

WATER STEWARDSHIP

OUR MANAGEMENT APPROACH

We understand that water is a finite resource and are dedicated to its careful stewardship through seamless integration of water management into our mine operation and closure plans. Our mission is to optimize water use while safeguarding the availability and quality of local water resources, ensuring the well-being of the communities surrounding our sites. Each of our mines is tasked with developing and implementing procedures and programs that align with our corporate policies and initiatives on water use, particularly our new Corporate Water Management Standard (the “Standard”). In accordance with the Standard, we adopt a holistic, catchment-wide approach to managing water usage and support access to clean, reliable water for nearby communities. Through our Corporate Social Team, we actively engage with Communities of Interest (COIs)⁽¹⁾ within our catchment areas to listen to their perspectives on water, better understand potential operational impacts, and look for opportunities to enhance access to water whenever possible.

Policy

- [Environmental Policy](#)

Standards and Guidelines

- The Corporate Water Management Standard promotes the protection of water resources by avoiding, minimizing, or mitigating potential risks and potential negative impacts, as well as optimizing water use.
- The Corporate Environmental Incident Management Standard highlights actions to improve water management and prevent incidents that may impact water quality.

Plans, Programs, and Initiatives

- Water baseline studies are conducted prior to mining to identify catchment or district-level water availability and quality.
- Water management systems help sites manage contact and non-contact water to optimize reuse and recycling, and comply with permit requirements.
- Most of our mines do not discharge process water; however, in wetter climates, where discharge is necessary, we invest in water treatment systems to mitigate potential negative downstream water impacts and ensure permit compliance.
- Water balances track site-level water use, reuse, recycling, storage capacity for extreme weather events, and discharge quantities.

- Water commitments are established by each mine and may be embodied in environmental permits or set through voluntary agreements with communities and other third parties.
- Training is provided to employees and contractors involved in water management and incident prevention or response.

Monitoring and Evaluating

- The Mining Association of Canada’s Towards Sustainable Mining Water Stewardship Protocol is used by sites to assess performance and implement action plans for continuous improvement.
- Corporate Environmental Audits sample and review the site management systems to compare against corporate policies and standards, and identify areas for improvement.
- Monitoring the quality and quantity of water withdrawal and water discharged from our sites is necessary for permit and regulatory compliance. Monitoring water quality upstream and downstream also helps us identify water-related impacts, risks, and opportunities.
- Participatory monitoring programs exist at many of our sites to jointly monitor water quality around the site and in some cases at

a catchment level. For more information on participatory monitoring, please visit our most recent Sustainability Report.

Accountability

- The General Manager at each operation is responsible for the development and implementation of procedures and programs that comply with corporate water-related policies, standards, and initiatives.
- The Vice President of Environment is responsible for the water management strategy, water use, managing risks posed by water scarcity, and overseeing projects and initiatives related to water.
- The Vice President of Social Sustainability, Inclusion and Diversity is responsible for assessing and incorporating water requirements in the COIs and developing programs to improve water access when needed.
- The Health, Safety and Environment Committee of the Board, along with the Communities and Sustainable Development Committee, oversee matters related to water practices.

(1) We use the Mining Association of Canada (MAC)’s definition of Community of Interest (COI), which includes all individuals and groups that have an interest in or believe they may be affected by decisions regarding the management of our operations.