

**RESPONSE TO SUMMARY OF ISSUES  
GREAT BEAR GOLD PROJECT**

ID	ISSUES	KINROSS RESPONSE
<b>Water (Surface and Ground)</b>		
1	<p>Potential changes in groundwater quantity in the vicinity of the project area due to dewatering activities associated with the Project. Potential impacts on use of groundwater, and reduction in groundwater flow to the surrounding waterbodies. Need for mitigation and monitoring measures.</p>	<p>There are no known water supply wells in the vicinity of the Great Bear Project (Project) that may be affected by mine dewatering activities.</p> <p>Potential changes to surface waterbodies (flows and water levels) from dewatering activities will be assessed in the Impact Statement (IS; See Note 1), including through the use of predictive model(s) as appropriate.</p> <p>Mitigation measures and an appropriate monitoring or follow-up program will also be established if warranted by the results of the assessment of impacts.</p>
2	<p>Potential changes in surface water quantity and quality in the vicinity of the project area due to overprinting of waterbodies, or changes in runoff or increased erosion and sedimentation due to vegetation clearing.</p>	<p>Potential direct and indirect impacts to surface water quality and flows of waterbodies and the management of Project contact waters will be assessed in the IS. The impact of vegetation clearing for the Project will be assessed in the IS.</p> <p>One or more waterbodies that are frequented by fish within the Great Bear Property will be overprinted by mineral waste facilities and potentially other Project-related facilities. Which waterbodies and to what extent is dependent on the results of ongoing engineering design and trade-off studies. Dixie Creek and the Chukuni River will not be diverted or overprinted.</p> <p>Local changes to watershed areas including various unnamed tributaries / waterbodies to Dixie Creek are expected from the need to manage contact water. Measurable changes to the flow within the Chukuni River are not expected.</p> <p>Treated effluent from the mine is proposed to be discharged to the Chukuni River. Effluent discharged from the Project will be required to meet all regulatory standards, including as dictated by the Province through the Environmental Compliance Approval for Industrial Sewage Works for the mine. As part of the Provincial permitting process, receiver-based effluent discharge criteria will be developed that will take into consideration environmental conditions, receiving waters capacity, predicted water quality parameters and regulatory requirements. No impacts to water quality downstream of the Chukuni River (such as within Pakwash Lake or further downstream) will occur from the Project.</p>

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		<p>Erosion and sediment control measures will be put in place as appropriate for all Project phases to minimize potential for sedimentation from vegetation clearing. Mitigation measures will be established based on the results of the assessment of impacts.</p>
3	<p>Potential effects to surface water and groundwater quality due to seepage from the mine rock, tailings, and overburden during operations and other applicable project phases, and corresponding mitigation and monitoring measures.</p>	<p>Seepage and runoff will be collected as part of the integrated water management system for the mine. These and other contact waters and will be treated to meet regulatory requirements prior to discharge to the environment.</p> <p>Baseline investigations have been completed and are ongoing with respect to surface water and groundwater quality, hydrology, hydrogeology and geochemistry (including overburden, mine rock and tailings). These baseline investigations will support the use of predictive models to assess potential impacts to surface water and groundwater from all Project phases in the IS.</p> <p>Mitigation measures and an appropriate monitoring or follow-up program will be established based on the results of the assessment of impacts.</p>
4	<p>Potential changes in groundwater and surface water quality from acid rock drainage, metal leaching or cyanide, and corresponding mitigation and monitoring measures.</p>	<p>Geochemistry investigations are also ongoing to define the characteristics of mine wastes (overburden, mine rock and tailings) that will be produced by the mine. The ongoing baseline investigations including a comprehensive static and kinetic test work program, will support the development of predictive models to assess potential impacts to surface water and groundwater quality.</p> <p>Onsite processing of the metal-rich ore will entail several stages of conventional mineral processing including cyanide leaching to separate the gold / silver from the gangue. Tailings that result from the process will be treated for cyanide destruction before onsite storage. Predictive models will be used to assess the potential impacts of metal leaching (mine rock and tailings) and cyanide usage (tailings) on surface water and groundwater quality.</p>
5	<p>Need for information on water management facilities and drainage works for all phases of the Project, including how and where seepage and mine contact water will be collected, monitored, and treated as necessary.</p>	<p>A description of the integrated water management facilities, drainage works and treatment areas will be included in the IS.</p> <p>Monitoring of seepage and effluent will be conducted. Contact water will be treated to meet regulatory requirements prior to discharge to the environment for all phases of the Project, and until it can be demonstrated to no longer be required in the post-closure phase.</p>
6	<p>Need for information on potential changes to surface water quantity (including the risk of flooding) from potential watercourse diversions (e.g. Dixie</p>	<p>The open pit(s) will intersect the ground surface within the Dixie Creek flood plain. Flood mitigation analysis is being completed to determine if a flood protection berm is required between the open pit(s) and Dixie Creek, so that Dixie</p>

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	Creek), including mitigation and monitoring measures.	<p>Creek does not spill into the pit(s) during an extreme flood event. Further information will be included in the IS.</p> <p>The potential mitigation measure of diverting Dixie Creek away from the open pit(s) is no longer being considered (and will not be included in the Detailed Project Description; DPD).</p>
7	Need for further information on the effluent discharge location and the receiving waterbody (i.e. Chukuni River), including baseline studies, the discharge criteria for key parameters of concern, the receiver's assimilative capacity and potential for downstream impacts.	<p>The proposed discharge location is shown and labelled on Figures B.1A, B.1B, B.1C of the Initial Project Description (IPD).</p> <p>As described in Section B.3.3 of the IPD, the integrated water management system is proposed to discharge to the Chukuni River, which will allow continued use of the pipeline corridor established for the Advanced Exploration Program. Additional infrastructure may be required for the mine (for example an additional pipeline within the corridor for discharge and for freshwater return). No changes are proposed for the DPD.</p> <p>Multiple years of baseline investigations have been completed and are ongoing with respect to water quality, flows and aquatic resources of the Chukuni River. These baseline investigations will support the use of predictive models to assess potential impacts from the discharge of treated effluent to the Chukuni River. As all regulatory requirements will be met by the effluent discharge, material impacts to the Chukuni River are not expected. This information will be provided in the IS.</p> <p>Site specific discharge criteria are anticipated to be developed during the provincial environmental approvals process for the mine, which may be negotiated at the same time as the federal IA process, but are not currently available.</p>
<b>Impact Assessment Methodology</b>		
8	Need to identify the spatial boundaries and study areas, including local and regional study areas, for evaluation of effects from biophysical pathways of exposure.	<p>Four spatial areas / boundaries have been defined for the Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Environmental Baseline Investigation Areas: defined for data collection purposes to support collection of sufficient background information to support Project design, including assessment of alternatives</li> <li>- Project Development Area (PDA): the Project footprint of the mine site including a buffer to allow for flexibility for design optimizations</li> <li>- Local Study Area (LSA): extends beyond the PDA and captures potential direct impacts from the Project (such as emissions, discharges and habitat loss) and indirect impacts resulting from the Project</li> <li>- Regional Study Area (RSA): encompasses and extends beyond the PDA and</li> </ul>

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		<p>LSA and provides a regional context in the assessment of potential Project impacts, the assessment of alternative methods and cumulative impacts.</p> <p>These areas will be described in greater detail and shown on appropriate mapping in the IS.</p>
<b>Social and Economic Conditions (Non-Indigenous)</b>		
9	<p>Request for information about potential effects on forestry, tourism, and bear management areas around the project area.</p>	<p>Baseline information on existing economic activity and businesses in the region is being documented to support an assessment of potential impacts from the Project in the IS.</p> <p>Kinross has engaged with the owner of the relevant Bear Management Area regarding the project and has worked with the BMA holder on an agreement to mitigate impacts to each other during harvest activities for 2023.</p> <p>As the site is remote from existing tourism activities, negative impacts to tourism are not expected. Potential impacts to tourism will be assessed and will be documented in the IS, as appropriate.</p> <p>Kinross has a cooperative relationship with the company that holds the Red Lake Sustainable Forest License (SFL) which includes the Great Bear Property. A portion of the potential development area for the Project has already been cut by the holder. Kinross plans to continue to work with the SFL holder. Material negative impacts to the forestry industry are not expected from the Project.</p>
10	<p>Need for further information on employment related to the Project, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- information on how workers will be hired locally, from within Canada, or internationally;</li> <li>- the number of and types of jobs the Project will create (direct, induced) in different project phases;</li> <li>- skills and education levels required for the positions;</li> <li>- anticipated hiring policies and programs;</li> <li>- local employment barriers and availability of childcare for workers; and,</li> <li>- anticipated transportation and lodging requirements for the workforce over the lifespan of the Project.</li> </ul>	<p>Further information and analysis on the required labour for the Project will occur during ongoing engineering studies. The results of these studies will be used to support the assessment of labour requirements which will be presented in the IS.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the Project workforce will largely be drawn from the existing populations of local communities due to the strong mining history in the region. Recognizing the challenge of finding qualified workers in the current marketplace, there is the potential however, that workers may need to be hired from other parts of Canada, particularly for the construction phase. Kinross does not anticipate it will be necessary to engage foreign workers in the Project, except potentially in specialized roles, or for cooperative transfer of knowledge with other Kinross international operations.</p> <p>Kinross is committed to fostering an inclusive, accessible environment for all employees, and will work to reduce barriers to employment for underrepresented</p>

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		groups in the labour force at the Project. Information regarding the number of and types of jobs the Project will create (direct, induced) over the life of the Project phases will be presented in the IS, in order to assess potential Project impacts.
11	Need for further information on baseline socio-economic conditions such as income, unemployment, labour participation, poverty, dependency/reliance on industry, housing statistics, property, and land values.	Baseline socio-economic conditions, including demographic details is being tabulated and will be summarized in the IS. Detailed socio-economic baseline information will be appended to the IS.
12	Need for more information on the potential effects to tourism on Pakwash Lake.	<p>There are no proposed Project facilities on or near Pakwash Lake. Treated effluent will be discharged to the Chukuni River, a large watercourse with a high assimilative capacity upstream of Pakwash Lake. The effluent quality will be protective of the environment within the Chukuni River and there will be no impacts on water quality within Pakwash Lake. There are no anticipated impacts from the Project on tourism in Pakwash Lake. Potential impacts to tourism on Pakwash Lake will be assessed and will be documented in the IS, as appropriate.</p> <p>Baseline information on existing economic activity and businesses in the region and including tourism activities and establishments on Pakwash Lake, is being identified through primary research and engagement. Baseline information will be included in the IS.</p>
<b>Indigenous People's Social and Economic Conditions</b>		
13	Need for information on potential impacts to the social and economic conditions of Indigenous communities, including on hunting, fishing, trapping, and tourism-related industries.	Baseline socio-economic information regarding local Indigenous communities will be provided in the IS as available, and where information has not been deemed as confidential by the communities. Potential impacts, including on Indigenous People's hunting, fishing, trapping, and tourism-related industries will be assessed, as applicable.
14	Need for further information in baseline studies regarding social and economic conditions, including employment, pressure on social services, housing and affordability, infrastructure, electricity, education, incoming inequality, and Indigenous-owned and led businesses.	Baseline socio-economic information regarding local Indigenous communities that may be impacted by the Project will be provided in the IS as available and where information has not been deemed as confidential by the communities.
15	Need for further information how the Project will bring social or economic benefits to the Indigenous communities.	<p>Employment and training will be addressed in the agreements determined appropriate by, and with, Indigenous Nations.</p> <p>The social and economic benefits of the Project will be assessed in the IS.</p>

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16	Comments seeking further information on potential impacts to the safety of Indigenous women and girls.	<p>Kinross is committed to fostering an inclusive, accessible environment for all employees and will work to reduce barriers to employment for underrepresented groups in the labour force including women at the Project.</p> <p>No impacts to the safety of Indigenous women or girls from the Project are anticipated.</p>
17	Need for further information on positive or negative economic impacts from the Project on Indigenous communities, including prioritized employment or business opportunities. Requested information on Indigenous hiring strategy, anticipated number and type of jobs, skill requirements for those jobs, barriers for career advancement, investment in training and skills enhancement to support career advancement.	<p>Employment and business opportunities will be addressed in the agreements determined appropriate by, and with, Indigenous Nations.</p> <p>The positive or negative economic impacts from the Project on Indigenous communities will be assessed in the IS.</p>
<b>Indigenous and Public Engagement</b>		
18	Comment suggesting the use of additional maps and visuals (e.g., depicting watersheds and traplines where possible) to support the participation of Indigenous communities.	Kinross appreciates this comment and will fully consider this comment during future consultation and engagement activities.
19	Need for further information on the Proponent's engagement with Indigenous communities and public to date, including any issues raised by Indigenous communities and public, the Proponent's responses to those issues, and plans for future engagement.	Kinross is committed to meaningful engage and involve Indigenous Nations and the public throughout the Project and will continue to respond to issues raised in a respectful manner. Additional information regarding issues raised will be provided in the DPD, and the IS as provided to Kinross.
20	Comments suggesting an expansion of the list of identified stakeholders to including tourism- related organizations, and to include a map highlighting these stakeholders and their proximity to the project area.	Kinross has continued to consult with stakeholders since the issuance of the Initial Project Description (IPD). The list of stakeholders has expanded since that time and will be updated in the DPD as needed, and in the future IS. Kinross continues to work collaboratively with local regulators, municipalities, and organizations to identify tourist-based, and resource user stakeholders.
21	Comments for more information on how engagement with the public will be inclusive and accessible, and how participation will be monitored throughout the life of the Project.	Kinross continues to adjust its engagement efforts based on feedback from stakeholders to be responsive to the interests and comments expressed. Kinross welcomes specific comments on how they can be more inclusive and accessible in their approach to engagement.

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		All of Kinross operations and including development projects, maintain a stakeholder registry and engagement strategy, that is updated as needed over the life of the Project.
22	Need for further engagement with communities (including the Métis Nation of Ontario and Grassy Narrows First Nation) regarding the ongoing baseline and archaeological assessment programs.	Additional engagement has occurred since the IPD was issued, which will be summarized in the DPD.
<b>Human Health and Well-Being (including of Indigenous People)</b>		
23	<p>Need for further information on potential impacts from the Project on health and well-being of Indigenous peoples, including from potential changes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- drinking or recreational water;</li> <li>- country foods, including potential mercury contamination of fish;</li> <li>- air emissions;</li> <li>- noise;</li> <li>- effects on Indigenous health services; and,</li> <li>- underrepresented Indigenous groups (e.g., women, youth, elders).</li> </ul> <p>This would inform a human health risk assessment which would inform the need for mitigation and follow-up. Use Health Canada's Environmental Assessment Guidance for: Air Quality, Noise, Drinking and Recreational Water, Country Foods and Human Health Risk Assessment.</p>	<p>Human health risk issues will be reviewed and corresponding information gathered in collaboration with Indigenous Nations so that both direct and perceived human health impacts are understood and assessed and validated on a community level, and represented appropriately.</p> <p>A human and ecological health risk assessment (HEHRA) will be conducted in support of the IS. The assessment will be completed in accordance with Health Canada guidance, in consideration of relevant biophysical pathways of exposure and applicable provincial and federal guidelines. The results of the assessment will be considered in the development of mitigation and management plans as warranted.</p>
24	Potential effects to hunting, trapping, fishing, and tourism may impact Indigenous communities' health, social, and economic conditions.	<p>Kinross is supporting local Indigenous Nations to collect and document Indigenous knowledge and land use information. Non-confidential information that is shared with Kinross will be incorporated throughout the IS.</p> <p>Potential impacts to Indigenous communities' health, social, and economic conditions resulting from Project-related to impacts to hunting, trapping, fishing and tourism will be assessed in the IS, as applicable.</p>
25	Comments regarding the consideration of additional social determinants of health for the assessment of health and well-being of Indigenous communities, such as intergenerational trauma, mental well-	The potential for Project-related impacts on Indigenous communities will be assessed in the IS, as applicable.



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	being, cultural continuity, poverty, unhealthy coping mechanisms, and food security/sovereignty.	
26	Need to collect and provide robust information about Indigenous land use activities (approximate locations, frequency, duration, etc.) and to identify sensitive receptor locations, including the location of drinking water sources and of waterbodies used for recreational purposes.	Kinross is supporting local Indigenous Nations to collect and document Indigenous knowledge and land use information. Non-confidential information that is shared with Kinross will be incorporated throughout the IS. Relevant information on receptors will be considered in the evaluation of biophysical pathways for the human health and ecological risk assessment
27	Comments recommending the consideration and application of Indigenous Knowledge into the Human Health Risk Assessment for the Project.	Kinross is supporting local Indigenous Nations to collect and document Indigenous knowledge and land use information. Non-confidential information that is shared with Kinross will be incorporated throughout the IS.
28	Comments recommending the consideration and application of a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) framework to evaluate positive and negative health impacts for both biophysical and social health factors.	A human health and ecological risk assessment will be conducted in support of the future IS. If warranted by the potential impacts on the Project, Kinross will consider completion of a Human Impact Assessment to support IS preparation.
<b>Indigenous Peoples' Spiritual, Physical, and Cultural Heritage</b>		
29	Need for further information on the potential effects on built heritage and cultural heritage environment, including planned, ongoing, or completed archaeological assessments, and potential impacts on underwater archaeological resources.	<p>There are no known archaeology sites in the area proposed for development. Stage 1 and Stage 2 archaeology studies have been completed for Project site and local vicinity in accordance with provincial standards by Northwest Archaeology Assessments. Three locations have been identified for additional Stage 3 archaeological investigations in 2024. Proposed Project development currently avoid these locations and a surrounding 100 m buffer has been applied pending additional information and dialogue with local Indigenous communities.</p> <p>An assessment of potential impacts on cultural heritage and archaeology will be presented in the IS. A management plan will be developed prior to construction if needed.</p> <p>Relevant information from Indigenous knowledge and land use studies, once provided by Indigenous Nations, will be used to inform this assessment.</p>
<b>Indigenous People's Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes and Exercise of Aboriginal and/or Treaty Rights</b>		
30	Need for further information on potential impacts from the Project to current use of lands and resources by Indigenous communities, such as impacts to landscapes, waterbodies, wildlife and country foods (e.g., wild rice), and how impacts to these may affect the cultural practices and rights of	Kinross is supporting local Indigenous Nations to collect and document Indigenous knowledge and land use information. Non-confidential information that is shared with Kinross will be incorporated throughout the IS. This includes with respect to impacts to landscapes, waterbodies, wildlife and traditional foods, and how impacts to these may affect the cultural practices and rights of Indigenous communities. If impacts are identified, mitigation measures will be



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	Indigenous communities. Provide information on potential mitigation measures for these impacts, where possible.	provided in the IS.
<b>Species at Risk, Wildlife, and their Habitat</b>		
31	Need for baseline information on wildlife, species at risk and species of importance to Indigenous communities, including identification of habitat, seasonal and annual variations, distribution, and habitat use.	<p>Kinross is supporting local Indigenous Nations to collect and document Indigenous knowledge and land use information. Non-confidential information that is shared with Kinross will be incorporated throughout the IS. This includes with respect species considered important to Indigenous communities. The primary species identified as important through Indigenous consultation and engagement to date is Moose.</p> <p>Comprehensive, multi-season terrestrial baseline investigations have been ongoing since 2021. A summary of the baseline investigations conducted in 2021 and 2022 on wildlife and species at risk was provided in the IPD. The baseline studies will be appended to the IS.</p>
32	Potential direct and indirect effects on wildlife and their habitat, species at risk (including their critical habitat), and species of importance to Indigenous communities and their habitat, from sensory disturbance or loss or alteration of habitat due to the Project. Provide mitigation or monitoring measures, as applicable.	<p>Kinross is supporting local Indigenous Nations to collect and document Indigenous knowledge and land use information. Non-confidential information that is shared with Kinross will be incorporated throughout the IS. This includes with respect species considered important to Indigenous communities. The primary species identified as important through Indigenous consultation and engagement is Moose.</p> <p>Potential direct and indirect impacts on wildlife from the Project will be provided in the IS. This may include impacts from habitat loss, sensory disturbance and other aspects. Mitigation and/or monitoring measures will be developed for implementation during the construction, operation and closure of the Project which will also be described in the IS.</p>
33	Comments about considering and applying Indigenous Knowledge into the baseline information for wildlife, species at risk and species of importance to Indigenous peoples.	Kinross is supporting local Indigenous Nations to collect and document Indigenous knowledge and land use information. Non-confidential information that is shared with Kinross will be incorporated throughout the IS. This includes with respect species considered important to Indigenous communities. The primary species identified as important through Indigenous consultation and engagement is Moose.
34	Potential direct and indirect effects on Woodland Caribou and its Sydney range, including information on the presence of critical habitat in any areas that could potentially be affected by the Project, using the Amended Recovery Strategy <sup>2</sup> . Provide	<p>A map showing the Kesagami Range for Woodland Caribou in relation to the Project location will be added to the DPD.</p> <p>Additional non-confidential information regarding Woodland Caribou and the potential for impacts from the Project is provided in Attachment 1 as available.</p>

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	<p>mitigation or monitoring measures, including any offsetting measures, as applicable.</p> <p>Note: In the Sydney Range, all habitat (disturbed or not) is critical habitat. Acknowledging the low potential for caribou presence in the local project area at present time, additional information could help clarify the scope of potential effects and narrow down the required information and studies.</p> <p>To help inform tailored assessment requirements, (optionally) provide, in the Detailed Project Description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a clear map showing where the Project overlaps the Sydney caribou range;</li> <li>- a description of the potential occurrence of caribou near the project site including, pipelines, transmission lines, and site roads. Summarize available information from provincial data sets about the Sydney range caribou population as well as local Indigenous and community knowledge. If caribou is considered locally absent, provide rationale and your level of certainty;</li> <li>- information on the presence of critical habitat in any areas that could potentially be affected by the Project, using definitions in the Amended Recovery Strategy. Explicitly address whether the biophysical attributes of caribou critical habitat occur within and around the mine site and linear project components, taking into account Appendix H of the Amended Recovery Strategy;</li> <li>- a description, with general rationale, of the potential for effects on caribou, critical habitat, and caribou recovery efforts within the Sydney Range over the short, medium, and long-term including the post-mine closure landscape. Compare to how the area might contribute to</li> </ul>	

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	<p>recovery efforts in the absence of the Project; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a description of how the Project would compromise recovery or recovery efforts within the Sydney Range.</li> </ul>	
35	<p>Need for more information on the potential effects of the Project on Tricolored bat, Eastern Wood Pewee, Evening Grosbeak, Rusty Blackbird, and Snapping Turtle. Provide mitigation and monitoring measures, as applicable.</p>	<p>Comprehensive, multi-season terrestrial baseline investigations have been ongoing since 2021. A summary of the baseline investigations conducted on wildlife and species at risk was provided in the IPD. An updated summary of the potential and known federal species at risk within the Great Bear Property and closer to the proposed development is provided in Attachment 2.</p> <p>The detailed baseline studies will be appended to the IS. Mitigation and management measures will be developed for implementation during the construction, operation and closure of the Project if appropriate for the direct or indirect impacts identified.</p>
36	<p>To help inform tailored assessment requirements, (optionally) provide, in the Detailed Project Description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- currently available information about federally listed species at risk presence and critical habitat for species at risk that may be affected or over printed by the Project, from continued monitoring, engagement and desktop analyses; including validation with local experts; and,</li> <li>- a description about how potential effects to these species and their critical habitat would typically be managed on private and provincial Crown land, if the species or critical habitat is present.</li> </ul>	<p>A summary of the potential and known federal species at risk and habitat is provided in Attachment 2. The summary identifies those species and habitat identified as present within the larger Great Bear Property (Property), as well as within or near the proposed Project Development Area.</p> <p>If through ongoing analyses and Project design it is determined that critical habitat is within the proposed development area, Kinross will review the layout to determine if avoidance and maintenance of habitat connection / corridors is practical. All regulatory requirements for species at risk will be met, which may include compensation measures or other mitigation measures where avoidance is not feasible.</p>
37	<p>Concerns about potential effects on native and rare vegetation from the introduction of invasive or noxious plant species in the project area and access points.</p>	<p>Applicable mitigation measures for the control of invasive or noxious species within the Project footprint will be included in the IS.</p>
38	<p>Potential effects on Black Ash, which is widespread, common, but in decline due to an invasive beetle. To help inform tailored assessment requirements, (optionally) provide, in the Detailed Project Description, more specific information including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a description of the extent to which Black Ash</li> </ul>	<p>No Black Ash ecosites have been identified in the Forest Resource Inventory that will be directly affected by the Project as currently proposed. One small (&lt;1 hectare) unmapped stand of Black Ash has been identified within the Project footprint; others could potentially occur in suitable ecosites. A desktop analysis of georeferenced imagery is being undertaken to identify additional potential unmapped occurrences which is not yet complete.</p>

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	<p>may be present and impacted (including a desktop analysis of relevant eco-sites, if warranted); and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a description about how potential effects to Black Ash would typically be managed, including provisions in the Ontario <i>Endangered Species Act</i>.</li> </ul>	<p>Potential impacts on Black Ash from the Project will be assessed in the IS.</p>
40	<p>Need for information on baseline studies, and potential direct and indirect effects on wolverines and their habitat, including seasonal and annual variation, distribution, and habitat use in the project area. Provide mitigation and monitoring measures, as applicable.</p>	<p>A network of trail cameras has been deployed in the Project area since November 2021. Up to 25 cameras have been deployed at 30+ locations around the Project area totaling approximately 10,000 camera-days of effort to date. In addition, two baited run poles for wolverine have also been employed during the winter. Two intensive aerial surveys with 500 m transect spacing were flown over the Project property and adjacent areas in winters of 2022 and 2023, and a targeted wolverine survey was flown in April 2023.</p> <p>Wolverine have been identified on trail cameras in the Project area on at least four occasions (summer and winter) between November 2021 and October 2023. It should be noted that it is not possible to tell from the images if these were separate individuals or the same animal.</p> <p>Northern Bioscience on behalf of Kinross are attempting to obtain data from a recent multi-year wolverine study conducted by Wildlife Conservation Society in the Red Lake area that overlaps the Project site to further characterize baseline conditions in the Project area, and in the broader landscape.</p> <p>Potential impacts on Wolverine from the Project will be assessed and proposed mitigation and monitoring measures will be provided in the IS.</p>
41	<p>Concerns about effects on wildlife from vehicular traffic on roads, including potential changes in wildlife migration patterns, and the corresponding mitigation measures.</p>	<p>The Project is immediately adjacent to a provincial highway and is bisected by a network of existing logging roads. Potential impacts on wildlife from the Project-related traffic on roads will be assessed in the IS. Mitigation measures will be determined as appropriate, and also provided in the IS.</p>
42	<p>Concern regarding adverse effects to the aquatic ecosystem, flora and fauna from the proposed discharge of treated effluent from the Project to the Chukuni River watershed.</p>	<p>Comprehensive aquatic baseline investigation programs are underway to define the pre-development conditions of the aquatic ecosystem. Effluent from the mine will be treated to meet all regulatory requirements including the Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations prior to discharge to the Chukuni River in order to minimize the potential adverse impacts to the aquatic ecosystem. The effluent discharge location will be on the bed of the river and will have a very small footprint.</p>

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		<p>No material impacts to the aquatic ecosystem, flora and fauna in the Chukuni River or watershed are predicted, including because the effluent will need to meet regulatory requirements, and there will only be a short mixing zone downstream of the discharge location where the water quality will be different from the surrounding water. Outside this mixing zone, the water quality in the river will remain in the background condition. An assessment of potential impacts to the Chukuni River will be provided in the IS.</p>
<b>Fish and Fish Habitat</b>		
43	<p>Concerns about potential effects on fish and fish habitat during all project phases, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- death or harm to fish;</li> <li>- alteration, disruption, fragmentation or destruction of fish habitat;</li> <li>- changes to noise, vibration, water quality, quantity and flow; and</li> <li>- obstruction of fish passages from in-water works during construction and maintenance of watercourse crossings and culverts, and dams.</li> </ul>	<p>A number of minor tributaries / waterbodies within the Dixie Creek watershed are expected to be overprinted (fully or partially) by Project components as a result of development; and/or, may have reduced flow as a result of the management of contact waters or mine dewatering. Where practical, non-contact waters will be redirected such that flow reductions are minimized.</p> <p>Blasting activities will follow the Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) guidance for use of explosives near waterbodies. Potential impacts to fish habitat will be assessed using the pathway of impacts and incorporating measures to avoid and mitigate impacts.</p> <p>The potential impacts on fish and fish habitat, and of blasting and vibration on aquatic resources will be assessed against regulatory guidelines, and presented in the IS.</p> <p>A fish habitat offsetting and compensation plan will be developed to mitigate the residual impacts that cannot be avoided or mitigated. The plan will be developed following the <i>DFO Policy for Applying Measures to Offset Adverse Effects on Fish and Fish Habitat Under the Fisheries Act (2019)</i>.</p>
44	<p>Need for baseline studies on fish and fish habitat, including biological indicator species, such as benthic invertebrate species, and further information on the baseline sampling program.</p>	<p>Comprehensive, multi-year, multi-season aquatic baseline investigation programs are underway to define the pre-development conditions of the aquatic ecosystem. The studies include fish and fish habitat, benthic invertebrate species, sediment quality, water quality and other related aspects. Detailed baseline studies will be appended to the IS.</p>
45	<p>Need for further information on standard and site-specific mitigation and monitoring measures to minimize effects on fish and fish habitat. Need for information on offsetting measures, if applicable.</p>	<p>The potential impacts on fish and fish habitat will be assessed against regulatory guidelines and presented in the IS. A fish habitat offsetting and compensation plan will be developed following the <i>Policy for Applying Measures to Offset Adverse Effects on Fish and Fish Habitat under the Fisheries Act (DFO 2019)</i>. The plan will include details of mitigation measures and monitoring to</p>

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		demonstrate their effectiveness. A draft of this plan is proposed to be included in the in the IS.
46	Concern about potential effects of noise, vibration, blasting and seismic activity on waterbodies and aquatic life.	The potential impacts of blasting and vibration on aquatic resources will be assessed against regulatory guidelines, and presented in the IS. Blasting activities will follow the DFO guidance for use of explosives near waterbodies including the more recent direction from DFO to consider the more conservative blasting threshold provided by Cotts and Hanna (2005) for blasting overpressure (i.e., 50 Kpa). Note that there is no blasting currently proposed adjacent to Dixie Creek or the Chukuni River.
47	Need to provide baseline information on seasonal migration patterns of spawning Lake Whitefish.	<p>Ongoing baseline investigations have included fish community studies in the Chukuni River where Lake Whitefish are known to migrate through. The results of these studies will be presented in the IS.</p> <p>There are no anticipated impacts to spawning Lake Whitefish from the Project, as the effluent discharge structure in the Chukuni River will be of limited scale and will be located in deeper water with soft sediment habitat, and not in rocky aggregate substrates typical of spawning for Lake Whitefish, Walleye and White Sucker. In addition, treated effluent will need to meet the strict provincial and federal requirements to protect aquatic life.</p> <p>An assessment of potential impacts on fish and fish habitat will be completed in the IS. Published information on the Lake Whitefish populations will be utilized, since impacts are not anticipated, and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is not supportive of field studies of the population during the spawning season.</p>
<b>Wetlands</b>		
48	Potential direct and indirect effects on wetlands during all phases of the Project, including an assessment of wetlands that may be important for fish and fish habitat, migratory birds or species at risk. Provide mitigation and monitoring measures, as applicable.	Wetlands that are located within and directly adjacent to the Project footprint may be potentially impacted by the Project. Potential effects to wetlands will be assessed in the IS and measures to mitigate and/or monitor potential impacts will be identified as applicable.
<b>Migratory Birds</b>		
49	Potential effects on migratory birds and their habitat, including habitat loss, alteration or fragmentation, mortality, and effects due to sensory disturbances during all phases of the Project. Provide mitigation and monitoring measures, as	Baseline investigations conducted in 2021, 2022 and 2023 for migratory birds and their habitat, as well as an assessment of potential impacts from the Project will be provided in the IS. Based on the results of the assessment, mitigation and management measures will be developed for implementation during the construction, operation and closure of the Project.

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	applicable.	
50	<p>To help inform tailored assessment requirements, (optionally) provide, in the Detailed Project Description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a list of migratory birds known to occur, and with the potential to occur, in areas to be affected by the Project, based on available information;</li> <li>- a general estimate of the quantity and quality of migratory bird habitat that would be lost, and the extent to which it is limiting in the broader area;</li> <li>- the capacity of the surrounding habitat to accommodate any displaced migratory birds due to the Project; and,</li> <li>- specific mitigation measures that would avoid mortality and disturbance, including a justification for [rest of comment is missing]</li> </ul>	<p>Baseline investigations conducted in 2021, 2022 and 2023 for migratory birds and their habitat, as well as an assessment of potential impacts from the Project will be provided in the IS. Based on the results of the assessment, mitigation and management measures will be developed for implementation during the construction, operation and closure of the Project.</p>
<b>Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Emissions</b>		
51	Need for details regarding the net greenhouse gas emissions estimates for each project phase.	Net greenhouse gas emissions for each Project phase will be provided in the DPD, if applicable.
52	Need for further information on plans for achieving net-zero emissions by 2050, including details on carbon sinks, alternative means of carrying out the project, and use of best available technologies.	As part of its assessment of design alternatives for the Project, Kinross is reviewing options that could help meet this target. A proposed path forward will be presented in the IS, if applicable.
53	Comment requesting an update of future documents such that they align with the Government of Canada's Strategic Assessment on Climate Change (Section 4.1) and its technical guide (Section 2.4).	The calculations provided in the IPD followed these requirements, as will calculations provided future documents (or subsequent updated references) including the DPD, and the IS.
<b>Atmospheric Environment</b>		
54	Need for further information on baseline air quality assessment, including data on key parameters, sampling methodology, sampling locations, frequency, and duration.	<p>Baseline ambient air quality at the Project is influenced by natural and anthropogenic sources at the local and regional scales. Natural sources would include, but not be limited to, pollen from vegetation during spring and summer months and air pollutants associated with forest fires. Anthropogenic sources include road traffic, construction, building heating, wind-blown particulate from exposed area sources, mining and power generation activity in Red Lake, and contributions from transboundary or long-range transport of air contaminants.</p> <p>An air quality baseline investigation was initiated during 2022 at the Great Bear</p>



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		<p>Property using standard MECP-approved methodologies (such as a high volume sampler, particle profiler and passive sampling), designed to supplement the existing dataset and regional published information. An autonomous monitoring station has been established supported by grid power, as well two solar sampling locations and a meteorological station. The sampling schedule follows the North American Pollution Surveillance schedule where applicable. The following air quality parameters are being measured during the ongoing baseline study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Suspended particulate matter</li> <li>- Metals in suspended particulate matter (including particle-bound mercury)</li> <li>- Particulate matter less than 10 micrometres in diameter (PM10)</li> <li>- Particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometres in diameter (PM2.5)</li> <li>- Nitrogen dioxide</li> <li>- Sulphur dioxide</li> <li>- Volatile organic compounds</li> <li>- Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons</li> <li>- Dustfall</li> <li>- Diesel particulate matter</li> <li>- Silica.</li> </ul> <p>The data will be summarized, and included in regulatory documentation as appropriate, including within the IS, if applicable.</p>
55	Need for further information on changes to air quality, including dispersion modeling and emissions estimates from fugitive and point source emissions, and fuel combustion.	<p>The potential for generation of air emissions will be fully considered in the final project design and will be based in part on air dispersion modelling to be completed to support regulatory requirements. Modelling will be completed to assess the impacts and develop practical air emission and dust mitigation measures. The modelling will be used to confirm that applicable Provincial air quality guidelines can be met per the provincial <i>Environmental Protection Act</i>.</p> <p>Air quality modelling will be completed to support the assessment of potential changes in air quality as part of the IS. The modelling will include a summary of baseline conditions, emission estimates, dispersion modelling, receptor locations and cumulative changes in air quality for identified parameters, if applicable.</p>
56	Need for further information on proposed mitigation measures to manage changes to air quality, including monitoring and adaptive management plans, and best management practices.	Mitigation measures will be included in the Project design and activities as needed based in part on the results of the air quality dispersion modelling and identification of potential Project-related impacts. Further detail will be provided in the IS, if applicable.
<b>Cumulative Effects</b>		
57	Potential cumulative effects on health, social, or	Kinross is actively seeking information regarding traditional territories and

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	economic conditions of Indigenous groups from industrial development surrounding the Project (e.g., forestry, current and historical mineral exploration, and mining activities).	cultural land use practices from local Indigenous Nations. An assessment of potential impacts on Indigenous Nations will be conducted as part of the IS. If there are residual impacts, after the application of mitigation measures, an assessment of cumulative impacts will be conducted and will be presented in the IS, if applicable.
<b>Vulnerable Population Groups (GBA Plus)</b>		
58	Need to consider Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus) when collecting baseline information and assessing potential effects on health, social and economic conditions during all phases of the Project, including potential for gender-based violence. Pay particular attention to people who might be employed by the Project, citizens of potentially impacted Indigenous communities, as well as citizens of Red Lake and Ear Falls, given the proximity to employees of the Project.	Potential information needs for GBA Plus were fully considered in the design of the baseline studies for the Project from local communities. This information will be utilized to assess potential impact from the Project, including in the IS, if applicable.
<b>Navigation and Navigable Waters</b>		
59	Need for more information on the traditional use of waterways for navigation, potential effects on navigable waterways during all phases of the Project, and proposed mitigation and monitoring measures.	<p>There will be direct and indirect impacts from the development of the Project to a number of waterbodies that may be determined to be navigable by Transport Canada. Kinross is actively seeking information from local Indigenous Nations regarding the traditional use of watercourses at and near the Project site.</p> <p>An information package regarding the waterbodies that may be affected by the Project is being prepared and will be submitted to Transport Canada in advance of the IS.</p>
60	<p>To help inform tailored assessment requirements, (optionally) provide, in the Detailed Project Description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• information about all water crossings and works involving navigable waterways, including the stockpiles (overprinting of watercourse), pipelines, transmission lines, replacement of culverts, and dams;</li> <li>• identification of water bodies that are obviously navigable or obviously not navigable (with supporting rationale) and which bodies still require a determination of navigability; and,</li> </ul>	<p>An assessment of the navigability of waterbodies at and near the Project site has not as yet been made by Transport Canada. Kinross has assumed that the Chukuni River will be considered navigable; no impact to navigability on the Chukuni River from the Project is predicted.</p> <p>The potential impacts to navigation due to direct or indirect impacts to local watercourses and waterbodies will be assessed in the IS.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>identification of project activities that could possibly affect navigation during all project phases.</li> </ul>	
<b>Accidents and Malfunctions</b>		
61	Need for information on potential effects from accidents and malfunctions and the measures to prepare for, and prevent them, particularly unintentional releases of hazardous materials (e.g., fuel, explosives, cyanide, tailings dam) during all project phases.	Kinross is developing a Project design with contingency measure in place in consideration of potential accidents and malfunction as practical. The development of appropriate environmental management plans for accidents and malfunctions is an anticipated mitigation measures for the Project that will be discussed in the IS. Emergency response plans and procedures that meet or exceed regulatory needs will be developed for the Project prior to construction.
62	Provide information on emergency response plans and procedures to respond to any accidents or malfunctions, including fuel or chemical spills.	Emergency response plans and procedures to respond to accidents or malfunctions that meet or exceed regulatory needs will be developed and will be in place prior to construction of the Project.
<b>Alternative Means</b>		
63	Need for an analysis on alternative means for carrying out the Project that considers alternative methods and locations of tailings storage, and associated effects of alternatives to groundwater and surface water quality.	Technically and economically feasible alternative means for carrying out the Project will be considered in the IS, including in relation to tailings management. A standard methodology will be utilized to assess the alternative means, and potential impacts to groundwater and surface water quality will be considered.
<b>Effects of the Environment on Project</b>		
64	Need for further information on mitigation measures related to the effects of the environment on the Project, including emergency preparedness and response plans, and how climate change will be incorporated into the design of the Project.	The IS will assess the impacts of the environment on the Project, including climate change. The design criteria for water and tailings management infrastructure will fully consider the potential impacts of climate change. A detailed assessment of the impact of climate change on the Project will be included in the IS.

**Notes:**

- Responses referring to content to be included in the Impact Statement (IS), assumes that an Impact Assessment is required.