

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

For Kinross, the protection of biodiversity is considered a critical component of the early planning and design stages of our projects, and throughout the respective construction and operational phases. It is a matter of policy that we take the appropriate care to ensure that there is no net loss of critical habitat. In line with these commitments, Kinross supports the [Responsible Gold Mining Principle 9 - biodiversity, land use and mine closure](#).

Our Approach

Our activities are focused on preserving habitat whenever we are able and ensuring that our mining activities do not disturb protected and unprotected wildlife and plant species. We do not explore, design or operate new projects or existing mines, in World Heritage Areas, Ramsar Wetlands or IUCN Red List Category I-IV protected areas.

Key elements of our biodiversity program are:

- The identification of ecosystems, habitats, species and communities of great importance and value in terms of biodiversity that may be affected by our activities.
- The assessment of whether new projects, or the operation of existing infrastructure, have an impact on biodiversity, and design alternatives and mitigation measures that guarantee the least effect on the environment and stimulate positive impacts on biodiversity.

- 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.
- Reducing to a minimum the number of trees that are felled in the course of activities.
- Effectively offsetting loss of biodiversity and restoring areas where work has been done using vegetation species that are compatible with the surroundings and do not endanger biological diversity in the area that is to be replanted.
- Collaborating with local authorities, local interest groups, academia or NGOs to work jointly on biodiversity projects.
- Monitoring biodiversity so that the impact of our activities can be evaluated.
- Including the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services in environmental education programs, 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.
- A focus on Nature-based Solutions (NbS)*, ensuring that they are deployed in a scientifically sound manner that is beneficial for biodiversity, notably by promoting a diverse range of solutions.

Matters pertaining to Biodiversity fall within our Corporate Responsibility Management System and as such are the responsibility of the Director, Environment, reporting to the Senior Vice-President, Safety and Sustainability who in turn reports to the Chief Technical Officer. Oversight and governance are the responsibility of the [Corporate Responsibility and Technical Committee](#) of the Board of Directors.



To learn more about our biodiversity programs and performance, see our most recent [Sustainability Report](#).

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