

Our Approach to Biodiversity and Closure

Which Teck sites does this document apply to?

This document summarizes our approach to managing biodiversity and closure. This document applies to all Teck-controlled sites and projects, inclusive of contractor activities. This does not include operations in which Teck has had an ownership interest but is not the principal operator.

Biodiversity and closure performance information: See our [Annual Sustainability Report](#), available for download on our website.



Employee at Teck protected land near to our Carmen de Andacollo Operations, Chile, 2017.

Background

Our operations are adjacent to or within areas of high biodiversity value,¹ including temperate and arctic areas, forests and deserts. Effectively managing biodiversity and closure is a part of our commitment to responsible resource development, is integral to meeting regulatory requirements and maintains community support for our activities.

We recognize that our activities have the potential to impact biodiversity and to alter ecosystems in a significant way, which can affect individual species as well as the provision of critical ecosystem services that communities rely on. Indigenous Peoples in many areas also rely on the land to maintain traditional ways of life.

We work collaboratively with stakeholders and Indigenous Peoples to develop integrated approaches to land use and to operate in a manner that seeks to avoid, minimize and mitigate our impacts. Through progressive and final closure, we can replace much of the structural and compositional diversity of the natural habitats that existed before we developed our mines.

Governance and Accountability

Accountability and Resourcing

The Board of Directors, through its Safety and Sustainability Committee, oversees health, safety, environment and community policies, systems, performance and auditing, including our Health, Safety,

Environment and Community (HSEC) Management Standards. The Standards include specific guidance on biodiversity management, reclamation and closure.

The following senior leaders at the corporate level are involved in implementing the management of biodiversity and closure:

- Our Senior Vice President (SVP), Sustainability and External Affairs reports directly to our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and is responsible for sustainability, health and safety, environment, community, and Indigenous affairs, including biodiversity and closure
- The Vice President, Environment reports to the SVP, Sustainability and External Affairs and oversees compliance with environmental standards for projects, operations and our legacy properties, and regularly reviews environmental performance risks and strategic issues
- The Director, Environment is responsible for leading our approach to biodiversity and closure

At each of our operations, we have a designated team leading Teck's work in managing biodiversity and closure. These employees are responsible for monitoring biodiversity and closure-related activities and for using the results to inform and implement improved stewardship practices. See our [Our Approach to Business and Sustainability](#) for more details on our sustainability governance structure.

¹ High biodiversity value areas have features that provide essential ecosystems relied on by humans and animals, and they have an abundance of rare, vulnerable or endemic species and/or large areas of relatively intact natural habitat.

Policies and Standards

Our [Code of Sustainable Conduct](#) describes how we will integrate biodiversity and closure considerations through all stages of business and production activities. It also outlines our commitment to continually improve our environmental practices and ensure they are fully integrated into each of our activities.

Teck's HSEC Management Standards outline the framework for the identification and effective management of HSEC risks and opportunities, including those related to biodiversity and closure, and define a process for continual improvement.

Memberships, Partnerships and External Commitments

We work with various local, national and international organizations and programs to support biodiversity and closure:

- **International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM):** A global industry association that represents leading international mining and metals companies who are required to implement the ICMM 10 Principles, including Principal 6 on environmental performance, which includes planning and design for closure (Performance Expectation 6.1), and Principle 7 on conservation of biodiversity and land use planning (Performance Expectations 7.1 and 7.2)
- **International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 14001:** Eight of our nine operations² have received ISO 14001 certification for their environmental management systems
- **Mining Association of Canada (MAC):** Promotes the development of Canada's mining and mineral processing industry; through MAC, we are required to implement the Towards Sustainable Mining program, which aids in improving industry performance
- **The Copper Mark:** An assurance framework developed by the International Copper Association in 2019 to promote industry-wide responsible copper production practices and to demonstrate the industry's commitment to green transition
- **Nature Conservancy of Canada:** Our partnership with this leading national land conservation organization includes collaboration on conservation projects, along with financial support from time to time
- **The Nature Trust of British Columbia:** Through collaboration, Teck supports the organization's goal of conserving B.C.'s biological diversity
- **BC Parks Foundation:** Teck supports the BC Parks Foundation's Wildlife Forever, Healthy By Nature and Discover Parks programs

Approach to Managing Biodiversity and Closure

Working Towards a Nature-Positive Future

Nature loss is a severe global challenge that we are all called on to do our part to halt and reverse. As a resource company, we want to do more than just mitigate our own impacts—we want to contribute to halting and reversing nature loss. That is why we've set a goal to work towards a nature-positive future. This means that, by 2030, our conservation, protection and restoration of land and biodiversity will exceed the disturbance caused by our mining activities from a 2020 baseline. In so doing, we will conserve or rehabilitate at least three hectares for every one hectare affected by our mining activities, and take action in four focus areas:

1. Create a nature-positive culture at Teck that strongly leverages innovation in transformational technologies and is guided by science and Indigenous knowledge, including evaluating the biodiversity impacts of our actions and our dependencies on nature, and assessing material risks and opportunities.
2. Avoid and reduce our direct negative impacts on nature where possible as part of our planning and execution.
3. Progressively rehabilitate our impacts and accelerate that work to ensure it is planned and in progress for all eligible land impacted by mining at our operations by 2030. Improve rehabilitation success and cost-effectiveness through targeted research and development. To achieve a net positive impact on biodiversity, act on a landscape scale in the regions where we operate through ecosystem restoration and conservation projects aligned with the priorities of, and in partnership with, our communities of interest to achieve.
4. Seek to catalyze nature-positive transformation across our value chains and the global systems of which we are part. Among other measures, this means we will dedicate 25% of our community investment to nature, form partnerships with our suppliers, customers, Indigenous groups, governments, non-profits and others to halt and reverse nature loss, including by building capacity, sharing learning and advocating for private sector action.

Recognizing the global imperative to halt and reverse nature loss by 2030 and the critical role that natural climate solutions can play in mitigating climate change, this commitment also supports [Teck's net-zero climate strategy](#) and its contribution to the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#).

² Includes Highland Valley Copper, Red Dog, Trail and Carmen de Andacollo operations, and our four steelmaking coal operations in the Elk Valley. This does not include operations in which Teck has/had an ownership interest but is not the operator, e.g., Antamina.

Respecting Protected and High Biodiversity Value Areas

Protected areas include those protected by national or regional law or designated by international organizations, including United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage sites and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) category Ia, Ib, II, III or IV protected areas. High biodiversity value areas have features that provide essential ecosystems relied on by humans and animals, and they have an abundance of rare, vulnerable or endemic species and/or large areas of relatively intact natural habitat.

As a member of the ICMM, we are committed to not explore or develop in UNESCO World Heritage sites. Currently, none of our operations or projects are located within areas protected by UNESCO or recognized by IUCN. The road between Red Dog Operations and the port facility, which is owned by the state-owned Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority, passes through the Cape Krusenstern National Monument, an IUCN category V protected area.

We have identified protected areas, areas of high biodiversity value, and species at risk³ that occur within 50 kilometres of our operations and major development projects. We use this information as important inputs during the development, implementation and monitoring of biodiversity management plans for each operation. Our strategy places a high priority on addressing potential impacts on critical habitat for species at risk. A summary of the results of the proximity analysis, including those prioritized by international conservation initiatives can be found in the 'Biodiversity & Closure' section of our [Sustainability Performance Data Spreadsheet](#).

Achieving a Net Positive Impact

Our vision for biodiversity management is to become a nature-positive mining company by 2030 and to securing a net positive impact (NPI) on biodiversity in areas affected by our activities. Our work seeks to ensure that ecosystems and biodiversity are better off at the end of mining than when we found them.

We are committed to work towards these goals with local partners, communities and Indigenous Peoples to conserve ecologically and culturally significant lands.

Mitigation Hierarchy

The mitigation hierarchy is a key framework we use to achieve our vision of NPI on biodiversity. To track and demonstrate our net positive impacts, we develop a ledger to account for negative and positive impacts on biodiversity. The following principles guide our approach:

- **Avoid:** Whenever possible, we avoid biodiversity impacts. In some cases, this may require significant changes in our plans in order to protect critical areas.
- **Minimize:** At all times, we minimize impacts that are unavoidable, adopting best practices in mine operations.

- **Rehabilitate:** On a progressive basis, we rehabilitate areas in order to re-create biodiversity values and reclaim areas with a view to closure. Rehabilitation practices can replace much or most of the diversity of the natural habitats that existed prior to mining.
- **Offset:** For areas where it may not be possible to replace all of the important biodiversity features that our mines impact, or for where our impacts are to be mitigated before rehabilitation is possible, we design and implement biodiversity offsets to move towards a net positive impact on biodiversity.

See this [case study](#) for additional details on how we measure our NPI.

In addition to this framework, we consider the cumulative effects to ecosystems caused by the past, present and reasonably foreseeable future activities of other parties. We then plan and implement protective or restorative actions based on our potential contributions to current conditions, and adjust our actions based on ongoing monitoring and research.

Biodiversity Management Plans

We currently have biodiversity management plans at each of our operations that set out how NPI can be achieved.

Biodiversity management plans include:

- A list of ecosystems and biodiversity elements at the site
- A summary of the risks and impacts that the site and its activities pose to these elements
- A plan, developed using the biodiversity mitigation hierarchy, that demonstrates how the site will manage its impacts and mitigate risks to achieve a net positive impact for each element in the relevant time frames
- A list of activities and resources required to implement the plan

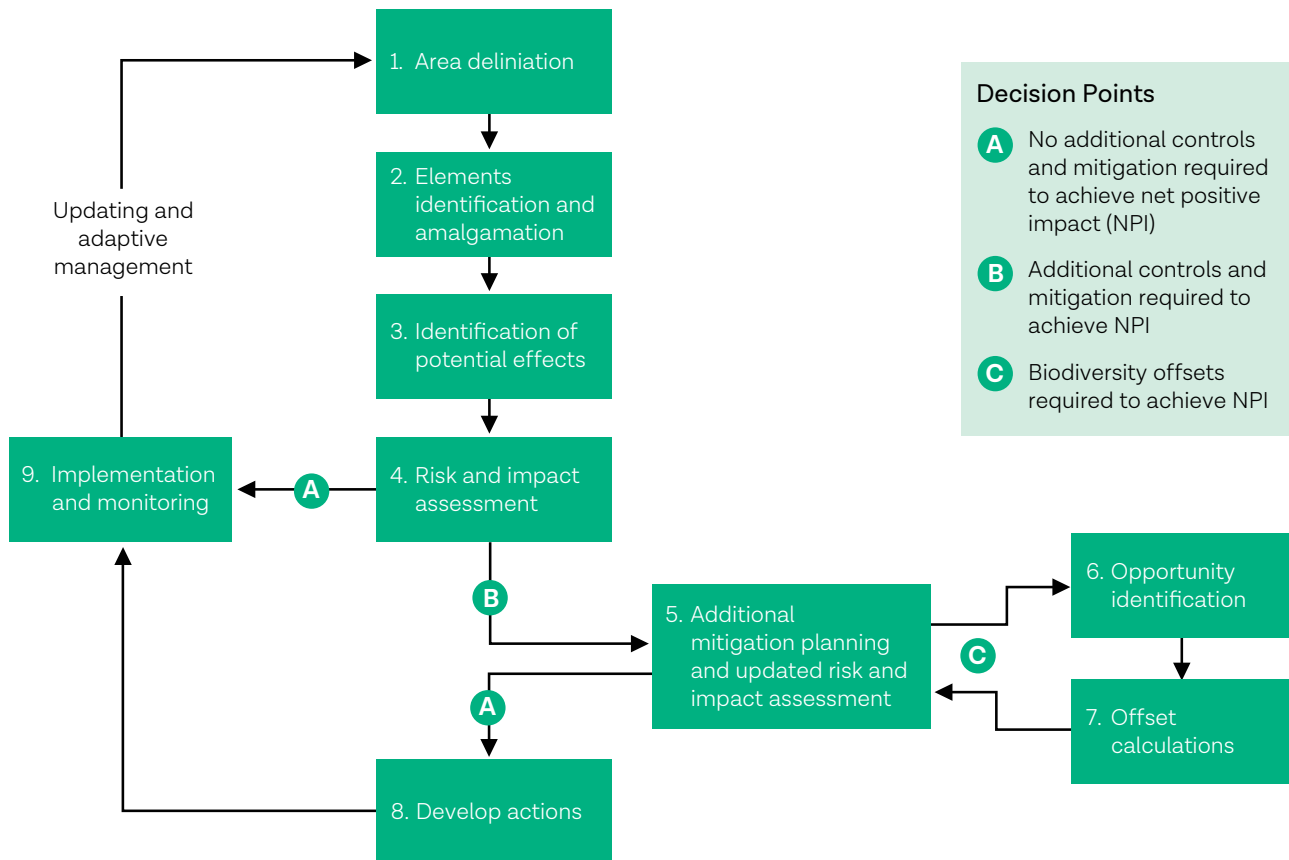
To create the biodiversity management plans, operations and advanced projects collect biodiversity information, conduct a preliminary identification of risks and existing mitigation actions, conduct gap analyses and create workplans. We identify risks, such as invasive species and the viability of subsistence activities, using a register that scores risks based on biodiversity, social/community, regulatory compliance and reputational factors. These plans are reviewed internally and updated as needed annually.

Social, Environmental and Regulatory Approvals (SERA)

Typical environmental assessments for new mines or mine extensions are similar to our biodiversity management plans, in which the ecosystems and biodiversity elements relevant to a project or operation are identified, the risks to and impacts on these elements are assessed, and a mitigation plan is developed that will reduce the project's net impacts to a targeted level.

³ IUCN Red List Species and National Conservation List Species.

Teck's Approach to Developing Biodiversity Management Plans



Despite the similarities, we continue to implement our biodiversity management plans, as they are typically more expansive than the scope of an environmental assessment for the same site. Additionally, the goal of most environmental assessments is to minimize the residual impacts on biodiversity to an acceptable level; however, Teck's goal across all sites is to achieve NPI, as described above.

Closure

Responsibly closing our sites and managing our legacy properties means following our closure principles: meeting safety requirements; assuring physical, chemical and ecological stability; promoting socio-economic transition; executing cost-effectively; and contributing to risk mitigation. While we are still operating at a site, we progressively rehabilitate portions of the mine site that are no longer required for current or possible future mining purposes. We conduct regular monitoring against closure-related legal requirements and regulatory, stakeholder and internal commitments and success criteria, and use these results to continually update our closure and post-closure management.

We plan for closure throughout the mining life cycle, including through exploration, development and mining. A key aspect of that planning is to work with communities of interest, including Indigenous Peoples, communities, governments and our own employees, to develop a closure vision associated with specific closure objectives. This closure visioning and planning process includes identification of opportunities for

post-mining land use, such as alternative energy generation, recreational use or other uses. We also collaboratively establish post-mining land use objectives. See [Our Approach to Relationships with Communities](#) for more details on how we engage with communities on post-mining socio-economic transition.

Our rehabilitation activities focused on conserving biodiversity include the development of diverse wildlife habitats. This is supported by monitoring, such as annual wildlife surveys, documentation of wildlife using trail cameras, and the development of tracking databases to record rare and unusual wildlife sightings.

We implement leading closure and rehabilitation practices through ongoing research and maintain an internal community of practice to share this knowledge across our operations.

For more information about closure, see [Responsible Mine Closure & Reclamation](#) page on our website.

Financial Assurance for Mine Closure

Many jurisdictions require mining companies to post financial assurance (or security) for the remaining future costs associated with implementing the mine closure and reclamation plan. This is a precautionary measure to ensure that governments will not have to unreasonably contribute to the costs of closure and reclamation of a mine site if a company is unable to do so.

At Teck, we take our closure responsibilities seriously, and we meet all government requirements for financial assurance in the jurisdictions where we operate. We are also committed to ensuring that this financial security never needs to be accessed. We responsibly plan for and close our mine sites in accordance with all legal obligations and our internal standards, and at no cost to government or taxpayers.

The cost provisions we require to carry out closure responsibly in accordance with our standards and legal requirements are also calculated for all of our sites. This is reported each year in our [Annual Report](#).

Our mine closure plans are periodically updated over the life of the operation to incorporate updated input from communities of interest, advances in engineering design for closure measures, learnings from progressive closure during operation, and the results of any new research into rehabilitation and other closure issues. Closure planning is an iterative process, and plans become more detailed as a mine nears the end of its life. Our closure plans are updated at least every five years, or more often if there is a material change in the life of mine plan that would invalidate the existing closure plan. In British Columbia, Alaska and Chile, mine closure plans are legally required to be updated at least every five years.

Managing Incidents Related to Biodiversity and Closure

Teck defines an incident as an “undesirable event arising from company activities that is both unplanned and uncontrolled, regardless of the severity of consequences”. In the vast majority of cases, incidents are immediately managed and have no significant implications. We actively monitor and manage all incidents related to our activities, including those related to health and safety, communities and the environment. Company-wide criteria have been established for sites to identify, report and evaluate the severity of consequences of incidents. Sites are expected to follow up on all incidents identified to understand the impacts and to implement corrective actions wherever possible, with more significant incidents potentially subject to an in-depth root cause investigation. We report any significant incidents⁴ relate to biodiversity and closure in our [Annual Sustainability Report](#).

Managing Employee and Community Feedback

Teck provides response mechanisms at every operation and project and in every exploration region to specifically ensure that those who want to provide feedback on our business practices—whether it’s a comment, question, concern, complaint or compliment—are able to do so easily and, if they wish, anonymously. See [Our Approach to Relationships with Communities](#) for more details on how we manage community feedback and grievances.

Doing What’s Right is our program designed to maintain an ethical and safe workplace, and to ensure that our moral and ethical principles within our Code of Ethics are upheld. It also specifies the basic norms and behaviours for those conducting business on our behalf. Our *Doing What’s Right* program is supported by additional ethics-related policies and procedures. Our employees, contractors and suppliers are given an opportunity to report any violations, or potential violations, of our Code of Ethics through our *Doing What’s Right* program, which includes an anonymous and confidential whistle-blower hotline and web portal that are managed by a third party. See [Our Approach to Business Ethics](#) for more details on this program.

Our Targets and Commitments

Our sustainability strategy outlines our goals in relation to continuously improving biodiversity at our operations.

Strategic Priority:

- Work towards securing a net positive impact on biodiversity

Goal:

- By 2025, all operating sites have, and are implementing, plans to secure a net positive impact
- By 2030, become a nature-positive mining company through conserving or rehabilitating at least three hectares for every one hectare affected by our mining activities, thereby protecting and restoring biodiversity to an extent greater than the disturbance caused by our mining activities from a 2020 baseline

For more information on our sustainability strategy goals, see the [Sustainability Strategy](#) section of our website.

We report on our performance against indicators and goals related to biodiversity on an annual basis in our [Sustainability Report](#).

Assurance Related to Biodiversity and Closure

At Teck, we conduct four types of assurance:

- Audits of operations and business units
- Corporate annual HSEC assurance and mid-year effective checks conducted by Teck’s HSEC Assurance team
- Corporate annual internal audits conducted by Teck’s Assurance and Advisory team
- External assurance by independent auditors for relevant regulatory and voluntary membership requirements

Following each of these types of assurance, applicable management teams use the results to inform future actions and Teck’s five-year planning process.

⁴ Teck uses a risk management consequence matrix to determine incident severity, which includes environmental, safety, community, reputational, legal and financial aspects. “Significant incidents” includes incidents assessed as Level 4 or Level 5 based on our risk matrix and guidance.

Assurance Related to Biodiversity and Closure

Type	Organization	Items Reviewed
Internal	Teck (risk-based Health, Safety and Environment internal audits)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adherence to regulatory and permit requirements • Effectiveness of controls based on risk profile
External	International Council on Mining and Metals: Sustainability Report assurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total area reclaimed (hectares) • Total land disturbed and yet to be rehabilitated (hectares) • Biodiversity conservation reporting • Principle 6: Environmental Performance • Principle 7: Contribute to the conservation of biodiversity and integrated approaches to land use planning
External	Mining Association of Canada: Towards Sustainable Mining assurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate biodiversity conservation policy, accountability and communications • Facility-level biodiversity conservation planning and implementation
External	ISO 14001 External Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Components of the environmental management system at each site
External	The Copper Mark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue area 21—Biodiversity and Protected Areas • Issue area 22—Mine Closure and Reclamation