Biodiversity

Responsible Gold Mining Principles

2. Understanding our impacts		9. Biodiversity, land use & mine closure	
2.1 Risk Management		9.1 Biodiversity	
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Our Approach

We utilize the mitigation hierarchy to avoid, reduce, reclaim or offset disturbance to ensure no net loss of critical habitats and biodiversity. As part of Kinross' biodiversity program, our mine sites are required to develop and implement a biodiversity management plan, that includes technical management, reporting, and stakeholder engagement.

Key elements of our biodiversity program are outlined below:

Technical Elements

- Identifying ecosystems, habitats, and species of natural importance and ecological value that may be affected by our activities.

- Assessing the potential impacts of new projects, and the operation of existing infrastructure, on biodiversity, ecosystem services, and protected areas.

- Applying the mitigation hierarchy in areas characterized as having high or critical biodiversity.

- Designing project alternatives and implementing mitigation measures to avoid prevent and reduce mitigate impacts on the environment and identifying opportunities for regenerative measures to augment biodiversity.

- Minimizing the number of trees that are felled during activities and restoring forest ecosystems where applicable, in an effort to reduce our carbon footprint in alignment with the target land use objectives.

- Effectively offsetting loss of biodiversity and restoring disturbed areas using species that are compatible with the surroundings and do not endanger biodiversity in the reclaimed areas.

- Implementing a diverse range of Nature-based Solutions (NbS)*, in a scientifically sound manner, to address socio-economic and environmental challenges and promote biodiversity.
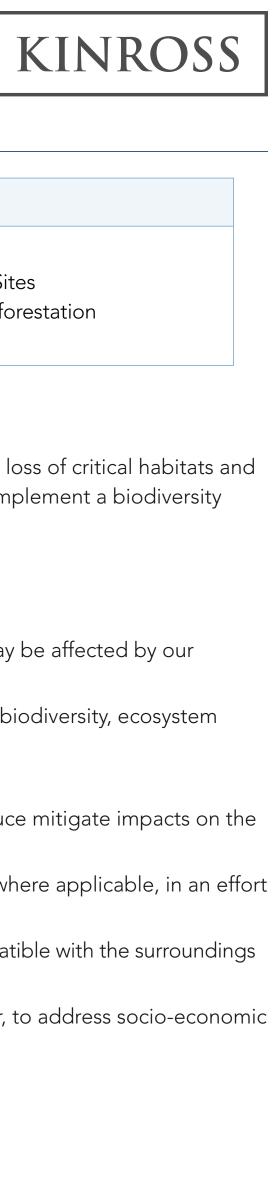
Our Responsibility

Our ESG strategy identifies natural capital as a Priority Focus area. We have a responsibility to protect natural capital, which includes critical habitats, biodiversity, and ecosystem services, as well as to contribute to local conservation efforts near our operations, in consultation with local stakeholders.

Our Commitment

For Kinross, the protection of biodiversity is a critical component throughout the lifecycle of our projects, from the early planning and design stages, through respective construction and operational phases, and into mine closure and reclamation. We do not explore, design, or operate new projects or existing mines, inside World Heritage Sites, Ramsar Wetlands, or IUCN Red List Category I-IV protected areas. We take the appropriate care to protect Natural Capital and are committed to ensuring that there is no net loss of critical habitat and biodiversity, in conformance with the **World Gold Council's Responsible Gold Mining Principles – Principles 2 and 9.** Across our sites, we are committed to working with local communities and conservation partners to develop and implement biodiversity strategies which protect and restore natural capital. We recognize the unique place of Indigenous Peoples as guardians of the land and their role in conservation strategies and are committed to working with them and incorporating traditional knowledge when developing biodiversity management strategies.

As part of our pledge to the advancement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Kinross is also focused on SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 15 (Life on Land), with respect to biodiversity management and nature capital.

* WCC-2016-Res-069: Defining Nature-based Solutions
(https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/resrecfiles/WCC_2016_RES_069_EN.pdf).

Reporting

• Establishing biodiversity targets and monitoring biodiversity indicators to ensure compliance obligations are met and the impacts of our activities are periodically evaluated.

• Monitoring and reporting internally and externally on the status of wildlife and critical habitats as identified during baseline biodiversity assessments of our projects.

• Advancing alignment with the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD).

Stakeholder Engagement

• Consulting with local stakeholders when possible, in the development of site-specific biodiversity strategies and stewardship plans.

• Engaging with Indigenous communities to incorporate traditional knowledge and values in biodiversity programs and, where possible, partnering in indigenous-led conservation programs.

• Collaborating with local authorities, local interest groups, academia, or NGOs to work jointly on biodiversity projects.

• Involving communities in actions relating to protecting and caring for biodiversity and supporting economic development activities in an effort to reduce pressure on the use of natural resources, including emphasizing the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services in environmental education programs.

• Some of our mine sites operate in close proximity to protected areas and/or areas of high biodiversity value. In these circumstances, we ensure protection of natural capital through conservation strategy, partnerships, and post-mine integrated land use planning.
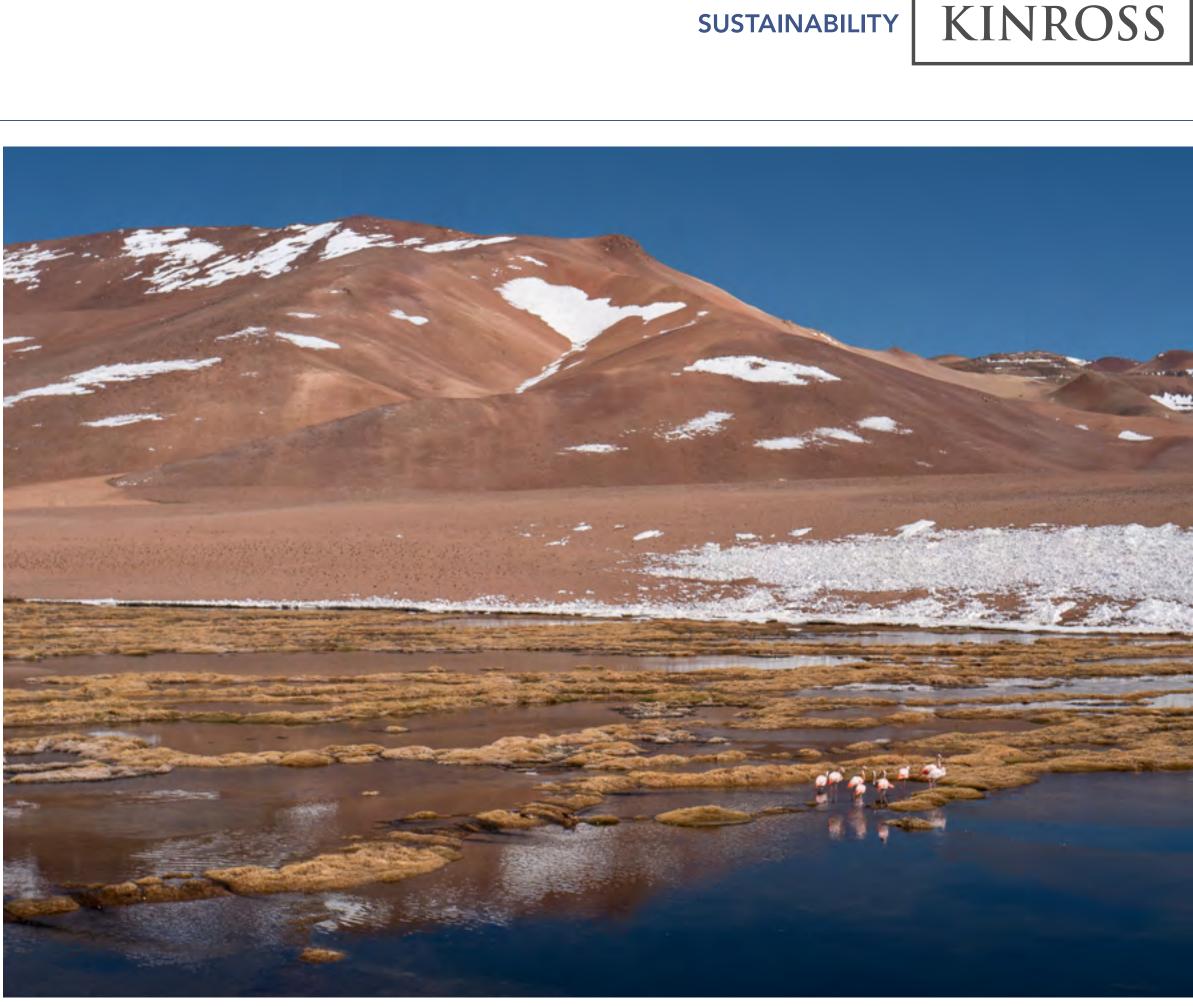
Governance and Accountability

Matters pertaining to biodiversity fall within our Environmental Management System and as such functional responsibility for biodiversity management resides with the Vice-President, Environment. The Senior Vice-President, Technical Services has management responsibility at the Senior Leadership Team. Board oversight and governance are the responsibility of the Corporate Responsibility and Technical Committee of the Board of Directors.

We report on our biodiversity initiatives and performance as part of our annual reporting on sustainability, as well as our submission to the CDP Forest, via social media channels and internally via our Kinross World online newsletter.

> To learn more about our biodiversity programs and performance, see our most recent **Sustainability Report**.