Our Responsibility

Globally, Kinross operations have responsibility for the stewardship of significant areas of land. We have a duty of care to protect natural habitats and biodiversity close to our mining activities and to do so in consultation with local stakeholders.

Our Commitment

Our commitment to protect and enhance biodiversity is embedded in our Biological Resource Management Standards, applied across our operations, and our support for Responsible Gold Mining Principle 9 - biodiversity, land use and mine closure. Our corporate standards detail our commitment to the protection of the biological resources in close proximity to Kinross activities – a key element in Kinross’ environmental strategy. Protection of biological resources and minimization of impacts includes identification, monitoring, and protection of both biodiversity and biological habitat. Biological resource management should be sufficiently robust to ensure protection over the entire life cycle of Kinross’ activities.

Our Approach

Our activities are focused on preserving designated habitat areas and ensuring that our mining activities do not disturb protected and unprotected species living in protected areas. We work to ensure that our activities will not lead to the extinction of International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) listed endangered species.

Key elements of our biodiversity program include:

- Baseline surveys to identify and assess potential impacts and biodiversity risk associated with proposed activities
- Characterization includes, at a minimum, the IUCN Red Listed Category of all species identified and the presence and extent of their sensitive or critical habitat, their status under local law, and all species and habitat having special protection or status under national or local regulations

- Local stakeholder consultation, including local communities, non-governmental organizations, indigenous peoples and other community members in the development of site-specific biodiversity strategies and stewardship plans
- Preparation of Biological Resource Management Plans (BRMPs) and training to support their implementation.
- Identification and monitoring of the presence of vulnerable species
- Monitoring programs and protection of both biodiversity and biological habitat
- Regular review of BRMPs and training to support their implementation
- Monitoring programs and protection of both biodiversity and biological habitat
- Regular review of BRMPs over the mine life cycle, including expansion phases and closure and regular updates to ensure achievement of biological stewardship objectives
- Site-level risk-based corporate audits, including biodiversity risks

For all land within Kinross’ control, we apply best management practices to protect biological resources. Protective measures such as netting, fencing, covers, piping, as well as policy measures related to fishing and hunting, are used to protect aquatic and terrestrial flora and fauna from potentially harmful effects of mine operations and related infrastructure.

As with environmental performance across Kinross, accountability pertaining to biodiversity management, performance and risk mitigation, resides at the site level and oversight and governance is aligned with our Corporate Responsibility Management System.

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