

11.0 SUMMARY OF RESIDUAL EFFECTS AND CONCERNS

11.1 Changes to the Project since Initially Proposed

The Federal Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Guidelines require that the Environmental Assessment (EA) Report include:

... a summary of the changes that have been made to the project since originally proposed, including the benefits of these changes to the environment, Aboriginal peoples, and the public.

Table 11-1 provides a summary of changes to the Rainy River Project (RRP) since initially proposed. The initially proposed project is that defined in the draft Provincial Terms of Reference (ToR; issued for public review on May 17, 2012).

Changes made to the RRP reflect the following:

- Comments received to date during consultation activities regarding the RRP;
- Additional baseline information and other related knowledge;
- Additional engineering design and further definition of the project, environmental effects, mitigation measures and management plans; and
- Changes to land ownership, including the finalization of additional land purchases and land access agreements.

11.2 Changes to the Environment and Effects of Changes to the Environment

A comprehensive assessment of the potential effects that the RRP may have on the natural and human environment was completed as part of the EA. The effects assessment is detailed in Section 7. Tables 7-47 to 7-56 therein, provide a summary of all the identified residual environmental effects after mitigation.

The analysis presented in Section 10 assessed the cumulative effects of the RRP on the existing environmental baseline conditions, related to identified projects and activities that will be carried out; and to those projects of significance within the broader regional context, which may overlap the undertaking in regards to type of effect, time and space. There are no known proposed or planned projects that would be expected to have a cumulative adverse effect on valued ecosystem components (VECs) or valued socio-economic components (VSECs) defined for the RRP.

Tables 11-2 and 11-3 provide a summary of the residual environmental effects according to the following criteria required by the Federal EIS Guidelines (CEA Agency 2012):

- Changes to components of the environment within Federal jurisdiction;
- Changes to the environment that would occur on Federal or transboundary lands;
- Changes to the environment that are directly linked or necessarily incidental to Federal decisions;
- Effects of changes to the environment on Aboriginal peoples; and
- Effects of changes to the environment that are directly linked or necessarily incidental to Federal decisions.

Tables 11-2 and 11-3 provide a summary of residual effects consistent with Tables 7-47 through 7-56, but are reproduced as abbreviated versions herein showing only residual effects.

11.3 Significance of Changes to the Environment

The residual effects defined in Sections 7.3 to 7.22 (and summarized in Tables 7-47 through 7-56) were assessed for significance in these same sections, using the methodology described in Section 7.1.2 (and in the Provincially-approved ToR). Using that methodology, a predicted, residual environmental effect is not likely to be significant, if:

- It is of low magnitude and/or geographic extent or;
- Of short term duration including residual effects (i.e., the effect itself is of short term duration); or
- Is likely to occur very infrequently (or not at all) with little potential for long-lasting effects.

Similarly, the effect is not likely to be significant, if the effect has low, or limited, importance to the natural environment or human environment, for whatever reason. No significant, negative environmental effects were identified, after mitigation.

The following significant positive environmental effects of the RRP were identified:

- Expected to help sustain or promote modest growth in population;
- Will help to maintain current housing market viability;

- Effect will sustain demands for existing services or provide a tax base upon which more service upgrades can be achieved; and
- Effect is expected to help to maintain the current status of community and social services.

Tables 11-4 and 11-5 provide a summary of the significance of the residual environmental effects according to the following criteria required by the Federal EIS Guidelines (CEA Agency 2012):

- Changes to components of the environment within Federal jurisdiction;
- Changes to the environment that would occur on Federal or transboundary lands;
- Changes to the environment that are directly linked or necessarily incidental to Federal decisions;
- Effects of changes to the environment on Aboriginal peoples; and
- Effects of changes to the environment that are directly linked or necessarily incidental to Federal decisions.

11.4 Outstanding Stakeholder and Aboriginal Concerns

Through the voluntary issuance of a draft ToR and two draft EA Reports (Versions 1 and 2) as well as other measures outlined in Section 3, RRR has made extra efforts to obtain feedback from stakeholders and Aboriginal groups regarding the RRP that are not dictated by regulatory requirements. The draft EA Report (Version 1) was specifically issued in order to afford Aboriginal groups additional time for review. This has resulted in a very extensive consultation record (Appendix D).

While RRR has received positive feedback regarding the RRP and its potential to bring opportunity to an economically depressed area (such as demonstrated in Section 3.6), some concerns have been expressed by stakeholders and Aboriginal groups regarding the project. RRR has responded and attempted to resolve these issues and concerns by a variety of means including:

- Alteration to the RRP where appropriate (Table 11-1);
- Provision of further information or greater clarity on information already provided, including completion and documentation of additional environmental baseline studies during 2013;

- Revision to documentation such as the draft EA Report (Version 2); and/or
- Discussions and meetings with the individuals or groups involved.

Nonetheless, as with all major industrial developments, a number of concerns will require follow-up. The primary concerns expressed are summarized in Table 11-6 along with the proposed approach to reduce and eventually remove the concern.

Table 11-1: Changes to Project since Initially Proposed and Benefits to the Environment, Stakeholders and Aboriginal Groups

Changes since Proposed *	Comment	Benefits
Addition of a pit protection berm between the open pit and the Pinewood River	Reflecting engineering design, as well as government and public comments to ensure Pinewood River and workers are protected, and to allow better access	Reduced environmental effect for extreme flooding
Addition of aggregate pit within site boundary	Reflecting purchase of existing aggregate pit from Ministry of Transportation	Reduced environmental effect (less shipments to site)
Addition of ditching and associated sediment ponds at the tailings management area and stockpiles	Design optimized with overall project design, to reflect proposed water management practices, including ditching in anticipation of treatment and monitoring requirements	Reduced environmental effect
Addition of the Clark Creek diversion and Clark Creek pond	Added to reflect re-designed stockpile (previous stockpile included complete overprinting), further engineering, and maintenance / enhancement of habitat	Reduced environmental effect / enhancement of environment
Addition of the West Creek pond, mine water pond, water management pond and water discharge pond	Designed to reflect further engineering, and proposed water treatment / supply including maximizing water re-use	Reduced environmental effect
Constructed wetland to be developed below tailings management area	Design optimized for treatment ability and habitat	Environment enhancement
Contingency stockpile south of Pinewood River removed	Reflecting government and public comments received, and changes to overall project design	Reduced environmental effect
Development of Fisheries Offset Strategy and No Net Loss Plans to protect fisheries within the project area.	A project based Fisheries Working group was established with Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Ministry of Natural Resources and the project team to develop acceptable methods of assessing and offsetting potential impacts to fisheries within the Project area.	Minimized fisheries impacts and provides a framework to ensure acceptable offset measures can be implemented.
Freshwater taking location re-located further downstream on the Pinewood River	Re-located below the McCallum Creek outlet to an area with greater flow to reduce potential effects of fresh water taking	Reduced environmental effect
Reduction in water taking volume / usage from West Creek / West Pond during operations	Revision to the water balance with additional engineering information / progression in engineering design	Reduced environmental effect
In regards to Species at Risk (SAR), the site footprint has been redesigned and is considerably smaller	A reduced footprint reflects engineering design, as well as government comments to minimize overlap with SAR habitat.	A reduced footprint will reduce potential overlap with SAR (Eastern Whip-poor-will and Bobolink) habitat to the extent reasonably practical

Changes since Proposed *	Comment	Benefits
Location of buildings (plant site and explosives plant) altered	Reflecting government comments received regarding avoidance of known Species at Risk concentration; design optimized to reflect further engineering knowledge	Reduced environmental effect
Low grade ore area defined	Design optimized to reflect further engineering knowledge; requirement for the stockpile potentially to be developed	Improved project benefits to public
Mine rock stockpile re-designed into two stockpiles located west and east of the open pit	Reflecting government and public comments received, non-potentially acid generating and potentially acid generating mine rock segregated to allow better long term management; shape altered to reflect land ownership aspects	Reduced environmental effect
Minor routing change of 230 kV transmission line at site	Routing optimized to reflect further engineering knowledge and site layout changes	None
Open pit footprint altered	Design optimized to reflect further engineering knowledge	None
Overburden stockpile (east) footprint reduced	Design optimized with overall project design, shifting to allow space for West Creek diversion and stockpile ditching in anticipation of potential treatment and monitoring requirements	Reduced environmental effect
Overburden stockpile (west) removed	Not required with design optimization	Reduced environmental effect
Removal of Marr Connector Road	Road no longer required with the relocation / re-design of the TMA	Reduced environmental effect
Removal of the east Pinewood River crossing	No longer required with the removal of the contingency stockpile (south)	Reduced environmental effect
Removal of the potential requirement to re-route the Pinewood River	Reflecting increased engineering knowledge, and government and public comments	Reduced environmental effect
Routing of the east access road	Design optimized to reflect further engineering knowledge and to avoid low-lying wetland area	None
Routing of West Creek into Loslo Creek	Resulting from reduce overall stockpile footprints	Reduced environmental effect; environment enhancement
Tailings management area - northwest corner	Reflecting public comment received regarding proximity to existing resident, moving further away	Reduced environmental effect; reduced effect on public
Tailings management area re-aligned - eastern boundary	Reflecting government comments received regarding avoidance of known Species at Risk concentration	Reduced environmental effect
Tailings management area refined	Reflecting increased engineering knowledge and comments received during consultation to date	Reduced environmental effect

Changes since Proposed *	Comment	Benefits
Other Changes		
Changes to the ownership status of lands within the site area	Reflecting additional land purchases and agreements previously pending	None
Further definition of project design, environmental effects, mitigation measures and management plans	Updated and expanded upon to reflect comments received during consultation as well as additional engineering information	Reduced environmental effect

* Changes described herein are based on a comparison between the draft Provincial ToR / accepted Federal Project Description in comparison to the project as described in this final EA Report.

Table 11-2: Residual Effects after Mitigation – Natural Environment

System / Component / Feature	Potential Effect	Proposed Mitigation	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
Construction Phase							
Minor Creek Systems	Mine site development will impact local creeks and rivers from direct habitat displacement (overprinting); habitat modifications (channel re-alignment); potential water quality changes; and, potential indirect effects from flow reductions in the Pinewood River.	Efforts made to develop a compact site to limit the areal extent of disturbance to creeks; design of infrastructure using best management practices; and, implement water management systems to collect, monitor and treat as required. Active revegetation at closure will minimize length of time that areas are exposed to erosion and sediment transport. Fish habitat compensation will be provided to offset losses that cannot be otherwise mitigated.	Y; fish, fish habitat, fisheries and waters frequented by fish are considered under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>	N	Y; authorizations may be required under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>	N*	Y; authorizations may be required under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>
Pinewood River	Impacts to the Pinewood River during the construction phase will be minor and may consist of treated effluent release, and diminished flows from creeks reporting to the Pinewood River and direct water taking from the Pinewood River. These impacts will begin to be felt in the second half of the construction period or beginning of the operational period.	Effluent treatment designed to produce a high quality effluent consistent with protection of aquatic life. Water taking from the Pinewood River will be restricted to thresholds that will not adversely affect aquatic life.	Y; fish, fish habitat and fisheries are considered under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>	N	Y; authorizations may be required under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>	N*	Y; authorizations may be required under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>
Migratory Birds	Mine site development will displace woodland, wetland, and open country habitat (1,352, 261 and 522 ha, respectively). Additional effects are potentially associated with general disturbance, vehicular collisions.	Efforts made to develop a compact site with avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season; protection of compensatory habitat; sound abatement; speed limits; pre-treatment of tailings slurry to ensure TMA ponds are not toxic to wildlife. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N; there are no plans for clearing or other destructive work in migratory bird habitat during the nesting season	N*	N

System / Component / Feature	Potential Effect	Proposed Mitigation	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
SAR – Eastern Whip-poor-will	Mine site development will displace 1,352 ha of woodland habitat and 95 ha of rock barren habitat, and a number of known breeding territories. Additional effects are potentially associated with general disturbance, potential vehicular collisions.	Efforts made to develop a compact site with avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season; protection of compensatory habitat; continued research; sound abatement; and speed limits. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SAR – Bobolink	Mine site development will displace 385 ha of open country habitat, and a number of known breeding territories. Additional effects are potentially associated with general disturbance and vehicular collisions.	Efforts made to develop a compact site with avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season; protection of compensatory habitat; sound abatement; and, speed limits . Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SAR – Barn Swallow	Mine site development will displace 2 barn structures used for nesting and open country and wetland habitat used for foraging (277 and 262 ha, respectively). Additional effects are potentially associated with general disturbance, vehicular collisions.	Efforts made to develop a compact site with avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season; provision of surrogate nesting structures; sound abatement; and speed limits. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Common Nighthawk	Mine site development will displace woodland, rock barren, and shrub habitat (1,352, 11 and 79 ha, respectively). Additional effects are potentially associated with general disturbance, vehicular collisions.	Efforts made to develop a compact site with avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season; provision of compensatory habitat; sound abatement; light pollution reduction; and speed limits. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N

System / Component / Feature	Potential Effect	Proposed Mitigation	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
SC Species – Golden Winged Warbler	Mine site development will displace 79 ha of shrub land and 419 ha of suitable woodland habitat. Additional effects are potentially associated with general disturbance and vehicular collisions.	Efforts made to develop a compact site with avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season; indirect provision of compensatory habitat; sound abatement; and, speed limits. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Olive-sided Flycatcher	Mine site development will displace 507 ha of wetland and 124 ha of coniferous woodland habitat. Additional effects are potentially associated with general disturbance and vehicular collisions.	Efforts made to develop a compact site with avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season; indirect provision of compensatory habitat; sound abatement; and, speed limits. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Canada Warbler	Mine site development will displace 1,352 ha of woodland habitat and, specifically, just 18 ha in areas where this species was observed. Additional effects are potentially associated with general disturbance and vehicular collisions.	Efforts made to develop a compact site with avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season; indirect provision of compensatory habitat; sound abatement; and, speed limits. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Short-eared Owl	Mine site development will displace 522 ha of open country and meadow march habitat. Additional effects are potentially associated with general disturbance and vehicular collisions.	Efforts made to develop a compact site with avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season; indirect provision of compensatory habitat sound abatement; and, speed limits. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N

System / Component / Feature	Potential Effect	Proposed Mitigation	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
Operation Phase							
Minor Creek Systems	Mine site development will impact local creeks and rivers from direct habitat displacement (overprinting); habitat modifications (channel re-alignment); potential water quality changes; and, potential indirect effects from flow reductions in the Pinewood River.	Efforts made to develop a compact site to limit the areal extent of disturbance to creeks; design of infrastructure using best management practices; and, implement water management systems to collect, monitor and treat as required. Active revegetation at closure will minimize length of time that areas are exposed to erosion and sediment transport. Implementation of No Net Loss Plans to offset adverse effects.	Y; fish, fish habitat, fisheries and waters frequented by fish are considered under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>	N	Y; authorizations may be required under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>	N*	Y; authorizations may be required under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>
Pinewood River	Once fully operational, a collective watershed of approximately 21 km ² will report directly/indirectly to the TMA, thereby diminishing flows in the river; TMA and other effluent discharges have the potential to affect river water quality.	Extensive water recycle to minimize discharge volumes; timing of TMA effluent discharges designed to minimize adverse flow effects to river, especially during low flow conditions; effluent treatment designed to produce a high quality effluent consistent with protection of aquatic life.	Y; fish, fish habitat and fisheries are considered under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>	N	Y; authorizations may be required under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>	N*	Y; authorizations may be required under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>
Migratory Birds	Mine site development will displace woodland, wetland, and open country habitat (1,352, 261 and 522 ha, respectively). Additional effects are potentially associated with general disturbance, vehicular collisions.	Efforts made to develop a compact site with avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season; protection of compensatory habitat; sound abatement; speed limits; pre-treatment of tailings slurry to ensure TMA ponds are not toxic to wildlife. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N; there are no plans for clearing or other destructive work in migratory bird habitat during the nesting season	N*	N

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SAR – Bobolink	Mine site development will displace 385 ha of open country habitat, and a number of known breeding territories. Additional effects are potentially associated with general disturbance and vehicular collisions.	Efforts made to develop a compact site with avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season; protection of compensatory habitat; sound abatement; and, speed limits . Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SAR – Barn Swallow	Mine site development will displace 2 barn structures used for nesting and open country and wetland habitat used for foraging (277 and 262 ha, respectively). Additional effects are potentially associated with general disturbance, vehicular collisions.	Efforts made to develop a compact site with avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season; provision of surrogate nesting structures; sound abatement; speed limits; and, pre-treatment of tailings. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Common Nighthawk	Mine site development will displace woodland, rock barren, and shrub habitat (1,352, 11 and 79 ha, respectively). Additional effects are potentially associated with general disturbance, vehicular collisions.	Efforts made to develop a compact site with avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season; provision of compensatory habitat; sound abatement; light pollution reduction; speed limits; and, pre-treatment of tailings. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N

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SC Species – Golden Winged Warbler	Mine site development will displace 79 ha of shrub land and 419 ha of suitable woodland habitat. Additional effects are potentially associated with general disturbance and vehicular collisions.	Efforts made to develop a compact site with avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season; indirect provision of compensatory habitat; sound abatement; and, speed limits. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Olive-sided Flycatcher	Mine site development will displace 507 ha of wetland and 124 ha of coniferous woodland habitat. Additional effects are potentially associated with general disturbance and vehicular collisions.	Efforts made to develop a compact site with avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season; indirect provision of compensatory habitat; sound abatement; and, speed limits. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Canada Warbler	Mine site development will displace 1,352 ha of woodland habitat and, specifically, just 18 ha in areas where this species was observed. Additional effects are potentially associated with general disturbance and vehicular collisions.	Efforts made to develop a compact site with avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season; indirect provision of compensatory habitat; sound abatement; and, speed limits. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Short-eared Owl	Mine site development will displace 522 ha of open country and meadow march habitat. Additional effects are potentially associated with general disturbance and vehicular collisions.	Efforts made to develop a compact site with avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season; indirect provision of compensatory habitat sound abatement; and, speed limits. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N

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Maintenance Phase							
Minor Creek Systems	No effects related to maintenance activities beyond those assessed as part of construction or operations.	None proposed.	Y; fish, fish habitat, fisheries and waters frequented by fish are considered under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>	N	Y; authorizations may be required under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>	N*	Y; authorizations may be required under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>
Pinewood River	No effects related to maintenance activities beyond those assessed as part of construction or operations.	None proposed.	Y; fish, fish habitat and fisheries are considered under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>	N	Y; authorizations may be required under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>	N*	Y; authorizations may be required under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>
Migratory Birds	No effects related to maintenance activities beyond those assessed as part of construction or operations.	None proposed.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N; there are no plans for clearing or other destructive work in migratory bird habitat during the nesting season	N*	N
SAR – Eastern Whip-poor-will	No effects related to maintenance activities beyond those assessed as part of construction or operations.	None proposed.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SAR – Bobolink	No effects related to maintenance activities beyond those assessed as part of construction or operations.	None proposed.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N

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SAR – Barn Swallow	No effects related to maintenance activities beyond those assessed as part of construction or operations.	None proposed.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Common Nighthawk	No effects related to maintenance activities beyond those assessed as part of construction or operations.	None proposed.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Golden Winged Warbler	No effects related to maintenance activities beyond those assessed as part of construction or operations.	None proposed.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Olive-sided Flycatcher	No effects related to maintenance activities beyond those assessed as part of construction or operations.	None proposed.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Canada Warbler	No effects related to maintenance activities beyond those assessed as part of construction or operations.	None proposed.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Short-eared Owl	No effects related to maintenance activities beyond those assessed as part of construction or operations.	None proposed.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N

System / Component / Feature	Potential Effect	Proposed Mitigation	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
Closure / Decommissioning Phase							
Minor Creek Systems	Pre-development water bodies will be permanently impacted; no effects anticipated to water bodies established as compensation under the No Net Loss plan.	None proposed beyond establishing compensating habitat during operations phase.	Y; fish, fish habitat, fisheries and waters frequented by fish are considered under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>	N	N	N*	Y; authorizations may be required under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>
Pinewood River	Water taking of up to 20% of spring flows and up to 15% of remaining open water period flows to allow for rapid flooding of the TMA to manage ARD potentials and stabilize the TMA to allow for passive outflow to the environment. Longer term capture of up to approximately 5% of the Pinewood River watershed (at Loslo Creek) will be diverted to allow for filling of the open pit.	Monitoring Pinewood River flows to ensure that that stated amounts are not exceeded. Possible reductions in water taking during extreme low flow conditions (5-10 percentile years). Rapid stabilization of the TMA pond allows for more rapid return of TMA watershed contribution to the Pinewood River.	Y; fish, fish habitat and fisheries are considered under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>	N	N	N*	Y; authorizations may be required under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>
Migratory Birds	At closure, cessation of project activities will allow for eventual natural re-establishment of use of the area. Minor effects are potentially associated with general disturbance (noise effects) and vehicular collisions during the active closure phase.	Avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season if and where applicable; protection of compensatory habitat; sound abatement; speed limits; active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N; there are no plans for clearing or other destructive work in migratory bird habitat during the nesting season	N*	N

System / Component / Feature	Potential Effect	Proposed Mitigation	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
SAR – Eastern Whip-poor-will	At closure, cessation of project activities will allow for eventual natural re-establishment of use of the area. Minor effects are potentially associated with general disturbance and vehicular collisions during the initial active closure phase.	Avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season if and where applicable; development and protection of compensatory habitat; continued research; sound abatement; speed limits; active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SAR – Bobolink	During active closure and decommissioning grassland / early succession communities suitable for Bobolink will be present, and compensatory habitat will continue to be maintained, expanding habitats suitable to Bobolink at this stage. Minor effects are potentially associated with general disturbance and vehicular collisions during the initial active closure phase.	Avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season if and where applicable; protection of compensatory habitat; sound abatement; and, speed limits. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SAR – Barn Swallow	At closure, cessation of project activities will allow for eventual natural re-establishment of use of the area. Minor effects are potentially associated with general disturbance and vehicular collisions during the initial active closure phase.	Avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season if and where applicable; sound abatement; speed limits; active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Common Nighthawk	At closure, cessation of project activities will allow for eventual natural re-establishment of use of the area. Minor effects are potentially associated with general disturbance and vehicular collisions during the initial active closure phase.	Avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season if and where applicable; provision of compensatory habitat; sound abatement; light pollution reduction; speed limits; active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N

System / Component / Feature	Potential Effect	Proposed Mitigation	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
SC Species – Golden Winged Warbler	At closure, cessation of project activities will allow for eventual natural re-establishment of use of the area. Minor effects are potentially associated with general disturbance and vehicular collisions during the initial active closure phase.	Avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season if and where applicable; indirect provision of compensatory habitat; sound abatement; and, speed limits. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Olive-sided Flycatcher	At closure, cessation of project activities will allow for eventual natural re-establishment of use of the area. Minor effects are potentially associated with general disturbance and vehicular collisions during the initial active closure phase.	Avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season if and where applicable; indirect provision of compensatory habitat; sound abatement; and, speed limits. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Canada Warbler	At closure, cessation of project activities will allow for eventual natural re-establishment of use of the area. Minor effects are potentially associated with general disturbance and vehicular collisions during the initial active closure phase.	Avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season if and where applicable; indirect provision of compensatory habitat; sound abatement; and, speed limits. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N

System / Component / Feature	Potential Effect	Proposed Mitigation	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
SC Species – Short-eared Owl	<p>During active closure and decommissioning grassland / early succession communities suitable for Short-eared Owl will be in the development stage, and will approach their maximum extent shortly thereafter, expanding habitats suitable to Short-eared Owls at and subsequent to this stage.</p> <p>Minor effects are potentially associated with general disturbance and vehicular collisions during the initial active closure phase.</p>	Avoidance of sensitive habitats to the extent practical; avoidance of the breeding bird season if and where applicable; indirect provision of compensatory habitat sound abatement; and, speed limits. Active revegetation and at closure will restore habitats.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
Post Reclamation Phase							
Minor Creek Systems	Creek diversions and compensation / NNL areas will become naturalized.	Monitoring.	Y; fish, fish habitat, fisheries and waters frequented by fish are considered under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>	N	Y; authorizations may be required under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>	N*	Y; authorizations may be required under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>
Pinewood River	Water taking for TMA and open pit flooding will continue for several years into the restoration phase. After about 3 to 4 years, water taking for the TMA will cease and flows formerly captured by the TMA basin will be returned to the Pinewood River.	Monitoring Pinewood River flows to ensure that that stated amounts are not exceeded. Possible reductions in water taking during extreme low flow conditions (5 to 10 percentile years). Rapid stabilization of the TMA pond allows for more rapid return of TMA watershed contribution to the Pinewood River.	Y; fish, fish habitat and fisheries are considered under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>	N	Y; authorizations may be required under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>	N*	Y; authorizations may be required under the <i>Fisheries Act</i>

System / Component / Feature	Potential Effect	Proposed Mitigation	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
Migratory Birds	Populations will naturally re-establish themselves in the area.	None proposed.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N; there are no plans for clearing or other destructive work in migratory bird habitat during the nesting season	N*	N
SAR – Eastern Whip-poor-will	Populations will naturally re-establish themselves in the area.	None proposed.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SAR – Bobolink	Populations will naturally re-establish themselves in the area.	None proposed.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SAR – Barn Swallow	Populations will naturally re-establish themselves in the area.	Structures may be left in place to provide suitable nesting habitat.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Common Nighthawk	Populations will naturally re-establish themselves in the area.	None proposed.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Golden Winged Warbler	Populations will naturally re-establish themselves in the area.	None proposed.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N

System / Component / Feature	Potential Effect	Proposed Mitigation	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
SC Species – Olive-sided Flycatcher	Populations will naturally re-establish themselves in the area.	None proposed.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Canada Warbler	Populations will naturally re-establish themselves in the area.	None proposed.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N
SC Species – Short-eared Owl	Populations will naturally re-establish themselves in the area.	None proposed.	Y; migratory birds are covered by the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	N	N	N*	N

Notes: N: no; P: potentially; Y: yes; SC: Special Concern

* RRR has been working closely with local and regional Aboriginal partners for over three years which has included the negotiation of several agreements. A formal Traditional Knowledge First Nation study was initiated in 2012 and has engaged a number of communities, including those closest to the RRP. Discussions and meetings with First Nations peoples over the past 12 months have thus far indicated a very limited potential for traditional cultural values or harvesting practices to be impacted by the development of the RRP. RRR signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Métis Nation of Ontario in May of 2013 in which Rainy River Resources will be supporting a Métis Traditional Knowledge study to further assess Aboriginal traditional values within the region.

With the possible exception of perhaps some opportunistic hunting (along road easements or adjacent rural properties), no current traditional activities have been identified to occur within the RRP area by the Aboriginal communities that have participated thus far in Traditional Knowledge / Traditional Land Use (TK / TLU) studies (Section 7.17.3). Some study participants have stated that the RRP was not an area of intensive use in the distant past, but it is understood that traditional activities may have taken place there. Participants identified the area as an historical travel corridor where plants and berries were likely collected seasonally. Use of the area apparently declined when First Nations people moved to reserves and the land was taken up for homesteading in the 1800s. Not all communities identified as potentially being affected have indicated whether they have TK/TLU information relevant to the RRP.

Traditional activities, which may be considered a traditional practice or an Aboriginal or treaty right, and which may be affected by the RRP include deer, Moose, rabbit and bird hunting, particularly pheasant, grouse and duck. Minnow trapping and commercial fishing are practiced by some Aboriginal people according to the Province. Fishing as an Aboriginal and or treaty right and as a traditional activity for sustenance is likely ongoing in areas peripheral to the RRP. Maintaining wild rice (in the Lake of the Woods area) and berry habitat for potential gathering activities were identified in discussions with First Nations communities as ongoing in areas outside the RRP area.

Because of the limited use of the project site by the First Nations since 1900, the collected TK / TLU data have tended to be more broadly applicable at the regional level and less focused on the project site area. However, in the main, the collected data have tended to corroborate and further substantiate the more detailed western science-based data collections carried out specifically for the RRP; and there were no major discrepancies between the TK / TLU data and the western science-based collected data. For example, TK / TLU information indicates that Moose were once more common in the area and that White-tailed Deer were less common; but that over the years Moose numbers have declined, whereas numbers of White-tailed Deer have increased. This observation supports baseline data presented in the KCB Baseline Report (Appendix N).

Table 11-3: Residual Effects after Mitigation - Human Environment

VSEC	Potential Effect (and direction)	Proposed Mitigation or Enhancement	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
Construction Phase							
Trapping	Overprinting of private land traplines and impacts to species trapped (negative).	Minimize mine footprint; see also wildlife mitigation measures.	P	N	N	N*	N
Fishing	Loss of waterbodies used for fishing; effects to sport fish in these water bodies (negative).	Effects will be mitigated through formation of a Fisheries Working group to develop a RRP No Net Loss Plan; see also fisheries and water resources mitigation measures.	Y	N	Y	N*	N
Operation Phase							
Trapping	Overprinting of private land traplines and impacts to species trapped (negative).	Minimize mine footprint; see also wildlife mitigation measures.	P	N	N	N*	N
Fishing	Loss of waterbodies used for fishing; effects to sport fish in these water bodies (negative).	Effects will be mitigated through formation of a Fisheries Working group to develop a RRP No Net Loss Plan; see also fisheries and water resources mitigation measures.	Y	N	Y	N*	N
Maintenance Phase							
Trapping	No effects related to maintenance activities beyond those assessed as part of construction or operations.	None proposed.	P	N	N	N*	N
Closure / Decommissioning Phase							
Trapping	Closure and reclamation of the site may allow some areas to be re-opened to trapping activities and allow for re-establishment of furbearer populations (positive).	None proposed.	P	N	N	N*	N
Post Reclamation Phase							
Trapping	Closure and reclamation of the site may allow some areas to be re-opened to trapping activities and will allow for re-establishment of furbearer populations (positive).	None proposed.	P	N	N	N*	N

Notes: N: no; P: potentially; Y: yes * See notes for Table 11-2.

Table 11-4: Significance after Mitigation – Natural Environment – All Project Phases

System / Component / Feature	Overall Significance	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly of Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
Air Quality	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NS*	NA
Greenhouse Gases	Magnitude of effect too small to be measured; emissions will cease at closure.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sound	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NS*	NA
Vibration	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Minor Creek Systems	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and not reversible (effects will be compensated for to offset the non reversibility component).					
	Not significant	NS	NA	NS	NS*	NS

System / Component / Feature	Overall Significance	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly of Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
Pinewood River	Flow effects considered to be minor; adverse water quality effects are not anticipated.					
	Not significant	NS	NA	NS	NS*	NS
Groundwater	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NS*	NS
Vegetation Communities and Rare Plants	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor (effected vegetation communities are common in the NLSA), localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NS*	NA
Ungulates	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NS*	NA
Furbearers	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NS*	NA
Bats	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

System / Component / Feature	Overall Significance	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly of Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
Migratory Birds	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NS	NA	NS	NS*	NA
Raptors and Ravens (including Bald Eagle)	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Amphibians	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
SAR – Eastern Whip-poor-will	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible. Provision of overall benefits compensation.					
	Not significant	NS	NA	NA	NA	NA
SAR – Bobolink	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible. Provision of overall benefits compensation.					
	Not significant	NS	NA	NA	NA	NA

System / Component / Feature	Overall Significance	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly of Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
SAR – Barn Swallow	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible. Provision of overall benefits compensation.					
	Not significant	NS	NA	NA	NA	NA
SC Species – Common Nighthawk	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NS	NA	NA	NA	NA
SC Species – Golden Winged Warbler	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NS	NA	NA	NA	NA
SC Species – Olive-sided Flycatcher	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NS	NA	NA	NA	NA
SC Species – Canada Warbler	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NS	NA	NA	NA	NA
SC Species – Red-headed Woodpecker	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NS	NA	NA	NA	NA

System / Component / Feature	Overall Significance	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly of Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
Rare Species – Short-eared Owl	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
SC Species – Snapping Turtle	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Provincially Rare Species – Black-billed Magpie	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Provincially Rare Species – Lilypad Clubtail	Overall effects are considered to be negligible.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Provincially Rare Species – Horned Clubtail	Overall effects are considered to be generally minor, localized and reversible.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Notes: NS: not significant NA: not applicable * See notes for Table 11-2.

Table 11-5: Significance after Mitigation - Human Environment

VSEC	Overall Significance	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly of Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
Land Use Planning						
	Not rated and no effect	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Mineral Exploration						
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Forestry						
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Agriculture and Adjacent Residents						
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hunting						
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NS*	NA
Trapping						
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NS*	NA
Fishing						
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NS*	NA
Other Outdoor Recreation Uses						
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NS*	NA

VSEC	Overall Significance	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly of Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
Economics	Effect is expected to help promote significant economic growth in the region.					
	Significant (+ve)	NA	NA	NA	S* (+ve)	NA
Demographics and Population	Effect is expected to help sustain or promote modest growth in population.					
	Significant (+ve)	NA	NA	NA	S* (+ve)	NA
Housing and Accommodation	Effect will help to maintain current housing market viability.					
	Significant (+ve)	NA	NA	NA	S* (+ve)	NA
Public Utilities	Effect will sustain demands for existing services or provide a tax base upon which more service upgrades can be achieved.					
	Significant (+ve)	NA	NA	NA	S* (+ve)	NA
Community and Social Services	Effect is expected to help to maintain the current status of community and social services.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NS*	NA

VSEC	Overall Significance	Within Federal Jurisdiction	On Federal or Transboundary Lands	Directly or Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions	Effects on Aboriginal peoples*	Effects Directly of Necessarily Incidental to Federal Decisions
Highway Traffic – Construction Phase	Existing road and highway systems are readily capable of sustaining the projected increased traffic volumes and loads.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NS*	NA
Highway Traffic – Operations Phase	Existing road and highway systems are readily capable of sustaining the projected increased traffic volumes and loads.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NS*	NA
Human Health	Overall effects are considered not significant.					
	Not significant	NS	NA	NA	NS*	NA
Archaeological Resources	Range of mitigation measures available for archaeological site.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NS*	NA
Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscapes	Overall effects are considered not significant.					
	Not significant	NA	NA	NA	NS*	NA

Notes: NS: not significant NA: not applicable * See notes for Table 11-2.

Table 11-6: Summary of Concerns and Proposed Approach to Resolve

Outstanding Concern or Issue	Proposed Approach to Reduce and Remove Concern
Stakeholders	
Additional engineering detail was requested by Government agencies regarding certain project elements, including closure planning	To be resolved through ongoing meetings and provision of additional information within environmental approval applications once additional engineering detail is available.
Potential impacts to surface water and groundwater, quality and quantity through the development of the RRP	Effluents released from the RRP are expected to be consistent with federal and provincial regulations and policies for environmental protection. Measures have also been taken to limit project flow effects on the receiver, and groundwater drawdown effects on both the receiver and other potential users. Mitigation of the potential effects will continue to be optimized through the construction and operations phase of the RRP, including ongoing monitoring to confirm impact predictions summarized in the final EA Report. If appropriate, further design changes will be made to ensure compliance with environmental approvals.
Development and operation of the RRP is expected to impact local aquatic resources and wildlife, largely through displacement of habitat. While compensation will be made in accordance with regulatory requirements, there is a concern that the effects could be greater than anticipated	Follow up monitoring is proposed to confirm predicted impacts of the RRP on the local environment. If monitoring should reveal unexpected effects, or effects significantly greater than predicted, then additional mitigation measures would be indentified and implemented, as appropriate to address the effect. Reclamation once operations cease will return the site to a naturalized setting which will encourage the return of wildlife to the site.

Outstanding Concern or Issue	Proposed Approach to Reduce and Remove Concern
Aboriginal Groups	
TK / TLU: Concern was expressed regarding the role of TK / TLU in the EA and future project planning, the availability of studies lead by each First Nations community and information sharing.	Traditional Knowledge/Traditional Land Use (TK/TLU) data has been widely collected for the RRP, including from the closest communities of Big Grassy River First Nation, 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. No TK/TLU data has been identified for the Project area specifically. The majority of the data has been broad and overreaching, which Rainy River Resources (RRR) will continue to respect as it serves as the basis for First Nations' unique relationship to the land. TK/TLU collection will continue; information collected will be appropriately considered for construction, operation and closure phases. For example, RRR will further investigate the historical travel corridor and incorporate appropriately any new information that may become available. RRR will share results of the TK/TLU data sessions in a non-public First Nations forum(s).
Aquatic Resources: Comments were provided regarding the potential for impacts to local water quality and fisheries.	RRR will commit to a joint water quality monitoring and reporting program with the area First Nations as part of the existing monthly water quality monitoring program which is currently carried out by RRR. The program will be funded by RRR 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.

Outstanding Concern or Issue	Proposed Approach to Reduce and Remove Concern
<p>Communication of Information: The First Nations wish to be kept up to date on the Project, including any potential changes.</p>	<p>RRR will continue to communicate closely with First Nations regarding the Project.</p>
<p>Environmental Monitoring: Ensure that First Nations have an active role in monitoring plans and programs.</p>	<p>RRR has an open invitation for First Nations to participate in all baseline and environmental monitoring programs, including Whip-poor-will, where appropriate and to share monitoring results. RRR will continue to advise of the opportunity at public forums in order to encourage anyone who's interested to participate.</p>
<p>Cultural Awareness Training: Provide cultural awareness training for those working at the mine.</p>	<p>All RRR 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.</p>
<p>Lake Sturgeon: Consider obtaining new information on Sturgeon.</p>	<p>Additional information related to Lake Sturgeon and the Rainy River First Nations management program will be added to the Final EA Report. RRR 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.</p>
<p>Baseline Health Information: The Proponent may wish to contact the Seven Generations School and/or MNR to obtain additional information.</p>	<p>RRR 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.</p>
<p>Closure Planning: Describe what the mechanisms are to deliver a successful closure plan over time, including incorporation of TK and community engagement activities.</p>	<p>First Nations 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, RRR will consult on significant revisions periodically during operations to ensure incorporation of TK and best management practices.</p>
<p>Wildlife Studies: Investigate whether there will be changes to ungulates.</p>	<p>Monitoring programs targeted at ungulates (moose, deer) will be coordinated with First Nations.</p>
<p>First Nation Water Supply: Concern expressed regarding the potential for effects to water supply from the RRP.</p>	<p>RRR 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.</p>
<p>First Nation Member Health: The First Nations wish to be kept up to date on the Project, including any potential changes. It is suggested that the Proponent and the First Nations work together through a committee to mitigate any potential social problems with workers staying in nearby villages and camps. The largest issue is the potential for more drugs and alcohol to be brought in and consumed in the area.</p>	<p>While the Draft EA has shown no impacts to First Nations or non-Aboriginal people's health, any new information that has a potential to impact health will be provided to First Nations. RRR will work with First Nations to ensure employee overall well-being. Programs to highlight the dangers of drug use combined with drug testing will be implemented.</p>
<p>The Métis Nation of Ontario is in the process of completing a TK / TLU and technical review of the RRP EA Report.</p>	<p>RRR anticipates that as part of the consultation process, an addendum outlining any additional follow-up programs or agreements may need to be submitted in parallel with the final EA Report review.</p>