company funding will be provided as part of the fisheries compensation program to further water quality enhancement programs for the Pinewood and similar agriculturally impacted waterways.*

Since 2015 New Gold has employed an Environmental Monitor from Big Grassy First Nation. This role includes environmental site monitoring including water sampling and access to training, mentorship and all data and results. The monitor is responsible to communicate with their community on a regular basis. In the event of a water quality exceedance that doesn't meet the requirements of the Metal Mining Effluent Regulation or the Provincial Water Quality Objectives New Gold does inform Aboriginal Communities via email and through communication at the Environmental Monitoring Board Meetings. Starting in 2015 each fall, New Gold hires an independent consultant who is responsible for conducting a fish tissue sampling program in the Pinewood River downstream of the site. The purpose of the study is to assess metal accumulation in walleye and northern pike tissue which are sport fish traditional consumed by First Nation people in the Rainy River District. New Gold has allowed opportunity for First Nation Community Members to participate in the study as well as the onsite Environmental Monitor from Big Grassy First Nation. Results from this study are communicated through the Environmental

Monitoring Board.

In 2018, Rainy River First Nations and Naicatchewenin First Nation began Independent Environmental Monitoring of water and fish in the local area. This monitoring will alternate to include soil, vegetation, deer and fowl tissues. New Gold coordinates with the third party Independent Environmental Monitor in order to access the site and collect samples.

In 2019, New Gold hired a second Environmental Monitor, from Big Island First Nation. This role includes environmental site monitoring including water sampling and access to training, mentorship and all data and results. The monitor is responsible to communicate with her community on a regular basis. In the event of a water quality exceedance that doesn't meet the requirements of the Metal Mining Effluent Regulation or the Provincial Water Quality Objectives New Gold does inform Aboriginal Communities via email and through communication at the Environmental Monitoring Board Meetings. During 2020, both Environmental Monitors remain in their roles at RRM and continue to carry out the duties listed above.

#### **Condition 75**

*To help limit the exposure of potentially acid generating materials to this base drainage through the former Clark Creek channel zone, a layer of non- potentially acid generating rock will be placed in the former creek channel bed area.*

During 2020, non-acid generating rock was placed into the remnant Clark Creek channel system up until the wick-drain zone at the edge of the stockpile. This wick drain zone was completed in 2020 and non-acid generating material continued to be placed up the channel to the edge of the stockpile.

#### **Condition 76**

*Groundwater: to be monitored during construction, operations and active closure phases, with post active closure monitoring expected to continue for a decade (or more) at reduced frequencies pending ongoing analysis of data.*

In 2020, the RRM network of groundwater monitoring wells were monitored and sampled three times, at approximately 60 day intervals, in accordance with provincial environmental compliance approval conditions if not dry.

#### **Condition 77**



*A groundwater level (flow) and quality monitoring program of regular sampling and dipping of dedicated monitoring wells will be implemented to confirm that no area wells are affected by the mine. Furthermore, local well owners will be asked to participate in a well water quality program to monitor water quality in their wells.*

In 2020, RRM groundwater monitoring wells were monitored and sampled for levels and water quality three times each when not dry. Data from 2020 was reviewed for trends to quantify effects of dewatering and other RRM activities. An updated 3-D Groundwater Model was produced in 2020, which has concluded that the extent of the simulated dewatering zone of influence has increased and may extend further to the west and south east however does not extend as far east and south as previously modeled.

The offsite groundwater well monitoring program was initiated in 2017. Neighbouring property owners are contacted each year to confirm they wish to continue with this voluntary monitoring program. The initial background data was collected for ten wells, with sampling of fifteen local wells at thirteen neighbouring properties completed in 2020 (Appendix R).

#### **Condition 78**

*If water quality or availability in local wells is compromised (by the RRM), NG is obligated to replace the system or offer water treatment systems to rectify issues related to water quality or availability shown to be caused by the mine.*

As per the New Gold RRM Offsite Groundwater Monitoring Plan established in 2017, sampling of neighbouring property owner wells continued in 2020. Thirteen neighbouring property owners determined to be in the Zone of Influence agreed to participate, and 15 wells were sampled. The Offsite Groundwater Monitoring Plan will continue for the life of mine. New Gold is committed to rectifying issues related to water quality or availability shown to be caused to the mine, and the Offsite Groundwater Monitoring Plan assists with determining the cause of issues related to water quality or availability in local wells (Appendix R).

#### **Condition 79**

*If local artesian wells stop flowing (related to the RRM), NG will need to provide and install a pump to replace the artesian flow used by the homeowner.*

There were no reported effects on local wells related to the RRM in 2020.

**Condition 80**

*A number of groundwater monitoring wells will be placed around the TMA and east mine rock stockpile and pond areas, as shown in Figure 13-3 of the Final EA Report. This groundwater monitoring network may be amended or expanded through the MOE approvals process. Water levels in these monitoring wells will be measured continuously with data downloaded semi- annually. Groundwater samples will be collected quarterly, as described in Section 13.6 of the Final EA Report.*

Installation of additional groundwater monitoring wells (post baseline studies) started in 2015 and was completed in 2016 in accordance with Provincial Approval requirements.

In 2020, one replacement groundwater monitoring well was installed adjacent to the existing well. The groundwater monitoring wells were sampled three times in 2020, if not dry.

**Condition 81**

*Mitigation measures that will be used to reduce potential effects on groundwater include the following:*

- *Returning captured groundwater indirectly to the Pinewood River (after treatment and testing if necessary) during the period of mine operations to minimize potential flow effects to the river, especially during naturally occurring, low flow conditions;*
- *Using in-plant SO<sub>2</sub>/Air treatment for cyanide destruction and heavy metal precipitation to optimize the quality of groundwater seepage associated with the TMA during operations and following mine closure;*
- *Managing the site for ARD control, both during operations and following closure to prevent adverse water quality impacts to the Pinewood River, including that associated with any groundwater seepage;*
- *Accelerating open pit inflow following mine closure, to the extent practicable, balancing the need for managing water quality*
- *and maintaining Pinewood River flows over the interim period until the pit can be completely flooded; and*
- *Implementing a monitoring plan for water levels, water quality and flow discharges, and receiving water aquatic life and habitat maintenance.*

RRM water management activities are consistent with this commitment:

- Water from mine dewatering activities is directed to the Mine Rock Pond and South Plant Site Pond for recycling, or sent to the TMA to be treated to meet effluent quality regulations and released at licensed final discharge locations.
- The Mill operates a cyanide destruction unit through which all tailings pass before.
- Runoff from the Mine Rock Stockpiles is captured by perimeter ditching.
- Runoff from the PAG dump reports to the Mine Rock Pond, and is used for processing in the Mill.
- As RRM is still operating, the requirements for optimizing pit inflow at mine closure are not applicable at this time. Both Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Plans were implemented in 2015 and continued through 2019.

### **Condition 82**

*Monitoring of key terrestrial systems and Species at Risk (SAR) will occur during the construction and operations phase, with post closure habitat development and utilization by wildlife to continue at reduced frequencies consistent with SAR Permit requirements.*

Monitoring of terrestrial systems and SAR during 2020 was compliant with environmental approvals and monitoring plan requirements. During 2015 New Gold RRM implemented a site wide wildlife monitoring program that allows employees and contractors to report any wildlife sightings on the project. Education regarding SAR is provided during site orientation. In the fall of 2016, a White Tailed Deer Tissue monitoring program was implemented to establish a baseline for potential metal and cyanide accumulation in deer tissue. Samples are collected from hunters in the area as well as deer killed in vehicle collisions. The study continued in 2017 and 2018. During 2020 the deer tissue collection program was not scheduled to run. Avian SAR monitoring was done as per ESA permit Appendix H.

### **Condition 83 – Completed December 11, 2014**

*Puffballs: NG and AMEC would be happy to receive photos and/or samples of this species and have AMEC experts identify it. If AMEC experts are unable to identify the species they will consult with staff at the Royal Ontario Museum or the Canadian Museum of Nature.*

**Condition 84 – Completed Summer of 2014**

*Rare plant surveys are proposed to be carried out along portions of the preferred transmission line corridor in late Spring / early Summer, 2014. Prior to transmission line construction, additional data collection will be undertaken for that portion of the proposed transmission line routing (Alternative A) west of Highway 71, where there is a baseline data gap for rare plants surveys. This additional data collection will be undertaken to support transmission line permitting, and would consist of the following activities, spread across a 2 km corridor (1 km on either side the transmission line): transect surveys for vegetation communities including surveys targeting the presence of rare plant species. Results will be made available to MNR once the report is complete and the report will be referred to in the Errata.*

**Condition 85**

*The principal mitigation measures that are proposed to limit short and long term adverse effects to local vegetation communities include:*

- *Minimizing dust production along primary mine rock and overburden transportation routes by implementing dust suppression methods and thereby minimizing the zone of influence. Primary dust suppression methods will include road watering.*
- *Annual monitoring of dust deposition on vegetation adjacent to mine roads; and*
- *Active revegetation and encouragement of natural revegetation / recolonization of disturbed areas as part of progressive reclamation during operation and active reclamation at mine closure.*

During 2020 the principal mitigation measures used to limit adverse effects to local vegetation included the use of water as dust suppressant on major haul roads and light vehicle roads during non-freezing conditions. In addition, speed limits on and around site were controlled. Primary and auxiliary aggregate crushers used chemical and water dispersed by spray bars during non-freezing conditions. Commercial traffic was limited to site access along the east access or Teeple Road.

Calcium chloride dust suppression was sprayed onto light vehicle access roads in 2020, see Table 3, Fig 21 to 23 (P63). Water trucks equipped with spray bars continued to spray water on all major haul roads in and out of the open pit and on all roads in and around major facilities. The primary crusher utilized a chemical suppression compound during stockpiling of ore.

**Condition 86**

In regards to the transmission line:

- *Additional rare plant and breeding bird surveys to be undertaken in May and June, 2014 to identify any further potential environmental constraints that might require construction modification, such avoidance of disruption to rare plant sites (if present) through site specific habitat protection measures*
- *Undertaking transmission line construction in winter (normally December 1 to March 31) to better protect ground cover in sensitive areas where the protection of wetlands, rare plants and SAR is required, and completion of the remainder of transmission line construction in the late summer and fall, outside of the breeding bird season*
- *Vegetation removal will be reduced to the extent necessary to support construction activities and longer-term transmission line reliability (from interference with conductors and fall of adjacent hazard trees). Minimizing vegetation removal includes retaining existing low vegetation ground cover*
- *Access to the right of way (ROW) will be provided from existing infrastructure (some of which may need to be upgraded, as reasonable for personnel, material and equipment access), but no new permanent access roads are proposed. Generally, where access is poor, the ROW will be accessed along the ROW itself. Construction vehicles will not be allowed to travel through surface waters*
- *Mechanical means will be used for periodic vegetation height maintenance along the transmission line, instead of herbicides.*

Studies were completed during 2014 and the detailed design and construction plans are consistent with this commitment. Clearing of the transmission line right of way occurred in late November 2015 and the transmission line clearing was completed in April 2016. Some existing access roads required upgrading by adding road bedding material but no new roads were constructed. Vegetation maintenance along the transmission line was done by mechanical means in 2020.

#### **Condition 87 – Completed 2016**

*Scheduling of RRM development activities will consider environmental aspects. Clearing of forests having a density of at least 10 cavity trees per hectare with a diameter at breast height greater than 25 cm will be limited to outside of the bat roosting season (April 1 to November 15) unless cleared by a bat biologist that has surveyed the trees for bat activity. Timing of the transmission line construction will be planned to avoid the breeding bird and main tourist season, as possible.*

During baseline monitoring it was determined by qualified professionals that the forest type to be cleared did not qualify as bat habitat. Each year there is no tree clearing from May 1 to August 15 (breeding bird window). Clearing of the transmission line right of way was initiated in late November 2015 and completed by April 2016. Vegetation maintenance did occur but outside of the breeding bird window and none of the vegetation would have qualified as bat habitat.

**Condition 88**

*Wildlife awareness information will be included in regular safety and environmental inductions performed by the mine, along with SAR identification and sensitivities, permit conditions and cultural awareness. Wildlife sighting logs or information boards will be installed to notify workers of local bear, wolf or other large mammal or furbearer observations. Workers and contractors will be made aware of seasonal changes in local mammal behavior or presence in proximity to the mine. Food wastes generated on site will be managed in a manner that limits the attraction of wildlife, such as Black Bear.*

In 2015 New Gold RRM incorporated wildlife awareness, avoidance and SAR information to the site orientation that is still delivered to all employees and contractors. Also during 2015 a no tolerance policy was implemented related to feeding and harassing wildlife onsite. This policy remains in effect. Regular site wide bulletins and during "tool box" talks employees are reminded about the importance of following this policy as well as reporting wildlife sightings. During 2020 New Gold RRM continued to promote the onsite wildlife reporting procedure. Documented sightings are recorded in a GIS based mapping program. The program allows visual representation on a site map in real time where sightings have been reported. This information is helpful in answering a number of scientific questions related to wildlife adaptation.

**Condition 89**

*All staff and contractors will be provided with training in animal encounters as part of the site orientation process.*

The site orientation program includes information regarding wildlife awareness and wildlife encounters. Wildlife awareness information is also provided on an ongoing basis during field-based inspections of construction areas, and in "tool box" morning meetings

**Condition 90**

*Road-killed animals or any other carcasses found onsite will be removed in a timely manner to limit the attraction of wildlife.*

The limited number of road-killed animals / carcasses found within the RRM during 2020 were disposed of in an area of the mine site with limited to no human interaction or buried.

**Condition 91**

*A wildlife monitoring program will record the efficacy of these avoidance measures (will evaluate the effectiveness of the methods implemented) and annual reporting to EC and the MNR will provide the information requested by the reviewer. NG will provide opportunities to Aboriginal groups to receive the annual reports.*

In May 2016 the Wildlife Monitoring Plan for the RRM was accepted by the MNRF. During 2020 minimal specific monitoring was required from the Follow up Monitoring Plan. Monthly SAR were still reported, near site EWPW night time surveys with acoustic audits, bat monitoring, and wildlife sightings collected as well as a site mortality list. Fish tissue studies were also undertaken.

**Condition 92 – Completed May 2016**

*A more detailed wildlife follow-up monitoring plan will be developed through consultation with the MNR and EC. As suggested by the reviewer, additional control sites around the periphery of the mine footprint can be developed and monitored following mine construction and periodically throughout mine operations. A draft plan will be issued to MNR and EC prior to commencement of construction. NG will provide opportunities to Aboriginal groups to participate in the development of the plan.*

In February 2016 a final version of the Wildlife Monitoring Program for the project was submitted to MNRF. New Gold RRM started to implement the program during 2016. Wildlife Monitoring Program Submissions to MNRF are as follows; Version 1; January 22, 2015, Version 2; April 20, 2015; Version 3; July 9, 2015, Version 4; July 30, 2015, Version 5; February 3, 2016 (final). The plan was accepted in May 2016.

**Condition 93**

*The use of exclusion fencing for reptiles and amphibians will be added as a mitigation measure during construction and operations. The placement of fencing will be decided upon through consultation with*

*the MNR and EC.*

In 2019 over 14 kilometers of exclusion fencing was installed along the footprint of the Tailings Management Area Water Management Pond and Water Discharge Pond. New Gold RRM obtains a scientific research license from MNRF each year which allows for the live trapping and relocation of reptiles that may be impacted by activities on site. Fencing remains up and is monitored at least once a month.

#### **Condition 94 – Completed April 2016**

*In regards to the transmission line:*

- *Construction crews will be advised not to interfere with or harass wildlife. No hunting or fishing by construction crews will be allowed. Disciplinary actions will be taken should either occur;*
- *Contractors will be required to handle food and food wastes in a responsible manner, and to educate workers to ensure no feeding of wildlife; and*
- *Should any nuisance wildlife be encountered which pose a risk to construction crews, the MNR will be contacted for direction.*

#### **Condition 95**

*The primary mitigation strategies for limiting adverse effects to wildlife will include:*

- *Preventing hunting from occurring on all lands owned by NG (required for the safety of workers; this is currently ongoing during exploration as well);*
- *Maintenance to the extent practical of a 120 m buffer zone adjacent to rivers and creeks to protect watercourses and their associated vegetated margins;*
- *Restoration of disturbed habitats at closure, including the development of habitats capable of supporting a diversity of wildlife species, including ungulates, large predators, furbearers and bats;*
- *Enforcement of speed limits along proposed mine access roads to reduce the potential for collisions with ungulates. Signs warning drivers of the possibility of wildlife encounters will be posted in areas of high wildlife activity. A log of collisions will be kept monitoring the effectiveness of the proposed mitigation and additional mitigation measures will be implemented if necessary:*
- *Inclusion of wildlife awareness information into regular safety and environmental inductions*



*performed by the mine. Workers and contractors will be made aware of seasonal changes in local deer or large mammal behavior or presence in proximity to the mine. Workers and contractors will be made aware of seasonal changes in local mammal behavior or presence in proximity to the mine;*

- *Treatment of the tailing's slurry to levels equal to or less than 1mg/L weak acid dissociable cyanide before deposition in the TMA (which is well below the 50 mg/L weak acid dissociable cyanide threshold criteria outlined by the International Cyanide Management Code);*
- *Fencing the TMA to prevent access;*
- *Covering the exposed tailings beach at closure with a layer of overburden and flooding the remaining tailings with a layer of water to prevent the tailings from oxidizing over the longer term. This will ensure that the tailings pond waters remain of high quality, such that they will not pose a threat to wildlife. The margins of the tailings pond will develop as wetland habitat;*
- *Minimizing dust production along primary haulage routes by implementing dust suppression methods and thereby minimizing the RRM zone of influence; and*
- *Disposing of food wastes generated on site in a manner that limit the attraction of wildlife, such as Black Bear and wolves*

The following mitigation strategies applied during 2020:

Hunting did not occur on site except for required trapping of nuisance beavers. Buffer zones were maintained around fish bearing waterways and where necessary temporary erosion control products were installed. New Gold RRM has installed speed limit signs on site roads and have implemented a site wide no tolerance policy for speeding which is enforced by radar.

Wildlife crossing signs have been installed at six locations on the mine site to reduce vehicle collisions with wildlife. These locations were chosen based on the number of wildlife sightings reported in those areas. Regular bulletins regarding wildlife are emailed and posted on site. A log of collisions resulting in wildlife mortality is kept and submitted as an appendix (Appendix N) the annual report. Wildlife awareness training is provided to all contractors and employees during site orientation.

Regular effluent sampling has shown WAD cyanide in tailings generally reaches the Tailings Management Area (TMA) at 1 mg/L or below. Nearly 15 kilometers of fencing was installed around the footprint of the TMA. Tailings currently remain submerged as much as possible and will be submerged and covered with overburden at closure. The RRM follows a Best Management Plan for dust suppression that was developed and approved by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change in

2016. Food waste is removed on a frequent schedule and stored only in waste bins with lids until removed.

#### **Condition 96**

*Mitigation measures that will be used to reduce potential adverse effects to amphibians will include the following:*

- *Development of a compact RRM site to reduce overall habitat loss and to limit potential adverse effects related to sound emissions to the extent practical,*
- *Restricting the clearing of terrestrial amphibian breeding habitats to periods outside the amphibian breeding season as directed by the MNR,*
- *Implementation of sound abatement strategies to dampen sound infiltrating habitats surrounding high traffic areas of the mine,*
- *Enforcement of speed limits along proposed mine access roads to reduce the potential adverse effects of increased vehicular traffic associated with the RRM. Signs warning drivers of the possibility of wildlife encounters will be posted in areas of high wildlife activity. A log of collisions will be kept to monitor the effectiveness of the proposed mitigation and additional mitigation measures will be implemented if necessary;*
- *If frog mortality on roadways is found to be a problem along mine access roads or the realigned Highway 600, silt fencing may be installed to prevent frogs from crossing the road and may direct them to the nearest culvert(s).*

*Mitigation measures that will be used to reduce potential adverse effects to amphibians will include the following:*

- *Inclusion of wildlife awareness information into regular safety and environmental inductions performed by the mine. Workers and contractors should continually be made aware of seasonal changes in local wildlife behavior or presence in proximity to the mine,*
- *Treatment of tailings slurry containing cyanide and associated heavy metals from the ore leaching process in the process plant using the SO<sub>2</sub>/Air process before being discharged to the TMA,*
- *Discharge of effluent that will result in protection of aquatic life standards in the Pinewood River so that no adverse water quality effects to amphibians are anticipated,*
- *Maintenance of generally abiotic conditions within the TMA to discourage wildlife presence, and-*

*Covering the exposed tailings beach at closure with a layer of overburden and flooding the remaining tailings with a layer of water to prevent the tailings from oxidizing over the longer term.*

*This will ensure that the tailings pond waters remain of high quality such that they will not pose a threat to wildlife. Margins of the tailings pond will be developed into wetland habitat.*

During the planning state of the project consideration into the size of the project site was taken into consideration and compaction of the site footprint was achieved as best possible. During the spring and summer clearing restrictions are in place to protect both amphibians and birds. Noise monitoring is conducted and large equipment in the open pit is maintained to reduce sound emissions. In 2015 New Gold RRM implemented and in 2020 continued site wide speed limits and a no tolerance to speeding policy which remains in effect. Wildlife crossing signs were also installed during 2016 on project roadways known for high concentrations of wildlife. Visual observations made along project roadways did not show and increase in frog mortality.

Wildlife awareness training is provided to all contractors and employees during site orientation. Bulletins regarding wildlife awareness are made throughout the year. The SO<sub>2</sub> system is online and operational to treat tailings before they leave the Mill.

During 2020 all effluent discharged to the environment achieved guidelines for protection of aquatic life or better. Generally abiotic conditions exist within the TMA. Cell one reached capacity during 2018 and exposed tailings was covered with water.

A wildlife exclusion fence was installed and monitored around the TMA, WMP and WDP in 2019.

#### **Condition 97**

*Generally abiotic conditions will be created within the fenced TMA during operations to limit the interest of the pond to waterfowl.*

Water quality is considered to be abiotic based on weekly testing results and periodic acute toxicity sampling. To the extent possible, the TMA has been cleared of trees and the area is monitored daily for birds which are hazed with bangers when present.

#### **Condition 98**

*Scheduling of RRM development activities will consider environmental aspects, such as fish spawning and bird nesting seasons. Tree and woodland clearing will be restricted to periods outside of the breeding bird season (May 1 to August 15). Clearing or modification of known Trumpeter Swan breeding habitat will be restricted to outside the breeding season (March 15).*

All scheduling of site activities during 2020 was in full consideration of environmental aspects and no known timing conflicts occurred.

**Condition 99**

*A monitoring plan will be developed for Common Nighthawk and Eastern Whip-poor-will, in partnership with the MNR, EC and interested First Nation Communities including the standardized information suggested well as a mortality trigger that will be decided upon during consultation with the MNR and EC, and in consideration of conditions under the Net Benefit Permit being developed by the MNR.*

ESA FF-C-001-14 dictates and outlines a monitoring plan that has been followed since 2014. The need for over 1800 hectares of Overall Benefit Land was identified which New Gold has purchased and maintained since early 2015. This permit did not dictate a mortality trigger and to date no EWPW or BOBO have been found dead on site. The permit was developed with EC, MNRF and other stakeholders. MECP is now overseeing the ESA file for Ontario as of 2019-04-01.

**Condition 100- Completed September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014.**

*Breeding bird surveys are proposed to be carried out along portions of the preferred transmission line corridor in late Spring / early Summer, 2014. Prior to transmission line construction, additional data collection will be undertaken for that portion of the proposed transmission line routing (Alternative A) west of Highway 71, where there is a baseline data gap for breeding bird surveys. This additional data collection will be undertaken to support transmission line permitting and would consist of point count surveys for breeding birds between late May and early July, spread across a 2 km corridor (1 km on either side the transmission line). Results will be made available to MNR once the report is complete. NG will provide opportunities to Aboriginal groups to receive the survey results.*

**Condition 101-**

*The primary mitigation strategies for limiting adverse effects to birds and habitat:*

- *Inclusion of wildlife awareness information into regular safety and environmental inductions*

*performed by the mine. Wildlife sighting logs or information boards will be installed to notify workers of local observations. Workers will be made aware of seasonal changes in local animal behavior or presence in proximity to the mine,*

- Minimizing the level of potentially disturbing activities near any known or subsequently discovered active raptor and raven nest sites until the nest is vacated,*
- Annual monitoring of the Bald Eagle nest in Woodland 122 to determine seasonal eagle activity at the nest site which will guide RRM activities occurring in proximity to the nest. Should eagles continue to use the nest site and raise offspring, work will be adjusted appropriately to reduce adverse effects to the breeding success of the local pair,*
- Maintenance of a safe distance between RRM activities and the nest as well as maintenance of landscape buffer areas (preferably forested or natural) between the activity and nest trees. To avoid disturbing nesting Bald Eagles, no buffer is necessary around nest sites outside of the breeding season once the juvenile eagles are known to have vacated the defined significant wildlife habitat.*
- Limiting less typical activities in proximity to the nest site during the nest building and breeding season. The local eagle pair appears tolerant of agricultural activities and road grading.*
- Environmental induction programs and ongoing environmental updates provided to workers will make them aware of Bald Eagle nesting activities prior to the commencement of new or irregular activities in proximity to an active eagle nest (within 500 m), and having them observe proper protocol in order to avoid disturbance during these activities;*
- Restriction of tree and woodland clearing to periods outside of the breeding bird season which extends between May 1 and August 15;*
- Protection of suitable breeding habitat as a result of the provision of compensatory habitat for species protected under the Endangered Species Act;*
- Restoration of disturbed habitats at closure to habitats capable of supporting a diversity of wildlife species;*
- Implementation of sound abatement strategies;*
- Enforcement of speed limits along proposed mine access roads to reduce the potential adverse effects of increased vehicular traffic associated with the RRP. Signs warning drivers of the possibility of wildlife encounters will be posted in areas of high wildlife activity. A log of collisions will be kept to monitor the effectiveness of the proposed mitigation and additional mitigation measures will be implemented if necessary*

Since the start of construction in 2015 New Gold has been implementing a no tree cutting policy during the breeding bird window. The project has also installed speed limit signs on project roads and has implemented a radar system for speeding. In the summer of 2016 wildlife crossing signs were installed at six locations on the project site to help reduce the potential for vehicle collisions with wildlife. Monitoring logs of reported wildlife collisions have been kept although there is room to improve on the reporting strategy as not all small animals (squirrels) are reported. By the end of 2017 there were two reported Bald Eagle's nests within the project boundary but not within the infrastructure footprint. No new nests were discovered in 2020 it should be noted the nest to the west did not appear occupied this year.

Acoustic modeling is done annually in an effort to see what sound abatement may be necessary. No additional abatement has been deemed necessary. The rehabilitation plan for Tait Quarry involves creating suitable Whip-Poor-Will habitat. The site was fully rehabilitated by Summer 2018.

During the baseline studies for the Rainy River Mine no known Trumpeter Swan breeding habitat was identified in areas where clearing was necessary. Trumpeter Swans were seen to have raised 3 Cygnets in and around Sediment Pond 1. Sediment Pond 1 captures water from the overburden dump only and is of sufficient quality to be discharged directly to the environment.

In 2015 New Gold ramped up the waste management program by obtaining bins with lids and in some cases locking mechanisms. Lids on garbage disposal bins have been effective in deterring birds however there have been some bear encounters. The Environmental Department has been actively working with the MNRF Bear Technician in Fort Frances to find effective methods to reduce black bear encounters. During 2020 there were increased instances of bears being attracted to waste compared to the previous year. Two bears were successfully trapped and relocated from the mine site to an approved release location. In 2020, five (5) Environmental Department members remain certified to trap and transport black bears. Carcasses from wildlife killed on roads is removed and disposed of in approved locations within the project boundary where people do not frequent, or the carcasses are buried. Acute toxicity testing of tailings effluent within the TMA supports abiotic conditions.

### **Condition 102- Completed April 2016**

*With regards to the transmission line:*

- *Additional rare plant and breeding bird surveys to be undertaken in May and June 2014 to identify any further potential environmental constraints that might require construction modification, such avoidance of disruption to rare plant sites (if present) through site specific*

*habitat protection measures,*

- *Tree clearing to take place outside of the breeding bird nesting season, defined as the period from May 1 to July 31,*
- *Undertaking transmission line construction in winter (normally December 1 to March 31) to better protect ground cover in sensitive areas where the protection of wetlands, rare plants and SAR is required, and completion of the remainder of transmission line construction in the late summer and fall, outside of the breeding bird season,*
- *Direct impacts to raptor nesting areas will be avoided. There are currently no stick nests on or near the proposed ROW. Should any stick nests be identified during construction, the area will be avoided until a qualified avian biologist can be contacted for direction,*
- *Conductor wire separation distances will be sufficiently far apart to preclude larger avian species, particularly raptors which frequently use hydro pole for perching or nesting, from electrocution by contacting two conductor wires simultaneously,*
- *Construction crews will be advised not to interfere with or harass wildlife. No hunting or fishing by construction crews will be allowed. Disciplinary actions will be taken should either occur, and*
- *Contractors will be required to handle food and food wastes in a responsible manner, and to educate workers to ensure no feeding of wildlife.*

### **Condition 103**

*The site will be rendered suitable for other compatible land uses and functions after the mine has closed and the land has been reclaimed. NG will encourage and, as practical, actively restore the RRM site to productive, naturalized vegetation communities on cessation of mining capable of supporting a diversity of wildlife species. RRM revegetation efforts at closure will include providing suitable habitat for SAR species, most notably whip-poor-will, and other species of interest, if practical.*

The site will be rendered suitable for other compatible land uses and functions after the mine has closed and the land has been reclaimed. NG will encourage and, as practical, actively restore the RRM site to productive, naturalized vegetation communities on cessation of mining capable of supporting a diversity of wildlife species. RRM revegetation efforts at closure will include providing suitable habitat for SAR species, most notably Whip-Poor-Will, and other species of interest, if practical, the Whip-Poor-Will Habitat Management Plan, vegetation plot monitoring and Closure Plan will address this as the mine is closed.

**Condition 104**

*The RRM footprint has been altered through consultation with the MNR in order to further avoid known whip-poor-will territories where feasible, including maintenance of forest buffers between RRM components and whip-poor-will nesting and foraging habitat where practical. Provide compensatory whip-poor-will habitat that protects known territories and other identified suitable habitat. Where feasible, manage site lighting fixtures to reduce excess light production near whip-poor-will foraging areas, in order to minimize disturbing these nocturnal birds (with all appropriate health and safety issues considered).*

The RRM owns and monitors over 1800 ha of Overall Benefit Land in accordance with the Provincial ESA permit ESA FF-C-001-14 since the start of construction. Site environmental inspections address location and use of light plants as possible while maintaining site safety aspects.

**Condition 105**

*NG will implement a monitoring plan for Eastern Whip-poor-will populations and nesting in proximity to the proposed mine and transmission line sites, within compensatory habitat areas. Continue funding external research programs in collaboration with the MNR in order to further our understanding of this poorly studied species, as part of a larger overall benefits compensation package required by the Endangered Species Act permit.*

A monitoring plan was developed in 2015 and implemented as required during 2019 in accordance with ESA FF-C-001-14. New Gold retains trained biologists to conduct monitoring as per permit conditions. A draft of the EWPW Management plan was submitted to the MNRF in early 2019. As of 2019-04-01 the MECP is now the driving ministry for SAR and the ESA. After further discussion with MECP and assessment of data collected to date by qualified biologist, any physical alteration of EWPW OB land is not required at this time. Monitoring will continue as per Appendix G of the ESA permit and if there is a noted decline in EWPW usage of OB lands habitat management will be considered again at that time. Further details can be found in Appendix N Request to "Alter Approved Habitat Management" transmitted to MECP 2021-02-02

**Condition 106**

*NG will implement a monitoring plan for Bobolink populations and nesting in proximity to the proposed mine site within compensatory habitat areas, and in appropriate control areas - developed through*



*consultation with the MNR. Acquire and protect compensatory open country breeding bird habitat suitable for Bobolink breeding at a ratio of 1:1 for open-country habitat removed for RRM development.*

Overall Benefit Land has been provided in accordance with the Provincial ESA permit ESA FF-C-001-14 and the monitoring plan therein has been followed since 2015.

**Condition 107**

*NG will identify Barn Swallow nesting colonies prior to mine construction. Establish zones where Barn Swallow colonization is desired, tolerated or not wanted. Create artificial nesting structures to encourage recolonization or new colonization by Barn Swallows in areas where farm structures are removed. Implement a monitoring plan for Barn Swallow populations in proximity to the proposed mine and transmission line sites and in appropriate control areas.*

Four artificial nesting structures were put in place in April 2015, prior to the 2015 breeding season. During 2020, no nesting attempts were made on any structure however one Barn Swallow was observed resting on a nesting cup in the structure on Gallinger Road.

**Condition 108**

*Where feasible, RRM lighting fixtures will be directed in such a fashion as to reduce excess production of light to the surrounding environment (for Common Nighthawk and Short-eared Owl).*

RRM site lighting fixtures are commonly used in areas close to the main process plant or in construction areas. Visual inspections in these areas were performed when light plants were in use. When issues are not addressed in a timely manner, light plants are shut down and removed from site at the area owner's expense.

**Condition 109**

*Monitoring of key terrestrial systems and SAR: during the construction and operations phase, with post closure habitat development and utilization by wildlife to continue at reduced frequencies consistent with SAR Permit requirements*

The SAR permit No. FF-C-001-14 for the project was issued in November 2014 and the following spring SAR monitoring commenced in accordance with the permit. SAR monitoring has occurred annually

between 2015 and 2018, the MNR have received four annual monitoring reports. 2019 no monitoring occurred as per the permit; efforts were focused on developing an EWPWHMP with the MECP. In 2020 it was agreed between NG and MECP that physical forest management of EWPW OB lands was not required. EWPW OB are functioning at expected or better than expected levels. The need to manage these lands will be addressed should there be a decline in EWPW usage to below baseline levels. EWPW phase 2 monitoring did occur as per Appendix G of the ESA permit.

### **Condition 110**

*Mitigation measures that will be used to reduce potential adverse effects to Eastern Whip-poor-will will include the following:*

- *Provision of compensatory whip poor-will habitat that protects known territories and other identified suitable habitat,*
- *Restricting the clearing of habitats to periods outside the breeding bird season which occurs from May 1 to August 15,*
- *Implementation of sound abatement strategies to dampen sound infiltrating habitats surrounding high traffic areas of the mine,*
- *Where feasible, management of site lighting fixtures to reduce excess light production near whip- poor-will foraging areas so as to minimize disturbing these nocturnal birds (with all appropriate health and safety issues considered), Maintenance of forest buffers between RRM components and whip poor-will nesting and foraging habitat where practical,*
- *Management of dust through dust suppression activities (best,management practices),*
- *Enforcement of speed limits along mine-controlled roads to reduce the potential adverse effects of increased vehicular traffic associated with the RRM. Signs warning drivers of the possibility of wildlife encounters will be posted in areas of high wildlife activity. A log of collisions will be kept to monitor the effectiveness of the proposed mitigation and additional mitigation measures will be implemented if necessary.*

*Mitigation measures that will be used to reduce potential adverse effects to Eastern Whip-poor-will will include the following:*

- *Environmental induction of RRM personnel, including SAR, identification and sensitivities, and knowledge of Endangered Species Act permit conditions,*
- *Implementation of a monitoring plan for Eastern Whip-poor-will populations and nesting in proximity to the proposed mine and transmission line sites, within compensatory habitat areas*

*and in appropriate control areas, and*

- *Continue funding external research programs in collaboration with the MNR in order to further our understanding of this poorly studied species, as part of a larger overall benefits*
- *compensation package required by the Endangered Species Act permit.*

These measures have been implemented since 2015 and continued to date. These measures were implemented during 2018. New Gold RRM did fund a separate / independent research program as a requirement and in accordance with the ESA permit during 2014 and remains open to further research studies should the opportunity arise.

### **Condition 111**

*The primary mitigation strategies for limiting adverse effects to Bobolink will include:*

- *Restricting the development of open country habitats to periods outside the breeding bird season which occurs from May 1 to July 31,*
- *Acquiring and protecting compensatory open country breeding bird habitat suitable for Bobolink breeding at a ratio of 1:1 for open-country habitat removed for RRM development,*
- *Enforcement of speed limits along mine controlled roads to reduce the potential adverse effects of increased vehicular traffic associated with the RRM. Signs warning drivers of the possibility of wildlife encounters will be posted in areas of high wildlife activity. A log of collisions will be kept to monitor the effectiveness of the proposed mitigation and additional mitigation measures will be implemented if necessary,*
- *Environmental induction of RRM personnel, including SAR identification and sensitivities and knowledge of Endangered Species Act permit conditions,*
- *Implementation of sound abatement strategies to dampen sound infiltrating habitats surrounding high traffic areas of the mine,*
- *Restoration of disturbed habitats at mine closure or encouraging development of habitats capable of supporting Bobolink and other open country species, and*
- *Implementation of a monitoring plan for Bobolink populations and nesting in proximity to the proposed mine site within compensatory habitat areas, and in appropriate control areas.*

Since the start of construction (2015) New Gold RRM has implemented the mitigation strategies listed in this commitment on site.

**Condition 112**

*Mitigation measures that will be used to reduce potential adverse effects to Barn Swallows will include the following:*

- *Identification of Barn Swallow nesting colonies prior to mine construction,*
- *Restricting habitat displacement for mine infrastructure to periods outside the breeding bird season which occurs from May 1 to August 15,*
- *Creation of artificial nesting structures to encourage recolonization or new colonization by Barn Swallows in areas where farm structures are removed,*
- *Restoration of disturbed habitats at closure or encouraging development of habitats capable of providing suitable Barn Swallow foraging habitat, Sound abatement strategies will be implemented to dampen sound infiltrating habitats surrounding high traffic areas of the mine,*
- *Establishment of zones where Barn Swallow colonization is desired, tolerated or not wanted. These measures may be necessary to prevent colonization in areas of high human or vehicular activity that would put swallows and swallow breeding success at risk or where order and cleanliness are desired. In this case, discouraging tactics may be implemented to discourage colonization. Conversely, protection may be provided to swallows nesting in other locations where their presence is encouraged and does not cause problems to mine operations,*
- *Enforcement of speed limits along mine controlled roads to reduce potential adverse effects of increased vehicular traffic associated with the RRM. Signs warning drivers of the possibility of wildlife encounters will be posted in areas of high wildlife activity. A log of collisions will be kept to monitor the effectiveness of the proposed mitigation and additional mitigation measures will be implemented if necessary, and*
- *Implementation of a monitoring plan for Barn Swallow populations in proximity to the proposed mine and transmission line sites and in appropriate control areas.*

The RRM began to monitoring barn swallows within the project prior to the construction phase (pre 2015) and implemented four artificial nesting structures in 2015, prior to the breeding season to offset the removal of existing farm structures. Monitoring of the success of the nesting structures has been completed over the past five years. 2016 was the first year that nesting attempts occurred in any of the structures, all structures went unused in 2017 and 2018. During 2019 two nesting attempts were made and one nest had two eggs laid in it. The eggs were later found to be missing and assumed to have been eaten by a predator. In 2020 no nesting attempts were made. As the mine continues, operations

the need to establish zones where barn swallow colonization is desired, tolerated or not wanted will be taken into consideration as well as the need to provide additional nesting structures.

### **Condition 113**

*Mitigation measures that will be used to reduce potential adverse effects to all species of Special Concern and Provincially rare species will include the following:*

- *Restriction of principal habitat displacement for mine infrastructure to periods outside the breeding bird season which MNR has indicated occurs from May 1 to August 15,*
- *Implementation of sound abatement strategies to dampen sound infiltrating habitats surrounding high traffic areas of the mine,*
- *Where feasible, RRM lighting fixtures will be directed in such a fashion as to reduce excess production of light to the surrounding environment,*
- *Establishment of zones where Black-billed Magpie colonization is desired, tolerated, or not wanted. These measures may be necessary to prevent colonization in areas of high human vehicular activity that could put magpie and magpie breeding success at risk. Discouraging tactics may be implemented to discourage colonization. Conversely, protection may be provided to magpies nesting in other locations where their presence is encouraged and does not cause problems to mine operations,*
- *Enforcement of speed limits along mine controlled roads to reduce the potential for adverse effects of increased vehicular traffic associated with the RRM. Signs warning drivers of the possibility of wildlife,*
- *Inclusion of wildlife awareness information into regular safety inductions performed by the mine.*
- *Workers will be made aware of seasonal changes in wildlife behavior or presence in proximity to the mine,*
- *Treatment of tailings slurry containing cyanide and associated heavy metals in the process plant using the SO<sub>2</sub>/Air process before being discharged to the TMA, and*
- *Restoration of disturbed habitats at closure including the development of habitats capable of supporting a diversity of wildlife species, including Species of Special Concern and rare species.*

Since the start of construction New Gold RRM has been implementing a no tree clearing policy during the breeding bird season. The project has also implemented sound abatement strategies through planning tree clearing in available areas of mine infrastructure, purchasing new equipment constructed

with muffler systems and implementing preventative maintenance programs to ensure all equipment is operating adequately. In 2015 speed limit signs were posted on project roads and security was equipped with radar detection equipment. During the summer of 2016 wildlife crossing signs were installed at six locations to warn drivers of the possibility of wildlife encounters. Currently Black-billed Magpie are found throughout the project site with no colonization in high vehicular activity or areas of concern. Currently there are no mitigation measures necessary. These measures have been implemented since 2015 as part of general orientation. Seasonal changes in wildlife behavior are communicated via bulletins and toolbox talks. Tailings have been treated as required since 2017-09-14. Progressive reclamation working towards closure is on-going, at the end of 2020 an approximate 190 ha of mine site is considered reclaimed.

**Condition 114 – Completed November to April 2016**

*Timing of the transmission line construction will be planned to avoid the breeding bird and main tourist season, as possible.*

**Condition 115**

*Traditional Knowledge/Traditional Land Use (TK/TLU) data has been widely collected for the RRM, including from the closest communities of BGRFN, Rainy River First Nations and Naicatchewenin First Nation. All TK/TLU sessions were community driven, meaning that the method of data collection was community specific. The majority of the data has been broad and overreaching, which NG will continue to respect as it serves as the basis for Aboriginal Persons unique relationship to the land. TK/TLU collection will continue; information collected will be appropriately considered for construction, operation and closure phases. For example, NG will further investigate the historical travel corridor and incorporate appropriately any new information that may become available. (Letter to Chiefs from Kyle Stanfield, October 2013).*

No additional TK/TLU was provided in 2020.

**Condition 116- Completed prior to January 15<sup>th</sup> 2015**

*NG will share results of the TK/TLU data sessions in a non- public First Nations forum(s). (Letter to Chiefs from Kyle Stanfield, October 2013).*

**Condition 117**

*NG has an open invitation for First Nations, the MNO and regional stakeholders to participate in all baseline and environmental monitoring programs, including Whip-poor-will, where appropriate and to share monitoring results. NG will continue to advise of the opportunity at public forums in order to encourage anyone who's interested to participate. (Letter to Chiefs from Kyle Stanfield, October 2013).*

In 2019, New Gold hired a second Environmental Monitor, from Big Island First Nation. This role includes environmental site monitoring including water sampling and access to training, mentorship and all data and results. The monitor is responsible to communicate with her community on a regular basis. In the event of a water quality exceedance that doesn't meet the requirements of the Metal Mining Effluent Regulation or the Provincial Water Quality Objectives New Gold does inform Aboriginal Communities via email and through communication at the Environmental Monitoring Board Meetings. In addition New Gold has developed Environmental Monitoring Boards as a method of communicating on site environmental activities and research studies to the public.

During the completion of baseline studies as part of the Environmental Assessment Permitting Process, New Gold retained the assistance of volunteers from a number of communities to participate in data collection. In 2015 and 2016 community members from Big Grassy participated in fisheries research projects. Since the second year of construction New Gold has also employed a community member from Big Grassy as an Environmental Monitor (full-time) within the Environmental Department. Job duties of this position include; air quality, water quality and wildlife sampling and monitoring, participating in on site reclamation projects and reporting on site findings to their community.

### **Condition 118**

*Additional information related to Lake Sturgeon and the Rainy River First Nations management program as requested, was added to the Final EA Report. NG has committed to a program of close coordination with Rainy River First Nations in support of the pre-existing First Nation Watershed Program and water quality protection. Company funding will be provided as part of the fisheries compensation program to further water quality enhancement programs for the Pinewood and similar agriculturally-impacted waterways.*

In 2017 the RRM Environmental Manager met with the Rainy River Stewardship Committee on a few occasions to discuss potential programs, however the Committee didn't pursue the option. New Gold also requested First Nation participation in the annual Fish Tissue Sampling Program in the Pinewood River (Fall 2017 and 2018) however aside from the onsite First Nation Environmental Monitor there was

no additional participation. In 2019 NG had identified candidates to participate in the program, however the efforts were not successful as the candidate did not attend a first aid course and could not join the sampling. In 2020, the COVID 19 pandemic prevented any further efforts.

**Condition 119 – Completed Mache 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014**

*NG will reach out to the Seven Generations Education Institute and/or the MNR to obtain any additional information on baseline health of animals and fish. (Letter to Chiefs from Kyle Stanfield, October 2013).*

**Condition 120**

*Aboriginal People will play an active role in the development of the mine Closure Plan, including development of the monitoring and mitigation programs. While the Closure Plan will be completed prior to construction, NG will consult on significant revisions periodically during operations to ensure incorporation of TK and best management practices. (Letter to Chiefs from Kyle Stanfield, October 2013).*

New Gold provided a copy of the CPA 2017 presentation to a community member who requested it (Jan 31, 2020); clarified a communication received from the ENDM regarding the CPA 2017 (Feb 25, 2020) at a Enviro sub-committee meeting and communicated the clarification to a larger group (May 13, 2020); emailed communities an update on the CPA 2017; and advised communities of the acknowledgement of CPA 2017 by ENDM (Sept 22, 2020).

**Condition 121**

*Monitoring programs targeted at ungulates (moose, deer) will be coordinated with local Aboriginal people. (Letter to Chiefs from Kyle Stanfield, October 2013).*

The Deer Tissue Monitoring Program was initiated in the Fall of 2016 and continued during 2017 and 2018. The intent of the project is to collect tissue samples to monitor for metal and cyanide accumulation. In 2016 Aboriginal Communities were consulted with regarding the program. Additional information related to monitoring programs and results are shared with Aboriginal Communities through Environmental Monitoring Boards. The Monitoring Boards are regular meetings organized by New Gold as an opportunity to provide project updates and environmental monitoring and sampling information. The Deer Tissue program was not run in 2020 and will be run again in 2021 unless a need for increased frequency become apparent.



**Condition 122- Completed October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014**

*NG would be pleased to assemble a map showing the locations of the closest First Nation community water supply intakes on receipt of the locations/coordinates. (Letter to Chiefs from Kyle Stanfield, October 2013).*

**Condition 123**

*While the Draft EA has shown no impacts to Aboriginal or non- Aboriginal people's health, any new information that has a potential to impact health will be provided to Aboriginal people. (Letter to Chiefs from Kyle Stanfield, October 2013). Further, NG has committed to analyses ungulate organ meats voluntarily submitted to them by local hunters, with the results of any such analysis made available to local residents and Aboriginal communities.*

No new information was obtained or new impacts predicted during 2019 related to the RRM that could affect the health of Aboriginal people. The Deer Tissue Monitoring Program was run in 2018 which is the third year of the program, the program will be run again in 2021. New Gold would still welcome any submission of tissue for analysis and now holds a database with which to compare samples against. No samples were submitted or collected in 2020.

**Condition 124**

*NG will work with Aboriginal groups to ensure employee overall well-being. Programs to highlight the dangers of drug use combined with drug testing will be implemented. (Letter to Chiefs from Kyle Stanfield, October 2013).*

An Indigenous Community Coordinator has been employed by New Gold to act as a liaison to employees and is available to meet with employees. New Gold provides employee benefits and employee assistance programs to all staff and their families. New Gold also has seasonal ceremonies (usually open to members of local Indigenous communities, though not in 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions) and established tobacco offering stations at the mine site. Additionally, ceremonies have been provided to employees by request. In 2020, the construction of a roundhouse on site was completed, to be used for traditional teachings for employees and ceremony.

**Condition 125**

*As a best practice and acting as a responsible neighbor, NG will notify local stakeholders of project activities as appropriate.*

There were no site tours provided for site neighbours in 2020 due to COVID restrictions. New Gold distributed three newsletters throughout the Rainy River district. (May 29, 2020; October 8, 2020; and December 17, 2020). Blast notifications are provided for any blasts that occur outside of the usual blast times or if the blast is considered to be at a location that may impact the neighbours.

New Gold advised a neighbour of TMA construction timeline (October 28, 2020) and attended a local township council meeting to discuss further possible uses of waste created at the mine (November 10, 2020).

**Condition 126**

NG has and will continue to actively engage the MNR and local outfitters including those that hold the Bear Management Areas that will be affected by the RRM.

During 2020 no members of the New Gold Environmental Department completed the Problem Black Bear Management Course provided by MNRF due to COVID-19 restrictions. The total number of staff trained during 2020 was 5. New Gold again obtained an Authorization to Trap and Relocate Black Bears. Two bears were successfully relocated in 2020. Regular discussions occur with the individual who holds the Bear Management Area in which the mine resides.

**Condition 127- Completed January 2015**

*NG will calculate the area of forest land that will be removed from the total forest land within BGRFN territory, utilizing public sources and provide this information to the First Nation on delineation of the traditional territory by the BGRFN.*

**Condition 128- Completed September 2014; updated December 2019**

*NG is consulting with First Nations and the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) on the Draft Closure Plan provided on March 19, 2014. NG has provided resources to these communities to undertake independent review the Draft document. Results of the independent review process will be used to help the Company develop any further commitments and/or mitigations to reduce potential impacts to Aboriginal and treaty rights. This process is expected to be completed concurrent with the conclusion of*

*the EA process.*

**Condition 129**

*NG is open to discussing closure objectives in relation to the results of the Traditional Knowledge / Traditional Land Use (TK / TLU) study.*

New Gold remains committed to providing access. No specific comments received in 2020.

**Condition 130**

*NG is supportive of the further development of mitigation measures in relation to traditional hunting (and plant gathering), which could potentially involve:*

- *Continuing to involve BGRFN members in the development of adaptive management techniques related to closure planning, including the rehabilitation of habitat for wildlife; and*
- *Restoring access to RRM lands following mine closure to the extent that such access is safe / possible.*

New Gold has a Participation Agreement with BGFN that takes this commitment into consideration. The agreement was signed in January 2015.

**Condition 131**

*NG has committed to provide members of the BGRFN, Big Island First Nation, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation, Naothkamegwanning First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Naicatchewenin First Nation and Métis represented by the MNO Region 1 Consultation Committee, the ability to access certain lands that NG is able to make available for gathering of wild medicines, berries or other vegetation. Access will be coordinated with the Aboriginal communities.*

NG remains committed to providing access to all areas of the site that are safe to do so. In 2020, site tours were limited due to COVID-19 restrictions. The site accesses were as follows:

FFCS Advisory and Enviro sub-committees site tour - January 21, 2020

Local bait fisherman assisted a consultant with fish monitoring on-site - August 4, 2020

**Condition 132**

*NG has committed to ensure that Aboriginal communities (including BGRFN, Big Island First Nation, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation, Naothamegwanning First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Naicatchewenin First Nation and Métis represented by the MNO Region 1 Consultation Committee) have the ability to access the site for cultural and ceremonial purposes so that local Aboriginal people can undertake ceremonies at different times of the year to show respect for the land and its spiritual aspects. This will ensure that young people can participate in ceremonies and learn from elders and ceremonialists. Teaching through the generations will therefore be maintained.*

New Gold remains committed to the opportunity for ceremony. New Gold held Spring and Fall ceremonies in 2020 with Elders officiating; limited New Gold personnel attended due to COVID-19 restrictions.

- Spring Ceremony - May 25/2020;
- Fall Ceremony - October 7/2020

**Condition 133- Completed April 2016**

*A detailed Fire Response Plan will be developed (Final EA Report, Section 8.2). This document will be made available for MNR review prior to construction initiation.*

**Condition 134**

*NG will engage with local stakeholders as appropriate to provide notification of project activities and to mitigate potential impacts as practical.*

NG sent out three newsletters in 2020, hosted two small group tours and participated in local career fairs.

Newsletter distributions:

- May 29/2020,
- Oct 8/2020,
- Dec 17/2020

Site Accesses:

- FFCS Advisory and Enviro sub-committees site tour - January 21, 2020
- Local bait fisherman assisted a consultant with fish monitoring on-site - August 4, 2020

**Career Fairs:**

- Seine River Career Fair - February 3, 2020
- AWZFN Career Fair (Regina Bay) - October 7, 2020
- Naicatchewenin Career Fair - October 14, 2020
- Big Grassy Career Fair - October 20, 2020
- Seine River Career Fair - October 26, 2020
- Couchiching Career Fair - October 27, 2020
- RRFN Career Fair - November 7, 2020
- Nigigoonsiminikaaning Career Fair - November 10, 2020

**Condition 135 Completed Fall 2015**

*Related to the transmission line: Compensation will be provided for merchantable timber value where applicable;*

- *Maintain transmission line set back distances of not less than 100 m from area lakes to provide effective visual screening from open waters;*
- *Landscape screening to minimize the contrast in landscape character; for example by leaving shrub cover vegetation that will not affect the conductors (i.e., the wire) in the ROW at creek crossings; and Minimizing land use conflicts and concerns by consulting with other users and stakeholders (i.e., Aboriginal peoples, hunters, trappers, outdoor recreationalists) to identify and implement other means of conflict resolution.*

**Condition 136**

*NG will implement a hiring policy that encourages employment of local workers, including members of human environment regional study area First Nations and Métis communities. Where feasible, goods and services will be procured from local and regional suppliers as well as suppliers that can further demonstrate Aboriginal employee content. Provide on the job Common Core training to assist local workers to develop mining-specific skills, and implement career training and development opportunities for employees once hired. NG will provide continuous, on the job safety training.*

In 2015, NG implemented a Human Resource Strategy that focused on local employment which continued through 2020. As of December 31, 2020, 67% of New Gold employees were from the human environment regional study area. Local and Indigenous content is a consideration in all RFP's issued. Training and development is provided to all operations employees to ensure legislated requirements

are met.

New Gold RRP maintains the position of a business development officer who is available on staff to support local businesses in providing goods and services to the project. A career development officer is also employed by New Gold to ensure employees receive training and development as required.

**Condition 137**

*NG will continue to engage with potentially affected stakeholders as the project develops, including those local and regional businesses which may provide accommodation facilities for the RRM workforce.*

NG continues to send out newsletters and engage with local stakeholders. NG and its' contractors continue to engage with local businesses for accommodation as post-construction activities continue.

Newsletter distributions:

- May 29/2020,
- Oct 8/2020,
- Dec 17/2020

Local Ec Dev & business interest meetings:

- April 16/2020,
- May 19/2020,
- July 7/2020,
- July 8/2020,
- July 13/2020,
- Oct 9/2020,
- Nov 6/2020

**Condition 138- Completed August 11<sup>th</sup> 2017**

*Fish habitat compensation will be provided onsite related to the Federal Fisheries Act. A portion of this compensation habitat, notably the Clark Creek, Clark Creek pond and Teeple pond, could potentially be provided to licensed bait fishermen.*

**Condition 139- Completed January 9<sup>th</sup> , 2015**

*NG respects BGRFN's Aboriginal and Treaty Rights, and is working with the community to develop a*

*collective agreement that will include mutually acceptable means for mitigation of accepted impacts.*

**Condition 140**

*Where NG has control, commercially reasonable efforts will be made to work with Resolute, MNR and local loggers to facilitate the use of merchantable timber by local mills, in recognition of the importance of mills to the local economy.*

Since 2015 the project footprint has been cleared under permits and authorizations granted from the MNRF. TMA extension logging activities occurred in 2020.

**Condition 141**

*NG will make reasonable efforts to accommodate Resolute in providing access through NG lands to Crown lands over which Resolute has an interest provided that the access does not interfere with mine construction or operation; that the access does not put the safety and security of NG or Resolute personnel or property at risk; and subject to the prior execution of any land access agreement(s) which NG deems appropriate.*

Authorizations granted from the MNRF. In 2020 a local logging company was hired to remove merchantable timber to support project development.

**Condition 142**

*As the mine approaches the end of mine life, NG will implement strategies to transition the workforce to buffer the effects of job losses, as well as an Adjustment Committee.*

Not applicable during 2020 (Operations Phase).

**Condition 143**

*The health and safety of workers will be ensured by meeting applicable occupational health and safety legislation standards, as well as utilizing other best management practices for industrial hygiene hazard control as appropriate.*

New Gold RRM strives to meet or exceed the Health and Safety Regulatory requirements. New Gold RRM provides and ensures that all workers have the necessary personal protection equipment (PPE)

to protect against industrial hygiene exposures. The safety department also ensures that workers receive appropriate training with regards to PPE. New Gold is also part of the Excellence Program administered by WSIB, ensuring that we have a well-developed H&S Management System.

**Condition 144 – Duplicate of condition 123**

*While the Draft EA has shown no impacts to Aboriginal or non- Aboriginal people's health, any new information that has a potential to impact health will be provided to Aboriginal groups. (Letter to Chiefs from Kyle Stanfield, October 2013). NG has committed to analyses ungulate organ meats voluntarily submitted to them by local hunters, with the results of any such analysis made available to local residents and Aboriginal communities.*

No new information was obtained, or new impacts predicted during 2020 related to the RRM, that could affect the health of Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal people. Since 2015 the project footprint has been cleared under permits and authorizations granted from the MNRF. No logging activities were performed in 2020.

**Condition 145**

*NG will work with Aboriginal groups to ensure employee overall well-being. Programs to highlight the dangers of drug use combined with drug testing will be implemented. (Letter to Chiefs from Kyle Stanfield, October 2013).*

An Indigenous Community Coordinator has been employed by New Gold to act as a liaison to employees and is available to meet with employees. New Gold provides employee benefits and employee assistance programs to all staff and their families. New Gold also has seasonal ceremonies (usually open to members of local Indigenous communities, though not in 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions) and established tobacco offering stations at the mine site. Additionally, ceremonies have been provided to employees by request. In 2020, the construction of a roundhouse on site was completed, to be used for traditional teachings for employees and ceremony.

**Condition 146**

*A blasting plan will be developed describing all proposed blasting operations at the RRM site. All personnel who handle explosives will have appropriate training; all other individuals will be restricted from access.*



In 2020, RRM continued to follow the blasting plans developed in 2018 which were consistent with this commitment. All personnel who handle explosives have the appropriate training. A locked fence with signage restricts access to the explosives mixing and storage areas.

**Condition 147**

*Recognizing that safety of workers is paramount, NG will attempt to reduce light pollution as possible.*

New Gold ensure night shift inspections are conducted and include laydowns and work areas. Light plants and general lighting are evaluated to ensure worker safety and to minimize associated pollution and impact on wildlife. In addition, all supervisors are trained in our reporting system (INX), such that nonconformances can be reported and addressed in a timely fashion.

**Condition 148**

*The RRM has been designed to meet all applicable fire protection system requirements and codes. Regular fire drills will occur to ensure that all workers are familiar with fire response procedures, as dictated within the environmental management system. All workers and visitors on site will receive an orientation which includes fire reporting and response procedures.*

All personnel on site receive a site orientation. The site has acquired a fire truck and an ambulance. An Emergency Response Team has been created and employee members have received training on how to respond to fires and other potential onsite emergencies. In order to prepare for major events, a major accident with injury and spill exercise was held in 2020. Desk top testing of the Emergency plan was also performed. New Gold acquired a new fire truck.

**Condition 149**

*Should it be determined in the future that additional fire break is required, appropriate approvals will be obtained from the MNR.*

The need for an additional fire break was not identified in 2020.

**Condition 150**

*NG will ensure that safe access to properties is maintained during the construction and operation*

*phases of the project. Once detailed plans are progressed, NG would welcome the opportunity to discuss further.*

The site has a fully functional gate system at our main entrance and on Korpi access for the mine as well as the TMA entrance. Entrances and site are monitored by surveillance cameras with night vision capacity and security perform regular rounds. Security is introducing new Bluetooth locks on remote gates to track usage and individual entries.

**Condition 151**

*Any infrastructure, such as hydro services, that require relocation will be completed as expediently as possible, to minimize disruption to local users. It is currently envisioned that the disruption will only occur during the switchover from the existing to the (at that time) newly built line.*

During 2020, RRM has realigned hydro lines to accommodate the new TMA buttress. In addition, new lines were installed around the site in order to minimize the use of portable generators. The work was consistent with condition 151.

**Condition 152 – Completed in 2017.**

*The re-aligned Highway 600 will be constructed by NG to MTO standards so that NG can pursue transfer of the road to the Province after construction.*

**Condition 153 – Completed in 2017.**

*NG has had extensive consultations with the MTO in Thunder Bay related to the RRM highway planning and will continue to discuss issues related to the Highway 600 re-alignment, and associated maintenance and safety issues with MTO, the Township of Chapple, Stratton, the Rainy River Valley Safety Coalition, school bus operators, utility companies and emergency response groups.*

**Condition 154 – Completed in 2016**

*A new East Access Road will connect Highway 71 with Roen Road by means of Korpi Road, to provide access for the general public, including to properties on Marr Road and for users of Crown land north of the site.*

**Condition 155**

*NG will schedule the delivery of major equipment at off peak times where practical and ensuring that heavy loads are sized appropriately and transported only on highways that have sufficient load capacities while observing half-load seasonal restrictions.*

All inbound equipment that is oversized, follows all provincial ministry of transportation regulations. Very limited amount of oversized traffic during 2020 related to operations.

**Condition 156**

*Only licensed suppliers and carriers will be selected for the supply and transport of hazardous materials to the RRM site. When suppliers are selected, Rainy River will share supplier handling and transport information with the MNO.*

Has been implemented. Only licensed suppliers and carriers were selected for the supply and transport of hazardous materials to the RRM.

**Condition 157**

*Drivers will be required to meet all applicable regulatory training requirements, be trained in spill response procedures for the materials they transport and carry the appropriate Material Safety Data Sheets.*

Warehouse technicians have received updated TDG Class 7 training on Nov 4th-2020 to meet the Transport Canada and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission.

**Condition 158**

*Vehicles transporting materials to site will be required to maintain a supply of basic emergency response equipment, including communication equipment, first aid materials and a fire extinguisher, where appropriate.*

Remains compliant. All vehicles travelling onsite are required to have a spill kit, first aid kit, fire extinguisher and radio. New Gold has also provided an onsite emergency response trailer containing equipment and supplies for handling hazardous spills to the environment. In 2015 an Emergency Response Team comprised of New Gold employees was established. Since 2015 the Team has obtained training on operating fire suppression, driving the fire truck and using emergency spill

containment equipment.

**Condition 159**

*Notification and/or reporting of any vehicular accidents and spills will follow Provincial (Ministry of the Environment) and other applicable requirements.*

During 2020, there were no offsite incidents of vehicular accidents causing reportable spills. Each incident where a vehicle left the road was monitored during the vehicle removal for any spills.

**Condition 160 – Completed April 2016.**

*With regards to controlling adverse traffic effects during transmission line construction:*

- *Ensuring that NG employees and contractors / subcontractors adhere to posted speed limits and practical speed limits along the ROW;*
- *Contractors and their subcontractors will be required to have properly and seasonally maintained equipment; and*
- *Maintain regular communications with the Township of Chapple, the MTO and Ontario Provincial Police representatives, to monitor and mitigate traffic effects.*

**Condition 161**

*NG will monitor regional housing supply, particularly in the Chapple, Emo, and Fort Frances markets during the planning and construction phase of the RRM and in advance of each wave of new operations employment. Engage in regular discussions with Municipal planning officials in these communities to understand the anticipated evolution of their resale and new-home markets, and the extent to which each community desires growth or does not. NG will continue to work with hoteliers and town officials, to help avoid possible construction employment demands that would negatively affect accommodation capacity needed to support the tourist season.*

To alleviate pressures on regional housing supply and hoteliers, during 2020 NG has:

- committed to local employment

Previous to 2020

- Introduced a travel allowance and new rotations to those outside of the local area and offered camp facilities to ensure costs are kept down on regional housing

- worked with local developers to construct new accommodation (an apartment facility) in the Township of Emo with the completion of a number of contracts relating to construction, a number of private rental facilities became available to the general market towards the end of 2017.
- continued to contract a local Indigenous business to provide a 400+ person accommodation facility for construction workers who are contracted by New Gold. The accommodation facility is located on Atkinson Road in Chapple Township. Atkinson Road is located 1.5km south of the junction of Barwick Road and Highway 600 (or approximately 5 km south of the open pit). The accommodation facility was built by Onikaajigan Construction, a partnership between Rainy River First Nations, Naicatchewenin First Nation and Saulteaux Consulting and Engineering. It was owned and operated by Onikaajigan Construction. New Gold exclusively leased the camp facility for the purpose of housing out of town construction workers.

New Gold purchased the camp in Q4 of 2019 and outsources the operation of the camp to Anoki (a partnership between Naicatchewenin First Nation and Saulteaux Consulting and Engineering, Sodexo and Morris Group). The camp was downsized to house a maximum of 376 occupants. Any overflow requirements for NG contractors are directed to local motel/hotels.

#### **Condition 162- Policy developed April 14<sup>th</sup> 2015**

*Develop suitable policies and initiatives to encourage carpooling amongst employees, with the aim of reducing commuter-related traffic and reducing the individual burden of commuting. NG may explore alternate accommodation strategies to support its employees.*

Completed on April 14, 2015. A number of former local residents have come forward to request copies of the reports which New Gold provided. During 2020, buses were used to transport employees to site from Fort Frances, Emo, Rainy River, Barwick and Stratton.

#### **Condition 163**

*NG will continue to discuss the RRM and potential additional demands that could be placed on the services of regional Municipalities. NG will continue to support government-led initiatives that support social sustainability during all project phases. NG will work with local service agencies to gather information about social issues or service capacity issues so that they may be addressed in a collaborative manner. NG will maintain communications with local and regional service providers to*

*monitor and work collaboratively to address any Project-related changes that may be experienced.*

In 2020, New Gold continues to reduce strain on the local medical system by employing a Nurse Practitioner on site that is available to all employees.

**Condition 164**

*Potential health risks associated with the consumption of ungulate organ meats will be mitigated through the voluntary submission of organ meats by local hunters for analysis. Results of any such analysis would be made available to local residents and Aboriginal communities.*

In 2016 New Gold implemented a deer tissue monitoring program to establish baseline data of metal and cyanide accumulation in deer tissue for the population found within the project boundary and the Rainy River District. Requests for participation in the study were mailed out to Aboriginal Communities as well as posted in public spaces throughout the District. In 2016, 37 tissue and organ samples were obtained from area hunters as well as deer carcasses from motor vehicle accidents. In 2017, 36 samples were submitted.

In 2018, 29 samples were submitted. The samples were sent to a certified lab to be analyzed for metal and cyanide accumulation. It is important to note that all of the contaminants which were tested for can be produced by mining operations but can also occur naturally in the environment and can be introduced by other human activities. The study continued in 2018 and is planned to be active again in 2021, 2024, 2027, 2030, 2033 and 2036 or as requested/needed. Continuing to develop this data set will strengthen any decision made based on submissions and monitoring plans through life of mine and post closure.

**Condition 165- Completed October 2015**

*NG has committed to undertaking a mitigation program related to cultural heritage landscapes and built heritage resources consisting of an illustrated history of the study area.*

**Condition 166**

*Emergency response procedures will be established as part of the environmental management system. After any incident, a review will be conducted to ensure that the required design changes and procedures and appropriate monitoring measures are in place to ensure that incident will not be repeated.*

A dedicated Emergency Response Coordinator was hired in October 2018 to put more emphasis on ER preparedness. In addition, New Gold has an underground emergency response team.

#### **Condition 167**

*NG has committed to ensure that First Nations (including Rainy River First Nations, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Big Grassy River First Nation, Big Island First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, and Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation) and Métis community members have the:*

- *Ability to access the site for cultural and ceremonial purposes, so that local Aboriginal people can undertake ceremonies at different times of the year to show respect for the land and its spiritual aspects. All NG staff will undergo cultural awareness training. Temporary contractors will undergo an awareness program as part of the regular induction program when working at the mine (Letter to Chiefs from Kyle Stanfield, October 2013). This will ensure that people that work at the site are aware of indigenous culture and values, and are respectful of the principles and values of the Ojibwe people.*
- *This mitigation has been identified as a result of the Draft EA independent First Nation review and agreed to by NG. NG will follow up directly with the BGRFN regarding any additional mitigation and accommodation measures.*

New Gold RR is committed to providing access to the site for cultural and ceremony purposes. All New Gold RR staff and contractors undergo Cultural Awareness training as part of the site induction. Additionally, New Gold has a Participation Agreement with BGRFN which addresses additional mitigation and accommodation measures.

#### **Condition 168**

*NG is fully agreeable to work with local Aboriginal peoples on an ongoing basis to monitor metal concentrations in country foods (notably fish muscle and liver tissues, and White-tailed Deer liver tissue; and other wildlife tissues as appropriate). A commitment to work with local Aboriginal groups to sample White-tail Deer liver tissues [and other wildlife tissues as committed to herein] for metals analysis has been made. This analysis could be expanded to include testing for additional metals. NG will work with local Aboriginal hunters to determine the most effective path forward on this topic.*

In 2016 New Gold implemented a deer tissue monitoring program to establish baseline data of metal

and cyanide accumulation in deer tissue found within the project boundary and the Rainy River District. Requests for participation in the study were mailed out to Aboriginal Communities as well as posted in public spaces throughout the District. To date 102 tissue and organ samples have been obtained from area hunters as well as deer carcasses from motor vehicle accidents. The samples were sent to a certified lab to be analyzed for metal and cyanide accumulation. It is important to note that all of the contaminants which were tested for can be produced by mining operations, but can also occur naturally in the environment and can be introduced by other human activities. Many of the contaminants were considered to be at negligible or low levels within most of the 102 samples tested, although a few had quite high variances with concentrations elevated over the majority of the values. The study continued in 2018 and is planned to run in 2021, 2024, 2027, 2030, 2033 and 2036 or as requested/needed. Results from the 2020 Fish Tissue Monitoring Program indicated that there has been no accumulation of metals in the tissue and organs of northern pike and walleye in the Pinewood River as a result of the project. A copy of the 2020 Fish Tissue Quality Monitoring Report can be found in the Supporting Documentation for Appendix O.

**Condition 169**

*NG will conduct a risk assessment of the potential long-term exposure of fish and wildlife to accumulated metals within the constructed wetland. Such a study will be carried out within one to two years prior to mine closure (or earlier during the project operations phase), and if a meaningful risk is determined to exist the risk will be mitigated as part of overall mine closure by removing and disposing the contaminated sediments to the bottom of the pit lake. This could readily be accomplished by a small dredging operation.*

This commitment is currently not applicable to the current stage of the mine. The constructed wetland is planned for construction three to four years before closure.

**Condition 170- Completed September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013.**

*Unterman McPhail will prepare a complete description of the evaluation process for resources identified of cultural heritage value or interest in a memo format.*

**Condition 171**

*At closure, NG will undertake an evaluation of any remaining cultural heritage resources / structures located on NG property in consultation with a qualified professional, and also incorporating any*



*liability/public safety concerns.*

Not applicable to 2020.

**Condition 172**

*A range of conservation approaches will be considered in the recommended Cultural Heritage Assessment Report / Cultural Heritage Documentation Reports for Sites #11 and #13 as suggested by MTCS.*

Site #11 was demolished in 2015 as it was deemed to be hazardous as it was not structurally fit. Unique features, such as blacksmith hardware were removed and are currently in storage. As part of the development of the Richardson Trail, NG intends to highlight the settlement history through artifacts such as the hardware. Prior to the demolition, NG had contacted a representative of the Chapple Heritage Committee to ensure there were no other considerations. Site #13 remains in situ.

**Condition 173 – Completed April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015.**

*NG will provide follow-up documentation related to Cultural Heritage Assessment Report / Cultural Heritage Documentation Reports to the following local museums and archives:*

- *Chapple Museum;*
- *Kay-Nah-Chi-Wah-Nung Historical Centre (Manitou Mounds);*
- *Rainy River District Women’s Institute Museum; and*
- *Fort Frances Museum and Cultural Centre.*

**Condition 174 – Completed 2015-2017**

*Monitoring would occur for the following durations:*

- *Archaeology: construction phase*
- *Built heritage: construction phase*

**Condition 175 – Completed April 2016**

*With regards to protection of cultural heritage values during transmission line construction:*

- *Should human remains be identified during construction, all work in the vicinity of the discovery will be suspended immediately, and notification will be made to the Ontario Provincial Police, or*

*local police, who will conduct a site investigation and contact the district coroner. Notification must also be made to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, and the Registrar of Cemeteries, Ministry of Government Services.*

- Should cultural heritage resources (archaeological or historical materials or features) be identified during construction or operations, all activity in the vicinity of the find will be suspended and the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport archaeologist be contacted. This condition provides for the potential for deeply buried sites not typically identified; and*
- In addition, NG will continue to engage Aboriginal people (including Rainy River First Nations, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Big Grassy River First Nation, Big Island First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation and Métis community members) about the transmission line construction and will respond should additional culturally significant areas be identified that could be impacted by the construction.*

**Condition 176- Completed December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

*Related to transmission line, construction will be supervised by a qualified archaeologist at identified areas of high archaeological potential. Regular, ongoing discussions with stakeholders, Aboriginal people and local communities will help to monitor any effects to the socio- cultural environment and identify mutually satisfactory ways to mitigate negative or enhance positive effects. A formal complaints procedure will be established to provide stakeholders and Aboriginal peoples a voice during the construction, operation and decommissioning phase of the transmission line project. A response protocol will also be established to ensure that follow up occurs.*

**Condition 177**

*A targeted site investigation will be conducted at the end of mine life to identify soils that may have been affected by hydrocarbons or chemicals in specific areas (e.g. truck refuelling area). Soil materials found to exceed the appropriate clean up criteria for hydrocarbons will be remediated according to government requirements. If there is reason to suspect an area of soil has been affected by chemicals other than hydrocarbons, soil samples will be collected and tested. If the applicable regulatory requirements are exceeded, an appropriate method of disposal will be sought in consultation with the relevant authorities.*

This condition will be applied at the time of mine closure and reclamation.

**Condition 178**

*Document and respond to comments, issues or concerns.*

An External Feedback and Complaint Protocol was issued in follow up to the Provincial EA approval with a completion date of February 2, 2015 and continues to be implemented in 2020.

**Condition 179 - Completed**

*NG made 13 significant commitments (Tables 3-4 and 14-2) arising from the independent technical review of the Draft EA Report (Version 1) on behalf of Aboriginal groups which will be fulfilled.*

These commitments were all met as described in this registry, or through negotiated agreements (non-public).

**Condition 180- Completed January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

*BGRFN undertook a second independent review of the Draft EA Report provided to the NG on October 18, 2013. The review concluded that additional work with the community was required and NG has committed to continuing the close engagement with the community in support of the RRM development.*

**Condition 181**

*Environmental monitoring will be conducted in accordance with standard practice and regulatory requirements, including any site- specific environmental approvals.*

Since the start of construction New Gold has had environmental personnel assigned to environmental monitoring to satisfy Regulatory requirements and Permit Approvals. During 2016 and 2017 several of these monitoring protocols were written into Operational Policies or Plans for the Environmental Department. Water, wildlife, air and land monitoring are addressed throughout the Annual Compliance Report. Part of the implementation of the Environmental Management System (EMS) includes discipline specific management plans for all commitments and permits.

**Condition 182**

*Operational procedures to minimize the potential of accidents or malfunctions will be incorporated into the environmental management system. Penalties will be imposed for operational violations.*

Risk assessments are completed in each area to identify potential safety or environmental hazards. Procedures are developed from the risk assessment to minimize/eliminate the likelihood and consequences of the hazards.

**Condition 183**

*Procedures will be regularly reviewed as part of the environmental management system.*

The RRM has policies and procedures in place that are regularly reviewed as part of our Document Control process.

**Condition 184**

*The emergency response plan included in the environmental management system will address the primary hazardous materials on site including procedures for spill response on the trucking route to the RRM site.*

The emergency response plan included in the RRM EMS addresses the primary hazardous materials onsite and spill response. In 2020, the Emergency response plan was reviewed and tested.

**Condition 185**

*All chemicals used at the site will have a Material Safety Data Sheet, in order to comply with the best practices in the industry for health and safety, and to provide relevant regulatory standards for the safe use of these materials.*

The Material Safety Data Sheets are provided to New Gold RRM users and are accessible from the online site wide MSDS registry. Within this system, regular review and updates to the MSDS are a required by the department which owns each chemical. This aspect is included as part of the RRM Health and Safety WHMIS Program. WHMIS training is ongoing.

**Condition 186**

*Monitoring details will be developed through ongoing stakeholder consultation during the EA process, and through conditions placed on regulatory instruments such as permits, authorizations and approvals, issued by the Federal and Provincial regulatory agencies.*

In 2020 NG was successful in transitioning most of its monitoring requirements in house. Third party reviews of reports still occur to ensure quality assurance.

**Condition 187**

*A Follow up Monitoring Program (FMP) is provided in Section 13 of the Final EA Report, which subject to modification through the EA review process, will be implemented by NG in the manner and schedule identified, to:*

- *Verify the accuracy of the environmental assessment of a designated project; and*
- *Determine the effectiveness of any mitigation measures.*

The Follow Up Monitoring Plan (FMP) for the Rainy River Project/Mine is designed around three central principles of environmental protection; Do not harm culture, respect for Aboriginal culture and values; continuous improvement and compliance with all environmental approvals and authorizations. The FMP applies to all stages of the project and the principles of the plan have been incorporated into the regular routine of how New Gold conducts business. Key components of the FMP have been incorporated into the Environmental Monitoring System (EMS) that New Gold has developed. The monitoring components are also tracked through our regulatory requirements and commitments for the project. New Gold tracks compliance with respect to reporting and obligations within permits and approvals using a computer program called Intalex, where assigned employees are responsible for tracking performance against these commitments and conditions.

Since May 2016 (when the FMP was approved by MNR) the FMP has been adhered to and overall the environmental assessment has proven accurate and no major needs for mitigation measures save the addition of the Water Treatment Train and the delay of the Constructed Wetland until two years prior to closure.

**Condition 188**

*Subject to acceptance in writing of the FMP by the Federal and Provincial governments, monitoring results will be provided to the parties involved in the FMP annually during the construction and operation phases of the RRM.*

To date New Gold has provided all required monitoring information to appropriate Government Agencies as required or as requested.

### **Condition 189**

*A list of FMP commitments made during the EA process will be maintained by NG, indicating where appropriate:*

- *The nature of the commitment;*
- *To whom, or to what group or agency the commitment was made, if specific;*
- *Whether the commitment is related to the EA process alone;*
- *Whether the commitment is addressed or linked to a regulatory instrument, such as a regulation or environmental approval;*
- *Any applicable timeline if any;*
- *The status of the commitment; and*
- *Additional actions required to fulfil the commitment*

This registry addresses these conditions.

### **Condition 190**

*Environmental aspects and potential impacts of the project will be managed within an environmental management system which integrates environmental performance with overall project management.*

The Environmental Management System facilitates decision making and project planning by reviewing performance in all departments and makes decisions for improvement and/or modifications.

Environmental performance is also reported to Mining Association of Canada (MAC) via Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM) protocol assessments and verifications. This program advocates accountability, transparency, and credibility.

### **Condition 191**

*Implementation and maintenance of the environmental management system will be driven by the NG commitment to ongoing compliance with the environmental requirements. Worker awareness of this commitment and requirements related to their work will be communicated through formal programs such as project orientation, job training or contractor packages.*

Formal training programs, through Training and Awareness requirements, new employee orientation and contractor packages focus on Rainy River Mine's commitment to ongoing environmental compliance.

**Condition 192**

*Periodic management reviews will be completed to consider changing circumstances which could affect the continued suitability and adequacy of the monitoring plans, and to support continual improvement in overall effectiveness.*

In 2020, the implementation of an ISO 14001 compliant Environmental Management System (EMS) was initiated at the Rainy River Mine (RRM). Each department began the review of their custom Management Plans and completion of Status Reports for the year. As part of the EMS, periodic management reviews will be conducted to ensure continuous improvement.

**Condition 193**

*NG proposes to amend the Closure Plan periodically as more information becomes available and as required by the Ontario Mining Act.*

Comprehensive Closure Plan Amendment was submitted to MNDM on 26 Oct 2017. This amendment was necessary as the mine transitioned from construction to operations. Updates have been provided to the current closure plan. New Gold submitted a response to the Government Agencies' second set of comments in December 2019 and was filed by ENDM on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

**Condition 194 – Completed April 2017.**

*NG is proposing to work with Aboriginal groups including Rainy River First Nations, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Big Grassy River First Nation, Big Island First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation and Métis community members to provide access to alternative private lands for the purposes of supporting TLU on such lands; and potentially providing compensation or incentives through collaborative agreements between the Aboriginal groups and NG. Access will be coordinated with the Aboriginal groups.*

NG has negotiated agreements with Rainy River First Nations (October 10, 2014), Naicatchewenin First Nation (October 10, 2014), Big Grassy First Nation (January 9, 2015) the Metis Nation of Ontario (November 25, 2014), Big Island First Nation (October 31, 2016), Ojibways of Onigaming (May 24, 2017) and Naotkamegwanning First Nation (April 19, 2017).

**Condition 195**

*NG will communicate with Aboriginal groups including Rainy River First Nations, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Big Grassy River First Nation, Big Island First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation and Métis community members on traditional teachings and ceremony.*

NG typically hosts two annual ceremonies at site. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, only New Gold staff attended (other than the Elder officiants) the ceremonies in 2020. All NG employees undertake a 4 hour Indigenous engagement (cultural awareness) session as part of onboarding. During 2020 the following ceremonies were held onsite:

- Spring Ceremony - May 25/2020;
- Fall Ceremony - October 7/2020

**Condition 196 – Completed January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

*NG will review the Big Grassy River First Nation Traditional Knowledge / Traditional Land Use study and discuss accommodations of the cultural heritage sites identified.*

**Condition 197 – Completed April 2016**

*Related to transmission line construction, environmental monitoring will include (but will not be limited to) inspection of:*

- *ROW to ensure excessive vegetation clearing is not conducted;*
- *Appropriateness of equipment choice and maintenance of equipment to minimize environmental impacts;*
- *Effectiveness of erosion control measures where applicable;*
- *Construction activities and equipment operation, including refueling exercises;*
- *Waste management, including wood waste from clearing and domestic wastes;*
- *Monitoring of remedial actions associated with malfunctions and accidents (if any); and*
- *Any requirements contained in environmental approvals and permits required to construct the transmission line.*

*At a minimum, weekly inspections by a qualified person will occur of worksites and related areas, during clearing of the ROW and construction of the transmission line. Contractors will be required to have properly trained personnel to provide guidance to construction teams in the absence of the*



*qualified environmental persons. The results of the inspections will be documented and follow-up actions, if any, delineated. Completion of follow-up actions will be confirmed during subsequent inspections. Inspection frequency will be increased should the need be identified. The duration of post-construction inspections will depend on the results of the construction inspection. At a minimum, periodic aerial inspection will occur for environmental aspects during operation, coincident with other aerial surveys.*

**Condition 198**

*NG will continue to communicate closely with First Nations and the MNO regarding the Project. (Letter to Chiefs from Kyle Stanfield, October 2013).*

NG has several Participation Agreements / Impact Benefit Agreements in place which identify ongoing communication protocols: FFCS (with Seine River, Lac La Croix, Couchiching and Mitaanjigamiing First Nations) - March 22, 2012 Rainy River First Nations/Naicatchewenin First Nation - Oct 10, 2014 Big Grassy River First Nation - Jan 9, 2015 Metis Nation of Ontario - Nov 25, 2014 Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing First Nation - October 31, 2017 Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation - May 24, 2017 Naotkamegwanning First Nation - April 19, 2017 Animakee Wa Zhing #37 First Nation - Feb 13, 2018 In addition, NG provides regular updates through newsletters, public presentations and individual meetings and emails with community representatives.

**Condition 199**

*NG is committed to working closely with the MNO. NG has provided resources to the MNO to undertake traditional studies as well as technical reviews of both the Draft EA as well as the Draft Closure Plan. NG will continue to support the MNO as part of the EA process and as mine operations begin.*

New Gold has a participation agreement with the MNO (Nov 25/2014) and continues with regular engagement with NG Rainy River.

**Condition 200**

*NG is committed to working closely with the area First Nations and the MNO. NG has provided resources to Aboriginal Groups to undertake traditional studies as well as technical reviews of both the Draft EA as well as the Draft Closure Plan. NG will continue to support First Nations as part of the EA*

*process and as mine operations begin.*

NG actively engages all Indigenous groups about the Rainy River Mine, through newsletters, face to face meetings, site tours, business opportunities and job postings. Condition 9 of the EA approval is being fulfilled, although the level of engagement is directed by the communities.

#### **Condition 201**

*NG will commit to clearing of flammable debris within a minimum 30 m buffer area.*

In 2016 the MNRF expressed concerns regarding the proximity of slash piles to standing timber as well as the size of piles. New Gold worked with the Ministry to ensure that piles were relocated and either chipped or burnt in a controlled manner. New Gold feels that they have received appropriate guidance from the Ministry to confirm that they are meeting the conditions of this commitment.

#### **Condition 202**

*NG is committed to continuing to engage potentially affected stakeholders as development and operation of the RRM progresses. Local municipalities will be engaged specifically with regards to contingency and emergency response procedures, prior to construction start. MNR coordination will be undertaken as appropriate.*

New Gold has agreements with the Township of Chapple and the Township of Morley. The New Gold Health and Safety team has regular communication with Chapple Emergency Response.

#### **Condition 203**

*NG is committed to further discussions with potentially affected Aboriginal groups with respect to development of a protocol for the preservation of artifacts. Where practical and reasonable, artifacts that require removal will be transferred to a public institution selected through consultation with local First Nations and Métis represented by the MNO Region 1 Consultation Committee, in consultation with the MTCS. A MTCS collection transfer form will be completed by the surrendering licensee and the institution accepting the materials. Collection shall be curated to current standards.*

NG will work with local Indigenous groups on the transfer of artifacts. No artifacts were transferred from the archaeologist during 2020.

**Condition 204 – Completed August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

*NG will develop an accommodation with local trapline holders that meets the needs of both the proponent and the trappers.*

**Condition 205**

*NG will enhance components of the Richardson Trail and mitigate the impacts in collaboration with local landowners.*

NG will initiate this commitment during the operations phase of the development, as it will be much safer to access particular areas at that time. No development of the Richardson trail took place in 2020.

## SECTION 6

### NEW GOLD RAINY RIVER MINE FOLLOW UP MONITORING PLAN REGISTRY



Figure 26. Diffuser construction complete at the Loslo Creek and Pinewood River confluence

**Condition 13.1**

*RRR expects that it will be responsible to carry out the FMP (Follow Up Monitoring Plan); and further, that the involved Federal and Provincial agencies and authorities will have a review and monitoring role regarding the implementation of the FMP by RRR and will require RRR to take corrective action for non-compliance as appropriate. Local Aboriginal groups are considered by RRM to be involved parties for the purposes of the FMP, and accordingly, local First Nations and Métis will be provided the results of the FMP.*

Highlights of the Follow Up Monitoring Plan submitted in Section 13 of the Provincial Environmental Assessment for the Rainy River Project have been included in this Compliance Report. The Follow Up Monitoring Plan was originally provided with New Gold's Environmental Assessment to the MECP for review and input by government agencies. New Gold has involved government agencies and Aboriginal groups in the implementation of their monitoring programs and results.

New Gold RRM continues to meet with Environmental Monitoring Boards which are attended by local Aboriginal Groups and discuss ongoing environmental monitoring, research programs and results. Popular topics of discussion include; water quality, wildlife and air quality. New Gold RRM continues to provide onsite tours for government agencies, Community members and employee's families to discuss mining operations, ore process and environmental monitoring.

New Gold involved the MNRF on the creation and implementation of the Rainy River Project's Terrestrial Monitoring Plan (Finalized in 2016) The Environmental Department provides the MECP with monthly updates on water quality sampling and project updates related to water taking, construction and water quality. Additional reports associated with the monitoring programs outlined in the Follow Up Monitoring Plan have been shared with the appropriate government agencies (i.e.; Fish Tissue Sampling (DFO), Air Quality Monitoring and Acoustic Monitoring (MECP)) and are included as supplemental information with this report (Appendix E, M and O).

**Condition 13.2.2**

*For fugitive dust from roads, stockpiles and open pit operations, RRM will assess the effectiveness of planned dust control measures both visually by plume assessment, and using dust fall jars and high-volume samplers for total particulate and PM2.5. Dust fall samples will be collected monthly during the non-winter period for the construction, operation and active reclamation project phases. Select filter*

*samples will be assessed for metals (full metal scan and including mercury, arsenic, cadmium and lead). Two monitoring stations will be set up at the approximate property boundary locations shown in Figure 13-1 subject to power availability and location specific constraints. Equipment siting, operations, auditing and reporting will follow all appropriate MOE requirements as provided in the Operations Manual for Air Quality Monitoring in Ontario (MOE 2008).*

Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Program continued during 2020. Data was collected from two air quality sampling stations: one to the east of the site on Gallinger Road and one to the south of the site near the beginning of the Highway 600 reroute on Tait Road, a third one was installed in December 2020, north east of the project, near the tailings. These stations are equipped with hi- samplers (brush motor and mass flow controlled), PQ200 samplers and passive sampling for SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub>. The hi- samplers measure Total Suspended Particulate (TSP) and metal concentrations averaged over a 24-hour period. The metals and metalloids analyzed include arsenic (As), cadmium (Cd), chromium (Cr), cobalt (Co), copper (Cu), iron (Fe), lead (Pb), manganese (Mn), nickel (Ni), selenium (Se), vanadium (V), and zinc (Zn). The PQ200 samplers measure Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) concentrations averaged over a 24-hour period. The samplers measure total deposition over a 30-day period. Passive sampling measures SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations over a 30-day period. There were three exceedances in 2020: on February 27, the total suspended particulates (TSP) concentration and iron concentrations at Gallinger Road and Tait road Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station had exceeded Ministry approved limits of 120 ug/m<sup>3</sup> and 4 ug/m<sup>3</sup> respectively. The third exceedance was on November 11<sup>th</sup>, where Gallinger Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station TSP concentration was 158.3 ug/m<sup>3</sup>. The Ministry approved limit is 120 ug/m<sup>3</sup>. All three exceedances were reported to the MECP.

### **Condition 13.3.2**

*Subject to consultation and support from area residents and the regulatory agencies, RRR plans to measure sound levels at (or near) residences positioned around the RRM site (Figure 13- 1). These would include:*

- *One residence to the south of the mine site in Black Hawk;*
- *One residence to the east of the mine site on Gallinger Road;*
- *One residence to the southeast of the mine site on south Gallinger Road;*
- *One residence to the west of the mine site in Dearlock; and*
- *One residence to the northwest of the mine site on Highway 600.*

*A dedicated remote monitoring system may be used to provide a real time access system. All sound monitors measurements are to be taken at each measurement location. Hourly Leq, L10, L90 and Lmax will be recorded. Audio samples based on trigger levels will also be recorded. Trigger levels, with automated alerts will be developed for addressing exceedances. will conform to MOENPC-103 measurement protocols. As per MOE protocols, sound level measurements are to be taken at each measurement location. Hourly Leq, L10, L90 and Lmax will be recorded. Audio samples based on trigger levels will also be recorded. Trigger levels, with automated alerts will be developed for addressing exceedances.*

Sound was not measured at the listed locations (residences) during 2020. A program will be implemented in 2021.

#### **Condition 13.4.2**

*In addition, RRR will carry out the following geochemical monitoring program:*

- As part of the ongoing mine rock management plan, collect and analyze blast hole drill cuttings for analysis of total inorganic carbon and total Sulphur, using a Leco furnace, as a means of segregating PAG and NPAG materials for optimal management of PAG mine rock;*
- Submit a subset of Leco furnace samples, collected as part of the ongoing mine rock management plan, for acid base accounting static testing and metals analysis;*
- Collect and analyze mill composite tailings samples, on an approximate monthly basis, for acid base accounting static testing and metals analysis; and*
- Conduct additional geochemical testing on an as required basis to provide further information on Project specific aspects, such as any conditions of note evolving out of developing trend analyses.*

A Geochemical Monitoring Plan for the Construction and Operation Phases was issued in accordance with MECP ECA 7004-BC7KQ5 requirements and was implemented in 2016.

Monitoring continued through 2020 and included analyzing blast hole drill cuttings using a Leco furnace and submission of a subset for ABA and metals analysis, per the commitment.

#### **Condition 13.5.2**

*Collect and analyze samples, and measure rates of flow, as appropriate, from site discharges, and*

*runoff and seepage collection facilities, at the start of their respective operations, including:*

**13.5.2A**

- *TMA discharges to the Pinewood River both directly by pipeline discharge and through the constructed wetland;*
- *Sedimentation Pond #1 and #2 discharges to West Creek;*
- *Aggregate operation(s), discharges (if any);*
- *Sewage effluent discharge; and*
- *Runoff and seepage collected from site operations areas (TMA, overburden and mine rock stockpiles, plant site area and haul roads) in accordance with MMER and Environmental Compliance*
- *Approval requirements.*

A monitoring program was put in place during 2015 and remains active. During 2020, surface water was monitored on and off site as per the Surface Water monitoring program.

All effluent discharges in 2020 met the provincial and federal discharge requirements, with the exception of an exceedance of the provincial monthly average copper limit at EDL1 for October 2020.

**13.5.2B**

*For each of the above, where there is a discharge to a receiver (West Creek or Pinewood River) monitor on a monthly basis (commencing at least three months before the first anticipated discharge / release) the quality of waters upstream and downstream of discharge and runoff / seepage releases at proposed monitoring locations shown in Figure 13-2, inclusive of three stations on West Creek and five stations on the Pinewood River (including Pinewood River baseline monitoring stations SW10, SW3 and SW15. The two current baseline monitoring stations on the Rainy River (SW16 and SW17) would also be maintained for monthly monitoring. Quarterly samples from selected water quality sampling stations will be collected for trace analysis of total and methyl mercury in discussion with the MOE.*

The receiver monitoring was conducted on a monthly and quarterly basis as per the commitment. All samples collected from the receivers met the environmental approval requirements. In 2020, total and methyl mercury samples were collected during the open water period in the Pinewood River upstream and downstream of the site. See the 2020 Annual Surface Water Monitoring Report in Appendix P and



the 2020 Annual Sulphate and Mercury Monitoring Report in Appendix O for more information

### **13.5.2C**

*Monitor flows as shown in Figure 13-2 commencing as soon as construction is completed on the West Creek pond and the West Creek diversion at:*

- *West Creek at the West Creek pond outflow*
- *West Creek diversion; and*
- *Pinewood River at Highway 617 (Water Survey of Canada Station WSC 05PC023).*

Construction of the West Creek Diversion (WCD) was completed in 2017, however dry conditions that persisted through 2017 and 2018 were not conducive to installation of water level transducers in the absence of water flow. A water level transducer was installed in the West Creek Pond in April 2018. A hydrometric station was installed in the WCD within the Box Culvert in September 2019, referred to as New Gold RRM H3 Hydrometric Station. In fall of 2020, a second hydrometric station was installed in the WCD downstream of the Sediment Pond 1 final discharge point and the confluence of the Marr Creek Diversion to further monitor the WCD.

The WSC 05PC023 hydrometric station remains active, however New Gold installed a dedicated hydrometric station upstream on the Pinewood River in late 2015 to supplement this data source, and continued to monitor the station through 2019. In December 2019, this hydrometric station was upgraded per the RRM Hydrometric Monitoring Plan. It is now referred to as New Gold RRM H1 Hydrometric Station (formerly Site 19). In August 2020, the H1 Hydrometric Station was rehabilitated to correct an issue with the concrete canvas installed to stabilize the river cross-section.

In September 2019, a hydrometric station was installed upstream of the RRM in the arch culvert that passes under Heatwole Rd, off of Teeple Rd. This location is referred to as New Gold RRM H2 Hydrometric Station.

### **13.5.2D**

*As data availability permits, develop annual updated statistical flow estimates for local watercourses based on flow data derived through monitoring, with such estimates to include:*

- *Monthly averages*
- *Annual averages*

- *Extreme low flow statistics corresponding to 2, 5, 10 and 20 year return period conditions; and*
- *Extreme high flow statistics corresponding to 2, 5, 10 and 20 year return period conditions.*

In-stream measurements were on going during 2020 in the Pinewood River at the H1 (formerly Site 19), the H2 hydrometric station upstream of site and the H3 hydrometric station in the West Creek Diversion. Continued in-stream flow monitoring is planned for 2020.

#### **13.5.2E**

*Carry out an environmental effect monitoring (EEM) program in accordance with the Metal Mining Guidance Document for Aquatic Environmental Effects Monitoring (EC 2012d) to assess the character and quality of aquatic resources at the following locations:*

- *West Creek diversion; and*
- *Pinewood River upstream and downstream of the RRM site area.*

The Cycle 1 EEM Study Design Report was prepared for submission in 2016, the subsequent Cycle 1 biological monitoring was conducted in 2017. The cycle 1 Interpretive Report was submitted to ECCC by March 31, 2018. Cycle 2 EEM biological monitoring was conducted in 2020.

#### **13.5.2F**

*Except as provided for in Item E, above, carry out commencing one year after the date of commercial production and at three year intervals thereafter, fish habitat and fisheries assessments, including sediment and benthos investigations for:*

- *West Creek;*
- *Clark Creek (upstream of the east mine rock stockpile); and*
- *Pinewood River.*

The Cycle 1 EEM Study Design Report was prepared for submission in 2016, the subsequent Cycle 1 biological monitoring was conducted in 2017. The cycle 1 Interpretive Report was submitted to ECCC by March 31, 2018. Cycle 2 EEM biological monitoring was conducted in 2020.

#### **13.5.2G**

*Monitor contaminants of potential concern in fish tissues from game fish harvested from the*

*Pinewood River coincident with monitoring carried out pursuant to Item F, above.*

Thirty-four (34) Northern Pike and 16 Walleye were caught in the Pinewood River (none can be caught in West Creek or Clark Creek as game fish are not present in those remnant channels), 15 of each species were sampled for contaminants of concern in muscle, liver and ovary (if applicable) tissues. Contaminant levels have been decreasing over time from baseline levels. For example, mean Northern Pike mercury level in muscle tissue for 2012 was 0.776 mg/kg w.w. and in 2020 that number was 0.440 mg/kg w.w. Conversely the baseline max muscle tissue mercury level in Northern Pike was 4.7 mg/kg w.w. during baseline and in 2020 the max was 0.614 mg/kg w.w. those levels are still above the limit (0.5 mg/kg w.w.) for consumption by vulnerable populations. This group includes women of child-bearing age and children younger than 15, but there is a marked decrease between sampling years. Further information regarding large body fish tissue sampling can be found in Appendix M.

### **13.5.2H**

*As a component of the RRM stormwater management plan, collect and analyze late winter snowpack samples for pH and metals to help determine the effects of dust fall accumulated within the snowpack during spring melt.*

Passive dustfall monitoring was completed in 2020 at the two original air quality monitoring stations, with additional dustfall monitoring locations added in late 2020. Snow pack samples are scheduled for late February and early March 2021 (Appendix E).

### **Condition 13.6.2**

*RRR will carry out groundwater system monitoring as per the following:*

- *Collect and analyze samples, and measure pumping rates for mine water from the open pit and underground transferred to the mine rock pond (or to the TMA during construction);*
- *Establish a groundwater well (piezometer) network around the open pit area to monitor groundwater levels throughout the area on a continuous basis using water level transducers, with transducer downloads to be completed twice per year, commencing at least six months prior to the start of pumping, all as shown in Figure 13-3;*
- *Collect groundwater samples from the groundwater well / piezometer network quarterly except where prevented by freezing conditions, and analyze the samples for applicable parameters as provided for in Provincial approvals; and*
- *Review groundwater monitoring data annually and update the groundwater model on three year*

*intervals, with the first such update to be based on data obtained from the first three full years of pumping; and with the model updates to be completed within nine months of the end of the data collection period.*

Internal monitoring samples are collected and analyzed for the Mine Rock Pond (MRP). A record of the volume pumped from the open pit, and future underground operation, is generated daily during movement of water from the mine to the MRP or the Mill.

A groundwater well monitoring program was established that extends around the mine footprint, sampling began in early 2016. Selected piezometers / wells include water level transducers, with downloads completed quarterly in conjunction with sample collection and manual water level measurements.

Groundwater well samples were collected from the piezometer / well network three times in 2020, however some wells were not sampled as they were dry.

The groundwater samples were analyzed for the parameters in the Provincial Environmental Compliance Approval, and the data was reviewed during 2020. The 3-D groundwater model was not updated in 2019. An updated 1-D groundwater model was completed in early 2020 and the 3-D groundwater model was produced in late 2020.

#### **Condition 13.7.1 – Completed May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

*A wildlife monitoring plan will be implemented to ensure that effects on wildlife are properly mitigated. FMP monitoring will be based where possible, on standard survey protocols used during baseline studies so that any changes in local mammal, area- sensitive breeding bird or amphibian populations may be detected.*

#### **Condition 13.7.2**

*Methods for determining adverse RRM-induced effects on mammals following the implementation of proposed mitigation measures will include:*

- *Bat acoustic monitoring at representative locations;*
- *Aerial helicopter survey in late winter to document numbers and distributions of White-tailed Deer, Moose and Wolves at locations representing suitable habitat directly adjacent to the RRM site; and control sites. Such surveys to be conducted during the first winter of the construction phase, the winter following the completion of construction, and at three year intervals thereafter*

*until the end of the active mine reclamation phase;*

- *Working with any Aboriginal hunters to document White-tailed Deer, Moose, Wolf and Black Bear harvesting activities in the RRM site area;*
- *Implementation of a wildlife log (including collisions) of general mammal observations made by employees on the RRM site including White-tailed Deer, Moose, Black Bear and any other larger furbearers; and*
- *Monitoring of Black Bear activity related to waste disposal (if applicable) and general site activities.*

Bat acoustic monitoring occurred in 2020 at the required locations see Bat Monitoring Report Appendix Q. The aerial surveys did take place in 2020, but snow pack was not sufficient to make them of use and MNRF has agreed any data we would collect with not be valid or of use the MNRF.

No hunting is allowed on the RRM site as it has been deemed unsafe to do so. New Gold RRM implemented a wildlife log at the site during 2015 and continued documenting wildlife sightings and interactions through 2020.

In 2016 the Environmental Department started tracking sightings in a GIS database. The wildlife logs for 2020 include documented Black Bear activity and a mortality log. New Gold has 5 staff that received and passed training from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry on how to live trap and relocate nuisance Black Bears. In 2020 two bears were successfully relocated.

### **Condition 13.7.3**

*Methods for determining adverse effects to breeding birds following the implementation of proposed mitigation measures will include:*

- *Targeted point count surveys for diurnal SAR including Golden-winged Warbler, Barn Swallow and Bobolink and for woodland area-sensitive breeding birds in suitable habitat. Point counts will be based on standardized survey protocols described for the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas Guide for Participants (OBBA 2001) so as to be consistent with baselines study methodology (Section 5.2.12),*
- *Incidental data collection for SAR and Provincially rare species which are currently present at lower abundance including: Canada Warbler, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Short-eared Owl,*

*American Pelican, Bald Eagle and Black-billed Magpie,*

- *Targeted twilight surveys for Eastern Whip-poor-will in suitable habitat. Whip-poor-will monitoring efforts will follow standardized survey protocols as outlined in the whip-poor-will Roadside Survey Participant's Guide (BSC 2012).*
- *Concurrent data collection for Common Nighthawk to be undertaken during targeted Eastern Whip-poor-will surveys as described above as no standardized survey protocols have been developed specifically for this species;*
- *Annual monitoring of active Bald Eagle nests which occur in close proximity the RRM site. Monitoring will attempt to establish fledging success;*
- *Implementation of a wildlife log of general breeding bird observations at the RRM site by employees (focused on raptors and raptor nests, and SAR species); and*
- *Any additional monitoring defined in ESA permits.*

Near site EWPW surveys were undertaken in 2020 as per New Gold's ESA permit.

To support the monitoring of bird species onsite, the Environmental Department implemented a site wide protocol for reporting wildlife in 2015. Through this system the following bird sightings were reported in 2020; 2 bobolink, 77 barn swallow, 46 eagle, 63 pelicans, 8 EWPW, 1 Snapping turtle. It should be noted that all sightings (with the exception of EWPW) for 2020 came from the general population of the mine and not consultants as in previous years. Education and awareness of the reporting procedure and onsite Species at Risk is conducted through new employee/contractor orientation and site wide publications. The two known eagles' nest near the project boundary are monitored each year through visual observation. For further information see the SAR report for 2020 Appendix H.

#### **Condition 13.7.4**

*Effects on amphibians after implementation of proposed mitigation measures will include:*

- *Implementation of a wildlife log of general amphibian observations by employees.*

Leopard and Green frogs are a common sight on the mine site especially in compensation and offset habitats built as per DFO requirements. Spring peeper and wood frogs are a rare sight.

### **Condition 13.8.2**

*This section considers the potential for traffic accidents on public roads related to the construction and operation of the RRM. Roads of specific interest are:*

- *Highways 71 and 11, west of Fort Frances and south of Kenora;*
- *Highway 600;*
- *Teeple Road west of Highway 71; and*
- *East Access Road.*

*Methods for assessing traffic accidents along public roads will include:*

- *Monitoring road surface conditions for the identified roads of interest during the winter months and working with the MTO (MTO) and the local municipalities, to ensure that roads are properly cleared, salted and sanded, as appropriate to maintain safe driving conditions;*
- *Maintaining a record of any accidents involving RRR employees and contractors related to the RRM; and*
- *Maintaining a record of any near misses related to potential traffic accidents along the roads of interest involving RRR employees and contractors related to the RRM.*

New Gold employees and on-site contractors are required to report all near misses and traffic accidents immediately to the New Gold Health and Safety Department. A record documenting system is in place. In some instances, drug and alcohol testing may be required and can be conducted on site by trained staff. New Gold has a zero-tolerance policy in place for any employees or contractors caught driving while using a cell phone. There are also policies in place to control speeding on site.

Security conduct road inspections on site each night shift. These inspections include Teeple Road, East Access Road and Highway 600. If hazards are identified on roads owned and maintained by New Gold, they are addressed by an onsite construction team. Hazards identified on municipal or public roads are reported to the appropriate authority (Municipality or MTO). Reports of road hazards are communicated during the HSE Communication broadcast over all radio channels at shift start. Dedicated Security Coordinator hired in October 2018 to put more emphasis on security aspects of our operations, including traffic control.

### **Condition 13.9.2**

*To assess potential changes to TLU that could potentially derive from implementation of the RRM, RRR will carry out, or provide financial support for, the following activities:*

- *Subject to any terms of agreement with the local First Nations and Métis, periodically update Traditional Knowledge (TK) studies conducted for the RRM beginning five years after mine operations initiate, to determine if there have been any changes to resource harvesting patterns by local Aboriginal peoples as a result of the RRM, and the reasons for any such changes*
- *Conduct reviews at five year intervals, of the activities of a subset of RRR Aboriginal employees (representative cross section) to determine the effects of employment on their traditional activities*
- *Confirm any expected changes in the availability of fisheries and wildlife resources to local harvesters, based on data derived from biological monitoring programs.*

No updates were conducted in 2020.

### **Condition 13.10.2**

*RRR will carry out the following monitoring program to ensure the protection of cultural heritage resources*

- *Maintain a record of all cultural heritage resources known to occur in the vicinity of planned RRM developments, such that intrusion or damage to such resources can be avoided during construction, recognizing and respecting confidentiality limitations*
- *Maintain an active dialogue with local residents and Aboriginal group representatives, having knowledge of specific areas prior to and during major construction activities, to provide guidance to supervisory staff on the likely or possible occurrence of as yet undocumented cultural heritage sites*
- *Enlist the services of a trained archaeologist during the conduct of major construction works to support RRR as needed, where there is a reasonable potential for encountering as yet undocumented cultural heritage sites*
- *Enlist the services of Elders or other cultural advisors in the event that cultural heritage resources are encountered (in addition to meeting all Regulatory requirements)*
- *Conduct a post-construction assessment of the state of known cultural heritage sites in the vicinity of RRM activities / structures to confirm the integrity of such resources.*



NG engaged qualified Archaeologists and Built Heritage Specialists to record all resources prior to construction commencing. NG continues to actively engage local residents and Indigenous groups through meetings and visits.

Northwest Archaeological Assessments under the guidance of qualified archaeologist Andrew Hinshelwood, completed analysis and cataloguing of artifacts discovered during the 2018 Stage 4 excavation on the southwestern edge of the mine site. Preliminary reports for both excavation sites plus the final report for the smaller excavation site were submitted to the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS) - Archaeological Programs Unit, for review and acceptance into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports. NG agrees to enlist the services of Elders should new Cultural Heritage resources be discovered.

NG contracted post construction assessment of known Cultural Heritage sites in 2018; reporting was completed in 2019. Original post construction assessment report was submitted on May 2/2019 to MTCS; revised report was submitted on Aug 16/2019. No reporting was completed in 2020.

#### **Condition 13.11.2**

*RRR will carry out the following monitoring program to ensure the documentation of cultural heritage landscapes and built heritage resources as appropriate:*

- *Develop an initial record of all cultural heritage landscapes and built heritage resources known to occur near the planned RRM developments, such that intrusion or damage to such resources can be documented; and*
- *Conduct a post-construction assessment of the state of known cultural heritage landscapes and built heritage resources in the vicinity of RRM activities /structures to confirm the status of such resources.*

The initial record was completed by Untermann and McPhail. Untermann and McPhail began a post-construction assessment of the state of known cultural heritage resources in 2018 and was completed in 2019 and submitted to MTCS.

#### **Condition 13.12.2**

*Traffic flow on local roads with more limited capacity is of greater interest, notably:*

- *Highway 600;*

- Teeple Road west of Highway 71; and
- The East Access Road.

*The intent is to document that these local roads are able to continue to function adequately, and within safe limits for both project and local traffic. Methods for measuring traffic use along local roads will include:*

- *Periodic traffic count surveys using automated traffic counters;*
- *Employee surveys to determine transport routes to and from the mine site; and*
- *Ongoing discussions with MTO and the Township of Chapple to support additional traffic volume monitoring studies if appropriate.*

The Ontario Provincial Police request that New Gold share any traffic complaints with them. New Gold continues to monitor traffic and work closely with the Township of Chapple to address any concerns. The East Access Road (Korpi Road) is the primary route of traffic to the mine site, greatly reducing traffic on Teeple Rd/Hwy 600. New Gold also provides bus transportation for employees to/from Fort Frances and Emo. RRM also has a community complaint hotline to bring issues to the site's attention.

#### **Condition 13.13.2**

*Methods for documenting accommodations use in association with the RRM will include conducting contractor and employee surveys to determine:*

- *Community or nearest community of local residence;*
- *Type of residence (rental or ownership);*
- *Type of accommodation (existing or new);*
- *Type of occupancy (single, shared or family); and*
- *Whether or not the employee / contractor is an existing local resident, or new to the area.*

New Gold Rainy River is a residential operation with a limited number of positions being camp based. As of December 31, 2020, 67% of New Gold employees were from the local human environment regional study area. New Gold provides accommodation for contractors on the site and a limited number of professional and operational staff when local hiring is not possible.

#### **Condition 13.14 A**

*It is anticipated the environmental management system will consider the following areas as significant*

*environmental aspects of the RRM (although they may not be represented by individual management plans depending on the final environmental management system framework): Recycling and waste reduction program;*

- *Mine rock (PAG / NPAG) management;*
- *Water management;*
- *General waste management;*
- *Hazardous materials management;*
- *Fuel handling and storage;*
- *Fugitive dust management;*
- *Sound management;*
- *Wildlife management;*
- *Traffic management;*
- *Cultural awareness;*
- *Heritage management;*
- *Emergency response; and*
- *Response to malfunctions and accidents.*

In 2020, the implementation of an ISO 14001 compliant Environmental Management System (EMS) began at the Rainy River Mine (RRM). The EMS design framework consists of various stand-alone Management Plans as well as subsets to core Management Plans.

#### **Condition 13.14 B**

*Environmental management system maintenance and effectiveness will be monitored through a variety of programs, such as:*

- *Formal and informal audits;*
- *Environmental monitoring;*
- *Non-conformance incidents, status of corrective actions; and*
- *Stakeholder feedback.*

*Periodic management reviews will be completed to consider changing circumstances which could affect the continued suitability and adequacy of the plans, and to support continual improvement in overall effectiveness.*

In 2020, the implementation of an ISO 14001 compliant Environmental Management System (EMS) was initiated for the Rainy River Mine (RRM). EMS maintenance and effectiveness will be monitored through audits, environmental monitoring, non-conformance incidents, status of corrective actions and stakeholder feedback. Periodic management reviews will support continuous improvement.

## SECTION 7

# NEW GOLD RAINY RIVER MINE PUBLIC CONSULTATION REGISTRY



Figure 27. Newly built Round House on site

Table 3 Record of Consultation for 2020

Date	No.	Type	Topics	Notes on Implementation	Stakeholders	Focus
01/06	2995	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Dec 31/2019 - Jan 5/2020)	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
01/08	3024	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with Whitefish Bay.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Naotkamegwanning First Nation	Aboriginal
01/13	3211	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Oct 5 - 11/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
01/13	2996	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the weeks of Dec 16 - 22, 2019; Dec 23 - 29, 2019; and Dec 30/2019 - Jan 5/2020.	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
01/15	2997	External Feedback	A Rainy River community member called to complain about NG employees smoking outside of the arena entrance while waiting for the NG coach bus; there is no smoking allowed within 9m of entrance.	A notice was sent to all employees to follow local laws and ensure respectful use of bus waiting areas.	Town of Rainy River	Public

01/15	2998	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week Jan 6-12/2020.	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
01/21	2999	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Jan 6 - 12, 2020)	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
01/21	3000	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week Jan 13-19/2020.	New Gold was advised of an update to the MNO distribution of the Weekly Spill and Incident Reports. Distribution list was updated. No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
01/21	3001	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Jan 13 - 19, 2020)	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
01/21	3025	Meeting	New Gold held their monthly JIC meeting with RRFN and Naicatchewenin.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations	Aboriginal

01/21	3002	Site Visit	New Gold provided a tour for committee members of the Fort Frances Chief Secretariat Advisory Committee and Environmental sub-committee.		Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation	Aboriginal
01/23	3003	E-mail	New Gold requested an update on previously submitted revisions to the NG RRM Cultural Heritage Resource Completion Report (submitted Aug 16, 2019) along with decision on annual reporting requirements.		Ministry of Tourism Culture and Sport	Public
01/27	3004	E-mail	New Gold distributed a summary of all current career opportunities to community contacts.	No further action required.	Town of Atikokan, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, United Native Friendship Centre, Shooniyaa Wa-Biitong, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing Ne-Yaa-Zhing Advisory Services, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal



01/28	2936	E-mail	ENDM emailed New Gold an acknowledgement of receipt of the exploration permit application PR-19-000335. ENDM advised that a copy of the permit application was circulated to identified Aboriginal communities: Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming FN, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning FN, Sunset Country Métis (MNO) and Big Grassy River FN.	NG was asked to advise ENDM if contacted by any communities not identified by ENDM.	Ministry of Energy Northern Development and Mines (Ontario)	Government
01/30	3005	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Jan 20 - 26, 2020)	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
01/31	3006	E-mail	The Lac La Croix FFCS Advisory Committee member requested information on the Closure Plan Amendment.	New Gold advised the member of presentation dates and an update on comments between NG and the government. A copy of the CPA 2017 presentation was offered, accepted and emailed.	Lac La Croix First Nation, Fort Frances Chiefs Secretariat	Aboriginal
02/03	3007	Open House	New Gold participated in Seine River's career fair, along with approximately 10 other businesses.	Approximately 30 community members attended the career fair.	Seine River First Nation	Aboriginal

02/06	2942	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Jan 27 - Feb 2, 2020)	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
02/11	2946	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the weeks of Jan 20-26/2020, Jan 27-Feb 02/2020 and Feb 03-09 2020.	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
02/12	3045	E-mail	New Gold emailed information regarding Exploration Permit PR-19-00035 as a follow up to a letter sent December 19, 2019.	New Gold provided further contact information if there were any questions.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
02/12	3026	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Feb 3-9, 2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal

02/13	3027	E-mail	New Gold announced Q4 Results and updated Life of Mine plans.		Northwest Angle 33 First Nation, Town of Atikokan, Grand Council Treaty #3, Métis Nation of Ontario, Township of Sioux Narrows - Nestor Falls, Township of LaVallee, Big Grassy First Nation, Township of Lake of the Woods, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Town of Fort Frances, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Thunder Bay - Rainy River, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Morley Township, Township of Emo, Township of Chapple, Town of Rainy River, Township of Dawson, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation, Township of Alberton	Public and Aboriginal
02/18	2947	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Feb 10-16, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
02/19	3028	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with AON.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken. General discussion of environmental matters and the TMA were discussed with guests from the Environmental and Mill departments.	Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing	Aboriginal
02/20	3030	Meeting	New Gold held their monthly JIC meeting with RRFN and Naicatchewenin.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations	Aboriginal

02/20	3031	E-mail	New Gold distributed a summary of all current career opportunities to community contacts.	No further action required.	Town of Atikokan, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, United Native Friendship Centre, Shooniyaa Wa-Biitong, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing Ne-Yaa-Zhing Advisory Services, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
02/20	3029	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Feb 10-16, 2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
02/25	3032	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Feb 17-23, 2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
02/25	3035	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with FFCS.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation	Aboriginal
02/25	3033	E-mail	New Gold announced a financial partnership with Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan at the New Afton Mine.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

02/25	3034	Meeting	New Gold held a quarterly EMB meeting with FFCS communities. Meeting minutes were distributed to all members.	New Gold advised that they have received the final version of the amended ECA and will distribute copies via email. A committee member requested clarification on a communication received from ENDM regarding the Closure Plan Amendment. NG clarified that the email received was in reference to the 2017 CPA; there is not a new CPA.	Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation	Aboriginal
02/26	3037	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with Big Grassy.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Big Grassy First Nation	Aboriginal
02/26	3036	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Feb 17-23, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

03/03	3049	Other	New Gold approved support for donations to the Fort Frances Legion Ladies Auxiliary #29, RRFDC, Fort Frances Public Library, Nestor Falls Recreation Committee, Backpacks for Kids, Sioux Narrows Public School Parent Council, RR District Stewardship, Outland Youth Employment Program, NW Ontario Regional Science Fair, Riverside Foundation for Health Care, CFN Recreation Leaf's Hockey Parents, NWO Eagles Hockey Club, Treaty Three Police Youth Hockey Program and Rainy River Curling Club.		Fort Frances Public Library,Riverside Foundation for Health Care,Rainy River District Stewardship,Nestor Falls Recreation Committee,Rainy River Future Development Corporation	Public and Aboriginal
03/03	3038	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Feb 24 - Mar 1, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario,Big Grassy First Nation,Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing,Naotkamegwaning First Nation,Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation,Seine River First Nation,Lac La Croix First Nation,Mitaanjigamiing First Nation,Couchiching First Nation,Township of Chapple,Naicatchewenin First Nation,Rainy River First Nations,Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
03/05	3040	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Feb 24 - Mar 1, 2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario,Big Grassy First Nation,Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing,Naotkamegwaning First Nation,Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation,Seine River First Nation,Lac La Croix First Nation,Mitaanjigamiing First Nation,Couchiching First Nation,Township of Chapple,Naicatchewenin First Nation,Rainy River First Nations,Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
03/10	3041	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with AWZFN.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation	Aboriginal
03/11	3042	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with Onigaming.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal

03/13	2952	E-mail	NG was advised by ENDM that some communities were not clear on the status of the CPA 2017; NG emailed all communities with an update on the CPA 2017 to let them know that any recent correspondence received in December 2019 was relating to the CPA 2017, originally submitted in October 2017. The timeline from the date of submission was provided.	ENDM was copied on the email sent to communities.	Ministry of Energy Northern Development and Mines (Ontario), Northwest Angle 33 First Nation, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aborigina I
03/13	3044	E-mail	New Gold's Health & Safety Manager offered to present the COVID-19 action plan to communities.	No action required; a presentation was not requested by any of the communities.	Northwest Angle 33 First Nation, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aborigina I
03/13	3043	E-mail	New Gold emailed NG's COVID-19 update and action plan to all communities.		Northwest Angle 33 First Nation, Town of Atikokan, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, United Native Friendship Centre, Shoonyaa Wa-Biitong, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing Ne-Yaa-Zhing Advisory Services, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aborigina I

03/14	3046	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Mar 2-8, 2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
03/16	3047	E-mail	New Gold emailed a consultation summary updated with recent communications relating to CPA 2017.		Ministry of Energy Northern Development and Mines (Ontario)	Public
03/17	3048	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Mar 9-15, 2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
03/19	3050	E-mail	New Gold emailed a communication from the CEO about the pandemic.	The message was sent to community leaders and site neighbours.	Northwest Angle 33 First Nation, Métis Nation of Ontario, Township of Sioux Narrows - Nestor Falls, Township of LaVallee, Big Grassy First Nation, Township of Lake of the Woods, Site Neighbour (within 10km of project footprint), Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Morley Township, Township of Emo, Township of Chapple, Town of Rainy River, Township of Dawson, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation, Township of Alberton	Public and Aboriginal



03/20	3051	E-mail	New Gold emailed an announcement regarding the temporary suspension of operations at Rainy River mine.		Northwest Angle 33 First Nation, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Site Neighbour (within 10km of project footprint), Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
03/23	3052	E-mail	New Gold provided a current list of First Nation and Metis contact info to ENDM as requested	This is relating to the 2017 CPA information sent to Indigenous communities on March 13, 2020.	Ministry of Energy Northern Development and Mines (Ontario)	Public
03/24	3053	Meeting	New Gold held a teleconference meeting with Indigenous leadership to discuss and gain input about the COVID-19 response.	Meeting minutes were distributed to all meeting participants and invitees. NG agreed to distribute a copy of RR's COVID-19 procedures. This was emailed March 30, 2020.	Grand Council Treaty #3, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
03/26	3054	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Mar 16-22, 2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal

03/30	3055	E-mail	As a follow up to a teleconference held on March 24, 2020, NG emailed Rainy River's COVID-19 procedures to Indigenous leadership.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
03/30	3056	E-mail	New Gold emailed a copy of RR's current COVID-19 procedures.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
03/31	3057	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the weeks of Mar 2 - Mar 29, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
03/31	3058	E-mail	New Gold announced the closing of \$300M financial partnership with Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan at the New Afton Mine.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
04/03	3059	E-mail	New Gold announced the restart of the Rainy River Mine.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

04/03	3060	Meeting	New Gold held a teleconference meeting with Indigenous leadership to provide an update on the COVID-19 response.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
04/06	3062	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Mar 23 - Apr 5, 2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
04/08	3061	Phone Call	New Gold's Health & Safety Manager called the Township of Chapple to answer questions related to the COVID-19 response and protocol for external contractors working at site.		Township of Chapple	Public
04/08	3063	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Mar 30 - Apr 5, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
04/09	3140	E-mail	New Gold emailed RRFN/NFN EMB members to arrange a teleconference meeting.	No responses were received.	Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations	Aboriginal
04/09	3141	E-mail	New Gold emailed EMB members to arrange a teleconference meeting.	No responses were received.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal

04/14	3064	Meeting	New Gold held a teleconference meeting with Indigenous leadership to provide a further update about the COVID-19 response.	Meeting minutes were distributed to all meeting participants and invitees.	Grand Council Treaty #3, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
04/15	3065	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Apr 6 - 12, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
04/15	3067	E-mail	New Gold reports first quarter operational results and withdraws annual guidance.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
04/15	3066	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with Whitefish Bay.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Naotkamegwaning First Nation	Aboriginal
04/16	3068	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Apr 6-12, 2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal

04/16	3069	Meeting	New Gold held a teleconference call with municipal leadership to provide an update on COVID-19 mine practices and answer any questions.	Minutes for the meeting were shared with all invitees and participants; New Gold also distributed a copy of the COVID-19 procedures.	Town of Atikokan, Township of Sioux Narrows - Nestor Falls, Township of LaVallee, Township of Lake of the Woods, Town of Fort Frances, Thunder Bay - Rainy River, Morley Township, Township of Emo, Township of Chapple, Town of Rainy River, Township of Dawson, Township of Alberton	Public
04/21	3070	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Apr 13 - 19, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
04/22	3071	Meeting	New Gold held a teleconference meeting with Indigenous leadership to provide a further update about the COVID-19 response.	Meeting minutes were distributed to all meeting participants and invitees.	Grand Council Treaty #3, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
04/23	3072	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Apr 13-19, 2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
04/23	3142	E-mail	New Gold emailed the Fort Frances mayor to share NG's response and policies to COVID-19. New Gold provided contact information and invited the mayor to call with any further concerns or questions.		Town of Fort Frances	Public

04/28	3074	E-mail	New Gold distributed a copy of the amended Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) to all EMB members as received from MECP.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
04/28	3073	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Apr 19-26, 2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
04/29	3077	Meeting	New Gold held a teleconference meeting with Indigenous leadership to provide a further update about the COVID-19 response.	Meeting minutes were distributed to all meeting participants and invitees.	Grand Council Treaty #3, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
04/29	3078	E-mail	New Gold distributed a copy of the amended Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) to all JIC members as received from MECP.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
04/29	3076	E-mail	New Gold emailed a report on first quarter financial results.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

04/29	3075	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Apr 20 - 26, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
04/30	3079	Meeting	New Gold held their monthly JIC meeting with RRFN and Naicatchewenin.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations	Aboriginal
05/05	3080	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Apr 27 - May 3/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
05/06	3081	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Apr 27 - May 3, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
05/11	3082	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (May 4 - 10/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

05/11	3084	E-mail	New Gold distributed a link to 2019 Annual Compliance Report to all EMB members as submitted to regulatory bodies earlier in the year.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
05/11	3083	E-mail	New Gold distributed a link to 2019 Annual Compliance Report to all JIC members as submitted to regulatory bodies earlier in the year.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
05/12	3085	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of May 4 - 10, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
05/13	3086	E-mail	New Gold emailed communities on how they were managing wick drain contractors on site in a safe manner that meets COVID-19 safety measures along with updates on the TMA south dam raise and CPA 2017.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
05/19	3087	Meeting	New Gold held their monthly JIC meeting with RRFN and Naicatchewenin.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations	Aboriginal
05/19	3088	Meeting	New Gold held a teleconference call with municipal leadership to provide another update on COVID-19 mine practices and answer any questions.	Minutes for the meeting were shared with all invitees and participants.	Town of Atikokan, Township of Sioux Narrows - Nestor Falls, Township of LaVallee, Township of Lake of the Woods, Town of Fort Frances, Thunder Bay - Rainy River, Morley Township, Township of Emo, Township of Chapple, Town of Rainy River, Township of Dawson, Township of Alberton	Public



05/20	3089	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with AON.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing	Aboriginal
05/21	3091	E-mail	NG announced results of votes for election of Board of Directors.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
05/21	3090	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (May 11 - 17/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
05/25	3092	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (May 18 - 24/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
05/25	3138	Ceremony	New Gold held a small Spring Ceremony; an Elder from Naotkamegwanning First Nation officiated. The Elder also named the site Roundhouse, "Miishikiibinens O'wiigii'aam" (Descending Thunderbird Lodge).	Participation was limited due to COVID-19 restrictions.	Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Rainy River First Nations	Public and Aboriginal
05/26	3093	Meeting	The scheduled EMB meeting was cancelled due to lack of attendance.	The rep from Lac La Croix called in; no others did.	Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation	Aboriginal
05/26	3094	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with FFCS.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation	Aboriginal

05/27	3095	E-mail	Weekly Incident Reports for the weeks of May 11-17 and May 18-24, 2020 were distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
05/29	3096	Mass Mailout	New Gold mailed the RRP Spring 2020 Newsletter to the following communities: Rainy River, Fort Frances (includes Couchiching, Nigigoonsiminikaaning, Mitaanjigamiing, Lac La Croix, Sunset Country Métis), Devlin (includes Naicatchewenin), Emo (includes Rainy River First Nations), Barwick, Stratton, Pinewood, Sleeman (includes Big Grassy, Big Island), Nestor Falls (includes Onigaming), Mine Centre (includes Seine River), and Pawitik (includes Whitefish Bay, Northwest Angle 37 and Sioux Narrows). A digital version was also posted on the New Gold website. A digital copy of the newsletter was emailed to all communities, including those that lay outside of the local mail distribution on July 23, 2020 (those communities include: Buffalo Point, Rat Portage (Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum) and Northwest Angle 33).		Town of Atikokan, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, United Native Friendship Centre, Shooniyaa Wa-Biitong, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing Ne-Yaa-Zhing Advisory Services, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

06/02	3215	Other	New Gold approved support for donations to the Fort Frances Family Centre, Emo Food Bank, The Salvation Army, United Native Friendship Centre, West End Food Bank, Sunset Country Metis Council (food bank), Rainy River Walleye Tournament, Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation, Lakehead University and Manitou Mounds Foundation.	Where applicable, if an event was cancelled and the funds unused (due to COVID-19), New Gold requested the funds be put forward to the next event.	Sunset Country Métis Community Council, Emo Food Bank, Fort Frances Family Centre, United Native Friendship Centre, Lakehead University, West End Food Bank, Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation, Kay-Nah-Chi-Wah-Nung Historical Centre, Salvation Army	Public and Aboriginal
06/02	3097	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of May 25-31, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
06/02	3098	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (May 25 - 31/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

06/04	3099	E-mail	New Gold distributed a summary of all current career opportunities to community contacts.	No further action required.	Town of Atikokan, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, United Native Friendship Centre, Shooniyaa Wa-Biitong, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing Ne-Yaa-Zhing Advisory Services, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
06/04	3100	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (June 1 - 8/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
06/08	3101	E-mail	New Gold announced the divestment of Blackwater to Artemis Gold for cash and retained exposure.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
06/09	3103	E-mail	New Gold announced launch of \$400 million senior notes offering to fund redemption of outstanding 6.25% senior notes.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
06/10	3102	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with AWZFN.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation	Aboriginal
06/10	3104	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with Big Grassy.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Big Grassy First Nation	Aboriginal

06/11	3105	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of June 1 - 7, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
06/11	3107	E-mail	New Gold distributed PNPs to Indigenous partners.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
06/15	3108	Meeting	New Gold held their monthly JIC meeting with RRFN and Naicatchewenin.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations	Aboriginal
06/16	3106	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (June 8 - 14/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
06/16	3109	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with Onigaming.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
06/22	3110	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (June 15 - 21/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

06/23	3111	E-mail	Weekly Incident Reports for the weeks of June 8 - 14 and June 15 - 21, 2020 were distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
06/24	3247	External Feedback	New Gold received a complaint involving an employee of a contractor.	Complaint response was provided by the contractor.	General Public	Public
06/25	3248	External Feedback	New Gold received a complaint regarding an employee's use of social media.	New Gold's social media policy was reviewed with all employees.	General Public	Public
06/26	3112	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (June 22 - 28/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
06/29	3113	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (June 29 - July 5/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
07/06	3249	External Feedback	New Gold received a complaint as they received damage to their windshield when they met a mine light vehicle on a public road.	The incident took place on a public road and the complainant was advised to contact the OPP.	General Public	Public

07/06	3114	E-mail	New Gold distributed a summary of all current career opportunities to community contacts.	No further action required.	Town of Atikokan, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, United Native Friendship Centre, Shooniyaa Wa-Biitong, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing Ne-Yaa-Zhing Advisory Services, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
07/07	3145	Meeting	New Gold met with Naotkamegwaning to discuss current contracts.	Confidential meeting items discussed.	Naotkamegwaning First Nation	Aboriginal
07/08	3144	E-mail	New Gold emailed an update on rapid testing at the mine site.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
07/08	3115	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with Whitefish Bay.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Naotkamegwaning First Nation	Aboriginal
07/08	3039	Meeting	New Gold met with the Chief and Ec Dev officer to offer assistance with coordination of meetings and finding potential partners.	The visit was appreciated.	Couchiching First Nation	Aboriginal
07/10	3116	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (July 6 - 12/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

07/13	3137	Meeting	New Gold met with the Chief, council and other community members to discuss PNPs and contract information. A meeting between the GM and band manager was requested.		Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing	Aboriginal
07/13	3118	Workshop	New Gold employees participated in a Ribbon Skirt Making Workshop taught by a local RRFN community member.		Rainy River First Nations	Public and Aboriginal
07/17	3117	E-mail	Weekly Incident Reports for the weeks of June 22-28, June 29-July 5 and July 6-12, 2020 were distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
07/17	3119	Meeting	New Gold held their monthly JIC meeting with RRFN and Naicatchewenin.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations	Aboriginal
07/21	3120	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of July 13-19, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal



07/22	3122	E-mail	New Gold distributed a summary of all current career opportunities to community contacts.	No further action required.	Town of Atikokan, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, United Native Friendship Centre, Shooniyaa Wa-Biitong, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing Ne-Yaa-Zhing Advisory Services, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
07/22	3121	E-mail	New Gold emailed an update on the hiring status of the Business Development Officer position.	No further action required.	Northwest Angle 33 First Nation, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
07/22	3123	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (July 13 - 19/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

07/23	3146	E-mail	New Gold partnered with a training company that will screen then train potential candidates on heavy equipment simulators.	Successful trainees will be sent to take a heavy equipment course. Posters of the training opportunity was distributed to communities. The first session is to be held on August 11, 2020; other sessions will be scheduled to provide the opportunity to all interested.	Mitaanjigamiing First Nation	Aborigina I
07/23	3124	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (July 20 - 26/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aborigina I
07/27	3139	Meeting	New Gold arranged and attended meeting between Elders and an artist commissioned to allow artist to consult with Elders about the artwork to be created for the Roundhouse.	The artist was seeking sanction from the Elders before accepting or creating the commissioned artwork. The painting includes mining that could be negatively viewed by some Indigenous people. The artwork will proceed.	Big Grassy First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations	Aborigina I
07/30	3250	External Feedback	New Gold received an anonymous call regarding a positive COVID-19 case at site.	There were no positive cases at New Gold. The complainant left no contact information to advise.	General Public	Public

07/31	3125	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (July 27 - Aug 2/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
08/04	3126	Site Visit	A local bait fisherman assisted a consultant with fish monitoring in July 2020.	No further action required.	Individual - GP	Public
08/04	3147	E-mail	New Gold emailed an update from the GM on COVID-19 trial testing at New Gold.		Northwest Angle 33 First Nation, Town of Atikokan, Grand Council Treaty #3, Métis Nation of Ontario, Township of Sioux Narrows - Nestor Falls, Township of LaVallee, Big Grassy First Nation, Township of Lake of the Woods, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Town of Fort Frances, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Thunder Bay - Rainy River, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Morley Township, Township of Emo, Township of Chapple, Town of Rainy River, Township of Dawson, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation, Township of Alberton	Public and Aboriginal
08/04	3127	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of July 20-26, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

08/05	3129	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of July 27-Aug 2, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
08/06	3128	E-mail	MNO requested an environmental update on the mine's effects on nearby agriculture.	New Gold emailed MNO with further detail on data that reflects the water quality (surface water and ground water) on site as well as on neighbouring lands. New Gold also advised that they have land use agreements that benefits farmers by being able to hay and graze livestock on New Gold property as well as help maintain Species at Risk habitat around the mine site. New Gold offered to provide a tour on these areas.	Métis Nation of Ontario	Aboriginal
08/06	3148	Meeting	New Gold held a meeting with Indigenous leadership for a discussion and input on the development of an anti-racism policy.	A follow-up meeting was scheduled on August 21, 2020.	Grand Council Treaty #3, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal

08/07	3130	E-mail	MNO requested further information on the stockpile dam seep leading to insufficient fish compensation habitat as reported in the August 3-9/2020 weekly spill report.	New Gold emailed MNO with further detail on their request and advised that potential mitigations are being analyzed and that a solution would be implemented as soon as feasible.	Métis Nation of Ontario	Aboriginal
08/07	3131	Meeting	New Gold met with community leaders via teleconference for comments and input in the creation of an anti-racism policy.	Meeting notes were taken and distributed; a second meeting was scheduled for August 21, 2020.	Grand Council Treaty #3, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
08/07	3133	E-mail	New Gold announced that the Rainy River Mine was one of the first Canadian businesses to receive rapid test machines which provide COVID-19 test results within 2 to 3 hours.	New Gold also shared the memo sent to employees regarding the testing machines.	Northwest Angle 33 First Nation, Town of Atikokan, Grand Council Treaty #3, Métis Nation of Ontario, Township of Sioux Narrows - Nestor Falls, Township of LaVallee, Big Grassy First Nation, Township of Lake of the Woods, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Town of Fort Frances, City of Kenora, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Thunder Bay - Rainy River, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Morley Township, Township of Emo, Township of Chapple, Town of Rainy River, Township of Dawson, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation, Township of Alberton	Public and Aboriginal
08/10	3132	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Aug 3 - 9/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

08/10	3134	E-mail	New Gold distributed the meeting notes taken at the Anti-racism policy meeting held on August 7th.		Grand Council Treaty #3, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
08/11	3135	E-mail	New Gold distributed a summary of all current career opportunities to community contacts along with job descriptions of the positions of equipment operator, mill labourer, surface miner, warehouse technician and driller.	No further action required.	Town of Atikokan, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, United Native Friendship Centre, Shooniyaa Wa-Biitong, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing Ne-Yaa-Zhing Advisory Services, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
08/12	3159	E-mail	New Gold sent a poster outlining potential apprenticeship opportunities.	Opportunities were for Heavy Duty and Welding Apprenticeships.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
08/12	3136	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Aug 3-9, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

08/12	3201	Meeting	New Gold held their monthly JIC meeting with RRFN and NFN.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations	Aboriginal
08/18	3149	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Aug 10-16, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
08/18	3238	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with Big Island.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing	Aboriginal
08/19	3151	E-mail	New Gold emailed Indigenous contacts to begin setting up meetings with leadership to discuss the permit application sent by ENDM and planned exploration activities.	The exploration manager would also be participating in the meetings.	Big Grassy First Nation, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations	Aboriginal
08/19	3150	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Aug 10 - 16/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
08/19	3152	E-mail	New Gold emailed MNO to advise of a change in JIC representation.		Métis Nation of Ontario	Aboriginal
08/20	3154	E-mail	New Gold emailed the first draft of the anti-racism policy to Indigenous leadership for their review.		Grand Council Treaty #3, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal

08/20	3153	E-mail	New Gold emailed Indigenous leadership to remind them of a call scheduled for Aug 21, 2020.		Grand Council Treaty #3, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
08/20	3160	Meeting	New Gold held a follow up meeting with Indigenous leadership for a discussion and input on the development of an anti-racism policy; a draft copy was shared.	NG to incorporate revisions based on comments; another meeting will be scheduled (Sept 10/2020). Minutes were distributed on August 21, 2020.	Grand Council Treaty #3, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
08/21	3155	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Aug 17 - 23/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
08/24	3156	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Aug 17-23, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
08/25	3239	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly Advisory Committee meeting with FFCS.	Couchiching's committee member did not attend. Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation	Aboriginal



08/25	3161	E-mail	New Gold distributed minutes from the anti-racism policy discussion held on August 21, 2020.		Grand Council Treaty #3, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
08/27	3157	E-mail	New Gold emailed the Chief of Onigaming formal responses as requested by the Chief from the GM regarding recent contractor employee incidents at site.		Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
08/27	3162	E-mail	New Gold distributed information on contractor employment opportunities at the mine site.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
08/28	3158	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Aug 24-30/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
08/31	3163	E-mail	New Gold sent a poster about an upcoming training opportunity being offered jointly with Seven Gens and Big Grassy.	Training opportunities were for underground mining.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal

08/31	3168	Meeting	Naicatchewin asked: Who is doing the actual drilling for the diamond drilling?	NG provided the name of the drilling company.	Naicatchewenin First Nation	Aborigina 
09/02	3167	Meeting	Naicatchewin asked: In relation to the outline of the exploration detailed on the map, is this the proposed blueprint for future activities?	NG: No – this is just the location of the exploration area; without the permit NG could take rock and soil samples but can't go further than that.	Naicatchewenin First Nation	Aborigina 
09/02	3172	Meeting	Naicatchewin asked: Can minutes be provided from the meetings held (June/July 2019)?	NG: All questions relating to exploration will be compiled and shared with the community along with the JIC minutes of the meeting with NFN when NG advised plans of applying for an exploration permit. These items were emailed to the Chief on Sept 2, 2020.	Naicatchewenin First Nation	Aborigina 
09/02	3164	Meeting	New Gold met with Naicatchewenin's Chief and Council to provide further information on the Exploration Permit application and answer any questions.	New Gold provided two maps that showed the areas indicated by the application and provided information on the planned activity.	Naicatchewenin First Nation	Aborigina 
09/02	3165	Meeting	Naicatchewin asked: How many communities have you consulted with? Is this official consultation?	NG: There were meetings last summer through JICs to provide a heads up (guessed 9 meetings); this is the first consultation meeting.	Naicatchewenin First Nation	Aborigina 

09/02	3173	Meeting	Naicatchewin asked: If there are deposits, would there be another mine site be built?	NG: That could potentially be the plan, but initial findings show very little on surface; NG is in the early stages of exploration right now. Any findings will likely be much smaller than what is at the current mine site. If there was a bigger find, it would have been found already.	Naicatchewenin First Nation	Aborigina I
09/02	3174	Meeting	Naicatchewin asked: Who owns the other sections around the area NG is exploring?	NG shared the owner's name and advised that there had been very little activity on these sections.	Naicatchewenin First Nation	Aborigina I
09/02	3166	Meeting	Naicatchewin asked: Is Naicatchewenin on the list of communities to consult with?	NG: Yes. The list is provided by ENDM. The permit application would be sent to those communities identified by ENDM.	Naicatchewenin First Nation	Aborigina I
09/02	3170	Meeting	Naicatchewin asked: Given that this is considered consultation, shouldn't there be further information provided? Environmental, etc.	NG: There are only plans to drill at this time; this is the only work allowed with the permit.	Naicatchewenin First Nation	Aborigina I
09/02	3169	Meeting	Naicatchewin asked: Will there be another opportunity to ask questions?	NG: If there are further questions, the opportunity will be provided to ask them.	Naicatchewenin First Nation	Aborigina I

09/02	3251	E-mail	New Gold distributed a copy of the updated draft anti-racism policy for review.		Grand Council Treaty #3, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
09/02	3171	Meeting	Naicatchewin asked: Was this permit put on hold?	NG: COVID-19 impacted the original timelines.	Naicatchewenin First Nation	Aboriginal
09/02	3175	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Aug 24-30, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
09/03	3327	Other	New Gold approved support for donations to the Whitefish Bay Fall Bass Classic, FF Chamber of Commerce and Fort Frances Library and Technology Centre and Rainy River District Women's Institute Museum.		Fort Frances Public Library, Rainy River District Women's Institute Museum, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Fort Frances Chamber of Commerce	Public and Aboriginal
09/03	3176	E-mail	New Gold distributed a summary of all current career opportunities to community contacts along with details on four of the positions.	One of the email recipients requested other position summaries; New Gold emailed the requested job descriptions.	Town of Atikokan, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, United Native Friendship Centre, Shooniyaa Wa-Biitong, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing Ne-Yaa-Zhing Advisory Services, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

09/03	3177	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Aug 31 - Sept 6/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
09/08	3178	Meeting	New Gold held a follow up meeting with Indigenous leadership for a discussion on the revisions made to the initial draft of the anti-racism policy. The revision was distributed on Sept 2, 2020.	NG to request feedback/input from communities unable to participate on the calls. Another meeting will be scheduled when all have had the opportunity to provide feedback. The meeting minutes were distributed Sept 29, 2020 with the latest revision of the anti-racism policy.	Grand Council Treaty #3, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
09/09	3179	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Sept 7 - 13/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
09/10	3180	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Aug 31 - Sept 6, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

09/14	3240	Meeting	New Gold held their monthly JIC meeting with RRFN and NFN.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations	Aborigina I
09/14	3186	Meeting	BGFN asked: How far does BGFN's approval go with the government? For example, similar to pipeline issues, would BGFN be setting a precedent with their approval?	NG: These are conversations that NG is in the process of having regarding the importance of approvals and the impact on the land when we come into the community. NG wants to be transparent and improve the way we communicate with communities as this is important and is increasing in importance. The purpose of the permit is to avoid surprises and not have companies acting in bad faith. Industry and government have improved upon past practices.	Big Grassy First Nation	Aborigina I
09/15	3187	Meeting	BGFN commented: Consultation on federal and provincial permits – First Nations are being consulted with on how things should be improved and BGFN is helping, but are these agreements being honoured? For example, past treaties. BGFN has significant distrust of the government and treads carefully and will look at the legal impacts of their decisions on other First Nations.		Big Grassy First Nation	Aborigina I

09/16	3188	Meeting	BGFN asked: What will the impact be on the water tables?	NG: The proposed work would have minimal impact (i.e. water pumped from creek for use; used by drill; then pumped to sump to settle). NG added, if development is done at a future date, studies would need to be done to assess the environmental impact, i.e. a full, comprehensive Environmental Assessment (EA). A Big Grassy representative commented that no development would happen without many other approvals in place.	Big Grassy First Nation	Aborigina l
09/16	3190	Meeting	New Gold met with BGFN council member and community members to provide further information on the Exploration Permit application and answer any questions.	New Gold provided two maps that showed the areas indicated by the application and provided information on the planned activity.	Big Grassy First Nation	Aborigina l
09/16	3189	Meeting	BGFN asked: Is the current EA being revisited by the government?	NG: The Closure Plan Amendment (2017) was just approved; there are frequently updates to the EA and any changes are communicated to government then shared with FNs.	Big Grassy First Nation	Aborigina l

09/16	3185	Meeting	BGFN asked: There is a moratorium on new mine claims because of land claims. Why was this permit submitted?	NG: These were existing claims dating back to when the company was Nuinsco and Rainy River Resources; there are no new mine claims in this application. There was a permit application made in 2013 but was subsequently withdrawn.	Big Grassy First Nation	Aborigina I
09/16	3183	Meeting	BGFN asked: What kind of approval process are you looking at?	NG: NG would like support for the drilling program and to partner in a way to provide benefit to both sides in a mutual collaboration.	Big Grassy First Nation	Aborigina I
09/16	3184	Meeting	BGFN asked: Consultation has been a big issue (from previous work experiences); what will be done about trapping and hunting grounds?	NG: It is very important for NG to know these kinds of things and figure out ways to still permit these uses. For example, are there certain times of year that these activities or migrations take place? The permit allows preliminary work, no infrastructure is being built.	Big Grassy First Nation	Aborigina I



09/16	3181	Meeting	BGFN asked: Are there other mining stakes in the area?	NG: Yes, however, the map provided only shows NG's as required by the permit application. NG owns the mineral rights, but not the land.	Big Grassy First Nation	Aborigina l
09/16	3182	Meeting	BGFN asked: Are other communities being consulted with? Does NG require BGFN's permission?	NG: Other communities will be consulted with (have just started the process). This meeting is to ensure that NG is proactive and communicating in a collaborative way. This is all part of the consultation process for attaining the permit as well as when NG has the permit.	Big Grassy First Nation	Aborigina l
09/16	3191	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Sept 7 - 13, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aborigina l
09/16	3252	Drop-in Visit/Casual Meeting	New Gold dropped off activity packs for Onigaming students.		Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aborigina l
09/17	3241	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with AWZFN.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation	Aborigina l

09/17	3194	E-mail	New Gold advised the Advisory and JIC Committees that New Gold has received acknowledgement from ENDM that the Closure Plan Amendment (2017) has been accepted and filed.	New Gold included a link to the Closure Plan in the email.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
09/17	3196	Workshop	New Gold offered teachings on traditional plants and uses.	The teachings were provided by a local Elder.	Big Grassy First Nation	Aboriginal
09/22	3242	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with Big Grassy.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Big Grassy First Nation	Aboriginal
09/22	3195	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Sept 14 - 20, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
09/22	3192	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Sept 14 - 20/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
09/22	3193	E-mail	New Gold advised Environmental Monitoring Boards that New Gold has received acknowledgement from ENDM that the Closure Plan Amendment (2017) has been accepted and filed.	New Gold included a link to the Closure Plan in the email.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
09/22	3243	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with Onigaming.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal

09/22	3197	Workshop	New Gold offered teachings on traditional plants and uses.	The teachings were provided by a local Elder.	Big Grassy First Nation	Aboriginal
09/23	3198	E-mail	New Gold sent an announcement to the Chiefs to share information about the newly hired interim GM for Rainy River mine.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
09/23	3199	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Sept 21 - 27/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
09/25	3200	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Sept 21 - 27, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
09/29	3202	Other	New Gold participated in Orange Shirt Day by wearing orange shirts and pins to raise awareness of residential school survivors.			Aboriginal
09/29	3203	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Sept 28 - Oct 4/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

09/30	3204	E-mail	New Gold distributed a summary of all current career opportunities to community contacts along with details on four of the positions.	No further action required.	Town of Atikokan, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, United Native Friendship Centre, Shooniyaa Wa-Biitong, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing Ne-Yaa-Zhing Advisory Services, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
10/06	3244	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with Naotkamegwaning.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Naotkamegwaning First Nation	Aboriginal
10/06	3206	E-mail	New Gold sent information on the exploration permit for discussion at the JIC with the Exploration Manager.	Naotkamegwaning's JIC member declined to add discussion to the exploration permit as she was travelling.	Naotkamegwaning First Nation	Aboriginal
10/07	3205	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Sept 28 - Oct 4, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
10/07	3256	Ceremony	New Gold held a Fall Ceremony. The ceremony was officiated by an Elder from Naicatchewenin. There were no invitees due to gathering restrictions related to COVID-19.		Seine River First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
10/07	3208	Open House	New Gold participated in a career fair in the community (Regina Bay).	There were approximately 15 participants.	Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation	Aboriginal

10/07	3207	Meeting	New Gold travelled to the community for a scheduled meeting with Chief and Council to provide information on the exploration permit application.	The community was disappointed that the new GM was not in attendance as there were issues they wanted to discuss with him. Onigaming cancelled the meeting.	Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aborigina l
10/08	3210	Mass Mailout	New Gold mailed the RRP Summer 2020 Newsletter to the following communities: Rainy River, Fort Frances (includes Couchiching, Nigigoonsiminikaaning, Mitaanjigamiing, Lac La Croix, Sunset Country Métis), Devlin (includes Naicatchewenin), Emo (includes Rainy River First Nations), Barwick, Stratton, Pinewood, Sleeman (includes Big Grassy, Big Island), Nestor Falls (includes Onigaming), Mine Centre (includes Seine River), and Pawitik (includes Whitefish Bay, Northwest Angle 37 and Sioux Narrows). A digital version was also posted on the New Gold website. A digital copy of the newsletter was emailed to all communities, including those that lay outside of the local mail distribution on October 9, 2020 (those communities include: Buffalo Point, Rat Portage (Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum) and Northwest Angle 33).	New Gold received a thank you from a local Emo resident for the news provided by the newsletter.	Town of Atikokan, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, United Native Friendship Centre, Shooniyaa Wa-Biitong, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing Ne-Yaa-Zhing Advisory Services, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aborigina l

10/08	3209	Other	New Gold did not host the annual neighbour's tour and luncheon due to COVID-19 tour restrictions at the mine site, so New Gold contacted each neighbour and hand delivered a card with locally procured cookies.		Site Neighbour (within 10km of project footprint)	Public
10/09	3245	Meeting	New Gold held a JIC meeting to discuss business opportunities and the commitments relating to business and introduce the Supply Chain Manager.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation	Aboriginal
10/09	3212	Workshop	New Gold offered Women's Teaching to female employees.	The teachings were provided by a local Elder.	Seine River First Nation	Aboriginal
10/13	3214	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Oct 5 - 11, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
10/13	3213	E-mail	NG offered to provide a site tour to a member of the Environmental Monitoring Board after a scheduled meeting on October 29, 2020.		Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
10/13	3257	E-mail	New Gold offered to provide a tour as a follow-up to a meeting held the previous week.		Rainy River First Nations	Aboriginal
10/14	3217	Open House	New Gold organized a career fair in the Big Island community for October 20th.	The community cancelled the career fair due to increasing COVID-19 cases in Ontario. No other dates were suggested at this time.	Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing	Aboriginal

10/14	3258	Open House	New Gold participated in a career fair at Naicatchewenin for October 20th.	Approximately 25 community members participated in the career fair.	Naicatchewenin First Nation	Aboriginal
10/14	3216	E-mail	New Gold emailed the community to provide an update on the exploration permit approval with maps and an outline of expected activity.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
10/20	3246	Meeting	New Gold held their monthly JIC meeting with RRFN and NFN.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations	Aboriginal
10/20	3220	Open House	New Gold attended a community career fair at Big Grassy.	There were approximately 15 participants.	Big Grassy First Nation	Aboriginal
10/20	3218	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Oct 12 - 18/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
10/20	3219	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Oct 12 - 18, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
10/21	3221	Workshop	New Gold offered Men's Teaching to male employees.	The teachings were provided by a local Elder.	Seine River First Nation	Aboriginal
10/21	3223	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Oct 19-25/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

10/21	3224	E-mail	New Gold emailed a letter in response to a letter received from the community regarding concerns about the Exploration permit.	New Gold made efforts to discuss the permit with the community but meetings were not held due to scheduling conflicts or cancelled by the community.	Naotkamegwanning First Nation	Aborigina l
10/21	3225	External Feedback	A site neighbour complained of excessive vibration from a blast on Oct 25/2020 3pm.	There were a few factors that contributed to the vibration; low ceiling resulted in a higher than typical overpressure reading along with the type of blasting (toe shot) which is noisier than usual blasts. The vibration monitors had acceptable readings. The neighbour was encouraged to contact NG with any future issues with blasts as more information is helpful. The neighbour advised that the blasts are typically fine.	Site Neighbour (within 10km of project footprint)	Public
10/26	3226	Open House	New Gold attended a community career fair at Seine River.	There were 4 participants.	Seine River First Nation	Aborigina l
10/26	3229	External Feedback	A site neighbour complained that his access to a property north of the TMA has not been restored since the exclusionary wildlife fence was constructed.	New Gold resolved the issue by performing repairs to the road to reinstate access.	Site Neighbour (within 10km of project footprint)	Public
10/26	3230	Meeting	New Gold held an EMB meeting.	Meeting minutes taken.	Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations	Aborigina l
10/27	3227	Open House	New Gold attended a community career fair at Couchiching.	There were 4 participants.	Couchiching First Nation	Aborigina l



10/28	3228	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Oct 19 - 25, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
10/28	3232	Meeting	New Gold held an EMB meeting. NG advised of upcoming applications, including a permit for dewatering wells in the pit and Stage 3 dam raise.	Meeting minutes taken and distributed to all invitees. EMB members from Big Island and Big Grassy participated; MNO, Onigaming, AWZFN and Naotkamegwaning did not attend.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
10/28	3231	External Feedback	A site neighbour requested the timeline of the TMA construction (dam raises) and New Gold's use of the local landfill. He would like salvageable items to be segregated.	The neighbour has discussed New Gold's use of the landfill with the township; New Gold will attend the next council meeting (November 10th) to discuss.	Site Neighbour (within 10km of project footprint)	Public
10/28	3235	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Oct 26- Nov 1/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
10/29	3236	External Feedback	A site neighbour called to express his concern over safety on Barwick Road relating to the traffic.	New Gold will remind employees and contractors to obey traffic speeds and signage to ensure safety for everyone.	Site Neighbour (within 10km of project footprint)	Public

10/29	3237	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Oct 26 - Nov 1, 2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
11/02	3259	Workshop	New Gold offered a workshop on the local history of the Rainy River district.	The workshop was attended by employees.	Rainy River First Nations	Aboriginal
11/02	3261	E-mail	New Gold emailed Indigenous leadership to advise changes in employees within the Community Relations department.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
11/03	3260	E-mail	MNO shared a press release "MNO highlights Halfbreed Adhesion to Treaty No. 3" as a part of Treaties Recognition Week.	New Gold thanked MNO for sharing the press release.	Métis Nation of Ontario	Aboriginal
11/03	3262	Phone Call	New Gold received a call from a project neighbour regarding a blast as they felt a vibration they do not typically feel.		Site Neighbour (within 10km of project footprint)	Public
11/04	3263	E-mail	New Gold distributed a summary of all current career opportunities to community contacts along with details on some of the positions.	No further action required.	Northwest Angle 33 First Nation, Town of Atikokan, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, United Native Friendship Centre, Northern Community Development Services, Shooniyaa Wa-Biitong, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing Ne-Yaa-Zhing Advisory Services, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

11/04	3264	E-mail	New Gold distributed the latest PNP package.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
11/05	3265	E-mail	New Gold distributed an additional PNP package to communities with sole source opportunities regarding RFPs that may be issued within the next six months.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
11/05	3266	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Nov 2 - 8/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
11/06	3267	Meeting	New Gold met with BGFN to discuss current contracts.		Big Grassy First Nation	Aboriginal
11/07	3268	E-mail	New Gold distributed the latest PNP package with a revision.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
11/07	3270	Open House	New Gold participated in a career fair in the RRFN community.	There were no participants.	Rainy River First Nations	Aboriginal

11/09	3269	Meeting	New Gold met with the Township of Chapple to discuss concerns about the use of the Shenston landfill. Higher fencing and allowing reuse of some discarded items (e.g. buckets from kitchen of man camp) rather than landfill.	New Gold to tour landfill and explore options to improve use of landfill.	Township of Chapple	Public
11/09	3271	E-mail	New Gold emailed the meeting minutes of the October 28, 2020 EMB meeting.		Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations	Aboriginal
11/10	3272	Open House	New Gold participated in a career fair in the Nigigoonsiminikaaning community.	There were 4 participants.	Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation	Aboriginal
11/10	3274	E-mail	New Gold emailed the agenda and last meeting minutes. Meeting scheduled for November 24, 2020.		Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation	Aboriginal
11/12	3275	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Nov 9 - 15/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
11/16	3273	E-mail	New Gold emailed EMB members and JIC members a list of anticipated Government permits and amendments required by New Gold for 2021. The list included a pit dewatering well permit, ECA amendment, Dam Raise and a notice of material change.	New Gold will provide further details at the next EMB meetings and to contact Enviro with any questions.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal

11/16	3276	Meeting	New Gold held their monthly JIC meeting with RRFN and NFN.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken. Lines of Progression were presented for mill, mine and maintenance.	Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations	Aboriginal
11/16	3278	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with Big Island.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken. Lines of Progression were presented for mill, mine and maintenance.	Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing	Aboriginal
11/17	3277	E-mail	New Gold emailed an exploration update on the work at Rainy River North Trend.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
11/17	3279	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the weeks of Nov 2 - 8 and Nov 9 - 15/2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
11/18	3280	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Nov 16 - 22/2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
11/18	3281	E-mail	New Gold emailed the minutes for the EMB meeting held on October 29, 2020.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal

11/19	3282	Meeting	No reps called into the meeting (scheduled via teleconference) so the meeting was cancelled.	Lac La Croix will be replacing their committee member.	Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation	Aboriginal
11/24	3283	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Nov 16 - 22/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
11/24	3284	E-mail	New Gold emailed a presentation detailing water treatment at the mine.	The presentation provided a summary of treatment practices and the history of water treatment at the mine.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
11/24	3285	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Nov 23 - 29/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
11/25	3286	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Nov 23 - 29/2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
11/30	3287	External Feedback	New Gold received a complaint of a conflict of land use to a local business owner.	Ongoing discussion being held.	General Public	Public

12/01	3288	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Nov 30 - Dec 6/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
12/02	3289	E-mail	New Gold emailed communities to advise staffing changes in the HR department.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
12/03	3328	Other	New Gold approved support for donations to the Fort Frances Curling Club, Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board (warming centre), Emo Knox United Church (Christmas dinners and the Salvation Army).		Emo Knox United Church, Fort Frances Curling Club, Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board, Salvation Army	Public and Aboriginal
12/03	3290	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with Onigaming.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken. Lines of Progression were presented for mill, mine and maintenance.	Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal
12/04	3335	Other	NG participated in a local toy drive in support of the UNFC Adopt-a-Family program, hosted by the FF Lakers hockey team.		United Native Friendship Centre, Fort Frances Lakers	Public and Aboriginal

12/06	3291	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Nov 30 - Dec 6/2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
12/07	3292	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with Big Grassy.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken. Lines of Progression were presented for mill, mine and maintenance.	Big Grassy First Nation	Aboriginal
12/07	3293	E-mail	New Gold emailed the final Stage 4 reports (Campbell 1 and Campbell 2) as requested by 2 communities.		Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation	Aboriginal
12/07	3294	Meeting	New Gold held their quarterly JIC meeting with AWZFN.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken. Lines of Progression were presented for mill, mine and maintenance.	Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation	Aboriginal
12/08	3295	E-mail	New Gold distributed the final version of the New Gold Anti-Racism Policy, as collaborated with by Indigenous leadership.		Grand Council Treaty #3, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal



12/08	3296	E-mail	New Gold emailed information on the vacant Aboriginal trainee positions available in the Finance and Supply Chain departments.		Northwest Angle 33 First Nation, Town of Atikokan, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, United Native Friendship Centre, Northern Community Development Services, Shooneyaa Wa-Biitong, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing Ne-Yaa-Zhing Advisory Services, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
12/09	3300	Meeting	New Gold held their monthly JIC meeting with RRFN and NFN.	Confidential meeting minutes were taken.	Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations	Aboriginal
12/09	3299	Other	New Gold delivered end of year Christmas packages to various organizations.		Site Neighbour (within 10km of project footprint), Morley Township, Town of Fort Frances, Town of Rainy River, Township of Alberton, Township of Chapple, Township of Dawson, Township of Emo, Township of Lake of the Woods, Township of LaVallee, Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
12/11	3298	E-mail	New Gold provided an update on the dam raise notification to the Government, as referenced in the anticipated Government permits and amendments emailed on November 16, 2020.	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Aboriginal

12/14	3297	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Dec 7 - 13/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
12/15	3303	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Dec 7 - 13/2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
12/15	3302	External Feedback	New Gold received a complaint regarding recent blasting.	New Gold shared information from the mine ops team regarding blasting practices; the neighbour appreciated the information.	Site Neighbour (within 10km of project footprint)	Public
12/15	3301	Presentation	New Gold provided a virtual presentation to a Grade 4 class at St. Mary's School.	Geology and a general overview of mining was provided. 19 students participated.	St. Mary School	Public
12/15	3304	E-mail	Weekly Spill Report as distributed by the Environmental Department (Dec 14 - 20/2020).	No further action required.	Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal

12/17	3305	E-mail	Weekly Incident Report for the week of Dec 14 - 20/2020 was distributed.		Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Township of Chapple, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation	Public and Aboriginal
12/17	3308	E-mail	New Gold emailed the "Annual Monitoring of Compensation and Offset Measures Report" for 2020 to the DFO.		Fisheries and Oceans Canada	Public

12/17	3306	Mass Mailout	<p>New Gold mailed the RRP Fall 2020 Newsletter to the following communities: Rainy River, Fort Frances (includes Couchiching, Nigigoonsiminikaaning, Mitaanjigamiing, Lac La Croix, Sunset Country Métis), Devlin (includes Naicatchewenin), Emo (includes Rainy River First Nations), Barwick, Stratton, Pinewood, Sleeman (includes Big Grassy, Big Island), Nestor Falls (includes Onigaming), Mine Centre (includes Seine River), and Pawitik (includes Whitefish Bay, Northwest Angle 37 and Sioux Narrows). A digital version was also posted on the New Gold website. A digital copy of the newsletter was emailed to all communities, including those that lay outside of the local mail distribution on Dec 22, 2020 (those communities include: Buffalo Point, Rat Portage (Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum) and Northwest Angle 33).</p>		<p>Town of Atikokan, Métis Nation of Ontario, Big Grassy First Nation, Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, United Native Friendship Centre, Shooniyaa Wa-Biitong, Naotkamegwaning First Nation, Animakee Wa Zhing First Nation, Pwi-Di-Goo-Zing Ne-Yaa-Zhing Advisory Services, Seine River First Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Naicatchewenin First Nation, Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Rainy River First Nations, Ojibways of Onigaming First Nation</p>	Public and Aboriginal
12/21	3307	Letter	<p>New Gold mailed the results of the groundwater well monitoring to the participants in the well water monitoring program.</p>	<p>New Gold provided contact information if participants had any questions about the results.</p>	<p>Site Neighbour (within 10km of project footprint)</p>	Public

12/22	3309	E-mail	New Gold emailed a summary of actions taken by New Gold to work towards improving use of Shenston landfill and next steps in this process.	Further discussions will be held.	Township of Chapple	Public
12/23	3310	E-mail	A member of the public asked if NG was testing local employees in addition to out of town workers.	NG provided details on current practices; employees and contractors are tested as per screening protocols. Additionally, any employee can be tested on a voluntary basis.	Individual - GP	Public

## SECTION 8

### NEW GOLD RAINY RIVER MINE CONCLUSION



Figure 28 Sunrise at the West Gate, February 2020

## **Conclusion**

This Environmental Compliance Report was prepared by New Gold Inc. Rainy River Mine. The quality of information and conclusions are based on:

- i) Information available at the time of preparation, and
- ii) The assumptions, conditions and qualifications set forth in this document.

If you require further information, please contact Sylvie St-Jean, Rainy River Mine Environmental Manager at (807) 707-3497.

Sylvie St-Jean  
Environmental Manager  
New Gold Rainy River mine



Figure 29. Frosty Dearlock Corner, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020